



**Nunatsiavut kavamanga  
Nunatsiavut Government**

**FIFTH ASSEMBLY**

**OF**

**NUNATSIAVUT**

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**SPRING SESSION 3<sup>RD</sup> Session 3<sup>RD</sup> SITTING**

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**kAVAMALIGIJET**

**KAUJITITSIUTINGA**

**PARLIAMENTARY REPORT**

**In Attendance:**

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

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

**President of Nunatsiavut, Honourable Johannes Lampe**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Mr. Chesley Sheppard**

**AngajukKâk for Postville, Ms. Diane Gear**

**Chair Person of the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation, Mr. Jeffrey Montague**

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

**Clerk of the Nunatsiavut Assembly, Ms. Marlene Winters-Wheeler**

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

**Legal Counsel, Mr. Kevin Maher**

**The Nunatsiavut Assembly proceedings were recorded in Inuktitut and English.  
September 19, 2023  
Assembly commenced at 9:18 AM September 19, 2023**

**MR. WINTERS:** *Ullâkut.* I would like to call to order, the first sitting of the Fall Session of the Fifth Nunatsiavut Assembly, and ask Marjorie Flowers to say the opening prayer. When you're ready, Marjorie.

[No audio]

**MR. WINTERS:** We're gonna take a brief recess and sort this out. *Nakummek.*

[Recess]

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* I apologize. Thank you, all, for your patience this morning with our audio video difficulties. As I was saying earlier, Marjorie Flowers is going to say the prayer. *Nakummek,* when you're ready, Marjorie.

**MS. FLOWERS:** [Recites prayer]

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek,* Marjorie. This brings us to Item Two which is the, "Presidents Opening Address." I'll now ask the President for his opening address. When you're ready, sir.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** *Nakummek, UKatti.* [Speaks in Inuttitut]

Mr. Speaker, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador recently released the updated cost of a 2022 Newfoundland and Labrador Nutritious Food Basket. It highlights the costs of nutritious food in our

province. This is the second release of data using the updated Food Basket developed for 2021. The Nutritious Food Basket is a standardized tool, used to calculate the weekly cost of meeting the nutrient requirements for a family of four, specifically, an adult man and woman, a teenage boy and a young girl. The Food Basket consists of 61 foods from the 2019 Canada Food Guide and is based a national Nutritious Food Basket. In October 2022, it cost an average of \$309 for a family of four in Newfoundland and Labrador to purchase enough nutritious food for a week. That's \$1,236 per month. This is an increase of around 12 percent from 2021, showing clearly the intense food price inflation, Mr. Speaker. The cost of food changes depending on where you live in the province. And so does the rate of inflation. Communities along the North Coast of Labrador, Mr. Speaker, are experiencing the highest costs for food in the province, at \$467 per week, which is an increase of 18.5 percent since 2021. This is just for food, Mr. Speaker. We all know the cost of other goods and services have increased as well, particularly, fuel. Last week, Mr. Speaker, I was invited by Premier Furey, to join him in launching the province's first Well-Being week, which will take place from September 17 to 23. This initiative is part of the Government's vision to make our province the healthiest in Canada by 2031, by putting the well-being of our residents at the centre of policy and spending decisions and programs. The province says it recognizes that well-being is not only about physical and mental health, but also about the social and environmental factors that affect our quality of life such as access to housing, food, water, justice, money and

education, as well as our experience of equity, social connection and safety. However, Mr. Speaker, I could not help but notice the irony of this announcement as it coincided with the release of the updated cost of a 2022 Newfoundland and Labrador Nutritious Food Basket that shows the alarming increase in food prices in our region. It is clear that more needs to be done by the Provincial Government to address some of our most urgent needs and challenges. I hope that this initiative is not just a symbolic gesture, Mr. Speaker, but a genuine commitment to improve the well-being of all residents, especially those who are most vulnerable and marginalized.

[Speaks Inuttitut]

Mr. Speaker, the funding supports four initiatives, namely, 1.8 million from Environment and Climate Change, Canada's Indigenous Guardian's Fund. This funding will empower Inuit families to visit culturally significant areas within Nunatsiavut Territory, to gather data and observe changes to the land, water and sea ice, as well as to deepen their profound connections to the land. The data collected during these visits will inform future conservation and land-use improvements in the region. Two hundred twenty-five thousand dollars from Parks Canada Guardians Access Program. This funding supports the Guardians Program initiative to connect Inuit to their homeland, especially elders and youth. Specifically, this program provides Nunatsiavut Inuit beneficiaries, opportunities to spend time in Torngat Mountains National Park, stay at the Torngat Mountains Base Camp and Research Station and connect with the land and

people. With this contribution, Parks Canada is supporting the Nunatsiavut Government's region to ensure Torngat Mountains National Park remains a living, vibrant Inuit homeland now and for the future-, \$705,942 from Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's Climate Change Preparedness in the North, program. This funding is supporting important research on the changing conditions of sea ice in all five communities in the Labrador Inuit Land Claims region-, Nain, Hopedale, Postville, Makkovik, and Rigolet, as well as the Upper Lake Melville region. Mapping interviews with local Inuit are taking place in each community to identify key locations where ice conditions are unsafe, and where open-water locations exist. The data collected will inform the creation of hazard maps that will be available on individual GPS devices, Mr. Speaker, increasing the safety of community members and visitors traveling on sea ice-, \$355,005 in Climate Change Preparedness in the North program, funding to study the sustainability of hunting wild food in light of changing environmental conditions such as snowfall and vegetation. Specifically, the project is monitoring the population sizes, breeding areas and habitat of ptarmigan, an important game bird, to ensure that populations in Nunatsiavut are healthy and that sustainable hunting practices take place. Extensive community engagement is also taking place to exchange knowledge, share results and provide research assistantship opportunities for community members.

[Speaks Inuttitut]

Mr. Speaker, I, along with First Minister Williams, Minister Asivak and Deputy Minister Pain joined other Inuit leaders in July for Inuit Circumpolar Council meeting in Ilulissat, Greenland. This was the first ICC in-person gathering in five years, Mr. Speaker-, the city with a beautiful community in Western Greenland. There was still a small hybrid component as the two Inuit delegates from Chukotka could not travel from Russia at this time due to the war in Ukraine. Asserting Inuit rights at the international level as a unified Circumpolar people, was a central theme of the meeting. This year marks the 40th anniversary since ICC secured consultative status at the United Nations, under the Economic and Social Council. The goal of the meeting was to reflect on ICC's progress, take note of recent developments, further advance ICC workplans, as well as celebrate Inuit unity and culture. Next week, Mr. Speaker, the Nunatsiavut Government will host the Board and Annual General Meetings of both Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and the Inuit Circumpolar Council, ICC, in Nain. The agendas are being finalized, but there will be a wide range of topics discussed, such as Climate Change, Health, Education, Language, Culture, Economic Development and Self Determination. It is great to be able to welcome other Inuit leaders back to Nunatsiavut. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Mr. President. I'll let you get a drink of water, but we're moving on to Item Three, "The Oath of Office." So I will now call upon the President to administer the Oath of Office for our newly elected AngajukKâk, Diane Gear. *Nakummek.*

(Audio muted.)

**MS. GEAR:** And in full realization of the high calling I assume.

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

**MS. GEAR:** ...as a Member of the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

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

**MS. GEAR:** ...and that the powers entrusted to me...

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

**MS. GEAR:** ...are for the benefit of all Labrador Inuit...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...I, Diane Gear...

**MS. GEAR:** ...I, Diane Gear...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...swear...

**MS. GEAR:** ...swear...

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

**MS. GEAR:** ...solemnly affirm...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...that I will be faithful...

**MS. GEAR:** ...that I will be faithful...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...to the Inuit...

**MS. GEAR:** ...to the Inuit...

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

**MS. GEAR:** ...and to Nunatsiavut.

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



**MS. GEAR:** ...and will obey...

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

**MS. GEAR:** ...respect...

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

**MS. GEAR:** ...and uphold the *Labrador Inuit Constitution*...

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

**MS. GEAR:** ...and all Inuit laws.

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

**MS. GEAR:** And I solemnly promise...

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

**MS. GEAR:** ...to fulfill my responsibilities...

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

**MS. GEAR:** ...as a leader...

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

**MS. GEAR:** ...and to perform my functions...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...as a Member...

**MS. GEAR:** ...as a Member...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...of the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

**MS. GEAR:** ...of the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

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

**MS. GEAR:** ...to the best of my ability...

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

**MS. GEAR:** ...so help me, God.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** I'm proud to present to you the new Member for Postville, Kaipokok, the AngajukKâk for Kippukamik.

[Applause]

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Item Four is the "Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery." I would like to officially welcome AngajukKâk Gear to the Nunatsiavut Assembly. It's nice to see you back at the Assembly table and to welcome everyone to Hopedale in the First Sitting of our Fall Session. I would also like to send the condolences to the family of the late Damien Pottle. It's hard to believe and it's hard to say out loud. Damien was an invaluable employee of the Nunatsiavut Government and was the IT support person for the last Assembly sittings. He was a great support to the Assembly, and we will surely miss him very much. I would like to recognize in the audience in the gallery, our legal counsel, uh, Kevin Maher and Director of Legal Services, Mark Gillette, as well as Brent Denniston from the Department of Lands and Natural Resources. Are there any Members who wish to recognize visitors in the gallery? Seeing none, the pages for this sitting are Katelyn Flowers and Jocelyn Nochasak. The interpreter translators are Gus Semigak and Katie Winters. We are very happy to have both of you back at our Assembly sitting. Behind the glass is Harry Dicker, the IT staff assisting the Assembly. As well, we would like to recognize the

OKâlaKatiget Society staff, Sarah Abel. If there are any questions around travel and logistics, please see the Assistant to the Clerk, Tabea Onalik. We will now move on to Item Five. Item Five is, "Ministers Statements." Are there any Ministers statements around the Table? The first one I saw was the Minister of the Department of Health and Social Development, the Honourable Gerald Asivak, when you're ready, sir. Oh, and before you start, I would like to ask the Ministers to take a break between each paragraph for editing purposes. *Nakummek.*

**MR. ASIVAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning Assembly Members. I have a very lengthy nine-page document. This is just for day-one. However, I know with timing I'll only highlight four small sections very slowly. I'll read, "Community Program Update," and "Health Services." We were very sorry to hear of Elizabeth Dicker's passing in August. Lisa was a community health worker in Nain for many years prior to her retirement. Our condolences go out to her family, friends and community. Mr. Speaker, "Food Security." We are trying to staff Community Food Worker position in Nain-, third time posting. The first posting, there was one application. Second posting, zero applications. Lynn Blackwood delivered presentations to Nutrition North Canada and Visionary Board and staff in Nain on September 13th. Programming has been limited to staffing capacity. Food Security is building relations with other divisions-, examples, Family Connections to offer services to clients. We are working with other NG departments to develop a hunter support program. The Community Food Worker in Hopedale assisted with Backyard Gardening

and other regular programming. Mr. Speaker, under, "Childcare," this is the first summer with daycares open. All daycares, with the exception of Postville remain open. We advertised several times for the Maternity Daycare Operator position in Nain with no qualified applicants. The childcare worker who is temporarily acting in the role resigned her position, resulting in the closure of the daycare for two weeks in September. Jenny Lyall worked diligently on supporting staff and coming up with solutions to keep the Nain Daycare open. We had to do some creative things to meet Legislative requirements. In Nain, we now have two staff sharing the role of Daycare Operator. This approach is new, and it is a day-by-day, as we are short-staffed in that community. Job ads are out. In Rigolet due to losing the playground due to construction, we had to look at another option for an outdoor play space. Options for outdoor space is limited and must still meet with Provincial Regulations. Nunatsiavut Early Education Conference will be held in Nain, October 25th and 26th. Inuit ECE Working Group, the mid-term evaluation on Inuit Early Learning and Childcare Framework was completed July 6th. The framework includes findings, conclusions and recommendations concerning both building on strength and filling gaps. The evaluation is intended to constructively help inform the future direction of early learning, childcare in Inuit Nunangat. I'll quickly highlight, Mr. Speaker on Health Services. One of the largest pieces is the Qanuippitaa? National Inuit Health Survey. A lot of progress has been made with data collection since our last provided update. The table shows our current

numbers and percentages for each of the Nunatsiavut communities. Hopedale: We started October 2022 then restarted July 2023-, 98 percent completed. Rigolet-, we started late March 2023-, 100 percent completed. Makkovik, June 2023, started-, 100 percent completed. Postville, June 2023-, 47 percent completed. Thirty-three people left the interview. And Nain, we started in August-, 30 percent completed-, 143 people left the interview. There's more detailed information, Mr. Speaker around this and I'll gladly email out my statements later today. *Nakummek.*

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* The next Ministers statement will be coming from the First Minister, the Honourable Melva Williams, when you're ready.

**MS. WILLIAMS:**

*Nakummek,* Mr. Speaker. Today I will be speaking on the Illusuak Cultural Centre, Membership and Enrollment, Housing and Transportation. Tomorrow I will be speaking on Public Property, Infrastructure and specifically, Nain Airport. Illusuak Cultural Centre: Mr. Speaker, following the incident that occurred at Illusuak on June 17th, 2023, on August 10th, 2023 and in-depth investigation was conducted by our insurance company involving their Fire Systems Engineer. The investigation's findings have revealed more significant extent of damages to the building caused by the fire suppression system malfunction than initially anticipated. Restoration of Illusuak is a major project for NG. As a result, a comprehensive scope of work has been developed to prepare the Illusuak Cultural Centre for re-occupancy. The scope of work entails drywall replacement, repainting, replacement of cabinets, exhibits, and an exhaustive cleaning of every corner of the building. Unfortunately, the damage is severe. And this

project is expected to take at least six to eight months before the building can be safely re-occupied. NG staff have been provided with office space until re-occupation happens. While the initial investigation has provided valuable insights, we have not yet determined the exact cause of the system malfunction. Our investigation is ongoing, as we continue to analyze the incident's root cause. It is important to note that according to the insurance company's Fire Systems Engineer, the system's reaction was unexpected and not aligned with its design, even if there had been a power surge or disconnect. Working with the insurance company, NG will oversee the restoration project.

Membership and Enrollment: Ancestry Database: Know History has begun work on developing a Nunatsiavut Ancestry database. Three team members from Know History travelled to Nain in late August as part of the first phase of work which will begin with Nain and north of Nain and then move to another community when that work is complete. Know History has begun to digitize and learn more about existing genealogical and historical material for Nain Family Trees-, or Family Line, sorry. This included digitizing the regional membership list and meeting minutes. A primary focus of the visit was to meet with the members of the Nain Membership Committee who play a pivotal role as knowledge holders in the region. They also began identifying key family names for the region and materials associated. I would like to thank the Nain Membership Committee for making themselves available for this important task as they are key knowledge holders for this region. The Membership Office has been understaffed for a few months, as we look to

fill important roles within that office. Membership files can be stressful at times and many times a decision made will have a significant impact on the lives of beneficiaries. I would like to acknowledge the hard work of all Committee Members, the Appeal Board, Pauline Angnatok, the Membership Clerk, as well as the work of our Registrar, Sheila Angnatok who is the primary contact for this file. As of September 15th, 2023, there is a total of 6,950 beneficiaries on the register. In relation to Housing, Mr. Speaker, Seniors Units, Nain and Hopedale: Mr. Speaker, the Seniors units under construction in Nain and Hopedale will provide accessible, affordable, quality units for seniors who are capable of independent living. They will include such things as stand-up freezers, lower countertops, fully accessible rooms, et cetera. These units will be administered and allocated by the Nunatsiavut Housing Commission when they are complete. Affordable Rental Units, Nain, Hopedale and Makkovik: The quadplexes, and duplexes in Nain, Hopedale and Makkovik will be for our most vulnerable populations such as low-income families, women and children, and others in need of housing. Options for construction of the Makkovik duplex is still under consideration as the proposals came in over budget. These units will be administered by the Nunatsiavut Housing Commission when they are complete. Future Housing Builds: Nunatsiavut Affairs will work with the Nunatsiavut Housing Commission to develop a plan for new housing construction in the 2024 construction season. This will ensure that housing need in Nunatsiavut continues to be a priority and that Inuit money for housing is spent wisely. Affordable Warmth and Home Repair

Program: Mr. Speaker, the Affordable Warmth and Home Repair Program 2023 started on July 31, 2023. Nunatsiavut Construction Inc. is contracted to complete the repairs. There are 34 homes approved under the program, 11 for Nain, nine for Hopedale, three for Makkovik, eight for Postville and three for Rigolet. These repairs are scheduled to be completed by December 31, 2023. Colliers Project Management is overseeing the project. Emergency Home Repair: Mr. Speaker, a tender was issued in June to complete emergency repairs in Nain, Hopedale and Rigolet. There were no proposals related to these three tenders. The tender is now re-released. The objective is to complete these repairs by June 2024. The Emergency Repair Program is an ongoing program. Mr. Speaker, in relation to transportation, Minister Abbot: Mr. Speaker, Minister Abbott responsible for transportation and infrastructure with the Provincial Government is scheduled to travel on the Kamutik W., leaving Happy Valley-Goose Bay on July 24th. He is eager to meet people in the communities and guest firsthand experience on how the ferry service operates. I encourage all residents to speak with the Minister if you have the opportunity, and express your thoughts on the service. There are still many issues with the service, including meals onboard, limited accommodations, lack of internet service et cetera. Pre-feasibility study for a road into Northern Labrador: Mr. Speaker, Nunatsiavut Government submitted its comments regarding the pre-feasibility study on a road into Northern Labrador. The consultant has confirmed that the project is still on schedule to meet the late October, early November deadline for



submission of the final document. That is my-, the end of my comments for Day One, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* The next Ministers Statement we will hear is from the Honourable Tom Evans, the Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technologies. When you're ready, sir.

**MR. EVANS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I do my statement, or the statement for Day One would be the Public Notification of the Information Breach. But before I say that I would just like to send condolences out to the family of the late Damien Pottle. As Mr. Speaker had mentioned, Damien was a valued employee of the Nunatsiavut Government. He was an intelligent, friendly person. We were all deeply shocked and saddened by his sudden passing. He was a great support person with the IT for the Nunatsiavut Government and the Assembly and we will miss him. Mr. Speaker, I want to read the Notification of the Public-, the Public Notification of the privacy breach of personal health and information. What I'll do, is I'll just speak to some of the comments that we heard, or questions about the privacy breach. So I'll just say a few things just to give some more information and hopefully clarification to our people. Mr. Speaker, this past Friday, the Nunatsiavut Government informed beneficiaries about a breach of personal and health information. I, as I'm sure all of us, can appreciate that many beneficiaries have concerns and are worried. The Nunatsiavut Government takes confidentiality and privacy very seriously, Mr. Speaker. We had our Legal Team and the Director of Information Technology involved as soon as the breach became known to us. They launched an

investigation, engaging with Advanced Data Systems and also engaged with the appropriate Provincial and Federal Agencies responsible for Privacy of Information. In our opinion, this work was necessary to be completed before the Government was able to inform beneficiaries on the details of the breach because there's so much that we didn't know. The Government has a contract with Advanced Data Systems to develop and maintain internal data bases. We are one of their clients and have been for over 10 years, a decade. Mr. Speaker, we want to be clear, Advanced Data Systems had their network systems hacked. ADS, as they are commonly known took immediate steps to ensure that the Government's data was isolated from their network and developed their internal plan to ensure integrity of the network. At no time were the Nunatsiavut Government's network or devices compromised by this event. Also, there have been questions on if the Nunatsiavut Government negotiated or paid out the hackers. We did not, Mr. Speaker. Also while this event is very serious, the investigation completed by our legal team and the Director of Information Technology has determined that ADS handled the incident correctly, and there is a low risk of the data being abused. That being said, Mr. Speaker, the Nunatsiavut Government is reviewing policies and procedures around access and privacy of information including potentially drafting Inuit laws on access to information and privacy. It is encouraged that all beneficiaries remain vigilant, all parties should take precautions to ensure that their digital identities are not being harmed. There are free credit scoring monitor sites available online and also the Nunatsiavut

Government is exploring options to ensure, like, our beneficiaries get the protection that they should. Mr. Speaker, we are aware that beneficiaries may not be satisfied of our handling of this matter, and as it's their right to contact the Provincial Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner. The contact information is provided in the press release. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* The next Minister that we'll hear from is the Honourable Minister of Education and Economic Development, as well as the portfolio of Language, Culture and Tourism, Mr. Tony Andersen, when you're ready, sir.

**MR. A. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I will provide for the Assembly, an update from Economic Development Division and the Education Division. From our Economic Development Division, Mr. Speaker, our annual plan for the Division focuses on business development, community development, policy, data collection and offering supports. For business development, Mr. Speaker, since last November, the Division has five new businesses added to the Inuit Business Registry. We have received four packages from Vale for our Division submitting 13 Inuit Business Nominations and one Qualified Business Entity nomination. There are a total of 21 clients, 17 in Business Startup, and four in Business Growth. Community Development: Our Community Economic Development Fund CEEP, and *Fiscal Financing Agreement*, FFA, programs remain open. We are expecting CEEP applications from two ICG's and have one application under review. We have provided \$225,000 which will be repaid to the Tourism Division for the barging of fuel to the Torngat Mountains Base Camp. As well, Mr.

Speaker, at this time, I'm pleased to announce especially for my friend from the Inuit Community Government of Nain, that Service Canada has finally hired a full-time Citizen's Service Representative in Nain. Christine Dicker will be available to assist the public in the coming weeks. And Mr. Speaker in earlier statements that I made to the Assembly, with the cooperation from my friend, the AngajukKâk for the community of Nain, this is something that we have worked with the Economic Development Service Canada for a number of years, and although at this time the service will be available in Nain, we look forward to in the coming months and short period of time to see the Service Canada service extended to all communities. And that is what my department will work, certainly with the other ICG's to achieve.

**Policy and Data Collection:** We have identified the need for the collection and promotion of trained beneficiaries. We are searching the possible creation of a central database to record and promote skilled beneficiaries. We are reviewing Best Practices with the Division of Education and Labrador Aboriginal Training Program. The goal of this database would be the promotion of trained beneficiaries through companies, NG departments and entities seeking employees and service providers.

**Supports: Self-employment Benefits Program:** During the spring, summer season, we have completed three supports for three clients, two in the Arts and Crafts sector and one in Accommodations. We are currently reviewing one new application. Start-ups are encouraged to apply for the program. Start-ups meaning new business start-ups. In Training, Mr. Speaker in partnership with CONA in-person bookkeeping

training has been delivered in Nain in April-, April the 24th to the 28th 2023 with 10 participants attending. We supported our business clients and Inuit Community Government staff. In partnership with Public Services and Procurement Canada, and Procurement Assistance Canada, we cost-shared an in-person information and networking session. The event was held in Goose Bay on June the 25th and was offered to Inuit businesses attending Expo Labrador 2023-, and businesses also located in Upper Lake Melville. I think the interpreter is ahead of me. All right. Financial Support: We offered a Financial Support Package to Inuit businesses to attend the Expo Labrador 2023 in Goose Bay. We provided approximately 72,000 for six businesses to attend. Feedback from the Inuit businesses in attendance, included the value of networking, gaining new contracts, informative sessions, peer support and inclusion, receive constructive client feedback, learning from other businesses, opportunities for partnerships development, sharing best practices, and served as a financial support to allow new small business to attend. A lot of stuff. *(Laughs.)* Staff-, it was a lot of stuff there, boy. Yeah, Staff: We're very pleased to welcome back Kristy Sheppard, back to the office. Kristy is our Director of Economic Development. Welcome back Kristy, back to the office after completing her deferred leave. Kristy has returned on September the 5th in the role as Director of Economic Development. And she wrote all this great stuff for me today. Thank you, Kristy. I'd also like to send our thanks to Deputy Minister Tim McNeill for supervising the Economic Development Division for the last six months during Kristy's absence. I'd also like to

congratulate our staff Mary (Binky) Andersen, and Heather Sheppard and Sandy Goudie on their continued progress during this revised work arrangement. Great work from that division. I have a very brief statement from our Education Department, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, at this time of the year, for the Education staff, especially with all the new students getting settled into university and it's like a start-up. And then with the review of late applicants, it's been a very trying time for the Education staff. So I commit to the Assembly to give a more detailed report at the Assembly in November. I will say that, Mr. Speaker, we have approximately 250 students enrolled in a variety of programs this fall with around 15 part-time studies and around 200 in fulltime studies. Our students are getting settled in, but some have already discontinued for a variety of reasons. Staff are working extremely hard at this time to ensure that all the financial supports are issued in a timely manner and that soft supports are readily available for students, especially for, as you can appreciate the fall semester, a lot of first-time students, Mr. Speaker. I know, Mr. Speaker that our staff has been-, it is a very stressful time for our staff, and I know that Members, AngajukKâk and Ordinary Members do get calls from parents and students looking for support. But I want to assure all Assembly Members that my staff continues to work to ensure that students receive their appropriate information and the support that they need. And I ask Members as well as parents and students, to be patient, especially at this time of year, the fall semester. We had this summer, again, a great Summer Literacy Camp. It was again, a tremendous

success with several local counsellors hired again this year. Our need for outside southern counsellors continue to diminish and this year we only had three. Eventually our aim is to have all of our camps delivered by local counsellors every year. The camps ran this year for four weeks from July the 17 to August 11th. A full report is received each October, so that will be presented at a later date. With respect to staff, we were actively recruiting a new Secretary receptionist as Katie Webb has been promoted to Student Liaison. We've also made an offer for the-, for a Inuttitut Curriculum Advisor, and hopefully they'll be starting within the next few-, within the next two weeks. We're also exploring the possibility of adding a new position to help with the high workload that we're currently experiencing, especially at this time of year. This is a good problem to have as it means our numbers of funded students and new applicants continue to remain high. As I said, Mr. Speaker, you'll get a more detailed report from the Education Division at the November sitting and Mr. Speaker, in my role as Acting Minister of Language, Culture and Tourism, I will do that statement tomorrow. Thank you, Mr. Speaker

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Under Standing Order 29(3) we are nearing the end of our Ministers Statement period so I'm looking for approval of the Assembly in order to allow the final Minister to give his statement. " Ayes," or "Nays"? Do we approve? And that is everyone. When you're ready, the Honourable Terry Vincent, the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, go ahead.

**MR. VINCENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to Table the Quarterly Report to the Assembly as Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. I'll provide a short update on several files in the Department since my last report. Renewable Resources: Since the last Assembly meeting, Renewable Resource Division has been engaged in the following files and endeavours: Fisheries: Mr. Speaker, the Snow Crab fishery began in Makkovik in early July but due to a worker shortage, Torngat Co-op was forced to stop buying crab and the two vessels that were fishing landed their remaining crab quota in Cartwright. The Turbot Fishery closed in early September with the full communal quota landed and processed in Makkovik. This was good news for the workers who needed every hour they can get for EI qualification. The Shrimp Fishery is going strong with good landings from both SFA4 and 5. We expect all the quota will be landed inshore this season. Both the LISA and Area 12E food fisheries are over for this year and closed at the end of August. The Commercial Char Fishery went well in Nain, and Torngat Co-op had their vessel fish for scallop while the Nain plant was open for char. I am pleased to say that the English River Salmon counting fence has once again broken its record for most salmon in a year. The fence is still active, and recently captured a Pacific salmon. Wildlife: Mr. Speaker, the 2023 moose hunting season opened on September 18 and the Department had 19 licences allocated to the communities. The season will close on March 7th, 2024. The Renewable Resource Division, in cooperation with the Ulapitsait Committee have access to approximately 30 non-profit moose licences in Gros Morne in



2023 and staff will be traveling there on October 16th to begin the project. The Province will soon be doing the fall classification of the George River Caribou herd and the Wildlife Manager will participate. Mr. Speaker, I once again encourage beneficiaries to remain compliant with the Provincial hunting ban on the George River Caribou herd and to report any hunting to our department staff or to Provincial Justice officials. Lands Division: Mr. Speaker, 27 land-use applications have been submitted in 2023 and are at various stages of processing. Mr. Speaker, since the last Assembly report, the GIS specialist has produced maps for 41 land-use files and prepared cartographic projects for the Tourism and Culture Division. Aside from working on land-use files, we have also completed the field component of a mapping project for planning at Hebron. Mr. Speaker, the Lands Division and Non-Renewable Resource Division once again partnered in inspections of fish camps located in Labrador Inuit Lands as well as Torngat Mountains National Park Base Camp. The annual operation in Hebron and the Fraser River Char Research Camp. Mr. Speaker, as part of an out-of-court-settlement with the Nunatsiavut Government, representatives from Big River Camps 2012 Ltd., issued a public apology to the Labrador Inuit on July 31st in Makkovik for trespassing on Labrador Inuit lands. We hope that this begins a process of reconciliation between Labrador Inuit and Big River Camps. *Impact Benefit Agreement:* The Voisey's Bay Mine Mill and Mine Expansion is going well, with 85 percent of the mine expansion complete in August. It is anticipated that the mine expansion will be completed in the second quarter of 2024 and both

underground mines will transition into operations. Voisey's Bay is well into another busy construction season with a maximum capacity at site of roughly 1,600 employees. IBA information sessions were held in Nain, Postville and Makkovik in early June. The IBA Coordinators in partnership with Vale and LATP also travelled to Postville, Makkovik and Rigolet to host information sessions on Vale's Job Readiness Training Program, as well as recruit for the upcoming Underground Common Core training. Torngat Mountains National Co-Management Board had in-person sessions from August...

**MR. WINTERS:**

Minister? Slow down for the interpreters. Thank you.

**MR. VINCENT:**

...on August 2nd to the 4th at Torngat Mountains Base Camp. The meeting was cut short due to weather, however, there were discussions on the Financial Audit, ongoing research and further discussion on caribou reading that were held in Nain in May. Parks Canada hired Georgina Allen as the Nunatsiavut Community Liaison. Georgina will be the Parks Canada contact for the community of Rigolet, especially as it relates to Community Engagement and Tourism and Development for the Mealy Mountains National Park. I'll end off there for today and finish my report off tomorrow. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* We're gonna take a 20-minute break before-, do you have a question, First Minister? Yes, please, when you're ready. For anyone who didn't hear, the First Minister is gonna make a correction to something stated within her report. *Nakummek.*

**MS. WILLIAMS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wanted to make a correction in relation to the information provided about Minister Abbott's visit. I had been advised that he would be traveling on July 24th. It's actually, September 24th, not July 24th. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* That will make it much easier for people to meet with him. We will now take a 20-minute-break, so that brings us to 10 minutes to the top of the hour. And snacks are here. *Nakummek.* Thank you.

[Recess]

**MR. WINTERS:**

For the information of Members, we will be going to the hotel for lunch. So, that's why there wasn't a menu handed around. You didn't miss it. We're not doing it. Also, while Members are giving their statements during this next item, please wear a headset. I know it can be a little distracting to have another voice in your ear, but it's the best way of keeping track of how fast you're going so that you're not leaving our interpreters in the lurch, as it were. We're now moving on to Item Six, "Members Statements." Are there any Members statements? The first one that I saw is the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Gerald Asivak-, when you're ready, sir.

**MR. ASIVAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Condolences to the family of the late Mr. Craig Mitchell of Happy Valley, Goose Bay, to the family of the late Mr. Elmer McLean of Happy Valley, Goose Bay. Well wishes for all students, parents, teachers, and support staff, for a fun, healthy school year. Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary to Barb and Bernie Crawford of Happy Valley, Goose

Bay. They celebrated on August 24th. Wishing them many more happy and healthy years ahead. Congrats. Ordinary Member Andersen and I also hosted an open house in North West River, partnered with Sivunivut on September 10th. We had a small turnout. We provided updates, question and answer and refreshments. The small group were appreciative of the information shared. We will try visiting North West River once a month now to work out of the Sivunivut office either on a Monday or Tuesday when the assistant is off. We'll take turns and rotate. One matter that was heard was the need for personal care homes in Nunatsiavut. We'll lobby for this to happen with all involved in the Assembly. Grace Goudie of Happy Valley, Goose Bay was one of the 16 selected for the 2023 Beaverbrook Vimy Prize, the nine-day journey across Europe. The delegation traveled to Normandy where they participated in a ceremony and the laying of a wreath in commemoration of the Dieppe raid in Canada Square. The Juno Beach Centre, the Mulberry Harbour Site in Arromanches, and the final stop on their journey, the Canada House, believed to be the first house liberated by Canadians during D-Day. They traveled to France where they spent time in Dunkirk before participating in the candlelight ceremony in the Vertus War Ceremony. Each participant had to research his soldier prior to the trip. Lastly, Mr. Speaker, Grace learned about Charles A. Mesher, a First World War soldier from Labrador and wrote a poem about him. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*. The next Ordinary Member will receive a statement from is the Ordinary Member for Nain, Roxanne Barbour, when you're ready.

**MS. BARBOUR:**

*Nakummek, UKatti.* Since our last session there's been lots of goings-ons in our community. First of all, I'd like to wish all the students of the Jens Haven Memorial School in Nain a best of luck in their tryouts for the annual fall sports meets. You can see kids trying out, running around at home. Lifelong friendships are made here and in our communities, and this year the sports meet will be held in Nain. Really looking forward to that and cheering on our Huskies and all the other student athletes in tryouts and in competition. So on August 30, I, along with my colleagues here, Member Andersen and AngajukKâk Dicker and the Deputy Minister of the Secretariat had the opportunity to sit down with the new health authorities for GNL. CEO Dave Diamond, COO for LG Health Zone, the Vice President of Transformation and Well-being and the Regional Director for Rural and Remote Health, and discussed some important issues pertaining to healthcare in Nunatsiavut and particularly, in Nain. We touched on the importance of everyday medical flights, midwifery in Nunatsiavut, fly-in, fly-out healthcare professionals and the importance of continuous communication with the NG to ensure best practices for Labrador Inuit and to ensure that Labrador Inuit has adequate access to healthcare and the healthcare services that are provided by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. I continue to meet with Nainimiut who require supports, whether they are requiring support with CRA, Service Canada, filling out applications, writing support letters and navigating through the various support systems available for Nainimiut and Labrador Inuit. Over the weekend of August 19th was the Annual CYN and Mr.

Memorial Volleyball Tournament. It was a great success and lots of fun. Hats off to the NICG and their Recreation Department for pulling it off for a smooth and fun tournament. In July my colleague and I held our constituency meeting and topics in that meeting discussed were within-, sorry, were for the NGC, the high transportation costs, high costs of food and other important topics within the NG departments. I'll continue my statement for tomorrow. *Nakummek.*

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* The next Members Statement will be from Wally Andersen, the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, when you're ready, sir.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and again I want to pay tribute to our elders. And since our last sitting, throughout Nunatsiavut, the Upper Lake Melville and the Constituency for Canada, we've lost some of our most treasured possessions. And today, Mr. Speaker, I wanna pay tribute to a wonderful woman who we lost around Canada Day. I'm talking of Alice Harris of Nain. I first got to knowing her family when her husband David moved his family to Makkovik in the early '70's to work with the Government Stores. It was known as the Labrador Services Division. Mr. Speaker, the thing that stood out about Alice was her love for her children, her grandchildren and her in-laws. Mr. Speaker, she believed deeply in her church and her family told me that after the passing of her husband David, there's times she said, she's looking forward to being with her husband. Mr. Speaker, many of our seniors, like Alice, had very little learning but I've said this before, the greatest professor or teacher in any college or university could take more than one lesson from our seniors on what it

takes to be a loving and caring and down-to-earth human being. And Alice Harris was one of these people. Mr. Speaker, I was in Nain on a Monday which we took as a holiday for Canada Day. Around two o'clock that afternoon, I went to visit Alice. I held her hand and I talked with her. I'm not sure if she could hear me. And two hours later, she spread her wings and went to her home of eternal rest. Mr. Speaker, the hurt for families when they lose a loved-one, a senior, lingers, but it's also the memories that we can cherish. And I guess it's a bit ironic as I speak here today because it was one year ago today that me and my brother lost our mom. Mr. Speaker, I think all Members who knew Alice, the kind of person she was, that the last thing I will say, that I'm sure all of us could quote a verse from the Bible that she dearly believed in, and it goes, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Lord." Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Are there other Members Statements around the Table? Wow, the whole right side. Okay. I see the Chairperson for the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation, Mr. Jeff Montague. Thank you.

**MR. MONTAGUE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I must say, Mr. Speaker this past summer has been difficult for myself and my family, to say the least. We'll get past this difficult patch, and my family are still healing. Despite that, Mr. Speaker, Sivunivut has been active in the community with offering a net-making course in July that saw five participants who were able to make their own nets and keep them at completion. The project is deemed a success and there could be other workshops in the future, depending on interest. Mr.

Speaker, in June a request for proposals went out to Members in our community for the Annual Salmon Harvest for the Community Freezer. Kevin Gear was a successful bidder and he was able to harvest 100 of the 105 requested salmon. Those salmon are now being distributed to seniors in our community and they all express their gratitude in being able to get salmon. With the end of summer, Mr. Speaker, Sivunivut has been purchasing wild berries such as bakeapple and blueberry. Redberry will be purchased in the very near future. And with these quantities we may be able to do some jam-making workshops in the Community Centre with funding Sivunivut received from the *T-Trust*. Mr. Speaker, I just mentioned funding from the *Tasiujatsoak Trust Fund*. Sivunivut applied for \$22,000 this spring and we were successful in that application. Some of these funds will go towards knowledge transfer initiatives such as fish smoking, bottling and jam-making workshops. In the proposal, there was a component to sponsor a Canadian Firearms Safety course and hunter education, which is scheduled to occur on October 7th and 8th with 12 participants. Along with that, I just mentioned, there is also further funding for our Community Freezer which we will use the funds to purchase codfish in various forms such as salted and fillets. If I have time, I'd like to continue? Mr. Speaker, I'm gonna take another change in tone. North West River is in a crisis. Drug use and drug dealing and lawlessness are so rampant that people are afraid to go outside, afraid to speak. I'm gonna speak today, Mr. Speaker, and admonish and shame the RCMP who allow these activities to run with impunity. We have children in our



community who have no choice but to walk past some of these drug dealer's houses to get to school. One particular house on Sunday Hill Road is a mere 70 paces from Lake Melville School. Residents describe this house, this drug house as a drive thru-, very convenient, 24 hours a day, all while the children walk past to get back and forth to school. About a month or more ago, this house was subject to a home invasion which was quite a violent incident, as reported by the media. The RCMP responded to the drug dealer for their complaint, but can't seem to do anything for the law-abiding citizens who live in fear. The lack of community engagement from the RCMP astonishes me. We get flyers in the mail warning the community of the fines or jail time you will face if you mistreat your dog. I use this opportunity to publicly speak to bring awareness to our situation, Mr. Speaker. There are four notorious drug houses in North West River. Two are on Sunday Hill Road, one on Montague Street and another on Paddon Road . They all operate with impunity. Impaired drivers are an everyday occurrence in North West River, and there isn't a single patrol, not one. We have approximately eight RCMP officers living in North West River and not one of them have yet to engage the community unless it's a fundraising event for the SPCA. North West River has gone to the dogs, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* The next Members Statement will come from the Chairperson of the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation, Ms. Patricia Kemuksigak, when you're ready. Take your time. Whenever you're ready.

**MS. KEMUKSIGAK:**

*Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker. Oh, I got it on the wrong channel. Sorry. NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation will be hosting it's Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, September 26th at 7:00 p.m. at the Moravian Annex. We will be looking for one board member. We hope we have a good number of our beneficiaries attend. Community Freezer: of the 29 boxes of last year's char we received in March, we only have one box left. We will be getting 10 boxes of newly-caught char in the coming days. We wanna thank Carla Pamak and the Lands and Natural Resources Department and the Department of Education and Economic Development for their donation. Labrador Anchor Cohort is a traditional food for long-term care. The Labrador Anchor Cohort gave us \$6,935 to purchase rhubarb, berries, hunter support for two men to travel for a moose and then process the moose, and partridges, et cetera. All this is for the long-term residents in Happy Valley, Goose Bay, and they are always very pleased to have their traditional food. Traditional Crafts: In June, we held a sealskin making course and we will be advertising this week for another sealskin making course. We received funds from the International Grenfell Association for traditional crafts, so there will be more crafts to follow. New Horizons for Seniors funding. We hold elder groups for isolated, vulnerable and lonely Inuit elders. Our elder groups in Headland Apartments and Assisted Living through the Labrador Friendship Centre is going very well. People are always excited when we come. We usually have a snack or dinner and play bingo and have some nice chats and laughs. At times Ordinary Member Asivak and Ordinary Member

Andersen come with us and they usually call Bingo, which is really good. In August we had a barbecue at Assisted Living and we are gonna start involving preschool children at the Grand River Family Resource Centre and Little Tree Aboriginal Head Start, so that the preschoolers can sing for the elders and spend time together. The Pye's Farm trips didn't go as well as we had hoped. This was mainly due to people having mobility issues. The elders did activities such as planting in the greenhouse, story telling, bingo on rainy days, strawberry picking, rock painting. We could never get more than three or four elders to attend. The few people that did attend, really liked it and they said it was nice and quiet there. But then they started losing interest or found it difficult to walk on uneven terrain. We wanna thank Memorial University for partnering with us on the farm project. In October, we will start renting the Moravian Annex to hold elder's socials. And in October, we're planning something with Sivunivut elders to join forces. In November we will be hosting a birthday party for the Long-Term residents whose birthdays are in November. Salmon...

**MR. WINTERS:**

Member, you're out of time. You can continue...

**MS. KEMUKSIGAK:**

Oh, sorry.

**MR. WINTERS:**

...with the second five-minute statement later. *Nakummek*. The next statement will be coming from AngajukKâk Barry Andersen of Makkovik, when you're ready, sir.

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise this morning, first of all to pay respects to the family and friends of the late Craig Mitchell of Makkovik. Ordinary

Member Asivak mentioned him earlier this morning. And also to the family and friends of Mr. Damien Pottle. I didn't know Damien all that well but I knew his family. He's a bit younger than me. So with all due respect, I'd like to pass along my condolences to Rigolet family and friends. Mr. Speaker, as was mentioned earlier, by the Minister for Lands and his Renewable Resources statement there, the fish plant in Makkovik operated this summer, despite the low landings for crab we were able to successfully land, I guess, most of the turbot quotas and most everybody from what I understand, working at the plant, was able to achieve their required amount of hours even though the amounts of hours now has gone up to 490 from what I understand in order to qualify for EI in our region. So over the summer months we heard about the problems in Makkovik with regard to plant workers or the lack of and lack of the ability to get anyone else in because of accommodations. It's a catch-22 situation we're in. The media had picked up on that and I did an interview with CBC. And I've been in contact with the Torngat Fisheries and Torngat Fisheries assures me they're working on that issue. Mr. Speaker, I'll move right along to the NAIG, North American Indigenous Games that occurred this past summer. A young man from-, a 14-year-old from Makkovik one top prize, Olsen Ford in his category as the badminton champion for Atlantic Canada. So our community is known for its sports activity, especially badminton and I'd like to congratulate the team, and especially young Olsen Ford on his achievement there. Also, I'd like to stand here and thank the IT Department for their response to the breach of security with the IT

Department there and I know it might not look like things are happening. But behind the scenes, I guess there are people with fire hoses and trying to quell the situation there. And finally, for this morning, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to advise the Assembly and whoever is interested, that the Ittaq Program or the visitors from Clyde River, Nunavut way up north, they'll be arriving in Makkovik on the 19th of October and share their experiences with us and we'll share experiences with them out in the field hunting in our traditions and in our area of hunting, like in the woods. They have no woods up there. They didn't want to come to Makkovik in June or July or August because they don't like the bugs. So they didn't wanna come here when there was flies flying around. They don't get that up there, apparently. So Mr. Speaker, we're looking forward in Makkovik to welcoming those Inuit from Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* The next Members Statement will be from Roland Saunders, Ordinary Member of the Canadian Constituency. When you're ready, sir.

**MR. SAUNDERS:**

*Nakummek,* Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize the Elders Coordinator from here in Hopedale, Beverly Hunter for the work she has completed for the upcoming Elders Conference to be held in the community of Makkovik from September 25th to the 29th. She was in contact with all the communities from Labrador as well as Upper Lake Melville and the Canadian Constituency to select members to work on this committee and we were fortunate to have two members attend. And while we're on that committee, they actually reached a milestone. The Canadian Constituency members, Ms. Elizabeth Adams and Ms. Maud Campbell lobbied for equal

representation to send members to these elders conferences for every two years. Made it. We're sending five, the same as everyone else. It's great for us because we were only ever allowed to send two. And not only that, but while they were working-, and I'd also like to mention that we had a lot of help from Michelle Kinney and also from Minister Asivak. And another point that was made that in the future there will always be new members going to these elders conferences. And it won't be the same members from each community selected each time. A select few that has always attended those things. We also made sure that we're gonna have events, special speakers, entertainment and I would imagine-, I heard that some guy named David Humpton is gonna be performing there. It cost a bit of money but they're bringing him in. But that one of the things that's really great for the Canadian Constituency is that we will have equal representation. And thanks also to Minister Vincent for the donation from your department of char-, Arctic char that I delivered to Harbourview Manor in Mary's Harbour for the seven-, eight seniors that are there. And they really appreciated the char and they're gonna have many meals out of it. So thank you, once again. And I also brought down some Mary Brown's. They just gobbled that up pretty quick. Then, the members here, they're still asking for homes to be built anywhere on the coast so that they can return because they're down in Mary's Harbour. When you go through Labrador traveling south, you don't turn off to Mary's Harbour. They get very few visitors. But they are more than welcome to have any visitors that they can get. But all they want is someone from their home

community to come visit them if they can't get there. And there's also a special message from one David-, I can't remember his name but can't pronounce the name. But he asked me to tell our President that he wants to go back to Hebron next year. So I will end it at that. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* The next Member to give a statement will be the AngajukKák for Rigolet, Mr. Chesley Sheppard, when you're ready.

**MR. SHEPPARD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to send our condolences to the late Damien Sheppard who was very young and a very valuable member to our community. We are still short-staffed in our office, which is a lot of pressure on just the two of us. But we are getting by. We also had some new PRV systems done last year and White's Construction came in working on DHSD, did a flow test on our fire hydrants and found out that our water pressure failed to pass the fire sprinkler system for the new building. So we had to bypass that for now until it gets fixed 'cause it is not just for the DHSD building but our whole community's fire hydrants is very dangerous and we're glad that we got that caught in time before anything serious happened. Our Community Freezer has been busy since I've been in office. But unfortunately, we ran out of funding and it hasn't been going for the last month. And with 99 percent of our family members depending on this, we are in the process of getting more funding and hopefully be open soon. We'd like to send a happy 91st birthday to Marion Shiwak who is currently in Goose Bay at home. We wish you a happy birthday. I'd also like to congratulate NAIG athletes who also went to the games and won a few medals. And also to Brooklyn Wolfrey who went to Germany for the

World Dwarf Games and won a few medals over there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* The next Members Statement will be from the AngajukKák for Hopedale, Ms. Marjorie Flowers, when you're ready.

**MS. FLOWERS:**

*Nakummek.* [Speaks Inuttitut] This past Friday, September the 15th, 2023 I was given a letter to present to Nunatsiavut Government Assembly. I realize, Madam Speaker [*sic*] that Assembly Members cannot read letters in an Assembly Sitting. So I'm bringing her concern forward in my Members statement this morning. This concern has to do with the Okak Commemoration that was supposed to take place in 2019. The descendants of Okak were told that they would be visiting their ancestral homeland. Candidates were chosen, however they are still waiting. Many have strong connections to the land. These places are their roots and they want to feel like they belong. Nunatsiavut has held meetings in our community. People were told that there is money to be spent on taking people back to their homeland. She would like to see that money spent on your word, on people who are still hoping and wishing they can visit their ancestors' homeland. Do I have more time? I apologize for calling you Madame Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

I appreciate that.

**MS. FLOWERS:**

(*Laughs.*) I was saddened to hear the news last month of the sudden passing of one of NG's employees, Damien Pottle of Rigolet. Damien was a quiet young man, however, he was very helpful and courteous in my



work with him. To his parents, Kathy and Kenny Pottle and his family, I extend my deepest condolences. Mr. Speaker, I want to wish all ACMS students and staff a wonderful school year. We are very fortunate that this school is fully staffed with only one new teacher this year. Welcome, to Mr. O'Leary. Ms. McLean, our gym teacher, is very busy preparing her students for the 45th Fall Sports Meet. Students will be chosen this week. I think they were chosen yesterday, actually. And I'm sure there is a great anticipation within the student body. They have been very committed in practising. I wish all the students and staff and volunteers the very best in the fall sports meet, which Nain will be the host community this year. Grades K to 6 are busy preparing for a talent show. The Terry Fox Walk will be held this Friday. A family welcome back night is scheduled for the first week in October. In closing, I would like to welcome our pages from Hopedale, Jackson and Katelyn. They're very bright, inspiring students and they were two-, one of two summer student workers who work with the Literacy Camp this summer and very professional in their work. So, welcome, ladies. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Are there other first Member statements around the Table? The first hand that I saw was Mr. George Gear of Postville, Ordinary Member, when you're ready.

**MR. GEAR:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There's not much for me to report because I got a good AngajukKâk there, my aunt. She's Aunt Diane, but the most reports I hear is, like, coming from people is harvesters, moose, where they're so scarce. And the geese in the springtime. Most people is wondering if

Nunatsiavut could do something to, like, probably close the season for-, or close it down for a few years so that that part of it can rebound itself. And it's good to see lots of codfish in the bays. It's good to see seniors going out in their boats where it's not so far away and you can see them jigging from anywhere you go. So it's good to see that kind of stuff. And that's all I have to report for now. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* The next Members statement we will receive is from the AngajukKâk for Nain, Mr. Joe Dicker. When you're ready, sir.

**MR. DICKER:**

*Nakummek, UKatti.* My report will be brief, 'cause we are still waiting for updates and I'll be reporting on the next fall meeting in November. For the Altitude Building generator. The generator is to arrive at the dock in Goose Bay on September 27th, 2023. When it arrives in Nain it will take two weeks to complete the installation. With all the testing it requires, the completion date is for this fall. With the sewer main replacement, originally, this was a two-year phase replacement, but it's changed to one phase. It will be tendered in the winter of 2023 and 2024 and construction will begin in summer '24 with completion date for the construction season of 2024. The storm water management plan study. Work is still ongoing drafting the plan with completion date for December 2023. After that it will be looked at by the parties involved before it goes to tender and hopefully a completion date for the fall of 2024. The slipway upgrade-, this project has been delayed over to the 2024 season with a budget of \$240,000 tenders will be called this coming winter and construction for completion is 2024. The Nain Inuit Community Government has requested

that the bids be limited to companies based in Nain because they can multi-task the tender. We've got three companies there that are local that might want to bid on that cost. Like I said, I'll report back in November with the updates on some of the things that are-, they're still working on. And *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, AngajukKâk. We will now hear our first Members statement from our new AngajukKâk for Postville, Ms. Diane Gear, when you're ready.

**MS. GEAR:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it's an honour and a privilege to be back in the Assembly again. I look forward to working with all of you. Some of you I've met before and some of you are new. But anyways, I look forward to working with all of you in the coming months and days ahead-, days and months ahead, sorry. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to welcome our new office staff, Brandi Jacque has been hired as Town Clerk, Pamela Webb as Assistant Town Clerk, Tanya Osmond as our CAO. And also we'd like to welcome Glenn Sheppard our former mayor as a fire chief. I'm sure Glenn will do an outstanding job as he usually does. We all look forward to working with our new staff in the coming days ahead. I can sympathize with our AngajukKâk from Rigolet as he mentioned that there's just two of them in the office. When I took over as AngajukKâk there was only two in our office as well, and it was very hard to get things done. It seemed like every day there was something new coming up and there was just two of us. But all in all, everything come together in the end. Mr. Speaker, things are slow in my community this summer as we're still waiting on a few studies that needs to be done such as a new Lift Station. We're having lots

of trouble with our Lift Station home, our Sewer Lift Station. For some reason people still keep putting wipes, mop heads, even to a pair of jeans. I don't know how the jeans got down in to our Lift Station but it did. And so it's causing lots of trouble with our pumps. So we're hoping that in the future people will come to understand that, you know, this is costing the town money because we have to get new pumps. And we don't know what else to do. We've posted notices. We've talked to people. We just don't know what to do from now on, except encourage them not to, you know, just flush the ordinary things down the toilet. We're also looking at getting a new study done on a breakwater area for our community. Mr. Speaker, PICG was recently successful in purchasing the old fish plant in Postville. This fish plant was built in 1978 and it was starting to be in a deplorable condition. The walls were starting to cave in. The roof was starting to cave in. So we were successful in getting it and now we have it taken down because it was such a big danger to the public. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to say a big thank you to our heavy equipment operators for the excellent job that they have done around our community with removing the willows from the roads and ditches. We have a lot of trouble with willows and I'm sure every community on the coast has the same problem. But we're so happy that they did such a great job. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* I believe that is most of the Members statements. Most of the first Members statements. Are there second Members statements around the Table? The first hand I saw is the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen, when you're ready.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and it's always a privilege to stand in the House and to give an update from the Upper Lake Melville area. Mr. Speaker, we've had some exciting times as was mentioned by my colleague, Minister Asivak and the Chair of the Community Corporation for the Upper Lake Melville area and North West River that we joined together to get together for meetings and barbecues and one of the greatest things that we do in Goose Bay is to go out to Headland apartments where usually Patricia and her staff brings food and we have a meal with them and we play Bingo. And you can tell by the smiles on their face really how much they appreciate it. Mr. Speaker, the concerns in the Upper Lake Melville are from residents are great. And they're far different from those in coastal communities because we live outside the Land Claims Area. And many times it's a struggle even to try and to explain to them that the reason why is because we live outside the Land Claims Area. Mr. Speaker, it's a busy time in the Upper Lake Melville area. Probably myself and my colleague, the Minister of the Department of Health and Social Development, we get more calls after hours and on weekends than probably anyone else. Just this past weekend I had four callers including two beneficiaries of Nunatsiavut who are living in George River and they were passing through. And while we were unable to correct their problem, at least we had the time to sit down and go through the proper authorities to try and get their solution fixed. Mr. Speaker, one of the greatest concerns that we hear again comes from our seniors. And that's something I spoke about in this house the very first time after taking oath.

And that's to try and get a Level One and Level Two homecare home on the North Coast of Labrador. We pay tribute to our seniors and Mr. Speaker, these are the people who founded our communities and gave us the strength to push for self-government and the *Land Claims Agreement*. And unfortunately, a lot of these people are taken from their homes on the North Coast and has to go to places like Mary's Harbour and elsewhere when after the great contribution that they made to our society, never once asking for anything for themselves, but only that their children and their children's children, and future generations through self-government will have a better way of life. And Mr. Speaker, I know how difficult it is for families to try and visit. With the cost of air fares it's almost impossible. And I honestly and truly believe that by establishing a Level One and Level Two facility on the North Coast of Labrador, could probably be the most unselfish thing that our Government could ever do for those people who gave so much of their time and their talent. So Mr. Speaker, the issues are good. I meet as many people as possible. And Mr. Speaker, anyone who knows me that it was my choice. I know how busy the ministers are, but I'm not-, I don't hold a ministerial position so I don't wait in my office-, I'll tell the truth, I spend about 80 percent of my time away because I go to visit the hospitals, the homes. I go and talk to people and beneficiaries-, go to their house, ask them how they're doing and it's a blessing. It's an honour to serve in any house and I'm just glad to say that thank the members in the Upper Lake Melville there for their trust in me and that I will work on their behalf as hard as I can. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Are there any other second statements around the Table? Yes, recognizing the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Mr. Barry Andersen. When you're ready.

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll be very brief but I just wanted to stand here this morning and inform the Assembly that the Garden Project for Agri-Foods, Agriculture Canada that's taking place in Makkovik, the experimental compost project, the experimental garden projects, the raised garden beds and the seniors garden projects that they have on the go, is going really well. People have really taken to that project and we're seeing a lot of green products and-, like salads-, or, I mean, not salads, but salad ingredients like lettuce and all that kind of thing being grown. And I've been eating those since early July, believe it or not-, fresh stuff out of the gardens. I can't grow anything, not even hair on my head. But there's people, 30 seniors within our community that got those garden bags, whatever they're called, to grow potatoes and carrots and stuff in and I'll have a short email that I'll send out to the Assembly probably later on today from our worker Marilyn Faulkner who is the Agriculture Canada worker now hired on in Makkovik, which I'm proud to say is another job-, or a good job and she's a good trainer and mentor for those farmers in our community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek, AngajukKâk.* And just as a reminder to everyone, please slow down for the interpreters. The next person we will recognize with their second statement is the Chairperson for the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation, Ms. Patricia Kemuksigak.

**MS. KEMUKSIGAK:**

*Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker. All of our 200 salmon was caught through contract to Wally Best and Terry Clarke. We wanna thank them for getting our salmon and it's very much appreciated by our elders. I wanna thank the Department of Education and Economic Development for us receiving funds under the Work Experience Program so that we could hire someone to help with the Farm Project. This helps us to get lower costs for our vegetables and they also send vegetables out to one Inuit community per year. I wanna thank all the people who participated in the National Indigenous Games from our community and I know quite a lot of them have won medals. And on the 24th of September, it will be 80 years since Happy Valley had started. There was three beneficiaries from the North Coast of Labrador landed on the banks and started our community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*. Are there any other second statements? Seeing none, we will take a break for lunch. As mentioned earlier, we will be going to the hotel for lunch. So we will begin again at one o'clock sharp. That will give us enough time to get over there, eat and get back. *Nakummek*. Thank you, all.

[Recess]

**MR. WINTERS:**

[Speaks in Inuttitut] Welcome back. We are now on to Item Seven, and this is the longest "Returns to Oral Questions" we've had yet. So buckle up. At our June sitting, AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Marjorie Flowers asked the Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology, Tom Evans, "Where the hospital flights are now three days a week, will NG



look at an increase to flights to five days again?" The AngajukKâk also asked a supplemental question, "Is your team looking at finding extra funds?" I will now call upon Minister Evans to provide his response.

**MR. EVANS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It seems like a long time ago since these questions were asked and there's been some ongoing work since then. So I'll just proceed with the first response. The two additional flights per week were funded with COVID-19 emergency funds with approval from Indigenous Service Canada, ISC. And as we said, there's no current funding source for any additional medical flight-, medical transportation flights to and from Nunatsiavut. And we had mentioned that, that being said, the data collected during this time period will be used to lobby the Government of Canada and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador for additional funds and for additional flights. And like I mentioned, further to this, there's been ongoing work and follow-up around the additional funds for the additional medical flights. And I can say, like, between Finance Department of Health and Social Development and Indigenous Service Canada and the Province, that there's been quite a bit of work to secure the funds to ensure that we can hopefully make those extra flights available. Now I know Minister Asivak you might have something to add to that, I'm sure. I'm not putting you on the spot but you have some information if you're ready?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Minister Asivak, Department of Health and Social Development, when you're ready.

**MR. ASIVAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Minister Evans. I will add to that. We do have a support letter and support from Indigenous Service Canada on this request. They're very supportive of this and they-, like I said, they wrote a support letter to the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador Health and Community on this. The data has proven itself. We do a great job within Non-insured Health Benefits of record keeping and data, including flights and escorts and types of medical services. So we anticipate the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador getting back to us very soon. We don't have a definite timeline but the Director of Health Services, in addition to the Deputy Minister of Finance, Human Resources, have put a lot of effort, and the Deputy Minister of Health into this matter, knowing the importance of it over the years. We heard it from Assembly Members, communities and people that it's much needed. We know it takes away from families, work time, conflicting weather and such. So Nunatsiavut Government, Health and Finance are working diligently on this. And as soon as we have any word on this, we will put out a notice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* As a note, in the future, when a question is taken under notice, and we have ample time to come up with a sufficient response, I would ask that the Ministers have a whole response prepared by themselves, and not have to call on other people at the Table, just as a means of making sure that we're moving quickly throughout our business. *Nakummek.* The next question is from Ordinary Member Roland Saunders of the Canadian Constituency who asked the Minister of Language, Culture

and Tourism, "Is the group in Germany thinking about repatriating the remains back to Labrador?" I will now call upon Acting Minister, Anthony Andersen to provide his response. When you're ready, sir.

**MR. A. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, at the time the question was asked, my colleague from Nain was Minister of Language, Culture and Tourism and she did respond. And it is the response I will now give. It is the response that was made by Minister Barbour at the time and it's a response that I support, as Acting Minister of Language, Culture and Tourism. "As Minister, it is my hope that we can repatriate-, " I've gotta have a drink of water, sorry. And I will start again. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. "As Minister, it is my hope that we can repatriate Labrador Inuit remains, burial objects, Inuit cultural material and artifacts where possible. There will be many processes triggered before we see repatriation of any human remains or artifacts coming from Labrador Inuit Lands and each case is unique. Language, Culture and Tourism, Archaeology staff are working on repatriation policy that includes repatriation of human remains, burial objects, Inuit cultural material and artifacts removed from Labrador Inuit Lands, the Inuit Communities and the Torngat Mountain National Park. The sole purpose of this particular visit to Germany was to understand how Labrador Inuit feel about repatriation and to provide Labrador Inuit the opportunity to visit the old collection held internationally. While visiting Herrnhut in 2019, Dr. Lisa Ranken and Dr. Laurel Kelvin were able to learn of the Labrador Inuit collection at-, how do you say that?

**FEMALE:**

Ethnography.

**MR. A. ANDERSEN:**

Ethnography Museums. And again, in Dresden and Herrnhut Germany. I'll be so happy when I get my dentures so I can once again speak properly. This is kinda hard, you know? This led to their-, and I don't know what this is-, SHHRC application. I wish Roxy was doing this. This led to their-, this is an abbreviation of an application that I don't know what the application is. They've got the funding for this trip in 2023. LCT archaeological staff are working in partnership with them on this project. The group includes five beneficiaries, two NG representatives, as well as Memorial University and the University of Manitoba researchers who spent one week in each location learning about and looking at Inuit collections. Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I say to my colleague, thanks very well for the response that you had prepared.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation Chairperson, Jeff Montague asked the Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology, Minister Tom Evans, "Could Sivunivut please get some assistance in our obligations by either increasing Sivunivut's annual budget or assistance with a payment to the auditor?" I will now call upon Minister Evans to provide his response.

**MR. EVANS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I think myself, I just spoke briefly about this. So I'll read our response that we provide. Each year Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporations submit a budget for approval to the Nunatsiavut Executive Council. This budget includes both the projected costs for the audits of the financial statements and amounts for the operations and programs. This budget had been approved and submitted. If additional

amounts are required, they can be included in the Annual Budget submission or through a stand-alone request. And this, like, for an example, like, we know sometimes the ICG's and ICC's, they might have outside accounting consultant help with the preparation of their books for the audit. And so, like, that could be like a request to assist with those increased costs, like, that might not be a part of their original budget. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Ordinary Member Bryan Winters asked President Lampe, "President Lampe, Minister Asivak and Minister Barbour were in attendance at, "A Taste of the Arctic." How was the decision made to include these additional Ministers for a celebration and gala? When you're ready, sir.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:**

*Nakummek, UKatti* for the question. First of all, I am not aware of all the NEC attending Tapiriit, formerly, "A Taste of the Arctic," in the past. And in fact, back in 2019 I was the only elected official with an invitation to attend, "A Taste of the Arctic," from the Nunatsiavut Government. This year at an Executive Council meeting, all of the Members were asked if they would like to attend along with myself, to-, (audio skips) at this-, opportunities to travel to places like Ottawa or other cities, especially Ottawa. We try to make an opportunity to meet with either ITK or our Federal Government departments. And so the other Ministers were asked if they would like to attend. And so First Minister Williams, Ministers Asivak and Barbour also attended. And I should note that, like I said, that First Minister and I also met with Natan to discuss ongoing issues. And like

I said, we try to make time count for us when that opportunity arises.

*Nakummek UKatti.*

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Ordinary Member Roland Saunders asked the Minister Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology, Mr. Tom Evans, "Where do the profits go from the companies created by the Nunatsiavut Government?" I will now call upon Minister Evans to provide his response when he's ready.

**MR. EVANS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When I took the question, I-, we ensure that we provide the full answers to any question. And I assumed that the Member knew the answer but I was thinking I might be missing something, so I took it under notice. But, like, the Nunatsiavut Government does not pay companies. And the response was, like, maybe the question be better addressed to the *Labrador Inuit Capital's Trust* because I understand that they're making a presentation now with this sitting. So I'm not sure if that question would be to them because the Nunatsiavut Government do not create the companies, but I think the question was it was referring to might've been referring to the *Capital Trust* there.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Ordinary Member Bryan Winters asked First Minister Melva Williams a supplemental question which was taken under notice. "Have you had any conversations with your colleagues in other regions about people of mixed descent, Inuit who come from different regions, not just Nunatsiavut, and how those Inuit can be taken care of and covered in terms of our rights and our benefits?" I will not call upon First Minister Williams to provide a response.

**MS. WILLIAMS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and for my confirmation, in my understanding, you wanted just the response to the supplemental question? Okay. I have not had conversations with other regions regarding the issue. The Nunatsiavut Government only has the authority to provide services and benefits to Nunatsiavut Government Beneficiaries. I would presume that if there are beneficiaries of other *Land Claims Agreements* in the region then they could look for programs and benefits from their organization. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation Chairperson, Patricia Kemuksigak, asked First Minister Melva Williams, "When a baby is born to a Nunatsiavut beneficiary mother and there is no father named, why has the Nunatsiavut Government decided that the child is half of what the mother is, and why is this being done with Labrador Inuit, but it is not being done in any other Inuit regions? If the father is not named, they go the same as the mother. Can you explain why this was determined for the Labrador Inuit? I will now call upon First Minister Williams for a response.  
*Nakummek.*

**MS. WILLIAMS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Under the Membership Requirements of Chapter Three of *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement*, a person's Inuit ancestry is calculated mathematically, by adding the percentages of Inuit ancestry of the person's mother and father and dividing by two. Under the Membership Requirements, an applicant for membership must prove their level of Inuit ancestry. It cannot be assumed. Where a parent is not listed or is unknown, there is no level of Inuit ancestry that could be applied to

that parent because it cannot be assumed. To do otherwise would allow people to claim Inuit ancestry without proof. I cannot comment on what other Inuit regions do regarding this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

You could've stayed standing. Ordinary Member Wally Andersen asked First Minister Melva Williams "Are we trying to get the Community Constables reinstated?" One moment. No speaking. "It was a program that was brought in by the Government. Has the Minister or has our Government given any thought of looking at ways of maybe bringing the program back?" This was followed by a supplemental question of, "Would it include the Upper Lake Melville in the Community Constable Program as well? When you're ready.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Point of order, Mr. Speaker?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Go ahead.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Mr. Speaker, I think if we check the tape, that it will show that when I asked the supplementary question, started to-, about-, regarding Upper Lake Melville area I was ruled out of order. So therefore if I was ruled out of order, then the supplemental question here should be struck and not recorded.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Fair enough. If you don't your question answered, we can go ahead. You do not have to answer the second half of that question. When you're ready, First Minister.



**MS. WILLIAMS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department will consult with ICG's and other key stakeholders to understand what the needs are for such a program and report back on this issue.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Chairperson Jeff Montague asked the Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology, Minister Tom Evans, "What does zero-based budgeting approach mean? And I'm wondering if we can get a bit of an explanation of what that is?" I will now call upon the Minister for his response.

**MR. EVANS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I took the question under notice because I could tell my response was not in depth enough to understand. So we'll just go back. The zero-based budgeting approach is where the budget is based on what it needs for the upcoming period, not based on the prior year's budget or actual expenditures from the previous year. It's called zero-based as our bases will start with zero, and add to the budget the cost for the organizations to meet its needs, programs or operations. So I hope that's adequate. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Ordinary Member Roland Saunders asked the Minister of Language, Culture and Tourism, "Will your department have a Master and Apprentice Program for the Canadian Constituency in the next round of Master and Apprentice Program?" I will call upon the Acting Minister to provide a response.

**MR. A. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And again, Mr. Speaker, the answer provided to the question was provided by then Minister, Roxanne Barbour. It is the

response I will now give to the Member and it is the response that I certainly support. "No, funding the Department of Language, Culture and Tourism received for this program is specific for the Land Claims Area." Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation Chairperson, Patricia Kemuksigak asked First Minister, Melva Williams, "What happened to the \$4 million, that *Tasiujatsoak Trust* gave the Nunatsiavut Government to set up a personal care home in Nunatsiavut? I believe it was in 2010 and that was for Level One and Two care, so they don't have to have medical staff. Is it the same as what they have in Mary's Harbour?" I will now call upon First Minister Williams to provide her response, when you're ready.

**MS. WILLIAMS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Prior to answering the question, I do have another response. I don't know if you're gonna-, it's not indicated on the order. Would you want me to provide that response as well?

**MR. WINTERS:**

If you have a response that is an expansion on your answer, we can consider that part of your response.

**MS. WILLIAMS:**

It's actually, to a different question.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Is it in any way related or is this something else that you were already asked today?

**MS. WILLIAMS:**

I was asked in the June Assembly sitting and I provided the response on-, it was filed on June 14th.

**MR. WINTERS:** So then it was a question that we missed listing? Yes, 100 percent and I will just ask a Page to bring over a copy so that I can read the question. In the meantime, please provide your response to this question specifically.  
*Nakummek.*

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In relation to the question, NunaKatiget ICC Patricia Kemuksigak, the Trust approved \$3.5 million in 2010 for seniors units in Nunatsiavut. In 2017 1.5 million was allocated to the construction of the six-unit prototype in Nain. In 2021, the remaining two million was allocated to build senior's units in Nain and Hopedale as part of the Rapid Housing Initiative. These units are currently under construction. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* And in response to the paper you just handed us, that was actually a return to written question. So, that will be Item 10. So, I appreciate the due diligence. *Nakummek.* That is the end of written questions today. So-, sorry, "Returns to Oral Questions." I'm all turned around now. We will continue on to Item Eight, which is "Oral Questions." As a reminder, each Member can ask two oral questions and two supplemental questions per day. The total allotted time for oral questions is 60 minutes, but it can be extended should we need to go over that. Are there any oral questions? The first hand that I saw was the Ordinary Member for Nain, Roxanne Barbour, when you're ready.

**MS. BARBOUR:** *Nakummek, UKatti.* My question is for DHSD. What are the guidelines for granting support services under the Inuit Child First Initiatives?

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* The Honourable Gerald Asivak, Minister of Department of Health and Social Development, when you're ready.

**MR. ASIVAK:** Mr. Speaker, can you have the question repeated, please? I'm writing it down.

**MR. WINTERS:** If Ordinary Member Barbour could repeat her question?

**MS. BARBOUR:** Yeah. Sorry, what are the guidelines for granting support services under the Inuit Child First Initiatives?

**MR. WINTERS:** And just as a reminder to the room, it is very valuable if we move slowly through asking the question so that we can be sure that it's answered to the fullest degree that it can and so that when we return to these, if they need to be taken under notice, they can be effectively answered at that time. The Minister, when you're ready.

**MR. ASIVAK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ordinary Member Barbour for your question. This was gonna be provided in my Minister update tomorrow, specifically around the Inuit Child First Initiative, as this program is developing and changing. Right now we are in consultation with Indigenous Service Canada and part of that-, I'll just briefly give you my update, but it won't be in full as it has more detail tomorrow because this is specific to my statement tomorrow. There's two sections under the *Labrador Inuit Constitution*, that we follow in partnership, or in part with responding to the guidelines. And it's the responsibility of every eligible Inuit Beneficiary to provide for themselves if at all possible. Also another section-, I don't have the numbers, but it's related to food, shelter and water. And to

summarize, there is criteria and approval policy within DHSD that is not shared, but there has been an interview last week I think it was on OKâlaKatiget providing an update from the director of Family Services, Danielle Baikie and the Inuit Child First Manager, Delores Flowers. And there will be another detailed interview on the coming weeks. And each case is case-by-case. And there's more criteria to it. And there's already been information shared with the Ordinary Member via email. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Does the Ordinary Member have a supplemental question?

**MS. BARBOUR:** How is it determined when somebody is denied support services under the ICFI?

**MR. WINTERS:** When you're ready, Minister.

**MR. ASIVAK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ordinary Member. There is criteria, as I stated, that I stated, that is not shared with public. This is policy. I will note that we are expanding the team who does approve this under ICFI. So there will be more people at the table beside the manager and the director. It'll be a multidisciplinary team. And we are working with that including a Health Practitioner, support people, et cetera. *Nakummek.*

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* The next question that I saw was from the-, my apologies, Ordinary Member, do you have a second question? Yes. You can go ahead when you're ready.

**MS. BARBOUR:** Under the *Labrador Inuit Constitution*, it also motions that we have a right to support culturally related, culturally relevant services under the Funding

Provisions, as well as the sole meaning of the ICFI was to support Inuit children in terms of culturally, economically, socially, educational and health support services. So if your answer to my supplemental question was that Inuit have a responsibility to themselves(ph), doesn't that defeat the purpose of the ICFI?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Minister Asivak?

**MR. ASIVAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ordinary Member. I should've clarified a little but you'll get more information as I stated, tomorrow around the financial. This is not open that every application is deemed approved. It's meant for low-income earners, persons or grandparents or others taking care of young children on limited income, et cetera. You'll get more of it tomorrow. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* The next question that I saw was from the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Mr. Barry Andersen. Okay, my apologies. The next question will be coming from Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I'm not sure what department but perhaps I would direct my question to the President. Mr. President, our treasured people, our seniors find it more and more difficult to make ends meet. And with the criteria of today, it's more complicated for them to fill in forms and to understand it. I know we have good people in the Department of Health and Social Development that do wonderful things for our seniors. Mr. President, I'm wondering if we would consider-, our Government

would consider-, appointing a senior's representative or a senior's advocate for our seniors to give them a true sense of belonging and certainly someone that they can go to, to address their needs? Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Mr. President, would you like to provide a response?

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:**

*Nakummek, UKatti, [Speaks in Inuttitut]*

Yes, certainly, the health, well-being of our seniors as any other Labrador Inuit is ever important to us as Government and most certainly where we should be providing the services that are needed. And so I will take the question under advisement and will most certainly provide the Ordinary Member of Upper Lake Melville with a more comprehensive answer or response to the question. I know this involves the Executive Council and certainly to be discussed as each Minister is responsible to the Nunatsiavut communities, the Upper Lake Melville and the Canadian Constituency. So I will come back with a response to the question. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

**MR. WINTERS:**

The President is taking the question under notice. Would the Ordinary Member like to ask a supplemental question?

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you. No, Mr. Speaker, but I would certainly, like to thank the President where he will said he will take it under his advisement and that's a good as answer as anyone can expect. And thank you for your response.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* I want to try and say without being rude, that you can thank him after question period. *Nakummek.* The next hand that I saw was the Chairperson for the Inuit Community Corporation, NunaKatiget, that is Ms. Patricia Kemuksigak, when you're ready.

**MS. KEMUKSIGAK:** My question is to the Minister of Education and Economic Development, Mr. Tony Andersen. This question was brought forward by a Nunatsiavut beneficiary from our town. Did school students in Nunatsiavut receive free school supplies at the beginning of the school year? If yes, would your department consider giving Nunatsiavut beneficiary children in Upper Lake Melville school supplies also? Because many of our families are low-income or are from single-family homes.

**MR. WINTERS:** You do have two supplemental questions. So rather than saying, "If yes, then," you can wait. Thank you. I would also note for the Members asking questions to please be more concise. As you can see from the returns, some of these questions are very long when written out. Please be concise with your questions. *Nakummek*. Mr. President, when you're ready. Oh, sorry, Minister Tony Andersen, when you're ready.

**MR. A. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you Member for the question. And I'll have to take the question under notice. I have not asked my staff whether or not we have done that yet this year. But I want to assure the Member that I will have an answer for her during question period tomorrow. I apologize. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, Minister. Seeing as the Minister is taking the question under notice, would you like to ask a supplemental question so that he can provide a further response?

**MS. KEMUKSIGAK:** No, thank you, Mr. Speaker.



**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* The next question is from the AngajukKâk of Nain, Mr. Joe Dicker. When you're ready, sir.

**MR. DICKER:** Okay. I've got a question for the Minister of Education and Economic Development, Tony Andersen. In your report this morning you mentioned Economic Development taking over CEEP programs. Is that the case? 'Cause if you have, I'm not aware-, we as AngajukKâk aren't aware of it.

**MR. WINTERS:** Minister Andersen, do you have a response?

**MR. A. ANDERSEN:** I do, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the question, Member. We are and always have been involved in CEEP and in consultation with the Inuit Community Governments and with the Provincial Municipal Affairs as well. And we have offered assistance to CEEP and provided funding through CEEP over the last number of years, and look forward to our continued work as I mentioned in my report this morning. The applications that are currently being considered and I think the number I mentioned was three this morning. Thank you, Mr. Speaker

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Does the AngajukKâk from Nain have a supplemental question for the Minister?

**MR. DICKER:** Yes, this is news to our ICG. All applications go to the Provincial Government. We have never, ever gone to NG for it.

**MR. WINTERS:** Does the AngajukKâk have a question?

**MR. DICKER:** Yes, could you tell me which ICG's are part of this applications to be considered?

**MR. WINTERS:** Minister Andersen, when you're ready.

**MR. A. ANDERSEN:** I didn't hear the last part of his question.

**MR. WINTERS:** Would the AngajukKâk be able to ask the last part of your question again?

**MR. DICKER:** Yes, would you be able to provide the ICG's who have applied to the Nunatsiavut Government, 'cause we haven't been informed.

**MR. WINTERS:** I understood the question as, "Would you be able to explain what ICG's have applied?"

**MR. A. ANDERSEN:** I'll take the question under notice. In my report this morning, I mentioned that we are expecting CEEP applications from two ICG's and have one application under review in my report. And I don't have what Community Governments have applied. But certainly I can provide that information on short notice.

**MR. WINTERS:** I understand the Minister's taking the question under notice? Does the AngajukKâk have another follow-up? Seeing the head shaking, "No." We'll move on to AngajukKâk of Hopedale, Ms. Marjorie Flowers, when you're ready.

**MS. FLOWERS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question I think would go to President Lampe. With the high cost of living, especially the food, what, if anything, will NG do to help offset the cost of high food prices for our people? Thank you.

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

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** *Nakummek, UKatti. Nakummek, AngajukKâk* [Speaks Inuttitut] Yes, certainly, as I spoke to the address this morning, we know that inflation is causing a lot of people to suffer from living. The cost of living is so very high right across the country and certainly in Newfoundland and Labrador.

And we as Government are looking at ways of how to support those who are the most vulnerable and most certainly just last week Nutrition North Canada Board of Directors were in Nain discussing the high cost of living and how those costs are impacting Labrador Inuit-, or I should say, Inuit across the Inuit homeland. And most certainly finding ways and of what we should do to support those that need that help. And we did virtually met with Northwest Companies higher up people to, ask them hard question and why they seem to be targeting different communities and why they continue to overprice the food items and other things that people need to buy from their stores. And the North West Company has committed to come to Nunatsiavut to discuss what issues that we as Government can put forward to them. And most certainly, because we have already asked them very hard questions, I know that we will still be able to ask more questions to make changes in how Inuit across the Inuit Homeland including Labrador Inuit are made to suffer-, especially where, for example, single mothers do not have a choice to keep their children. And even to grandparents who cannot afford to keep their grandchildren because of the cost of living is so high. And we all know that Canadians across the country always see the commercial of a choice between food and a hydro bill. And so this matter will still be discussed by Government and most certainly after we have met with the North West Company, and how we can do things, or how they can do things differently. And my hope is that we could become partners in how to make life easier for Inuit across Inuit Homeland including Labrador Inuit. And I will be more than happy to

report back to this Assembly after we have met with the North West Company. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Does the AngajukKâk have a supplemental question? When you're ready.

**MS. FLOWERS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Some of our communities don't have stores that are run by the North West Company. So my question is, has it ever been considered for NG to bring back the food voucher program, especially for those most vulnerable in our communities? Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** Mr. President, when you're ready.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** *Nakummek, UKatti.* Thank you, AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Flowers. Most certainly, back in March 31st, 2023, we did say that, that program has ended and that we are not providing that program anymore. But I did not say that we cannot go back to providing support for the most vulnerable and to those that need that support most and-, in terms of food and even fuel or home heating. I know that the fall and winter is upon us and winter is quickly approaching. And I know that the Government has to seriously look at discussing this issue that Labrador Inuit will again be facing over the cold winter months. But I will again, will come back and report back to the Assembly of what options that the Government has in providing that much-needed support for Labrador Inuit. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek,* Mr. President. Does the AngajukKâk have a second supplemental question?

**MS. FLOWERS:** No, I don't. Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you for your answer, Mr. President.

**MR. WINTERS:** The next question will be from the Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency, Mr. Roland Saunders, when you're ready.

**MR. SAUNDERS:** *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker. My question is for Finance Minister Evans. Last month, I requested funding assistance for the displaced Nunatsiavut members living in the North West Territories that were forced to evacuate the towns and cities because of the wildfires that were raging there at that time. My question to you, Mr. Minister, will be, will you assist those members with monetary funding?

**MR. WINTERS:** Minister Evans, when you're ready.

**MR. EVANS:** Thank you, Member. I did see your email a while ago and I would just like to let you know that Finance doesn't develop and administer programs. So I'm not sure, but maybe more appropriate for a department or the NEC or, like, but like for Finance, we don't develop and administer programs. But having said that, can I just go on? In your email you referenced 11 beneficiaries. Just out of curiosity...

**MR. WINTERS:** Minister, if you're about to ask a question...

**MR. EVANS:** No, I was just gonna give some information that-, I could give it later but we did speak with the beneficiary that lives up north that was involved with the fire and evacuation and she had returned to-, for a funeral for the death of a loved one. But her and her son are both beneficiaries and when they went to Edmonton, they had-, the lodging was paid for, for the night.

The gas at the gas station was provided free. And there was entertainment provided at night. So I think, to-, going forward looking at your request because it's a valid request or whatever, we would-, I can't speak for the other Ministers, but maybe we could get more information about what was provided from the Federal Government to the North West Territories and to their people of North West Territory and stuff like that, so we could have some more information on what was-, what actually happened and how they were impacted either way. Because the email that we had received was sort of vague with not a whole lot of information. But that's the discussion because, like, going forward, like that you had mentioned in your email that I'm sure we'll see more of this kind of climate change situations, I guess. Like just for an example, in our region, the polar bear, like, you know, with the lack of sea ice, we find they're changing their direction. And we had individuals in our region that had their cabins repeatedly broken into and damages incurred time after time. So would this be a situation that we would look at using NG funds because it is a climate change situation, you know? So like, I think it's, like, not a discussion for a one-off. It's a discussion to ensure we'll be consistent and straightforward with our approach. Anyway, having said that, I will leave it at that.

**MR. WINTERS:**

I will ask the Ministers to be a bit more consistent and-, concise, I should say and on point with their responses. I do see that the President would like to also offer a response. When you're ready, sir.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:**

*Nakummek, UKatti.* Thank you, Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency for the question to the Minister of Finance. I was anticipating the question to be brought to my attention and as my staff have done a bit of research, there were 10 beneficiaries of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement* that were evacuated from Yellowknife due to the wildfires. And the Nunatsiavut Government has been exploring how can we or could we support these evacuees or other evacuees in the future. And the Nunatsiavut Government has reached out to the Indigenous Services Canada to ask if there are any programs, including the Emergency Management Assistance Program that Nunatsiavut Government could avail of. The initial response was that the Emergency Management Assistance Program is only for First Nations on Reserve. So the Program Officer is investigating to see if there are any other programs that we, as Nunatsiavut Government could avail of. And so this work is ongoing and so again, I will be able to report back to the Assembly of any other developments that may arise from the question that the Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency is asking. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek,* Mr. President and I know it's a little confusing but Ordinary Member, if you have a supplemental, it's still for Minister Evans.

**MR. SAUNDERS:**

No, it's fine. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* I haven't seen hands for any other First Questions. Okay, recognizing Jeff Montague of the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation, when you're ready.

**MR. MONTAGUE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I've got a question for the Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology. Has the Nunatsiavut Government itself ever been subject to a cyber attack such as ransomware of that-, something of that nature?

**MR. WINTERS:** Minister Evans, can you provide a response?

**MR. EVANS:** Yes. So in regards to your question, has the Nunatsiavut Government ever been subject to a breach or attack? The answer is, no, we have not.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, for your brevity. Do you have a supplemental question?

**MR. MONTAGUE:** No, I don't. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*. The next hand that I saw was Ordinary Member for Postville, Mr. George Gear, when you're ready.

**MR. GEAR:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Where all of Nunatsiavut Members personal information has been compromised, will NG offer identity protection to its members?

**MR. WINTERS:** I have to assume you're asking the question of the Minister of IT?

**MR. GEAR:** Yes.

**MR. WINTERS:** Okay. Thank you. Minister Evans, can you provide a response?

**MR. EVANS:** Yes. Thank you, for the question. It's a very good question. Right now we, the Nunatsiavut Government is exploring options around credit monitoring for our beneficiaries. With the information that's going out, we have identified several free credit counselling companies. But having said that, we're-, you know, it was a contractor who suffered the breach.



And so NG is exploring options with them, if they would provide credit-, free credit monitoring to the beneficiaries that were impacted, or possibly could be impacted by this breach.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Does the Ordinary Member have a supplemental question?

**MR. GEAR:** No, thank you for your answer.

**MR. WINTERS:** Are there any further First Questions around the Table? Yes, now recognizing the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Mr. Barry Andersen, when you're ready.

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is a question that I asked before and I'd like to address it to the President of Nunatsiavut. Will the Nunatsiavut Government continue to lobby Newfoundland Hydro and the PUB for a higher life block for our power, for the hydro bill to support the high costs of home heating in our region? We would love to have the same hydro bill as my cousins and friends living in the Upper Lake Melville area. Thank you, very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** *Nakummek, UKatti. Nakummek AngajukKâk Makkovimiut* Yes, we certainly would like to see lower light bills and most certainly, we're-, we as taxpayers, certainly are impacted by hydro costs impacting those who depend on electricity. Hopefully in the very near future where we are looking at not being so dependent on diesel-generated power plants, that we will start to see wind power or solar energy helping us to see more affordable ways of using the hydro that is needed. And again, we will

continue to lobby on behalf of Labrador Inuit and most certainly having been at the forefront of the Muskrat Falls fighting for the rights of Labrador Inuit being impacted. We will not give up in fighting for Labrador Inuit in how Labrador Inuit are served best. And again, I know that lobbying the Provincial Government, it's the responsibility of the Nunatsiavut Government. And so we will continue to report back to the Assembly on how-, if, you know, we are moving forward in lobbying the Provincial Government or even the Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Does the AngajukKâk have a supplemental question?

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** Yes, just one. Will the Nunatsiavut Government then seek to lobby to get a position to sit on the PUB to advance our issues forward? Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Mr. President?

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** *Nakummek, UKatti, Nakummek* AngajukKâk Andersen. Certainly, the First Minister is the Minister responsible for this issue and-, but I certainly make myself available to meet with the Public Utilities Board or other organizations where we will seek involvement in how we can best be in a position to put forward any issues, such as being a part of the Public Utilities Board. But again, this would take work of the Government. So certainly the Executive Council will have to work hard in how we can best approach being able to become a member of the Public Utilities Board. But again, we will continue to lobby whomever we have to, to get it to a

position where we will be able to have a stronger voice in how we can approach the issues that we are dealing with. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, Mr. President. AngajukKâk Andersen, do you have a supplemental question?

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** No, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, very much and much appreciate it, Mr. President.

**MR. WINTERS:** I think that might be it for First Questions are there second questions around the Table? Recognizing AngajukKâk Joe Dicker of Nain, when you're ready.

**MR. DICKER:** Thank you. *UKatti.* The question I have is for First Minister, Melva Williams. It's a hard question. What were the circumstances that led to the resignation for the Minister of Culture, Language and Tourism? We're supposed to be a transparent group and people around the Table are asking what they were. Could you tell us about the circumstances?

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, AngajukKâk. First Minister Williams.

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, AngajukKâk Dicker for the question. Out of respect for the Minister, I will not answer this question. The Minister has-, each Minister-, or each person has their own personal decisions to make and it's their choice whether or not they wish to provide that information to the Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Does the AngajukKâk have a supplemental question?

**MR. DICKER:** Yes, so even though we're transparent and if you don't wanna answer the question, you can say, "I don't wanna answer the question." I know it's

uncomfortable for the Minister or ex-Minister involved, and it's uncomfortable for the NEC but we as Members of the Assembly have a right to know. I again...

**MR. WINTERS:** Do you...

**MR. DICKER:** ...I'll ask again, would you be willing to take this as a direct question and answer it on paper (inaudible) notice of written questions?

**MR. WINTERS:** I understand that you're asking if the First Minister will take it under notice. Is that accurate?

**MR. DICKER:** Yes.

**MR. WINTERS:** First Minister Williams.

**MS. WILLIAMS:** As I stated, individuals have a right to their privacy. I will not answer that question. It's not my place to answer the question. And I will leave it there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, to the AngajukKâk for the question.

**MR. WINTERS:** Does the AngajukKâk have second supplemental?

**MR. DICKER:** No, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* The next hand that I saw raised was the Ordinary Member for Nain, Roxanne Barbour, when you're ready.

**MS. BARBOUR:** *Nakummek, UKatti.* My question is for the President. You spoke in your President's Address about the high cost of kalulatatit foods. What efforts is NG making to understand all related costs to harvest Inuk Traditional Food?

**MR. WINTERS:**

I would ask the Ordinary Member to slow down a bit when asking your question. Mr. President, whenever you're ready.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:**

*Nakummek, UKatti. Nakummek* [speaks in Inuttitut] 3:18:32. Wild foods- that is the foods that we as Labrador Inuit, as we know, is the best for Labrador Inuit. And we are looking at ways of how to best provide that natural food for Labrador Inuit to be harvested, most certainly for the health and well-being of Labrador Inuit. And last week when the Nutrition North Canada Board of Directors were in Nain, they also had someone there who works with the harvesting program and most certainly, my Deputy Minister, Isabella Pain did have discussions with that person. And so we will in a short while be looking at how we can provide more assistance to harvesters. One example is to avail of ammunition which we're lacking-, not just in Nunatsiavut, but in all of Labrador and even across the country where it was impacted by COVID. But before speaking to what we will be doing, this will be an issue that has to be discussed by the Executive Council of what approach we should be taking with the assistance of the Harvester's Program. And I most certainly, we as Labrador Inuit will have to look at the sustainability of the resources that we depend on, the seal, the birds, the fish, and how to protect those areas where these animals have to breed their young. And to make sure that the future generations will be looking at respecting the land, the wildlife, the fish and the birds. And so before getting to provide the foods that they need from the land, we will certainly have to look at how we will have to work not to negatively impact the land, the wildlife and the fish and the

birds. And I will certainly be more than happy to provide more information and report back to the Assembly to the question that Ordinary Member Barbour is asking. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Does Ordinary Member Barbour have a supplemental question?

**MS. BARBOUR:** Yes. I understand that efforts are being made to provide harvester support programs for Nunatsiavumiut. My question was around the cost of harvesting. It's Inuit right to hunt and harvest traditional foods and we all know that we have to buy gas; we have to buy bullets; we have to have a boat; we have to pay for that boat; we have to have a skidoo, we have to pay for that skidoo, we have to have guns; we have to pay for those guns. So I'm asking again...

**MR. WINTERS:** I'll ask again for the Ordinary Member to slow down for the interpreters.

**MS. BARBOUR:** ...I'm gonna ask what is the NG doing to understand the average cost of harvesting and hunting?

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* When you're ready, Mr. President.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** *Nakummek, UKatti.* [Speaks Inuttitut]

Yes, certainly, the cost of hunting, fishing, harvesting is very costly and most certainly to begin to or to continue the way of life that Labrador Inuit have lived for a long time, especially where we have to travel great distances to harvest the foods that we need, most certainly, to purchase boats, snowmobiles, rifles and even to prepare for a hunt or a fishing expedition. I feel it's very expensive and most certainly, we're-, we have

to look at where we have to go. And Ordinary Member Andersen, as former Minister understands what the Executive Council is doing and most certainly will continue to do. And the Harvester Support Program is becoming introduced to Nunatsiavut and we will look at that approach and the cost of the hunting and the fishing and the gathering will certainly be at the forefront on considering what we need to do. And so most certainly, we all know that it is very expensive, especially with the high costs of gasoline and most certainly, to get ready to go hunting and fishing or harvesting. And we certainly will have to consider-, and this question will certainly be again, brought forward to the Indigenous Services Canada and the Federal Government Department to assist Labrador Inuit in the foods that they need. And no question that the cost of going hunting and fishing and harvesting is very expensive. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Does the Ordinary Member have a second supplemental question?

**MS. BARBOUR:**

*Nakummek.* [Speaks in Inuttitut] My question now is when this data is received and we understand the cost of harvesting and hunting and to purchase the necessities required to hunt and harvest, will this be considered in terms of income level, income-, like the approval processes of income level within the NG for programs and services? *Nakummek.*

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Mr. President.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:**

*Nakummek, UKatti,* [speaks in Inuttitut]

Yes, most certainly, we will not as Executive Council consider such an issue without looking to move forward. And any issue that we consider it as important, we will look at it more seriously, especially where it considers the health and well-being of Labrador Inuit and most certainly where we have to take into consideration all aspects of what we have to do. And most certainly to look at how we can provide a consistent program to provide wild foods to Labrador Inuit and most certainly to provide that knowledge being passed on to the future generations to sustain such a program. And most certainly where we have to sustain a program that wisdom, the understanding and that knowledge. And take into consideration the climate change where the safety of hunters, fishers or harvesters will have to make. And so no question that all these aspects will be considered, and we will certainly provide reports or any other information that is needed, not only to the Assembly but to all Labrador Inuit who may have an interest in going back to the way of life that Labrador Inuit used for thousands of years. And I believe that not all Inuit are miners or office workers. And I know that a lot of younger men or even women would certainly love to provide wild foods to their communities themselves, rather than having it sent in by boat or aircraft and this food is fresh off the land or the waters. And so yes, this certainly is an important issue that Nunatsiavut Government will be looking at. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* That's the total allotted time for Oral Questions. Under Standing Order 32(7) with the simple motion of a mover and a seconder, we can extend it by 30 minutes. Is there a mover and a seconder in the



room? Seeing Roxanne Barbour and Roland Saunders, this is not debatable. We have extended by 30 minutes. *Nakummek* for your answer, Mr. President. The next question will come from the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the First Minister. One of the first questions I raised in the House and it was followed up sometime later by the Chairperson of the Community Corporation North West River, was about the annual spring goose hunt for the members in the Upper Lake Melville area. I did ask the questions through Lands and Resources and I was told it's being held Minister, under your portfolio. Can you...

**MR. WINTERS:**

Ordinary Member, if you're going to include preamble, it has to be in relation to the question, not about the fact it's been asked before or that other people have brought it up or that you asked the wrong person. So if you can get to the question you're going to ask, I would appreciate it. *Nakummek.*

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

My question is can you give us an update as to what has been done since these questions were asked?

**MR. WINTERS:**

First Minister Williams, when you're ready.

**MS. WILLIAMS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, Ordinary Member Andersen for the question. As stated previously, we have provided comments to the Implementation Committee and they are reviewing the comments. We are waiting to hear back from the other partners at the Table. An update will be provided as soon as we have one. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Is there a supplemental question from the Ordinary Member?

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:** Yes, Mr. Speaker. I'm glad to hear the conversations of foods from the land. Minister, we are the only Aboriginal group in Labrador in the Upper Lake Melville area that's not entitled to a spring goose hunt. And the migration of the geese now, it seems far easier to kill a goose in the spring of the year, than in the fall. Minister, would you ensure the members of the Upper Lake Melville area who continue to ask this question; will you and your department do everything in your power to speed up the process and get a positive answer to something that's been going on for too many years and far too long?

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* First Minister.

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The issue that you're referring to is the 12E issue and we know that this is a tangly one and we're working diligently to resolve it. We understand that it is an issue for our beneficiaries who live in the Upper Lake Melville area. I understand that. It is a process that we have to go through, and we are continuing our way and I definitely will reach back to my team to ensure that this is top of line. Thank you, for the supplemental question.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek,* First Minister. Does the Ordinary Member have a second supplemental question? *Nakummek.* The next question will be from the Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency, Mr. Roland Saunders, when you're ready.

**MR. SAUNDERS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's, "Pick on First Minister Day." My next question is for Minister Williams. It's from several members that live within Labrador but outside of the Labrador Land Claims Area. They are asking for some home repair program that will assist them in their home repairs living just outside the Land Claims Area but within Labrador. Is there any assistance available for those members?

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

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Are you-, I'm assuming the question is, is there assistance for these people from the Nunatsiavut Government, because, yes-, the Nunatsiavut Government does not have a mandate to housing outside of Nunatsiavut Government. Our focus is Nunatsiavut, unfortunately. So we do not have a program available.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*. Does the Ordinary Member have a supplemental question?

**MR. SAUNDERS:** I don't. Thank you. Thanks for the response.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*. The next question will be from AngajukKâk Marjorie Flowers of Hopedale. When you're ready.

**MS. FLOWERS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to Honourable Melva Williams, First Minister. I'm sorry to be asking so many questions but I understand that NG can't build personal care homes in Nunatsiavut. Is there any way that NG can support businesses for persons who could build a personal care home here in Nunatsiavut?

**MR. WINTERS:** First Minister?

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you to AngajukKâk Flowers for the question. And we were-, I was just conferring with Minister Andersen before I stood. Definitely, that's something that we could look at and it's been a conversation that's been at our Table with the Department of Health and Social Development. And we would encourage anyone that's interested in moving forward to reach out to the Department of Economic Development if they require assistance. And I'm sure they will be happy to provide that assistance. I don't know if the Minister wants to add to that answer. Thank you, for the question.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* AngajukKâk Flowers, do you have a supplemental question?

**MS. FLOWERS:** If anyone has the questions where would they go to around the personal care home?

**MR. WINTERS:** You can go ahead, First Minister, when you're ready.

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Thank you. I would recommend that you start with the Department of Economic Development, so Minister, your office.

**MR. A. ANDERSEN:** Okay.

**MS. WILLIAMS:** I would recommend you go to Minister Andersen.

**MR. WINTERS:** Do you have a supplemental question, AngajukKâk?

**MS. FLOWERS:** No, that's it. Thank you. And thank you, for your answer.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* The next question that I saw was from the Chairperson of the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation, Mr. Jeff Montague, when you're ready, sir.

**MR. MONTAGUE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I've got another question for the Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology. And it's in relation to the September 15th Public Notification of the Privacy Breach of personal and health information.

**MR. WINTERS:** I'll ask the Chairperson to slow down.

**MR. MONTAGUE:** Sorry, my apologies.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.*

**MR. MONTAGUE:** It's in relation to the public notification on September 15th about the privacy breach of personal and health information. In the release, it states that the breach was with Advanced Data Systems. Has NG been informed when Advanced Data Systems was breached? I understand it was July 24th that ADS advised NG, but do we know when ADS was breached?

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Minister Evans, when you're ready.

**MR. EVANS:** Thank you, Member. July 24th, this is when we learned from Advanced Data Systems that there was a breach. As far as we know, that's when it happened but that's when we learned of the breach from Advanced Data Systems on their network-, not NG's network, on Advanced Data's network.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Does the Chairperson have a supplemental question?

**MR. MONTAGUE:** Thank you. You had mentioned that NG is exploring services that relate to protecting identities or the credit history or what have you for identities that have been compromised-, essentially all the membership. This could

be a significant cost. Will NG be seeking any damages from ADS as a result of this?

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Minister Evans, when you're ready.

**MR. EVANS:**

Thank you, Member. NG has not ruled out exploring-, we're exploring all options to help our beneficiaries to safeguard their credit and their database. But, like, this is still ongoing and, like, it's, like significant. But the breach was of our contractor and I think we're, with our legal team, like, they're exploring the contract that we have with that contractor to determine if it's something that we could pursue. And it's still ongoing right now. But NG is like-, we're definitely exploring all options in terms of credit counselling and monitoring for our beneficiaries. So that's, like, all I can say right now.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Does the Chairperson have a second supplemental question? And as a reminder, it has to be related to the first.

**MR. MONTAGUE:**

Thank you. And thank you for the responses so far. They've been greatly appreciated. It's a simple question. Has the perpetrator been identified yet? Do we know who the attacker is or who the hacker is or the group? Do we know who they are?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Minister Evans?

**MR. EVANS:**

In terms of the Nunatsiavut Government, we don't know-, well, we know that there was a (inaudible) but the Advanced Data Systems, they engaged a third party cyber security firm and what they informed us was that they had negotiated with the threat actor to ensure the data was safe and that

it was-, the third party cyber security firm had negotiated with the threat actor and that all the data was deleted. And they provided proof or as much proof as could be, that it wasn't accessed and was deleted. But with the office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner and Advanced Data Systems, we couldn't determine that it was a hundred percent for sure, and that's why the Executive Council decided to error on the side of caution and inform the public of the privacy breach. Now having said that, the reassurance that we have at this time is that the risk assessment is low and we're aware that there are other agencies that were a part of the breach and because of the determination that the risk assessment was low, they did not inform, similar to what NG did. I'll just read something that I thought was interesting here when I guess as of today's date, the NG has provided-, and this is the information that we got from the Office of the Information Privacy Commissioner-, "As of today's date, the NG has provided the most detailed and extensive notice to the public regarding the incident." Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Are there other second questions around the Table? I see Patricia Kemuksigak, the Chairperson of the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation, when you're ready. And as a reminder, please ask one question and if there's a supplemental, ask it when you're given the opportunity. Go ahead.

**MS. KEMUKSIGAK:**

My question is to Minister Evans, Finance, Human Resource and Information Technology. How will your department or Legal ensure the breach of data does not get used for illegal activities into the future, say

two to three years down the road, once it's no longer in the forefront, because somebody told me that happened to them with a privacy breach before? When it got forgotten, that's when things got hacked or used.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Minister Evans, when you're ready.

**MR. EVANS:**

Okay. Thank you, the Member for the Corporation. So Legal and our IT Team have worked with Advanced Data Systems to ensure that they put the necessary steps in place to protect the data and then going forward, they were taking significant steps to ensure that this didn't happen again. So what we would say is that NG and ADS are doing everything possible to stop this from happening again and will keep working to ensure such information is better protected going forward. Like there's quite a lot of-, because of what happened, like, we will-, NG is making-, ensuring that necessary protections are there and, yeah, 'cause we want to ensure our beneficiaries that something like this doesn't happen again. Now, we can't hundred percent guarantee it, but we could ensure that we do our utmost to never see something like this happen again. I'm sorry if I'm repeating myself but it's-, it was a significant thing that happened, not to NG-, I mean not to our-, thank God, but it was a contractor that we had done business with for at least 10 years. And so I just want to mention that, like, NG, we had to undertake, like, our due diligence to ensure we had a full understanding of the situation and to have the best information available going forward.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Chairperson, do you have a supplemental question?



**MS. KEMUKSIGAK:**

No, Mr. Speaker and thank you, for your answer.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Are there any further second questions around the Table? Seeing none, the snacks are here. We will be taking a break and let's come back at 25 after the hour. *Nakummek.*

[Recess]

**MR. WINTERS:**

Welcome back, everyone. We are now on to Item Nine, "Written Questions." Are there any written questions today? Seeing one, page? The question is for the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources for the Ordinary Member for Nain, Roxanne Barbour. "May you please explain in detail, the process to consult Labrador Inuit in terms of land use, planning and permitting for mining, exploration and development within the LIC, LISA and the Inuit communities?" This is from-, LIL, sorry, not the LIC, of course. So this is a written question. You're not expected to answer right now but we will hope for a response tomorrow. *Nakummek.* We will now move on to Item 10. You will be a copy in writing, by the way. Item 10 is the, "Returns to Written Questions." There is one return to written questions today. At our June sitting, NunaKatiget Inuit Community Chairperson Kemuksigak, asked First Minister Melva Williams, "Would Nunatsiavut consider looking into the possibility of setting up Assisted Living homes for people needing Level One and Two care that are presently in the personal care home in Mary's Harbour? This is so that they can come home to their communities and be with family and friends, similar to the Labrador Friendship Centre model?" I will now ask First Minister Williams to provide her response.

**MS. WILLIAMS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Response to the written question, "Nunatsiavut Affairs works closely with the Department of Health and Social Development to determine housing requirements for different health program areas including assisted living and personal care homes. I have relayed this question to the Department of Health and Social Development and look for their direction on this important issue.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* We will now move on to Item 11. Item 11 is, "Petitions." Are there any petitions today? Seeing none, we move on to Item 12. This is, "Responses to Petitions." There are no responses to petitions. So we will move on to Item 13. Item 13 is, "Reports of Standing in Special Committees." There are no reports of standing in special committees at this time. We will move on to Item 14 which has the, "Tabling of Documents." I would like to recognize the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Mr. Terry Vincent, when you're ready, sir.

**MR. VINCENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I present the following document to be tabled, "Petition for Bill by C&T Enterprises Ltd."

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek,* Minister Vincent. The tabled document will be numbered as 01-5(4). There are no more documents to be tabled today, so we'll move on to Item 14. Item 14 is "Notices of Motion." I will call upon Minister Vincent.

**MR. VINCENT:**

Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, I will move, seconded by Minister Evans that the Assembly approve the petition by C&T Enterprises Ltd requesting the

passing of an Inuit Law with respect to approvals for certain quarries on Labrador Inuit lands. And Mr. Speaker I am seeking unanimous consent of the Assembly under Standing Order 16(1) to waive Standing Order 37(1) to proceed with this motion today. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

The Minister is asking for unanimous consent to proceed with the motion today. All those in favour? Are there any, "Nays"? Seeing none, Minister, you have consent from the Assembly to bring your motion forward at the appropriate time. I call upon Minister Evans.

**MR. EVANS:**

Thank you Honourable Speaker. I give notice on Wednesday, September 20th, 2023, I will move, seconded by Minister Andersen that the Assembly move into the Committee of the Whole to accept a presentation from the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust*.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*. We're moving on to Item 15, "Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills." There are no notices for first reading of bills. We will now move on to Item 16. This is, "Motions." And once again, I will call upon Minister Vincent.

**MR. VINCENT:**

Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I move as follows: Whereas Section 2.1(2), "*The Labrador Inuit Lands Act*", states that, "Until a land use plan is in effect, the Minister and the Executive Council must not, without the approval of the Nunatsiavut Assembly, issue a private interest in Labrador Inuit Lands for purposes of a commercial or industrial development, except in accordance with a special Act passed under Part Five of the *Labrador Inuit Lands Act*, and whereas Section 5.2 of the *Labrador Inuit Lands Act*

requires that a person who wishes to develop any Labrador Inuit Lands for commercial or industrial purposes before the Land Use Plan is in effect, must petition the Assembly for an Act of the Assembly; and whereas under Section 5.4 of the *Labrador Inuit Land Act*, the Minister is responsible for introducing such a petition at the Assembly, and if the petition is approved, for preparing and introducing a corresponding Bill for an Act of the Assembly; and whereas I, as Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, tabled a petition of C&T Enterprises Ltd., as Tabled Document 04-5(1), now, therefore, I move, seconded by the Honourable Tom Evans, the Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology, that Tabled Document 04-5(1) petition by C&T Enterprises Ltd., requesting the passing of an Inuit Law with respect to approvals for quarries on the Labrador Inuit lands be moved into Committee of the Whole for discussion and that Brent Denniston and Kevin Maher be called as witness. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

I don't think you're quite finished there. There's one last line. Number two.

**MR. VINCENT:**

Sorry, Mr. Speaker-, and be approved by the Assembly.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Thank you, Minister. Do you wish to speak to the motion?

**MR. VINCENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have tabled at this Assembly Sitting-, excuse me-, a petition from C&T Enterprises Ltd., in which it asked the Assembly to approve an Act to approve release to develop and operate two quarries on Labrador Inuit Lands Parcel 15, located outside of the Inuit community of

Postville. C&T Enterprises Ltd., applied to the Nunatsiavut Government for access to two pieces of parcels of lots of Labrador Inuit Lands within Parcel, LIL-15 near the Inuit community of Postville for purposes of operating rock quarries for completing the rehabilitation of the Postville Airport apron and access road for the Provincial Department of Transportation and Infrastructure. Since the quarries are located on Labrador Inuit lands, C&T Enterprises Ltd., requires a lease from the Nunatsiavut Government authorizing the project. Two quarry locations are required in order to meet the requirements of the contract. The term of the proposed lease is for three months. The cost of land-use planned for the *Labrador Inuit Settlement Area*, is not yet completed. The *Labrador Inuit Land Act*, which is the law that governs land-uses in Labrador Inuit Lands, requires that developments must be approved by the Assembly by passing an Inuit Law. I would like to point out that the locations are previous quarry sites and the company will follow all of Nunatsiavut Government's regulations for the quarry operations. The Postville Airport rehabilitation is essential for the transportation requirements of the community of Postville. I am hopeful that the Assembly will see the importance and value of the project to the community of Postville and approve the petition. If the petition is approved, a Bill is ready for consideration by the Assembly at the appropriate time for an Act to authorize the lease. As stated in the motion, I would ask that the Assembly move into the Committee of the Whole to allow witnesses to attend-, sorry, to attend and answer any questions Members may have on the project or the process. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** Do any other Members wish to speak to the motion? Seeing none, does the Minister wish to make final remarks and close debate?

**MR. VINCENT:** I wish to close debate.

**MR. WINTERS:** At this time, the motion is to move us into the Committee of the Whole. We will now take a moment while we wait for our witnesses to come down and take the Table. We'll rearrange a little bit. Let's give it five minutes. My apologies. We have to call a vote on that. Second vote I've missed today. Do we have approval? Okay. And are there any, "Nays"? Seeing none, apologies again. The motion passes.

[Recess]

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* We're now back in-, sorry, we are in the Committee of the Whole. I'd like to welcome Kevin Maher and Brent Denniston and ask around the room if you have questions to this motion, questions about what this is? Are there questions around the Table? Yes, recognizing Wally Andersen.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I ask the question that we're here today for approval and certainly, I'm all in favour of what we're calling for. The airstrip in Postville hasn't had any resurfacing since 2001. But we're here today to ask to give approval but I understand that a lot of work by the company has already been done?

**MR. WINTERS:** Mr. Denniston, Mr. Maher?

**MR. MAHER:** Good afternoon, Mr. Chair and Member.

**MR. WINTERS:** You can stay seated during Committee of the Whole.

**MR. MAHER:**

...and Member Andersen. You are correct that some work has already begun by C&T Enterprises at the location. That is accurate. In order for the work to complete as well-, to be completed, this petition would need to be approved and the Bill to pass at the Assembly tomorrow. With respect to how the Nunatsiavut Government deals with the C&T Enterprises and the work that they've already done will be up to the Department of Lands and Natural Resources.

**MR. WINTERS:**

George Gear?

**MR. GEAR:**

Yeah, I to firsthand to look at what they had done. I heard there was inquiring about what was going on because for the Minister of Lands and Natural Resource come to me-, well, I went to him and asked him, "How are they gonna-, where are they gonna set up to?" And he said, "Up, the other end of the pond area, the road," and they was told that they couldn't start until the Assembly give them the okay to start. And they came in on a Saturday. That Sunday, I went up and took a look and they was already started the job. So it happened to us before on a different occasion, but now it seems that just because they had-, someone else had approval to do something like this. And if they keeps-, the companies keeps doing the same thing, we're gonna run out of-, or we're gonna be setting a bad preference(ph) to other companies coming and taking over the land. And this is our Inuit Labrador Land, so I would like to see something done just to set a preference(ph) for that we're not gonna be backing down for stuff like this. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Witnesses, would one of you like to speak to that?

**MR. MAHER:** Thank you, Member Sheppard. So again-, oh, sorry, Gear. My apologies. So I understand that, that will be a decision for the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources to make. You know, I think I'm somewhat limited with respect to this Committee of the Whole to answer questions as it relates to the approval of this petition and the process that follows that. So while that may be a conversation for the Minister in his department, in order to finish the work that has already been started, this petition would need to be approved.

**MR. WINTERS:** Are there further questions around the Table? Yes, recognizing Marjorie Flowers.

**MS. FLOWERS:** Thank you. How did they get to start without approval?

**MR. WINTERS:** Witnesses?

**MR. MAHER:** I can't really speak to how they started without getting approval. I was made aware that it did happen. But in terms of how that process played out, that'd be something to speak to the Minister and the Department of Lands and Natural Resources about. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** Wally Andersen?

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:** Yes, and thank you again. And I wanna make it clear that I'm not questioning, you know, that they shouldn't. I just question as to why they would start. And, you know, we saw other companies that went in there and did things on our land. But I will support this motion even though they had gone ahead because what they're doing here is for the safety of the people of Nunatsiavut and especially the people of Postville. But again, I



think in the future that I think that a Bill like this requiring the consent of the Assembly should be brought before the Assembly before any work is started. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Yes, recognizing Diane Gear, when you're ready.

**MS. GEAR:**

I can probably give a bit of clarification on how they started. They started under the Town's Permit. It was supposed to have been in our quarry but obviously, they went on outside of our boundaries and started. And I sent them an email and told them that they had to adhere strictly to our guidelines, the guidelines that we had to follow, and they wasn't supposed to go outside. But obviously, they did. We had to issue them a subordinate permit under our permit.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Yes, first, would either of the witnesses like to make a comment on that?

**MR. MAHER:**

No, Mr. Chair, I don't have any comment beyond acknowledging that a stop-work order was issued late last week, and that was my last involvement in the matter.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Roxanne Barbour?

**MS. BARBOUR:**

*Nakummek*. I think just for clarification-, I don't know if this is more for Diane or you guys. So they started the work under the permit of the PICG in the Inuit Community, right? Like the Inuit community boundaries, but they went outside of the boundaries after? Okay, *Nakummek*. That's what I needed to understand.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Okay. Are there other questions around the Table? Yes, Barry Andersen. Go ahead.

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** Okay for the benefit of the Assembly, would the witnesses be able to explain the difference between-, which I know the answer to, but for the benefit of the community-, I'm sorry, for the Assembly-, the difference between a quarry permit and a subordinate permit? If not, I can help.

**MR. WINTERS:** Witnesses?

**MR. DENNISTON:** I can try, I guess. It's not really my file but I think a quarry permit is the main one and if you want to get another third-party, you give them a subordinate permit so they can do the work as well, but they would still have to follow all the conditions of the main permit.

**MR. WINTERS:** Mr. Andersen, is that sufficient?

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** Yep. And that's the process we follow with the MICG. We're a bit more fortunate because the quarry falls within the footprint of our community and it might be a little bit vague, I guess, as to where the quarry is in Postville. I'm not sure. I'm not gonna speak for the Postville Inuit Community Government but in Makkovik, our quarry is right next to the dump site, the landfill site, and it's within the footprint of the ICG and we do deal a lot with permits and subordinate permits with different companies operating in the area. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** Any other questions? Yes, Marjorie Flowers.

**MS. FLOWERS:** Thank you. My question is once this is approved, is there guidelines put in place so they-, or anyone to watch to make sure that the guidelines are followed for the quarry?

**MR. WINTERS:** Witnesses?

**MR. DENNISTON:** If the petition is approved in the next couple of days and then, the Act, I guess, tomorrow, then the Minister would issue a lease with all the terms and conditions that they would have to follow for operating their quarries.

**MR. WINTERS:** Further questions? Yes, please, Minister, go ahead.

**MR. VINCENT:** There was a stop order-, sorry, there was a stop-work order issued, no permission to start. They were allowed to work in the town's quarry but not at our quarry. The area is currently blocked by conservation officers. The quarry will not be open unless given permission.

**MR. WINTERS:** Further questions? Yes, George Gear.

**MR. GEAR:** I don't really have a question, but it's kind of a question, though, but if they can go in and do this, crush all the stone without approval, what can be done in the future to keep them all from doing the same thing? That's the problem we got, people coming in and thinks they can do whatever they want without permits. I don't have no problem with people doing things and business that's a progressing our community and make it safer for our community. But the problem is, this is Labrador Inuit Lands, and this is our lands, Labrador Inuit, a Member, as I am a Member. And we wants this for our children and our grandchildren after we're all gone. So we wanna see it all good. So I would like to see something in place from now on where they can't do stuff like that. Get them charged or something like that. We gotta start putting our foot down somewhere because we're letting people off too easy with that stuff everywhere.

**MR. WINTERS:** Mr. Maher, or Mr. Denniston?

**MR. MAHER:** Thank you, Member Gear. All I would say on that is when we were first made aware of C&T Enterprises beginning work in the quarry, we immediately issued the-, well, we immediately approached the company to ask them to stop and when that didn't work, issued a stop-work order. In terms of making sure that this doesn't happen in the future, that's certainly a conversation we can have with the Department of Lands and Natural Resources as to how to better monitor and enforce the provisions of the *Land Claims Agreement*.

**MR. WINTERS:** Yes, Roxanne Barbour.

**MS. BARBOUR:** *Nakummek*. I agree and support the comments made by Ordinary Member Gear. It's unacceptable for any person, whether they're Inuit or not Inuit, to develop Labrador Inuit Lands without Assembly approval. So I guess, really forwarding this comment to Minister of Lands and Natural Resources to be very considerate of that issue so that, you know, I recognize and understand the importance of the development of the quarry to use for the airport. But this company needs to be reminded that what they done was unacceptable as well.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*. Mr. Wally Andersen.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:** Yes, could I-, I'm not sure if I should direct the question to the Minister of Lands and Resources or to the witnesses. Can you tell us when the company C&T Enterprises first requested and put in for a permit?

**MR. WINTERS:** Minister or witnesses?

**MR. VINCENT:** I believe it was August the 7th-, somewhere thereabouts. I'm not sure the exact date, but it's in that area.

**MR. WINTERS:** Any further questions? Yes, Diane Gear.

**MS. GEAR:** This is not a question. It's just a comment. Where they're working is really close to our cabin. This might be a conflict of interest for me to say it, but they're really close to our cabin and we tried to go in there last weekend to spend a weekend at our cabin, but we couldn't because it's just one great big pile of sand. And it's not only us, this spot, from our cabins. It's also a few others. So I think that, you know, from now on, stuff like that should be taken into consideration, 'cause we had a letter from Henry Broomfield saying that we would have access to our cabin if this permit was approved. But we don't. And we hate to go in there after they're finished because there's all kinds of equipment around our cabin. So nine times out of 10, there's damage.

**MR. WINTERS:** Are there further questions or comments? Yes, Johannes Lampe.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** Yeah, the question I have is, is it possible that the contractor was assuming that they were within the required boundary and should there have been an information session to provide them with, you know, the proper, you know, procedures to help them to understand where they should be working or where they couldn't work?

**MR. WINTERS:** Witnesses, would you like to respond?

**MR. MAHER:** Thank you, President Lampe. I can't speculate as to what C&T Enterprises thought when they began work, but I can tell the committee that they

were notified that they were doing unauthorized work, and I understand they continued to do it. So if they weren't aware originally, they were certainly made aware after the fact.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Are there further questions or comments? Yes, Joe Dicker.

**MR. DICKER:**

I think-, thank you, Mr. Chair-, since they were working unauthorized, and they blocked the access to the cabins, they should have asked the community first, if they were gonna be-, the area that they were in were gonna do that. And if they did do it, that they asked that they-, they be asked to restore the access to those cabins, and any other cabin that they might have blocked, that there be, like, a penalty or something to them 'cause without-, if they had started before and never-, if they had not started before, they would have, you know, seen that. The-, I think that should be a penalty to them.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Thank you. *Nakummek*. Can either of the witnesses speak to whether the contract does include repairing or re-naturalizing the area that they work in?

**MR. DENNISTON:**

Yeah, as part of the, I guess the workplan approval process, we've asked them to post \$25,000 for financial security just to reclaim the land or repair any damage they done to the environment. So that's part of their conditions that they have to follow. So when they're all done, they'll make sure that they restore the area and make sure that people have access to their cabins and there's no damage to the roads or whatnot.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Mr. Barry Andersen.

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a comment on I guess the process for contractors coming into our Inuit Communities. Who was the contractor? Was it the Province, Transportation and Works that let the contract to C&T?

**MR. WINTERS:** Witnesses? Mr. Denniston.

**MR DENNISTON:** Yeah, they're the contract or providers in this case, the Department of Transportation.

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Denniston. So by that being done, then there should've been a PCA or then after the PCA was signed off by the Province, the contractor that-, or the proponent, in all the Inuit communities we have PCA's and PCR's. PCA's is the Professional Contract Agreement but with a professional consulting group, that assist us as ICG's in the process of letting contracts. And then once the contract is started, and the work starts being done, they bring out PCR's, professional consultant reports as to the status of updates, and to the status of the progress of the project at hand. So I think there must've been a failure somewhere along the way to the Postville Inuit Community Government from the Province, the in initial contractor in this case. I think that's-, from my laymen's experience, since I've been here, I think that's something that's probably failed.

**MR. WINTERS:** Witnesses?

**MR. MAHER:** Thank you, Member Andersen. I don't really have a response to that beyond that if that process did fail, then that's certainly something, you

know, I would imagine that the Department of Lands and Natural Resources would have to look into for future work of this kind. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** Mr. Dicker.

**MR. DICKER:** In the meantime, what happens to the AngajukKâk's access to her land? She can't get access to her cabin and she got some personal stuff there. What's gonna happen there? Are we gonna ask the company to lay back- , go back to the land the way it was? 'Cause this happened when they had no approval. It's their fault.

**MR. WINTERS:** Witnesses?

**MR. MAHER:** I'm sorry, what was the question?

**MR. WINTERS:** Go ahead Mr. Dicker.

**MR. DICKER:** It's not a question. I think it's a matter of due diligence. They should be told to bring back the land the way it was before they were given permission. Their actions have prevented Ms. Gear access to her land. She should still have access to the land. She's got personal belongings in there.

**MR. WINTERS:** Would either of you like to comment?

**MR. DENNISTON:** Yeah, and this is gonna be one of the conditions of the lease is that they'll have access to their cabins. So when they get approval, I guess we'll inform them that any cabin owners in the area that they have ensure that they still have access to their cabins.

**MR. WINTERS:** Yes, Diane Gear.



**MS. GEAR:**

On Sunday, I saw a post on Facebook and said they were gonna block off the roads from the airport into Salmon Pond and that the road going to the airport would be the two-way road and the community was supposed to use the left-hand side of the road. They had not approached the town and asked-, or the Town Council, rather, and asked them, "Could they do that," or that they were going to do it. So there was no communication with the town.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Are there further questions or comments? Yes, George Gear.

**MR. GEAR:**

I was up there also for I'd take a look at it on Sunday and when I was coming back from my cabin just after noon, they were loading the equipment onto their barge finished the crushing of the stones. So I went up to take a look at it and stone, there's lots of stone there. And what was left there then was one excavator and two haul trucks. And the rest was gone. So I assumed that they got all the work done, just got to transport their crushed stone to the airstrip now. So I guess that's it.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Witnesses, you look like you're ready to answer a question here. Mr. Maher.

**MR. MAHER:**

Thank you, Member Gear. Even if the work is completed or near completion, with just transportation left, C&T Enterprises would still be bound by the conditions of whatever lease the Minister grants to them, assuming that this makes its way through the Assembly. So regardless of the work being done, they still would be held to those conditions, including

a reclamation of the land and any other conditions that the Minister deems fit. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** Johannes Lampe.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** *Nakummek.* [Speaks Inuttitut]

I believe that the Postville Inuit Community Government and other Inuit Community Governments have an opportunity to speak to this with Ministers Abbott and Dempster who are coming to Nunatsiavut and the reason being that the Province is continuing to ignore and dismiss Nunatsiavut Government rules and regulations and I would like to see that elected members that, you know, that meet with Ministers Abbott and Dempster to point this out to them. *Nakummek.*

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek,* Mr. Lampe. Are there further questions? Any more comments about this issue? Yes, Barry Andersen.

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** Yeah. And I was one of the ones that got the invite, Mr. President, to speak with Mr. Abbott and Ms. Dempster and whoever else is in her entourage. We will certainly bring that forward.

**MR. WINTERS:** Further questions or comments? Yes, Joe Dicker.

**MR. DICKER:** I'm going to ask Barry's permission-, I'll be in Makkovik at the same time too, so I'll meet with the Minister and stress that point to him.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Are there any other questions or comments? Yes, Wally Andersen.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think that this is certainly a concern and, you know, when the question is called, I will vote in favour of the motion. Had this been for some company to come in here and do something for their own well-being. I would vote against it. Now, we need to send a strong message that this will not be a repeat or happen again. But the only reason I will vote in favour is because I am well aware of the condition of the airstrip in Postville. As I said earlier, work hasn't been done on that since 2001. The pilots will tell you, it's down to the bedrock. And if this was not a safety issue for not-, just not the people of Postville but for all of Nunatsiavut-, if this wasn't gonna benefit our communities, then I would certainly vote against it.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Yes, Diane Gear.

**MS. GEAR:**

I'm also gonna vote yes because I heard through the grapevine-, I won't say who told me but there was a possibility that our airstrip would be closed down except for emergencies. So I'll vote yes.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Are there further questions or-, yes, George Gear.

**MR. GEAR:**

Yes, it's like I said. We just need to send a strong message to those people that's coming and doing things that they thinks they can get away with. I have no problem with doing up the airstrip because I seen it firsthand, the rocks sticking up when we landed in the plane there a little while go. And I will also vote yes to have it done. But I just want us to make sure that this don't happen again on Labrador Inuit Lands.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Are there any other questions or comments? Seeing none, do I have a motion to leave the Committee of the Whole? Recognizing Wally Andersen as the mover and Joe Dicker as the seconder, can I get approval? A round of, "Yays"? Are there any, "Nays?" Seeing none, we will take five minutes to excuse the witnesses and stand up and stretch. *Nakummek.*

[Recess]

**MR. WINTERS:**

We are now back in the Assembly. Is the Assembly in favour of approving this petition as moved? All those in favour? Any, "Nays"? The motion is approved. We will move on to Item 16. This is the, "First Reading of Bills." And there are no first readings of Bills today. Item 18 is the, "Second Reading of Bills." And there are no second readings today. Item 19 is the "Assent to Bills." And there are no bills for assent today. At this time we will adjourn until tomorrow morning, Wednesday, September 20th, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. *Nakummek.*

[Adjourned]

### **Day Two September 20, 2023**

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Ullâkut.* Welcome everyone to Day Two of our September sitting. I'd like to welcome again, those in the gallery and listening online. I see that we have the same people from yesterday. Brent Denniston, Mark Gillette and Kevin Maher. Item Number Two is, "Minister Statements." Are there any Ministers Statements around the Table? Yes, recognizing the First Minister, Melva Williams, when you're ready.

**MS. WILLIAMS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will start my statement today with Public Property. As of summer, 2023, the Nunatsiavut Government Public Property Team is proud to announce the initiation of 12 significant building projects, reflecting our unwavering commitment to community development. These projects encompass a diverse portfolio addressing critical needs such as affordable housing, seniors' housing, staff housing, office space and shelters. Our dedicated teams are working diligently to ensure that each project progresses efficiently, meeting high-quality standards and aligning with our vision for sustainable, thriving communities. Seniors units: Construction underway-, a Nain fourplex, Nain duplex, Hopedale fourplex, Hopedale single unit. Another single unit will be constructed when we get legal title to lots. Contract has been awarded to Nunatsiavut Construction Inc. Number Two, Nain staff sixplex. Construction underway, awarded to BERA Construction. Number Three, Hopedale fourplex, a rapid housing initiative project under CMHC-, or funding through CMHC. Construction underway. Awarded to BERA Construction. Number Four, Nain fourplex, rapid housing initiative, CMHC. Construction underway-, awarded to BERA Construction. Number five, Makkovik fourplex staff housing-, construction underway. Awarded to Tundra Construction Inc. Number six, Regional Educational Office, awarded to Moss Development Corporation. Number seven, Makkovik Duplex, Social Housing was tendered but was over-budget. Project team is evaluating and will provide options to NEC for further direction on this project. Number eight, Postville Duplex, Social Staff Housing. While

working with the Postville Inuit Community Government, there seemed to be a larger need for housing in Postville. The Project Team is evaluating a path forward and will be providing recommendations to NEC for direction.

Number nine, Postville Office addition. Tender package was issued and awarded construction will start summer 2023. Number 10, Rigolet DHSD building contract awarded. Some site preparation started for construction. Will be constructed during the 2023 construction season. Awarded to White's Construction. Long-term infrastructure planning: Pingutitsinik Nunatsiavut, "Create Nunatsiavut Infrastructure Projects," is still advancing. The Project Team have issued a total of seven RFP's.

Number One, "Nunatsiavut Growth, Land Development and Housing Strategy," RFP out to the public. Number Two, "Economic Development Strategy of the Construction Sector," in progress. Number Three, "Alternative Lands for Housing Facilities," feasibility study in progress. Number four, "Torngat Mountains Base Camp Infrastructure Action Plan," in progress; Number Five, "Aggregate Resource and Quarry Development," in progress; Number six, "Nunatsiavut Heritage Repository, Feasibility Study," in progress; Number seven, "Infrastructure Data Management, Mapping Development," in progress; Number eight, "Infrastructure Engagement Portal Development," in progress; Number nine; "Waste Management Strategic Plan for all Communities," RFP under review. These projects will provide the foundation of Pingutitsinik Nunatsiavut with the objective to create long-term infrastructure strategic planning. Nain Airport Feasibility Study, Mr. Speaker. Summer, 2023 marked significant

progress in the development of the proposed new Nain Airport with all 12 projects either in progress or completed. The R12 Environmental Impact Assessment has commenced, benefiting from strong support from the Nunatsiavut Environmental Division in collaboration with Provincial, Federal and Nunatsiavut Environmental regulators, is streamlining the EIA process for efficiency. Upon completing the EIA process by 2026, the next phase entails a go, no-go decision. Detailed design and construction requiring a substantial investment and possibly extending over the next six years. As a result, the final airport construction is estimated to conclude after 2030. To manage this complex project, the Nunatsiavut Government Project Team has enlisted a consultant to create a comprehensive construction schedule outlining critical milestones and funding requirements with the aim of adhering to the 2030 completion date. Community involvement is also a priority. With environmental impact and land-use consultations set to begin in October 2023. These consultations will extensively engage the Nain public, mapping out areas, crucial for hunting, gathering, and cultural activities. Mr. Speaker, myself, along with Nunatsiavut Government officials will be hosting a Nunatsiavut Government Open House in Nain on October 16th, 2023 to provide information to the public on the feasibility studies. I will remind you what the feasibility studies are. R1, "Weather station and collect data, phase one," is complete. R2, "Topographic Survey," complete. R3, "Environmental Review," desktop assessment complete. R4, "Surficial Geology, Geomorphology, Permafrost and Hydrogeological

Investigations," in progress. R5, "Weather Studies and Report, Phase two," in progress. R6, "Hydrological Study," in progress. R7, "Electrical Power Supply Alternatives," in progress. R8, "Preliminary Engineering Services," in progress. R9, "Preliminary Architectural Design Services," in progress. R10, "Construction and Supply Strategy," in progress. R11, "Cost estimation RFP," under review. And R12, "Environmental Impact Assessment RFP," under review. Mr. Speaker, I've come to the end of my prepared notes, but I also wanted to pass along today that I will be joining Minister Asivak in Makkovik on Monday and we will be presenting to the Elders Conference there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, First Minister. The next person I saw with their hand up was the Honourable Tony Andersen, Minister of Education and Economic Development as well as the Portfolio of Language, Culture and Tourism. When you're ready, sir.

**MR. A. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I'll provide some highlights from the Department of Language, Culture and Tourism. And I'm gonna listen so I don't go too fast. First of all, from the Tourism Division, our Tourism staff traveled to all five of our communities this summer to update our community partners on Tourism projects, received feedback and continue to build partnerships. We're working on updating our Nunatsiavut Visitor's Guide and community maps. We've reached out to visitor information centres and community tourism partners to hear what visitors are asking, to ensure we have this information in our visitor guide. To build upon this, we are hosting a Second Annual Nunatsiavut Tourism Session in Rigolet the



week of October 23rd. This session will bring together two people from each of our communities as well as Tourism Partner organizations to discuss and continue to plan for experience and marketing of Nunatsiavut. Our square dance lessons in Rigolet went extremely well. We're looking at continuing to offer these lessons in the fall. (Inaudible). The Torngat Mountains Base Camp and Research Station closed on September the 6th for visitors. We're in the process of planning a season debrief and preparing a request for proposals for a new operator as this was the last year of contract with Air Borealis and the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies. The Hebron Ambassador Season finished at the end of August. They'll soon begin planning for the 2024 season. We are partnered with the Winnipeg Art Gallery on their annual, "CRAFTED," event. This is taking place in November and includes a fashion show and craft sales. We've also partnered with the Newfoundland and Labrador Craft Council on their annual Christmas Craft Fair, taking place in November. These are both amazing opportunities for artists to attend. Mr. Speaker, I'll now highlight some key areas that we're working on, in Language and Culture. Noah Nochasak and Andrea Proctor have begun to work on the Kayak book. They're both on contract until March 2025. The book will have a collection of stories and interviews that were gathered by Noah through various interviews and archival records, the how-to's of building a Labrador Kayak, photos, et cetera. This book is meant for Nunatsiavummiut to have accessible information on Labrador Kayak history. This book will be available to all schools, as well for sale, for anyone interested. Kayaks are

being sent to each Nunatsiavut community as this was one of the goals of the kayak lead. "Tusalanga." We held a successful launch of Tusalanga in May. We held an open house at Illusuak with an online component through Facebook Live. The Illusuak staff are working on finalizing the Marketing and Promotion Strategy. The Inuttitit Blitz is underway. Numerous activities and launches are taking place, with resources being made available to all Nunatsiavut communities. (Inaudible) program. Community Consultations in Postville and Rigolet will take place once we hire the Cultural Program Coordinator. Staff are continuing to take the lead from the Language Strategy and Year Two activities are now occurring. We're in the process of hiring the Language Nest Manger position. We were hoping to have this position filled in the next week or so. The Guardian Program planning has begun. The partnership with Parks Canada and Makkovik and Nunavik will allow Inuit with connections to the park to visit each year through an application process. We're still finalizing the dates, but this year it did happen in August, Mr. Speaker. We'll now move to highlights from our archaeology-, not a division, but people, I suppose. A proponent was selected for the Repository Feasibility Study and Stantec has been hired. One of our staff, Deidre Elliot was in St. John's during the week of September 11th to 15th to conduct an inventory of artifacts and Inuit cultural materials from Nunatsiavut that are housed at the Rooms Provincial Museum, as well as collections held by researchers at Memorial University. We continue to review land-use and mineral exploration applications. The land-use request for the construction of a

new cabin on Iglosiatik Island was received in early September. The requested location was close to known significant archaeological sites which was cause for concern. LCT Archaeology with assistance from CO, Richard Maggo visited the area, identifying a number of new archaeological features in the requested land-use area. An alternate location was identified and tested and has been provided to Lands. We have granted seven archaeological permits so far this season. There was only one research permit issued in the region with Dr. Lisa Rankin continuing her long-term project at Double Mer Point near Rigolet. Remaining permits were issued to archaeologists for cruise ship visits, cultural resource management-related permits, and internal permits to NG archaeologists to ensure the protection of archaeological sites continues. Corey Hutchings and Deidre Elliot went to Rigolet area to participate with the field work at Double Mer Point site and to provide guidance in the final stages of the project. LCT Archaeology led a separate Rigolet project to assess the cemeteries at Rigolet and Malliak, for future ground-penetrating radar work. This work was requested by the community and will support that has already taken place to restore the cemeteries. The fieldwork consists of flight visits, photography, and drone mapping of Malliak. Meetings have since been held with Maria Lear of Memorial University to discuss the suitability of the sites for GPR and she's been advised to discuss the project at the Heritage Forum. LCT Archaeology has been working with Rigolet Committee on the planning of the Nunatsiavut Heritage Forum. This forum will take place in Rigolet from October the 3rd

to the 6th. The theme of this year's forum will be, "Where We Came From." We look forward to a magnificent way to discuss the heritage issues in Nunatsiavut and provide updates from each community. (Inaudible) 5:04:04, a mountaineer who visited Nunatsiavut between 1972 and 1986 has donated over 3,000 slides to document the trips. The slides contain interesting images of the Torngat Mountains as well as life in Nain and along the coast at that time. These slides have been scanned at Archival Resolution and will be available publicly in the coming weeks. Mr. Speaker, on July the 17th, 2023 the fire suppression system deployed at Illusuak Cultural Centre, which covered the building with a thin layer of fire-suppressant powder. This caused the building to be shut down. Currently, the building is closed while investigations are underway, and the clean-up phase starts. The exhibition area, showcased artifacts from various cultures that have lived in the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Area. The displays consist of objects of which NG holds title, as well as some artifacts that are on loan from The Rooms Provincial Museum and Archives. To ensure the safety of the objects, LCT Archaeology decided to take the artifacts out of the building and move them to secure storage in the Nunatsiavut Administrative building until the building is ready to reopen. One of the big files we have worked on this year was to have two reunions for the evictees of Nutak and Hebron. After the ship HMCS Margaret Brooke was not available, the reunion committee worked hard on the logistics of making the reunion happen by plane, helicopter and speed boat charters. The logistics of traveling to a remote location with a large group

of people proved impossible without the support of a ship. This led to the decision to postpone the reunions to the summer of 2024. After the disappointment of not being able to host the reunion for the evictees of Hebron and Nutak, with the recommendation from Ordinary Member Roxanne Barbour, we decided to hold a small reunion at Nutak similar to the Hebron Family Archaeology Project. Five elders were selected to participate based on their ability to travel by speedboat charter. We had originally planned to spend the week of August 14th to the 18th in Okak Bay, Nutak area with our base camp set up in the former community of Nutak. On August the 15th, our group departed Nain and we were able to make it to Nutak. Our group included five elders, a bear guard, maintenance, mental health support staff and boat drivers. We were able to roam around the former community of Nutak and had the opportunity to spend over three days to visit the former fishing camps and birthplaces of our elders. Our trip was cut a bit short due to impending weather and unforeseen circumstances. On the last day of our trip, August 17th, we sailed in Okak Bay and a boil-up on the beach of Martin Island where the elders shared stories and enjoyed the beautiful weather. The elders that participated in this important project were John and Timu Townley, their sister Pauline Henoche, nee Townley, Sarah Ponniuk and William Andersen the third. The elders were very grateful and happy for the opportunity to visit their homeland. It was an enriching experience for all involved, and we hope to see similar projects continue in the future. Thank you, very much, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Minister. We're already at 35 minutes for Ministers Statements. So under Standing Order 29(3) we're going to-, I'm looking to see if we can get approval to extend. Can I get approval around the Table? Are there any, "Nays"? Seeing none, the next person to speak will be the Honourable Gerald Asivak, Minister of the Department of Health and Social Development. *Nakummek*.

**MR. ASIVAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, Assembly. I have a lengthy statement. Again, I'll summarize into two divisions, "Mental Wellness and Healing," and "Family Services." My statements will be emailed this morning. Jessica Lyall, Child and Youth Mental Health Clinical Lead and Kelly-Ann Blake, Mental Health and Addictions Counsellor, have been both trained to become Mental Health First Aid Inuit trainers. They facilitated a first workshop in Mental Health, First Aid Inuit, with 15 participants, September 11th to the 13th. They are working closely with leadership staff to coordinate future training. Mental Health and Addictions Program. Eye movement desensitization and reprocessing, EDEMDR is being offered virtually throughout the region. Group EDEMDR after traumatic Illusuak event was facilitated by Lito Libres. This training will also be offered to the Seniors' Gathering in Makkovik. Mental Health Team Members have been traveling throughout the region to support each other and communities-, Nain and Rigolet in the past few weeks. Mr. Speaker, Community Justice Program: Erin Broomfield, Regional Justice Services Manager and Julia O'Brien, Sexual Violence prevention and outreach counsellor, are planning to travel to Nain in the first week of October to partner with Denika Lyall

with Trauma and Addictions, and Nancy Gear, Indigenous Justice Navigator with the Labrador Friendship Centre on men's mental health, and providing info on Justice services. Trauma and Addictions Mobile Team. Denika Lyall and Vyann Andersen will be traveling to Makkovik to partner with Lito Libres at the Elders Conference while he delivers EMDR therapy. Vyann and Denika will provide mental health supports and assist with follow-up. The Team plans to offer a virtual workshop on coping skills. This will be open to all beneficiaries. Mr. Speaker, Youth Services. Mike Mitsuk, Hopedale Youth Outreach had just returned early September from a Torngat Base Camp trip with eight youth from the region. Mike and Karen Andersen are planning a Youth and Elder on the Land and Community-based program. Amy Maggo, Nain Youth Outreach had just also returned in August. She accompanied youth from the region to Manitoba for a Healthy Living Retreat which involved a land-based component. All three Indigenous Group were present, along with youth. Amy continues to hold in-community events and also assist with Karen and Mike with the upcoming youth program. Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I'll update on Family Services. Inuit Child First Initiative. During the June Assembly, an update was provided on the changes coming to the ICFI. Since this time, a public notice was released on July 6th to inform beneficiaries of the coming changes to the program. An interview with OKâlaKatiget Radio station is being scheduled. An infographic will be developed to inform beneficiaries of the differences between Jordan's Principal and ICFI. DHSD are meeting at different tables regarding the ICFI with NG Executives, Inuit Tapiriit

Kanatami and Indigenous Services Canada. Indigenous Service Canada are committed to continue working on an interim approach, however, the expectation is for Inuit regions to work through an Implementation Plan. The First Nation and Inuit Health Branch have committed to funding our current model until 2024/2025. However, we are responsible to work in partnership with ISC on their development of a model for the ongoing delivery of the program. As I highlighted yesterday, Mr. Speaker, two important parts of the *Labrador Inuit Constitution* relate to this program, "Best Interest of Children," 2.422 and, "Water, Food, Health Care and Social Services," 2.423." There is required fixed income details for approval. This program is evolving and changing as we work through it. Note, lastly, Mr. Speaker, if of interest, the Inuit Child First Inuit Manager and Director are open to presenting to elected officials on the Inuit Child First Initiative Program. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Minister. The next hand that I saw was the Honourable Tom Evans, the Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technologies, when you're ready.

**MR. EVANS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll just provide a brief summary here, but, like, our department is involved with the-, all other departments from Finance, HR and IT, and administering and delivering not only existing programs, but assisting in implanting new programs and so forth. So I'll just do a brief summary for today. Mr. Speaker, at the last Assembly sitting in June, I welcomed Janice Webb back as Human Resource Manager. It is my pleasure to now inform the Assembly that Ms. Webb has been promoted



to the Director of Human Resources. This position provides critical strategic leadership to the Government and overall guidance and support on its many complex and unique human resource and occupational health and safety issues. The Director has been a key lead on the Occupational Health and Safety file with regards to Illusuak Cultural Centre incident. Mr. Speaker, she is the leading risk assessment at the Government's remote operations north of Nain, and this will be occurring at the end of this month. Mr. Speaker, the Government announced a new benefit specific to employees who live in Nunatsiavut. The Fuel and Utilities Benefit effective October 1st, 2023 will assist with the high cost of fuel and utilities for those employees who are home owners. We recognize that there are many employees who are renting and paying utilities. Mr. Speaker our Department will explore an expansion of this benefit in the future as the program is rolled out we will look at expanding it to include rental units. In August, the Government of Canada announced an additional 10 million in funding for the Labrador North Wireless Broadband Project. This project initially was budgeted at 24.8 million. However, when the onsite assessments were completed, the final estimate was 40 million. My Department, Mr. Speaker worked closely, very closely with Bell Canada and the Government of Canada, advocating for this project and were successful in obtaining the increase in funding. I wish, and I want to especially thank our Deputy Minister Rexanne Crawford and our Director, Robert Ford for their leadership and tireless work to bring this project to its current stage. Currently, Bell is in the final planning stages which will

continue over the fall and winter. The equipment has been ordered, with some equipment already in Labrador. Construction is planned to begin April 2024 with completion expected at the end of 2025. And I commit to providing regular status updates to the Assembly on this project as it is ongoing. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Minister. We will now hear from the Honourable Terry Vincent, the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, when you're ready, sir.

**MR. VINCENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll continue on from where I left off yesterday. With our Non-Renewable Resource Division, since the last Assembly meeting, Non-Renewable Resources Division has been engaged in the following files pertaining to mineral exploration and quarries: This summer we have seen an increase in the number of work plan applications to the region. This is a good sign for the industry and economy. Mr. Speaker, Vale's Mineral Exploration Program is well underway on Labrador Inuit Lands. Work includes drilling, prospecting and ground geophysics. Vale is currently drilling on the last setup for the season. The Division has completed a Mineral Exploration Inspection on September 13th with no concerns. Mr. Speaker, prospector Wayne Guinchard had explored his mineral licences in the Voisey's Bay area located on Labrador Inuit Lands. His program consists of a day of prospecting and sampling. His short program was based out of Nain and was cut short due to bad weather conditions. Mr. Speaker, ArcPacific Resources now renamed to Avante Mining Corp, has completed their exploration program at Tasisuak Lake,

Fraser Lake area, exploring for nickel, copper and cobalt. Their licences are located on LISA. Avante's drilling program finished up on August 20th. A recent news release has indicated some drill intersections with nickel and copper mineralization. The Division hasn't been informed of any future programs at this time. Mr. Speaker, Torngat Metals has been actively communicating with the Division with their plans for road and mine development. Torngat Metals formerly known as Quest Rare Metals, is proposing to develop the Strange Lake deposit located in Quebec. Torngat Metals is also proposing to develop a seasonal road from the deposit that connects to Vale's Port at Edward's Cove. Torngat Metals has been exploring on the Quebec side of the deposit with no drilling on Labrador Inuit lands. The discussions with LNR are in the early stages and the Division continues to be engaged. Mr. Speaker, Aurora Energy has been actively exploring the Michelin Project located on LIL. Their work includes prospecting, geological mapping, geochemical sampling, rehabilitation of the discovery site, and a fuel drum recycling program. Recently, Aurora has been approved to conduct a ground geophysical survey as well as test pitting and drilling. It is anticipated that Aurora will also have a winter drill program. Mr. Speaker, Labrador Gold started work on August 29th on their Udjuktok Properties located on LIL. Approved work includes prospecting, geological mapping, ground geophysics, channel sampling and a drone survey. They are exploring for gold in Forest Lake greenstone belt. The Division has completed the mineral exploration inspection on September 11th with no concerns. Mr. Speaker, Altius has also completed

their Grassroots Exploration Program on September 14th, 2023. They were based out of Nain, exploring for nickel, copper and critical minerals. Altius explored their claims located at Pants Lake, Tasisuak Lake and Conrad Brook. Mr. Speaker, Churchill Resources explored some of their claims in the Forest Lake area. They were based out of Postville exploring for nickel, copper and critical minerals. They started setting up camp in August and ran into some financial issues. They are hoping to return to their property by October. Mr. Speaker, JAL has submitted their work plan to explore their claims west of Voisey's Bay. Their application has some missing information and is still currently under review. Finally, Mr. Speaker, C&T Enterprises applied for two rock quarries located within LIL on the old Postville Access Road. The company has been awarded the contract to complete the rehabilitation of the Postville Airport, apron and access road. A petition will be brought forth at this Assembly sitting for discussion. Environment Division. Since the last Assembly meeting, Environment Division has been engaged in the following files: Mr. Speaker, the Environment Division, in partnership with Non-Renewable Resources, worked with responsible authorities to understand the cause of a diesel spill at the wharf in Nain from the M/V Keewatin. While it is not Nunatsiavut Government's jurisdiction, staff worked to understand and document the incident through discussions with the vessel crew, taking pictures and collecting fish and water samples. The samples are currently being analyzed at Federal Government Laboratories. The results will be made available once completed. The Environment Division has been

meeting regularly with the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador's Environmental Assessment Division to prepare collaborative environmental reviews for two projects that will be registered this fall, Torngat Metals Rare Earth Mineral Mine, Road and Port and the New Nain Airport. The goal of these meetings is to have aligned processes so that consultation and engagement sessions line up. And so each jurisdiction is using the same information when working towards a decision to determine the impacts on Inuit and the environment. This planning process includes regular meetings with the proponents of both projects. Summer research has been busy for the Environment Division. Ongoing monitoring of birds and fish are taking place throughout Nunatsiavut communities to better understand impacts of the Postville spill. Partnered with the Canadian Wildlife Service, gulls, murre and pigeons have been tagged to better understand movement patterns throughout Nunatsiavut. When partnered with the Province, partridges have been tagged at the Base Camp, Hebron Fjord and in Postville, in an attempt to understand movement patterns and the impacts of climate change on these birds. The Nunatsiavut Government co-led a research mission with DFO. Academic partners and Amundsen Science, on board the Canadian Coast Guard Ship Amundsen. It was a very successful four-week trip with 50 sampling stations completed, 28 were planned. And that included 180 operations-, 128 were planned. The expedition also stopped into Nain on July 19th for Science Day which had Canadian Coast Guard Amundsen Tours, Research Centre Tours, a science fair and an evening

event with community members, scientists, and coast guard personnel, with a great turnout. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Minister. We will now move on to Item Three, "Members Statements." Are there any Members statements around the room? Recognizing first, Ordinary Member for Nain, Roxanne Barbour, when you're ready.

**MS. BARBOUR:**

*Nakummek, Uhattik*

I stated yesterday, my colleagues and I held a constituency meeting in July 2023. During this meeting, we provided information to Nainimiut about the Nain Airstrip, the wind turbines that are planned to go on the Nain Hill and discuss their important topics such as cost of transportation in and out of our communities, high costs of food and living, the Illusuak Cultural Centre incident, housing and housing gaps, palliative care, extended seniors supports, income taxes and the extraordinary talents of Nunatsiavut youth in recreational activities. I want to state here that there a lot of Nainimiut who are concerned over the monopolized costs of air travel and cargo. It is common sense to understand that with the high cost of air transportation and cargo, will come higher costs of food and other essential items. The Air Transportation service is provided in one third partnership with the NGC, the business arm of the NG and at arm's length away from the NG. I also want to note that the NG oversees the NGC as outlined in Inuit law. President Lampe stated in his address to the Assembly, that the NL Nutritious Food Basket released its new findings which indicates to purchase healthy, nutritious kalulatatit food, is

approximately \$467 per week or \$1868 a month or \$24,284 a year, for a family of four. The Federal Minimum wage is \$16.65. When you multiply 16.65 by the average working hours per week, you get an amount of \$582.75. That's before taxes and other Federal contributions or 2,331 a month, \$30,303 a year before taxes. As Inuit, we now rely on western transportation and goods to live and sustain our Inuit way of life. Gasoline, ammunition, necessary transportation such as outboard motors and skidoos, high and low power rifles and shotguns. The cost of gas is currently at \$1.99 per litre. You need at least 46 litres or 10 gallons to go somewhere handy to harvest country food. That's \$91.54. To increase our chances of success, you need to go further from Nain meaning you need more gas which further means increased costs. Rental prices for the NG units are averaged at \$500 to \$600 a month. NLHC rental units require 30 percent of your income. I do not need to explain the math here because it's obvious that a family of four with a one-income household cannot afford to sustain themselves on the minimum wage. Vulnerable persons and even decent income earners cannot get ahead and, or make ends meet because of the high cost of living. And the monopolized of air transportation or cargo does not help, but rather, increases the cost of living within Nunatsiavut. Inclusion for supports within NG services for minimum wage earners must be considered. In Nain there are many individuals who are experiencing health issues and having to move away for adequate access to health care services. As I stated yesterday, my colleagues and I met with the new health authority officials in Nain on

August 30. In this meeting, it was identified that midwifery within Nunatsiavut is not common practice. Okay. I'll finish in my second statement. *Naku.*

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Member. The next Members statement will be from the Honourable Wally Andersen, Ordinary Member of the Upper Lake Melville. When you're ready, sir.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I wanna start the day by sending out a thank you to some of our staff. One of our fish harvesters in the Upper Lake Melville area was air-lifted off of his ship and there was a great concern. On the Saturday I contacted the Deputy Minister of Lands and Resources, Mr. Jim Goudie who in turn, put me onto the Director of Lands and Resources, Todd Broomfield. And within hours that they did their work and first thing Monday morning, they went to Department of Fisheries and Oceans. And within less than an hour, the problem was solved. And I wanna thank them for taking my calls on the weekend and on their day off. Mr. Speaker, I also want to send a thank you to the Deputy Minister of Health, Michelle Kinney, and Mr. Speaker, I mentioned yesterday that myself and my colleague got called out many times. And I've gone to Michelle Kinney on Canada Day, on the Nunatsiavut Day when we find our people sometimes in great need. And I'll give you an example. A child passes away in St. John's around midnight on Friday. The mother and father are stuck not knowing what to do. Saturday morning, I contact the Deputy Minister. She takes it, and with her staff they go, and they solve the problem. And not once have I gone to the Deputy Minister of



Health and she said, "Well, I'll have to wait until Monday. I'll have to wait until such and such a time." The response, "Yeah, these people need help." And to them, I want to thank them for the work that they've done. Mr. Speaker, September the 24th marks 80 years for the town of Happy Valley, Goose Bay. And Mr. Speaker, the stories told, and these written in, "Them Days," and so on, that there was three people. There was Uncle Pop Saunders; there was Johnny Broomfield which we-, there was two Johnny Broomfield. We refer to this gentleman as Big Bay Johnny-, and Mr. Thorwald Perreault. And when they drove their motorboat, where they were gonna go ashore, they had agreed that they would walk ashore together. And the stories told at that time when they put their motorboat ashore, they never had no flat. And those of us who know the old motorboat, that when you run that aground, you still got a foot and a half to two feet of water. Two people had thigh rubbers. Today they call them hip rubbers. And the other guy only had a pair of what we call short rubbers. But they made the agreement that they would walk ashore together. And what they did, Mr. Speaker, the two with thigh rubbers carried the other gentleman ashore on their shoulders so that they kept their promise to each other that they would walk ashore together. Eighty years on September the 24th, we have a celebration. Mr. Speaker, being the Member for the Upper Lake Melville area, and I'm sure as the Members from the Canadian Constituency, that sometimes we find ourselves with our constituents asking us questions as to why people in the Land Claims Area have some things that we don't have. And it's difficult to deal with.

But Mr. Speaker, this year, September this month, marks 50 years since I left the community of Davis Inlet to take a job at the office in Goose Bay. And over the 50 years, Mr. Speaker, I've always maintained that the North Coast of Labrador is my home and my heart. And I think the people on the Coast can know that I've demonstrated loyalty to them in every way. And the town of Happy Valley, Goose Bay, Mr. Speaker, because of our Land Claims Agreement, has many benefits. And Mr. Speaker, I'm 99.9 sure that when you take the offices we have in Goose Bay that's run by Nunatsiavut Government and our employees-, when you take in our partnerships that we have with the airlines the joint ventureships and when you take into account the Community Corporations and Nunatsiavut Group of Companies, Mr. Speaker, anyone can, I think, as I said, 99.9 percent sure...

**MR. WINTERS:** Member.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:** ...that Nunatsiavut Government...

**MR. WINTERS:** You've reached time.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:** Okay.

**MR. WINTERS:** You can finish in your next statement. *Nakummek*. Your microphone is still on. And please, just keep an eye on the clock when you get started. *Nakummek*. The next Members statement will be coming from the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Ms. Marjorie Flowers.

**MS. FLOWERS:** *Nakummek* [speaks Inuttitut]

I'll give a brief report on HICG since the last sitting in June. The Town Clerk position is finally filled. We welcome Nancy Barfoot to our team. We are

now fully staffed at our HICG office. This makes a huge difference to the office workload. We hired five summer students, two who worked at the Nanuk Centre as Recreation Assistants. Two did town cleanup and one office assistant. This was a big help to the fulltime staff. I want to say a big, "Thank you," to Cindy Aggek, Kendra Winters and McKenzie Frieda for hosting us on Canada Day events. A Facility Recreation Manager was hired but resigned after five weeks. The position has been vacant with no applicants applying. In the past week, we have hired a student as recreation assistant who will be working as a casual call-in. Welcome to our team, Grace Winters. Capital Works projects are ongoing from last year. The second phase of Upgrade the Distribution Building was started on the interior of the building. Work will be completed this fall. We had some minor incidents occur due to malfunction of old equipment and are now on a boil-water advisory. Hopefully this will be lifted after the third water sample is sent and tested as per Provincial guidelines. Cleaning of retention tanks will be completed this fall. This is the first time the tanks have been cleaned since its installation in 1991. The installation of water and sewer lines to the wharf area have been completed, which includes water and sewer hookup to the municipal garage. Water and sewer lines are also available to Woodward's Gas station and hydro plant if these companies want to avail of the service. We are waiting on a tender to be called for an extension to the municipal garage-, also a tender to be called for upgrade to main water line including a new intake building. I'll stop here and finish my report in the second statement. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Are there any other Members statements? Recognizing Melva Williams the Ordinary Member for Rigolet.

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to take an opportunity to echo the condolences by other Members to the family of the late Damien Pottle. A very sad occurrence for our community for sure. I also wanna echo the comments made by AngajukKâk Sheppard and commend the youth from Rigolet who attended the North American Indigenous Games, especially those that had medalled, including Sierra Wolfrey, Clear Brook-Blake and Brooklyn Wolfrey and also to celebrate with the achievements of Brooklyn Wolfrey at the Dwarf World Games. I'd like to wish the students of the Northern Lights Academy a good year ahead, as well as any other residents in our community that are participating in post secondary studies including in-class or online learning. I'd like to commend the RICG on the work of the rink covering. It is hoped that this will allow our youth, our people in our community, access to using a rink in our community throughout the whole winter, regardless of the amounts of snow. And I'd also like to take a moment to commend the continued hard work of the DHSD staff in Rigolet who offer wonderful programming in our community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* The next Members statement is from Roland Saunders, the Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency. *Nakummek.*

**MR. SAUNDERS:** *Nakummek,* Mr. Speaker. I would also like to brag a little bit about the Canadian Constituency members that participated in the North American Indigenous games and won medals, in particular, a brother and sister

combination, Owen and Jordin Parsons. *(Laughs.)* I see you, Gus. Jordin Parsons won three silver medals, one each in shot put, discus and javelin. And Owen won gold in discus, silver in shot put and javelin. Now, the reason I bring up those two members that we know of is because they're the grandchildren of Benny Ponniuk. Some people may remember Benny Ponniuk, I'm sure. But anyway, that's just the beginning for the many athletes that the Canadian Constituency has. But now, I'd like to bring up something that was relayed onto me from a member that was really disgusted in some things that happened in the last couple of years. In particular, she observed the harm, lateral bias and prejudice of Inuit against Inuit, policing each other's blood quantum. And she gave two examples. One in particular was Edward Blake Rudkowski losing his membership because it was challenged by another Inuit. And also there was Federal Member that called out Yvonne Jones on her assumption that she was not Inuit, but she later withdrew that. Blood quantum is a Colonial construct that will make Nunatsiavut obsolete. The Indigenous groups that will survive are those that determine ancestry in other ways. Here are examples of groups that will remain after Nunatsiavut built-in obsolescence clause is finalized: Nunavut, Manitoba Metis Association, NunatuKavut, Sami, Innu, Qualipu Mi'kmaq. But this is no means a comprehensive list, but a few examples. And in recent years, the Newfoundland Government opened an invitation for Qualipu Mi'kmaq province-wide to know this open-ended band is growing while Nunatsiavut members appear to be being reduced. While this is good for Qualipu, I put

that there as a comparison (inaudible). It's alarming, to say the least, that Nunatsiavut is at least at risk of becoming obsolete. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MS. BARBOUR:**

Point of order. Isn't that debatable? Your statement can't be debatable?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Give me a moment. I'm going to let it stand. *Nakummek*. Are there further Members statements around the Table? Yes, AngajukKâk Barry Andersen of Makkovik.

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I too, I guess, would like to give the Assembly a little update on the MICG progress for our Capital Works projects. The Makkovik North Shore outfall was completed by Budgell's Equipment and Rentals in late July and that project has-, is going to enable our sewer system to, I guess, be safe from erosion and that sort of activity from climate change for the next 50 years or so, I hope. The playground install, our next capital work project that we had for this summer, is scheduled to be started and completed by the end of this month by the contractors coming into Makkovik. I just got back to Goose Bay and to Hopedale here on Monday from my National Search and Rescue Conference in St. John's through the whole-, it was a national conference with 450 delegates from across the country in the search and rescue field. And I'd just like to inform you that there was a big push for mental health of our search and rescue volunteers who deal with a lot of not all good outcomes sometimes to search and rescue incidents. And it's good to see that they are putting in resources now for members in stressful situations to debrief and have their mental health looked after, as well as their physical health. So that being

said, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank each and every one of the volunteers in the search and rescue teams. I'm a bit biased, but for the Members sitting around the Table here who's on those teams, I'd like to thank you, very much for your service to the region and to the country itself. Thank you, very much, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek, AngajukKâk.* Are there any other Members statements, first Members statements around the Table? Seeing none, it's a good time to adjourn for a break. It is quarter past the hour. We will-, the snacks are here in the Court, by the way, and we will return at half past. *Nakummek.*

[Recess]

**MR. WINTERS:**

Welcome back. We are still on Item Three. We will return to the Members statements regarding everyone's second Members statements. Are there Members around the Table who would like to make a second statement? The first hand that I saw was the Ordinary Member for Nain, Roxanne Barbour, when you're ready.

**MS. BARBOUR:**

*Nakummek, Ukattik.* Labrador Inuit are the only Inuit in Labrador that are entitled to Section 35, Rights. The NunatuKavut Community Council are not Inuit. In Nain, taking-, sorry, starting from where I left off, so I stated yesterday, my colleagues and I met with the new GNL Health Authority Officials in Nain on August 30, 2023. In this meeting, it was identified that midwifery within Nunatsiavut is not common practice. In our Inuit way of life and language, we have special names, terminology and people in our lives that assist with the labour and delivery of our children. And it's not

practised anymore because we depend solely on the Western knowledge of health authorities and officials to determine the safety of the labour and delivery of our children. The women in our families, peer circles and in our communities are losing a vital piece of who we are as Inuit, by not practising this anymore. Further support programs and services for Inuit midwives needs to be encouraged, to revitalize that vital piece of who we are as Inuit. It was also identified that within the natural cycle of life is death. For Inuit in Nunatsiavut, instead of being surrounded by love and family, our seniors or loved ones are sent away because palliative care is commonly not available in Nain. I'd like to recognize the nurse in charge in Nain, Vanessa Webb who is also a Nainimiuk, for taking it upon herself to provide this important service to our people. Like I said, death is a natural cycle of life. And losing our loved ones and Inuktukait is never easy. But since she's been working in our community, we have seen Nainimiut pass on in the comfort and presence of their loved ones and homes, the way it should always be. Palliative care must be a given, within Nunatsiavut. We see with Nunatsiavut that there are exceptionally talented youth in a variety of sports, table tennis, badminton, volleyball, floor hockey and ice hockey-, just to name a few. Every other year we hear of all-star student athletes and youth who normally return to their home communities decorated in medals, awards and banners. Growing up as a student athlete myself, it has provided purpose in my life, in times where I felt confused and lost, feelings that are common within Nunatsiavut youth. It's so very much so important to support our youth in events



outside of the annual fall and winter sports meets. Our Nunatsiavut youth have the potential to be professional sports players and we must take every opportunity to support them in recreational activities as such. Lastly, Mr. Speaker, on September 30 is National Truth and Reconciliation Day, a day that recognizes the long-standing oppression forced on Indigenous People through the residential school system. I would like to acknowledge all of those here around the Table and within Nunatsiavut who are so strong and so brave and were so diligent in ensuring that who they were was not ripped from them. I'm a third-generation residential school survivor myself and have lived through the impacts of intergenerational trauma that is so commonly still seen in our communities. And so I just wanted to stand here today and acknowledge them and say that I'm so proud of them for being so strong and so brave. And it's thanks to them, the ones who did not believe that their Inuk cannot be taken away from them, and the ones who hid in silence, still taking Inuttitut and practising their ways even though they would get punished eventually. I'm so proud of them and I thank them all the time. Lastly, in October is Thanksgiving. Before I finish my statement, I would like to say, Happy Thanksgiving. I wish you all a good long weekend. I hope you enjoy yourselves and I look forward to seeing you guys again in the next sitting. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

[Applause]

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* The next Members statement will come from the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen, when you're ready, sir.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I thank the Ordinary Member for Nain for her compassionate and heart-felt speech that she just gave. Mr. Speaker, I'll only be about 30 seconds. And I was saying that with Nunatsiavut Government and the offices and employees they have in Goose Bay, along with their affiliated-, I guess you'd call it affiliated companies, the airline, the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies, Mr. Speaker, I'm 99.9 percent sure that Nunatsiavut Government and their affiliated partners are now the largest employer in the Upper Lake Melville area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* The next Members statement will be Ms. Marjorie Flowers, the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, when you're ready.

**MS. FLOWERS:**

*Nakummek* [Speaks Inuttitut]

This is a continuation of my report. Other ongoing capital works projects include Hopedale ICG Aggregate Source Study. The field investigation is complete. Field samples that were collected have been shipped for testing and the field report has started. The anticipated completion date of the summer report is late October. Hopedale outdoor rink and construction phase services for 2023-, we were very disappointed to hear that Budgell's could not complete the slab construction and NCI has advised that they are unable to proceed with the slab construction in 2023. The MG3 surface treatment of Class B on the rink pad was completed by Budgell's on August the 30th. The remaining work likely is deferred until July 2024. This is very disappointing news for our town as we had anticipated that we would have our rink completed this year. The Design Development Trout Ponds, Phase One, the Water Sewer Road infrastructure, the optional access road

alignment has been surveyed and the horizontal and vertical road design is complete. We need to revisit the previous water and sewer design work based-, that went around the initial shoreline. And the anticipated completion date of the design development work is late October. The pigging program for ICG. We had recent discussions around pigging our lines and ICG focused on the merits of directional flushing and pipe sample collection. This work will proceed in late September, early October. I want to extend my gratitude and thanks to our HICG staff who are working so hard to keep our town running despite being short-staffed. They're doing an excellent job. And I too echo Ms. Barbour's statement and wishing everyone acknowledging the residential school survivor. I am a residential school survivor myself. It's still painful to this day to even talk about. And also, Happy Thanksgiving to everyone. I hope you enjoy your long weekend. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Do I have any other Members statements, second if necessary, around the Table? I see one. If there are more, please raise your hands so that the Clerk can jot them down, so that I don't have to keep asking. Yes, the Chairperson of the Inuit Community Corporation, NunaKatiget, Ms. Patricia Kemuksigak, when you're ready.

**MS. KEMUKSIGAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll be very brief. I wanted to acknowledge and thank the athletes of the National Indigenous Games that were from Upper Lake Melville. Aidan Wheeler, Aaron Porter, Jackson Winters, Sidney Goudie, Eric Webb and Grace Tuglavina. They represented us very well. As the two previous speakers-, elected officials spoke earlier, I want to

acknowledge the Truth and Reconciliation Day on September 30th. I am a residential school survivor, as is my husband, and several of my aunts and uncles. So it's a very important day and I know DHSD always does a really good event in Goose Bay and a lot of people come to it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Are there further Members statements around the Table? Second, if you've already given one. Seeing none, at this time I will step away from my chair and ask the deputy to take over the proceedings briefly. *Nakummek.*

**MR. SAUNDERS:**

Thank you, Ordinary Member Winters. Would you like to make a statement?

**MR. WINTERS:**

I would. This is something that's been said by a lot of the people around this Table, and I'd just like to reiterate the importance of it. Our seniors in the Canadian Constituency are your seniors. The majority of seniors that live in the Canadian Constituency do so because they cannot find the health services within the Land Claim or as a result of the residential schools, were forcibly removed from their traditional homes. I think that it would be prudent of our Government to consider those who have had to leave for health services or all seniors, 65 and up to receive 100 percent coverage within NIHB, the idea that you have to leave because of your health difficulties, and then you have to pay more out of pocket for your services, does not seem to me to fall in line with us adequately caring for our most treasured peoples. I've spoken with a number of the seniors who

will be attending the gathering next week in Makkovik and I expect that they will feel the same way that I do. That is all. *Nakummek*.

**MR. SAUNDERS:**

Thank you, Mr. Winters. Are there any other Members that wish to make a statement? Seeing none, I'll return the chair to Mr. Winters.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Deputy. Are there any further Members statements at this time? Seeing none, we'll now move on to Item Four. Item Four is, "Returns to Oral Questions." We have no returns to oral questions today. Item Five is, "Oral Questions." Are there any oral questions today? Yes, the first hand that I saw was Roxanne Barbour, the Ordinary Member for Nain. As a reminder, we have two oral questions and two supplemental per question today. And we have 60 minutes. Hopefully we don't cross that threshold again. *Nakummek*. When you're ready, Ms. Barbour.

**MS. BARBOUR:**

*Nakummek*. My question is for DHSD. In your statement, you mentioned that fixed income will be an aspect of considering approval for the Inuit Child First Initiative. My question is, will the DHSD consider the other financial aspects of a person's life in order to be approved for support services through the ICFI?

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Ms. Barbour. Minister Asivak, when you're ready.

**MR. ASIVAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ordinary Member Barbour. This is very fitting. I'll summarize the public notice because this, in part, will answer some of your other financial aspects of life. As with any program or service, there are criteria that we all have to follow within a mandate and vision. So I'll just quickly summarize some key areas within this. Also noted, Mr.

Speaker, I've offered to the Assembly this morning, training. So you'll have a good overview of this program. This release will go out as soon as I get back to my office. The ICFI was established to assist families in navigating and accessing services and support for their child's medical, mental health and educational needs. It ensures Inuit children have access to essential Government Funded health, social and educational products, services and supports they need, when they need them. All caregivers of Inuit children between the ages of zero to 18 are recognized by an Inuit Land Claim organization-, no matter where they live in Canada, can request funding through ICFI. NG is now responsible for reviewing all applications to Indigenous Service Canada for Nunatsiavut beneficiaries residing in Newfoundland and Labrador. This ensures services and supports are administered within the Legislative authority of the Nunatsiavut Government and in spirit of the *Labrador Inuit Constitution*. The revised program approach will be delivered through the lens of substantive equality, which aligns with the intent of our *Constitution*, and creates opportunity, correct inequalities that exist, in order to work toward equality in outcomes. The ICFI says, "Some Inuit children may need supports that are beyond the mainstream, in order to account for existing inequalities. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*. Does the Ordinary Member have a supplemental question? When you're ready-, take your time.

**MS. BARBOUR:**

I recognize the importance of substantive equality and the need for it, however, again, financial aspects of working parents' lives include having

to pay rent and so on, so food-, and if their income is lower, they struggle. So will the ICFI, in terms of their criterion, consider working parents on a case-by-case basis to analyze the financial aspects of parents' lives and what they can really afford?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Minister Asivak?

**MR. ASIVAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Ordinary Member Barbour. Cost of living and inflation has affected all of us, especially Labrador Inuit living within Nunatsiavut, Upper Lake Melville and Canada. We-, it has affected all of us, even us around the Table. As I noted earlier in my response yesterday, my update this morning and even my response to the question previously, we are-, this program is evolving. However, there are criteria as noted, as explained and will be in the training, that we cannot-, with the cost of programming and services, yes, they are gonna be case-by-case scenarios and some exceptions will be made. However, with cost of living, that is not gonna be a number one priority as, you know, approval process. This program is all in-part approved by NG, Nunatsiavut Government, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, and Indigenous Services Canada. *Nakummek*.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Minister. Does the Ordinary Member have a second supplemental question? When you're ready.

**MS. BARBOUR:**

Just to be clear, minimum wage parents-, minimum wage earners who are parents will not be considered into the ICFI when trying to access support services for the ICFI?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Minister, can you provide further clarification to the question?

**MR. ASIVAK:** I did not-, thank you, Mr. Speaker and Member Barbour-, I did not say anything about minimum wage earners not being approved. There is criteria and as noted, case-by-case scenarios. There's a lot of information and depending on the needs, they will be evaluated, along with the support letters. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* The next question that I saw was from the Chairperson of the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation, Mr. Jeff Montague, when you're ready, sir.

**MR. MONTAGUE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I've got a question for Minister Evans. Minister Evans, is NG compliant with Federal Privacy Legislation?

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Minister Evans, when you're ready.

**MR. EVANS:** Yes, we are compliant.

**MR. WINTERS:** Chairperson, have you a follow-up question?

**MR. MONTAGUE:** Thank you, and thank you, for the answer. I trust your response but for the benefit of all of our beneficiaries, are there any documents that would support such a statement, such as audits that were performed on, either all throughout the Government or even within the IT Department?

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek,* Minister Evans?

**MR. EVANS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, Member. What I'll do is I'll take the question under notice and provide and answer within the timeframe required.



**MR. WINTERS:** The Minister is taking the question under notice. As he takes this under notice, would the Chairperson like to add a supplemental to the question?

**MR. MONTAGUE:** Yes. Would there be any plans to do any audits in light of the incidents that relates to the news release that came out on September 15th?

**MR. WINTERS:** Minister Evans, this will be added to your notice, I suppose, unless you have an answer right now.

**MR. EVANS:** Yes, in response to your question, you're asking if there are gonna be audits? Okay. There's ongoing work to ensure that, like, the processes are put in place to ensure that this doesn't happen again. But for your questions if there's gonna be audits, I'll probably take that under notice too just to make sure I got the right information to answer.

**MR. WINTERS:** For context, Minister, I expect he means security audits not financial audits. The next question that I saw was from the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen, when you're, ready, sir.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the First Minister, I do believe who holds the portfolio of Intergovernmental Affairs. Minister, we've seen many things done by the Provincial Government and other people that went against our Land Claims deal. And the Province is part and parcel of the *Land Claims Agreement*, and obviously, they don't seem to know a lot of times, what's going on. Minister, would you, in your talks with the Premier, would you suggest to him that we do have a *Land Claims Agreement*, and that from time to time, that he should sit down with his ministers to remind them that there is a *Land Claims Agreement*

in place. A prime example is a contract awarded by the Department of Works, Services, Transportation, where the person who won the contract has gone out and began work without approval from the Nunatsiavut Government. So again, the question would be to just remind the Premier, that he would inform his ministers to review the *Land Claims Agreement*, and to abide by it.

**MR. WINTERS:** Your mic, Ordinary Member. Your mic. First Minister, would you like to respond?

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you to Ordinary Member Andersen for the question. Actually, my department is not responsible for Intergovernmental Affairs. That would fall under the purview of the President.

**MR. WINTERS:** Member, would you like to redirect the question to the President's Office?

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:** Sure. It would be basically the same again, and just to ask the Premier, that we do have a *Land Claims Agreement* in place and just to remind his Cabinet that they should take a refresher course from time to time to make sure that they hold up their end to the *Land Claims Agreement* and not to see some of the incidents that have happened in the past where they must've been unaware of what's stated in our *Land Claims Agreement*.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*. And for Members around the Table asking questions, please confirm you're asking of the right person. Mr. President, would you please respond?

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** *Nakummek, UKatti*, [speaks Inuttitut]

Yes, the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement*, is a tripartite agreement and both certainly with Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador. And most certainly the Province is well aware of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement* and we day-to-day keep reminding them of the agreement which was signed in 2005. And most certainly too, keep reminding them that the Land Claims that was negotiated is an agreement which has to be respected and then most certainly for Labrador Inuit, it is consistently a challenge to keep reminding them that there are rules and regulations within the agreements, that all parties have to follow-, and most certainly, the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. And I just want to say that it is an agreement which we as Labrador Inuit take very seriously because it is about our lands, to Labrador Inuit and the issues or the challenges that Labrador Inuit face every day, including work that is proposed to be done within that Labrador Inuit Lands, and most certainly to make sure that any work that anyone within Canada or the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador will be proposing to do, to have it come through the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement*, Government which is the Nunatsiavut Government. And we are well aware of what the Province has been doing. And they are still ignoring and dismissing the Nunatsiavut Government and Labrador Inuit in following the rules and regulations which are set out within the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement*. I know this is a long-winded response to the question, Mr. Speaker. But we are on top of the Provincial Government's knowledge of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement*. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, Mr. President. Does the Ordinary Member have a supplemental question?

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:** No, that's fine.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*. The next hand that I saw was the Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency, Mr. Roland Saunders, when you're ready.

**MR. SAUNDERS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for Minister Evans. With the recent breach of Advanced Data Systems, do you feel comfortable with the current state of the IT Department's security measures and policies?

**MR. WINTERS:** Minister Evans?

**MR. EVANS:** Thank you, Mr. Member. Yes, we're quite comfortable with the NG securities and with our IT. I'd just like to remind the Member again, it was the contractor that got hacked. NG did not get hacked.

**MR. WINTERS:** Ordinary Member, do you have a supplemental question?

**MR. SAUNDERS:** Yes, I do. The supplemental is, do you plan to increase spending on IT and its security systems?

**MR. WINTERS:** Minister? And I'll remind you to speak to the question and not deviate from that. Go ahead, when you're ready.

**MR. EVANS:** Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. And thank you, Member. As anything, we have to take necessary steps and precautions to ensure that the integrity of our security for our Government is secure. So that includes, like projected budgets for the Department. And right now, while we do our

new year budget's, any additional costs that have to be incurred to ensure the security of the network will be included in the budget.

**MR. WINTERS:** Does the Ordinary Member have a second supplemental question?

**MR. SAUNDERS:** No, I don't, and thank you for your response, Mr. Minister.

**MR. WINTERS:** Are there further questions around the Table? Yes, recognizing Patricia Kemuksigak, the Chairperson of the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation.

**MS. KEMUKSIGAK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the First Minister. And this question was also asked at our Community Forum that you held earlier on in the summer. It's related to the Ancestry Database. Would NG consider involving people in Upper Lake Melville that are from Nunatsiavut and have very good knowledge of Nunatsiavut families? Because this could be a part that could get missing when you have the committee for the database.

**MR. WINTERS:** First Minister Williams, when you're ready.

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Chairperson for your question. At the time that we had the conversation in your community, in Upper Lake Melville for the Open House, I, at that time, had agreed that we would consider including Upper Lake Melville in relation to the Ancestry Database work that's ongoing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:** Does the Member have a supplemental question for the First Minister?

**MS. KEMUKSIGAK:** No, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** The next question will be from the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Ms. Marjorie Flowers, when you're ready.

**MS. FLOWERS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Honourable Tom Evans, Minister of Finance, HR and IT. In your statement this morning, you said that there was an extra \$40 million to upgrade the Bell Alliant system. Where did the extra 40 million come from?

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Minister Evans?

**MR. EVANS:** Thank you, AngajukKâk Flowers. I'm sorry if I wasn't clear in my statement. Can I just-, okay. So it was an additional 10 million in funding for the project. The project initially was budgeted at 24.8 million, but with on site assessments were completed, actually, it was 40 million. So we-, our Department was successful in lobbying and receiving an additional 10 million for funding from the Federal Government.

**MR. WINTERS:** AngajukKâk Flowers. Do you have a supplemental question?

**MS. FLOWERS:** No, I don't, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, and thank you for your answer, Honourable Evans.

**MR. WINTERS:** Are there further questions around the Table? Recognizing George Gear, AngajukKâk for-, or sorry, Ordinary Member for Postville.

**MR. GEAR:** Yes. This question is for the Honourable First Minister. In your speech this morning, your presentation, you said the addition for the Postville NG office would start in the summer of 2023. This is kinda like the fall now, so I was just wondering if-, will it start this year within '23? Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** First Minister Williams, when you're ready.

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Sorry, Mr. Speaker, can I ask the Member to ask the question again please?

**MR. WINTERS:** You may repeat for clarity, Mr. Gear.

**MR. GEAR:** Okay. I don't know if I heard you proper, but this morning when you gave your speech, you said that the addition to the Postville Office would start in the summer of 2023. This is kinda like the fall now, so I'm wondering if its still gonna start in 2023?

**MR. WINTERS:** Is that more clear, First Minister? You may respond.

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Ordinary Member for your question. As per my notes, we are still planning to start for 2023. The tender package was issued and awarded, so I expect that it will. If it doesn't, I will update you offline. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:** Does the Ordinary Member for Postville have a supplemental question?

**MR. GEAR:** No, sir, and thank you, ma'am. I just wanted a clarification on that is all. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** Are there further questions around the Table? Yes, recognizing Barry Andersen, AngajukKâk of Makkovik. When you're ready.

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question would be for the Minister Evans, Minister of the IT Department specifically. Just to follow up to, I guess, my friend there and AngajukKâk Flowers with the broadband cellphone service and high-speed internet announcement of the extra \$10 million. My question is, will there be a media release go out to our people, go out to Nunatsiavummiut, so that those people who are out listening to this broadcast today will be made aware that the new service cell phone

service and broadband internet-, highspeed internet, will be coming, probably some time in 2026? Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Minister Evans?

**MR. EVANS:** Thank you, AngajukKâk Andersen. So after the press release from the Federal Government was aired, Nunatsiavut Government had released a press release of its own. Now I'm sure we could do some more messaging with the local channels or whatever, in case people are not aware, but providing this information to the Assembly, it is an update to the public now. And so, ongoing, I'm assuming that the information will be spread far and wide to various channels.

**MR. WINTERS:** Does the AngajukKâk have a supplemental question?

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** No, I don't, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:** I would encourage the AngajukKâk to get his constituents to listen to the Assembly proceedings. Are there any other questions around the Table? First questions, sorry. Seeing none, we'll move on to second questions. Are there second questions around the Table? Recognizing the Ordinary Member for Nain, Roxanne Barbour, when you're ready.

**MS. BARBOUR:** *Nakummek.* My question is for the First Minister. I lost it. Hold on. You mentioned in your statement earlier, that the Nain Airport is going to be completed construction at 2030. It is my understanding that the life expectancy of the current Nain Airport is for 2026. So my question now is why is the construction being anticipated to be completed exceeding the life expectancy of the current airport?



**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, Ordinary Member. First Minister, whenever you're ready to respond.

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Ordinary Member for the question. As provided in my update, we are (inaudible) processes are expected to be completed by 2026. So those had to be completed first. Then the next phase would go to a "Go," or a "No go," decision, detailed design and construction, requiring substantial investment. So we would have to-, after we've gone through the situation of the assessments being completed, a decision made, then there would be looking for access for funding for the development of the project. And it is estimated that it's gonna conclude at 2030. It will take time to build the road and the airport. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:** Does the Ordinary Member have a supplemental question?

**MS. BARBOUR:** Because the anticipated life expectancy of the current airport, and there's no lights on it, it's for 2026. What will happen if the airport erodes further between 2026 and 2030?

**MR. WINTERS:** First Minister, whenever you're ready to respond.

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Ordinary Member for the supplemental question. I will take that question under notice.

**MR. WINTERS:** The First Minister is taking this question under notice to return with a response within the given timeframe. Does the Ordinary Member have a supplemental to add?

**MS. BARBOUR:** Will the Department of Nunatsiavut Affairs commit to figuring out other ways to increase the infrastructure stability of the current Nain Airport between 2026 and 2030?

**MR. WINTERS:** Would the First Minister like to respond now or add this to her response under notice?

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will add it to my response under notice.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Appreciated. The next question, I believe, will come from the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Ms. Marjorie Flowers, when you're ready.

**MS. FLOWERS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Natural Resources, Minister Terry Vincent. In your report this morning, did I hear you say that Torngat Metals are not drilling in Nunatsiavut, but they're gonna build a road to Edward's Cove? Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** Minister Vincent, would you like to respond?

**MR. VINCENT:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And thank you, AngajukKâk Flowers. Yes, that is correct. There is no drilling on Nunatsiavut lands. They're-, right now, they are just on the Quebec side and the road is proposed right now. Nothing is confirmed. So everything is under speculation. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek,* Minister. Would the AngajukKâk like to ask a supplemental question?

**MS. FLOWERS:** Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. So environmental studies and everything else will have to be done before this is all approved? Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** Minister Vincent?

**MR. VINCENT:** Thank you. Yes, our team is currently working on the environmental assessment.

**MR. WINTERS:** Is there a second supplemental question from the AngajukKâk for the Minister?

**MS. FLOWERS:** No. Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, Minister for your answer.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* The next question will be from the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Lands and Resources. Minister, we've seen the loss of our caribou hunt and lack of caribou that provided a solid food for our beneficiaries.

**MR. WINTERS:** I'll ask the Ordinary Member to disable your mic and use the one beside you. Try that out. Hopefully this works. *Nakummek.*

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:** Testing, one, two? Okay. I might as well start again. Minister, we've seen the loss of our caribou hunt which has had a big impact on our beneficiaries. Now with the cod being-, coming back in abundance, has our Government, through Lands and Resources talked about the possibility of getting a cod fishery that would certainly help our people, particularly on the North Coast of Labrador?

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek,* Ordinary Member. Minister Vincent?

**MR. VINCENT:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Ordinary Member Andersen for your question. This is a very good question which I will have to take under advisement. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** The Minister is taking the question under notice. Would the Ordinary Member like to add a supplemental to this question?

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Minister, many of our beneficiaries, particularly, on the North Coast have very little means of, if I will call it freezer space. And if our Government implemented a cod fishery in consultation with Torngat Fisheries and had a product, many of our people now are buying cod from the South Coast of Labrador. We would have our own means of getting a harvest where we could probably have our fish, same as the char, blast froze. We could store it in our communities and that would provide our beneficiaries with a good cost (inaudible). So...

**MR. WINTERS:** I'll ask the Member, is there a question?

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:** Yes. Again, so will you not agree that this would be a tremendous help to our people if we installed a cod fishery?

**MR. WINTERS:** Minister Vincent, would you like to respond?

**MR. VINCENT:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Ordinary Member Andersen. Yes, I do believe this would be a very good program and something like this we're hoping to look into and we will definitely do whatever we could to help our people. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** Does the Ordinary Member have a second supplemental question? Seeing no, are there further second questions around the Table or anyone who didn't ask a first question, you're also welcome to still do so at this time. Recognizing the Chairperson of the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation, Ms. Patricia Kemuksigak, when you're ready.

**MS. KEMUKSIGAK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is to the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. It's in reference to the Mealy Mountain National Park. Has Nunatsiavut completed a plan for Rigolet to be the gateway to the park for the Labrador Inuit, as that was talked about many years ago, but I haven't really heard a update on how that's progressing. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** Minister Vincent?

**MR. VINCENT:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you Chairperson for you question. I believe this falls under direction of LCT. Right now I cannot answer your question.

**MR. WINTERS:** So for clarification, Chairperson, was the question in relation to an update on the Parks or something else? It didn't seem particularly clear.

**MS. KEMUKSIGAK:** Sorry, Mr. Speaker. It was an update on the Park but because this involves three different Aboriginal groups, they were going on their own streams. So the Innu would have a gateway, the Inuit would have a gateway and the Metis. I was just wondering how it progressed, how it's progressing for Rigolet to be the gateway for the Inuit? Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** So it feels like this question would make more sense under the Department of Tourism-, Language, Culture and Tourism. Would the Minister like to respond?

**MR. A. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thanks for the question. Mr. Speaker, since I've become the Acting Minister of Language, Culture and Tourism, I've been three days at work, and I have not received a full briefing from officials in my Department. And that is not an excuse Mr. Speaker, but an

apology from me. It's certainly, our Government's intention, Mr. Speaker, to make Rigolet gateway to the Mealy Mountain National Park and to be the community from Nunatsiavut that has infrastructure and as I said, gateway. Again, let me say to the Chair, I'm sorry that I have not received the Ministerial briefing from officials in my Department, but I certainly will take this under notice and provide to the Member in the few days it takes to gather that information. And I hope that she understands that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, Minister.

**MS. BARBOUR:** With the privilege, Mr. Speaker, can I add to that? Can I do that?

**MR. WINTERS:** Unfortunately, no.

**MS. BARBOUR:** Okay.

**MR. WINTERS:** Does the Member have a supplemental question?

**MS. KEMUKSIGAK:** No, Mr. Speaker, and I thank you, Minister Andersen for giving the response. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** Are there further questions around the Table at this time? Seeing none-, Minister Vincent do you have your hand up?

**MR. VINCENT:** Yes, Mr. Speaker. I'd just like to make a correction on my response to AngajukKâk Flowers.

**MR. WINTERS:** That would be appreciated. Go ahead.

**MR. VINCENT:**

As I answered her question I said it was under speculation. I would like to make a correction and say that it is under preliminary stages, not speculation. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

That concludes oral questions for today. *Nakummek*. We are on Item Six, "Written Questions." Are there any written questions today? Recognizing Roxanne Barbour. Page? Would you retrieve the question? The first question, I'll read in a moment, and it's in order. The second question is not directed at anyone specifically. For the President. *Nakummek*. So the first question is a written question for the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Minister Terry Vincent. "You stated your department is in early conversations with Torngat Metals. May you please describe the nature of those conversations, slash discussions?" As a reminder, this is an expected, detailed response. So it is being taken as a written question and will be provided to you and your department. The second question, from Roxanne Barbour was to the President's office. The question states, "The NunatuKavut Community Council are trying to claim rights as Inuit after claiming they are Metis. What is the Nunatsiavut Government doing to protect the rights of Labrador Inuit? The Nunatsiavut Community Council are not Inuit entitled to Section 35 rights under the *Constitution*." Again, this is a written question that will be directed to your office and you can respond in detail in due time. Are there any further written questions around the Table? Recognizing two. The first is the Chairperson of the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation, Ms. Patricia Kemuksigak, please hand it up. Once again, this question is not directed to a Minister

and it requires to be so. Is there a Minister to which you are directing this question Chairperson?

**MS. KEMUKSIGAK:**

I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, I'm not exactly sure, but I think it might be Lands and Natural Resources.

**MR. WINTERS:**

The question is for Minister Vincent of Lands and Natural Resources. "Could an update be given on the status of the Land-Use plan, the Land-Use plan's progress, et cetera?" Again, this is a written question. You can reply in detail in due time. Are there any further written questions around the Table? Recognizing Jeff Montague, Chairperson of the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation. This question is in order and it is for the Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology. And it says, "Could you please describe in detail, without compromising security, the use of encryption in the Nunatsiavut Government's network? Are all computers encrypted? Are all communications encrypted?" Again, this is a detailed response we're expecting and are there any other questions, written questions around the Table? I would like to thank the Members around the Table for making use of the written question portion of our Assembly proceedings. We're going to get far more detailed responses this way, rather than having Ministers take questions under notice. It's appreciated. *Nakummek.* Are there any further questions around the Table? Seeing none, we move in to Item Seven, "Returns to Written Questions." There are no returns today. We'll move on to Item Eight, "Petitions." Are there any petitions today? Seeing none, Item Nine is, "Responses to Petitions." There are no responses to petitions today. Item



10 is, "Reports of Standing in Special Committees," and there are no reports of standing, or special committees at this time. We are going to break for lunch prior to moving on any further. We will be going to the hotel again for lunch today. So we'll be taking a little bit longer than usual. We'll be back for one o'clock. Thank you all. *Nakummek*.

[Recess]

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*. We're later getting started than I hoped, but we're all here. We're now moving on to Item 11, "The Tabling of Documents." At this time, I would like to recognize the Minister for Finance, Human Resources and Information Technologies, Mr. Tom Evans, when you're ready.

**MR. EVANS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I present the following document to be tabled, Consolidated Financial Statements of the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust*.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*. The Tabled Document will be numbered as 02-5(4). There are no more documents to be tabled today. So we will be moving on to Item 12. Item 12 is, "Notices of Motion." There are no notices of motion today. Item 13 is, "Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills." At this time I would like to recognize the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Mr. Terry Vincent, when you're ready.

**MR. VINCENT:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Postville Quarries Act, 2023. I would like to introduce the first reading of Bill 2023-03, *The Postville Quarries Act, 2023*. The Assembly will recall...

**MR. WINTERS:** Minister? I believe you're on the wrong place. One moment. The Clerk will pop over.

**MR. VINCENT:** Oh, my apologies.

**MR. WINTERS:** When you're ready.

**MR. VINCENT:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, I will move, seconded by the Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology, the Honourable Tom Evans, the first reading of Bill 2023, *Postville Quarries Act, 2023*. And Mr. Speaker, I am seeking the unanimous consent of the Assembly to waive Standing Order 37(1) to proceed to first reading of the Bill today. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** The Minister is asking for unanimous consent to proceed with first reading today. All those in favour? Any, "Nays"? Seeing none, the motion is passed. Minister, you have the consent of the Assembly to proceed with the first readings at the appropriate time. I move this to Item 14, "Motions." I will once again call upon Minister Evans, when you're ready.

**MR. EVANS:** Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I move as follows: Whereas representatives for the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust* are prepared to give annual reports on this Trust, and whereas the Assembly should consider the tabled document, *Consolidated Financial Statements of the Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust* in Committee of the Whole with witnesses, now, therefore, I move, seconded by the Minister of Education and Economic Development, the Honourable Anthony Andersen, that the

Assembly convene as Committee of the Whole to receive the presentation of the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust* with witnesses Garry Best, Paul Janes, Sarah Leo, Isabella Pain and Chris Webb. We will...

**MR. WINTERS:** I believe Isabella Pain is not present, sir.

**MR. EVANS:** Apologies. Garry Best, Paul Janes, Sarah Leo and Chris Webb. If the motion carries, we will...

**MR. WINTERS:** Minister, I'm looking for approval for the motion to carry. Are there, "Ayes"? Are there any, "Nays"? Seeing none, *Nakummek*. We will be now moved into the Committee of the Whole to receive the presentation with the witnesses. We will give the witnesses five minutes to get set up and then resume. We are in recess very briefly. *Nakummek*.

[Recess]

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*. I would like to welcome our guests into the Chamber, and we are now in the Committee of the Whole. Okay, the floor is yours if you wanted to take it away, Mr. Best.

**MR. BEST:** *Nakummek*. Thank you, Speaker and elected officials. Good afternoon. My name is Garry Best. I'm the Chair of the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust*. I should also mention that there are four other Trustees. Isabella Pain regrets, and she's also had a death in her family and our condolences are with her family for sure-, Natan Obed, Catharyn Andersen and Kristy Sheppard and the five of us constitute the Board of Directors for the Trust. Again, thank you, for having us this afternoon. When I finish my remarks, I'll turn it over to Mr. Paul Janes who will present the Financial Statement,

then followed by Mr. Chris Webb and Sarah Leo in terms of the operations of NGC. So covering some of the bases that we try each and every year when we come back here, is to remind the Assembly and we also reach out to beneficiaries about who we are, what we do. Our role continues to be to provide financial management and economic and corporate advice and oversight to NGC as we pursue the goals of economic and socio-economic strategies that support, amongst other things, employment, business relationships and community supports, obviously, a direct benefit to the beneficiaries is we gain and acquire experiences and knowledge and skills, assets and property with economic value. And this has been the way it's been since 2006 when the Trust was originally put into place. And on behalf of the Board, I do wanna say thank you, *Nakummek*, to the Nunatsiavut Government who continues to be very supportive of LICST's objective to build wealth and increase employment opportunities for the greater good of eligible beneficiaries. And I'm glad that we're mutually working towards those aims. I'll talk a little bit about some of the strategic areas, some of the conversations we've had over the last while because it will probably mean something to all of you in your communities. And also, perhaps, some reflection of when we last spoke. And indeed, just a few weeks ago, when we had a brief conversation at Base Camp. Construction, in particular, I recall reading through Hansards and remarks of Members over the last year, two years, three years, and it's something I wanted us to look at in terms of a greater investment. Chris Webb will talk some more about that, but that's certainly an area of strategic importance to the

Board, that we've decided, debated and agreed to significant investments and again, Chris will share some of those details. Transportation, certainly, again, in support of shore-based services, the purchase of new equipment and containers-, obviously, to assist in cargo delivery, again, in communities-, the purchase of containers and reefers, upgrades and new vehicles. Again, this is our way of making sure that we improve upon those shore-based services. And then real estate as well, as we continue serious discussion and studies in advance planning for a major medical facility to serve the needs of individuals traveling from the Coast seeking medical treatment in the Upper Lake Melville area. Again, these are real needs we've reflected on and had many discussions at the community level and certainly amongst Board Members as well-, very important as we move forward. LICST and NGC are working effectively and efficiently to continue to serve the interest of beneficiaries. We're trying to do the right things just as you are doing the right things-, all of us together in service to eligible Nunatsiavut beneficiaries. We still need to remain profitable and sustainable. We will continue to reinvest profits back into the businesses, to improve and expand our services to beneficiaries. One of the issues I wish to raise on behalf of the Board is a need to resolve the monies due issue. And you'll some more about that as the presentation is brought before you today. We have a mutual interest, again, in serving the needs. And much as we've had since 2006, we need to look at ways in which we can increase the growth, to support the growth, improve on services and all of that requires access to capital. And we've certainly had our share of

years where we've not been so profitable. But certainly, together, we need to take the long-term approach, moving together better, and moving forward. I'll close my remarks by saying again, that the Board works throughout the year to support NGC and I also invite any of you, if you have questions of a-, certainly of a strategic nature, to reach out to myself or my Board members and certainly on the operational side, Chris as President will certainly address any of your questions as they come up, or your Members as well, with a view to being as transparent to communicate what it is we do, on a very regular basis. So that remains a continuous promise. So without any further ado, I'd like to turn things over to Mr. Paul Janes, our partner with Deloitte, who will walk through the financial numbers with you. Paul?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Mr. Janes, whenever you're ready.

**MR. JANES:**

Thank you. I'll ask-, I think Chris distributed a package in front of everybody. There's a little yellow tab on each document and that will help you get to the Financial Statements which I'll bring you through now. As in the past, I'll go through the highlights on the Statement of Operations and the balance sheets, mainly highlighting changes year-over-year so you can understand what's driving any differences and variances in those numbers. Please feel free to stop me at any time should you have any questions. I'll do my best to address them. I'm gonna start on the Independent Auditors Report which is the third page in. It looks like she doesn't have a page number on it, but it's titled, "The Independent Auditors Report." So our audit opinion is a qualified audit opinion which it

has always been in past years, and it's qualified for the reason identified in the third paragraph there, in that the Trust uses a consolidated type of accounting for all of the businesses that it uses, rather than strictly under the accounting rules. It should be using the type of accounting it calls Equity Accounting. But it was decided by management a number of years ago that this-, using the consolidated method gives the best picture of the financial operations of the Trust. Just to turn to Page Three, which you'll see a page number in the bottom right-hand corner. It's the Consolidated Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus. So this page outlines the revenues and expenditures of the Trust. So I'll just highlight some of the major changes that the businesses have seen year-over-year. I'll just give everybody a chance to make sure they're on the right page. So starting with the Sales Number in 2022, you can see it's almost \$24.8 million compared to 27.1 last year. And the main driving factors in this is that this represents the sales within Torngait Services Inc. and Integrated Nunatsiavut Logistics, both of which saw small decreases in revenues year-over-year. Construction Revenue has grown by-, from 2.7 million last year to 7.1 million at the end of 2022. So just a significant increase in construction activity-, 2021, we're still seeing a lag in activity due to COVID. And in 2022 you're starting to see return to normal as well as growth within the construction business. Skipping down a couple of lines, Partnership Income in 2021 was 2.8 million. In 2022 it was 2.3, and this is the income, the share of the income that the Trust holds in Air Borealis. Down another couple of lines, Fish Harvesting is fairly normal comparatively year-over-

year. Crushed Stone Sale saw an increase of \$300,000, and it's just again, in corresponding with activity within the communities as well as within the construction business. So the next couple of lines are fairly consistent. I'll skip down to Royalties from Northern Coalition, which you can see is \$465,000 in 2022 and it's zero in 2021. It just had to do with the fact that the licence wasn't fished during the 2021 season. And you saw it return to normal activities and fishing in 2022. So from a Total Revenue perspective, revenues grew almost \$3 million at 39.9 million at the end of 2021, compared to 42.7 million at the end of 2022. Expenditures of the organizations were a total of 37.2 million in 2022, compared to 35.3 million in 2021. So I'll just ask you to-, that-, those expenditures are outlined in a Schedule which is the second last page of the Financial Statements on Page 17. I'll ask you to skip to those so I can just go through those highlights for a moment before turning back to where we were. So you can see the totals on this page corresponds to the totals we just spoke about. And there's really two main factors that are driving the differences in expenditure levels. So the Line Items for Wages and Benefits, Materials and Supplies, a couple of lines down, Subcontractor Fees, Professional Fees and Travel, all have kinda significant variances year-over-year. And those all have to do with the increase in construction activity year-over-year. So I pointed out that the revenues had grown by almost \$5 million from '21 to '22, and again you're seeing a corresponding increase in those expense lines as well. The other Line I'll point out is, "Cost of Goods Sold," which went from 8.1 million in 2021 down to 6.8 million in 2022. And this was largely the



decrease in activity within Integrated Nunatsiavut Logistics during the period, as I mentioned, the revenues went down. So you're seeing a corresponding decrease in the expenses there as well. The majority of the other lines on this page are fairly consistent year-over-year, so if you'll-, the ones that we pointed our are the ones that are really driving the difference in the total of 35.3 million compared to 37.2 million year-over-year. So as you turn back to where we were, Page Three, in the Consolidated Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus. So the next line down, kind of halfway down the page, underneath the Total Expenditure Line is the Annual Surplus Before Undernoted Items which you can see was \$5.5 million in the current year. The next line is Share of Equity Earnings, which is 4.2 million in 2022 compared to 1.7 million in 2021. And these are Partnership Income that's coming in from various partnerships, mainly to do with construction and activity within Voisey's Bay that the NGC is involved in. And that's the income coming out of those partnerships for the year of 2022. And obviously, you can see this increase in activity year-over-year. Skip down a couple of lines to the, "Annual Surplus," line. You can see it's just around \$8 million at the end of 2022 compared to 4.9 million.

**MR. WINTERS:** I'll ask you to pause. We have a question.

**MR. JANES:** Sure.

**MR. WINTERS:** Roxanne Barbour, when you're ready.

**MS. BARBOUR:** *Nakummek.* Is there a reason why we're skipping some lines? I thought it might be beneficial for the Members here to understand, "Tangible Capital Assets," on the one, two-, third line under, "Expenditures."

**MR. WINTERS:** I'll ask that you stick with every line...

**MR. JANES:** Okay.

**MR. WINTERS:** ...as we go down through the, "Expenditures." *Nakummek.*

**MR. JANES:** Is-, sorry, are you on Page Three?

**MS. BARBOUR:** Yes.

**MR. JANES:** Yeah. So the gain, loss on Disposable Tangible Capital Assets? Is that your, specifically your question?

**MS BARBOUR:** Yes. And just to help the Members sitting around here to properly understand that as well.

**MR. JANES:** Sure, so I can try and explain kinda what those lines are, 'cause they are the ones in this kinda chunk on that page, in the middle of the page are all kinda unusual type activity. So the Gain Loss on Disposal of Tangible Capital Assets is just basically when an asset gets sold and it's getting sold for more than what the carrying value of that asset is-, so to make it as simple as I can, if you own a truck and you bought the truck at \$40,000 and you depreciated that for a few years, which is really an accounting term which allows the cost of that to come down over time. So now it's, say, \$10,000 is what you're carrying it for as the asset value, and then you turn around and sell it for \$15,000, you have a gain of five, just being the sale price of 15, less the cost you're carrying it at 10. And so that's what that

number represents, is just the sale of assets in one of the businesses at some point in time during the year. And there was a, there was a gain on it. The Bargain Purchase Premium, which is the next line of 69,000, that has to do with the purchase of some assets that the entity made during the year, a group of assets. And they paid less than fair market value for those assets, so you actually gain value within the entity because the assets get recorded at what the fair market value is versus compared to what the actual purchase price of those assets were. So, it's a difference of almost \$70,000 in those. Amortization is \$870,000 in the current year and 698 in the previous year. Amortization is the cost and accounting term, I guess, is the cost of assets that you have purchased. And it's meant to reflect the decrease in the value of those assets over time. So back to my car example, if it was originally bought at \$40,000 you would amortize that over a number of years to reflect that you're using that asset. And so that cost becomes a cost to you over time. Impairment of inventory held for resale of 243,000. That was a transaction within some of the entities regarding some land. And there was a devaluing of that land 243,000. Income Tax is 755 compared to 743. That it is income tax paid to the Federal Government based off of taxable income in some of the entities. So you paid \$755,000 worth of income tax. So that gets you down to a Total Annual Surplus in the current year of just over 8 million compared to 4.9 in the prior year, which is obviously, a good news story. Your annual surplus is growing by \$3.1 million year-over-year. I'll skip down to the last kinda last four lines. So Accumulated Surplus, beginning of the year was

13 million. This Accumulated Surplus represents the accumulated net income of the entity from the beginning of the entity to now, essentially. So over time, you've accumulated \$13 million worth of income within the entities. In the current year you had, as I mentioned above, \$8 million worth of income. There was a Trust Income Allocation of \$3.5 million. So that Trust Income Allocation has to do with the-, when we get to the next page, we'll talk about an amount that's due to the Nunatsiavut Government and you'll see that, "Due to NG," has gone up by 3.5. And what's driving that number-, where it comes from is that within the Trust Deed, so the legal Trust document, and the *Canadian Income Tax Act*, there-, you basically have a mechanism within that Trust Deed where you allocate the income out to the beneficiaries of the Trust. And one of the beneficiaries of the Trust is the Nunatsiavut Government. So if you didn't allocate those funds out every year on the Trust Income Tax Return that gets filed with the Federal Government, you would end up paying Federal Income Tax on that \$3.5 million to the tune of about-, somewhere around 35 to 40 percent of that amount would end up getting paid out to the Federal Government. And so underneath the Trust Indenture and the *Federal Income Tax Act*, you-, instead of doing that, you allocate it out as income to NG. And then that-, which grows that balance on the balance sheet which I'll get to in a few minutes. But it increases the amount that's payable to NG. And it's meant to, I guess in as layman's terms as I can put it, keep the income within Nunatsiavut Government and the NGC Group of Companies, rather than paying a portion of that out to the Federal

Government ultimately. So that leaves you with Accumulated Surplus at the end of 2022, which is the very last line on that page of \$17.5 million. I'll ask you to turn to Page Four which is the, "Consolidated Statement of Financial Position." So this statement represents the assets, liabilities and equity that are within the businesses that the Trust owns. So the Assets are things that you have ownership in and represent cash or some form of property that you own. Liabilities would be money that you owe to a third party or you haven't quite earned yet under the accounting rules. And the equity would be essentially what your-, the value of the ownership within your business from an accounting term perspective would be. So just to go down through the Financial Assets piece and I'll try and describe what the majority of the lines are. So, "Cash," being the first one sits at \$16.8 million at the end of 2022 compared to 13.5. There's actually another statement a couple of pages forward which will show you all the changes to that cash number for the year, what caused that change. So I won't go through it in detail yet. Accounts Receivable at 2021 was 8.4 million has decreased to 7 million. So that's receivables that you-, that people-, other people or other businesses owe you. The majority of that decrease is a decrease in receivables within Torngat Services Inc. as I mentioned earlier, revenues within TSI were lower, which also corresponds to amounts owing to TSI being lower at year end. There's a net investment in Finance Lease. It was 2.2 million last year and 1.1 this year. So it's a lease that you own of property round to-, and equipment in Voisey's Bay. And basically, there's payments that come in on that. And that's what you see the decrease is,

is the payments on the lease. There's a Loan Receivable, which is described in Note Four with Fed Nav(ph). It's 2.5 million dollars and has not changed for the terms of that loan receivable. "Investments at Equity," so those are investments in other businesses that you-, that the Trust, sorry, has ownership in. And so they were valued at 17.6 million compared to 16.3 million in the prior year. And there's more detail of what the-, by kinda investment in that Note Five which is a few pages ahead. It's actually on Page 11 if you wanna skip. But essentially what happens is that in those businesses, it started out at the beginning of the year with \$16.3 million. On the previous page I told you that the income from those businesses was 4.2 million in the current year. So then that value goes up. But then they would also distribute cash back to the Trust based on their ownership. And so that would lower the value as those businesses distribute cash. It would just get you back to the \$17.6 million number. Inventory Held for Resale is 4.3 million last year, 3.7 million in the current year. And that represents both Land Inventory and Inventory within Nunatsiavut Construction of the supplies and crushed stone that the businesses own. Work in Progress was \$1.3 million last year. It's just under \$300,000 in the current year. Work in Progress is mainly from construction contracts. So it represents work that you've done on construction projects that the construction company hasn't billed yet to the customer but will bill in the future. Receivables from Related Parties. You can see is \$1.8 million last year, \$250,000 in the prior year. So it's a \$1.6 million increase. And this is a receivable actually from Nunatsiavut Government related to construction activity that NCI is

carrying out on behalf of NG. So Total Assets is 51.8 million compared to 49.7 million last year. From a liability's perspective, your payables and accruals are fairly consistent year-over-year, payable to the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*.

**MR. WINTERS:** Sir.

**MR. JANES:** Sorry.

**MR. WINTERS:** We have a question.

**MR. JANES:** Sorry.

**MR. WINTERS:** Recognizing Wally Andersen, go ahead.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:** Thank you. Can we ask the question here, you skipped one there. It says, "Due from Phillip Earl, non-interest-bearing demand loan." Could we ask the question of what's the status on that from before?

**MR. WINTERS:** Mr. Jane, whenever you're ready.

**MR. JANES:** Yes, sorry, I did skip that (inaudible). So the amount from Phillip Earl has been paid since year-end, so that will disappear from the Financial Statements. When you see the 2023 numbers. So that has all now been collected. So on the liability side, sorry, the payable to the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* is 14.7 million compared to 16.2 last year. And that's just regular payment terms on those loans that caused the decrease year-over-year. Deferred Revenue is fairly consistent year-over-year. The Provision for Loss on Onerous Contracts has decreased from 347,000 to 28. That's an accounting term for contracts that you expect to lose money-, potentially lose money on, so you have to book the liability up front. And that

liability has gone down which is a positive thing, year-over-year. As I mentioned, the "Due to Nunatsiavut Government," earlier, is 17.9 million in the current year compared to 14.4 last year. And that increase is the Trust Income Allocation that I mentioned on the previous page at \$3.5 million. And so that purely takes up that full-, what that changes, year-over-year is that income being allocated out of the Trust as I described earlier. Obligations under Capital Lease have increased to 866,000 and represents equipment that the entity has on their Capital Lease and the increase is really due to the asset purchase-, the group of asset purchase that I mentioned earlier. Long-term Debt has gone down from 5.6 million to 4.2. And this is all just regular payment terms of the debt and there's further details of that debt in Note Eight, to the statements. So a Net Financial Asset position of 7.1 million compared to 6.1 million last year which really is a positive financial indicator and shows that there's more assets, financial assets within the businesses than there are financial liabilities-, to the tune of \$7.1 million. The Non-financial Asset piece. So Tangible Capital Assets increased from 6.2 million to 9.7. And as I mentioned earlier, there was a large purchase of a group of assets in construction, which represents most of that change, coupled with the decrease of amortization of the assets that you held during the year. And Goodwill and Pre-pays are fairly consistent year-over-year. Get you down to a Total Accumulated Surplus of 17.5 million compared to 13 million in the prior year, and that 17.5 million also corresponds to the



same total at the end of the bottom of the page, the previous page we just went through.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Before you continue, Mr. Janes, I've twice now heard someone's cell phone going off. I'll ask everyone in the room to make sure that they're electronics are not on them and to put them in the Board Room. We can take a moment for people to take their electronics out of the room if there are any here. But they're not permitted in this Chamber.

*Nakummek.*

[Audio paused]

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Thank you for the compliance everyone. You may continue, Mr. Janes.

**MR. JANES:**

Thank you. I'll ask everybody to turn to Page Six, which is, "The Statement of Cash Flows." And I'll quickly run through-, as I mentioned on the Statement of Financial Position, Cash changed during the year from 13.5 million to 16.8 million and really this statement is meant to capture all the different increases and decreases of Cash, of all the transactions throughout the year. So there's a lot of detail here. I won't necessarily go through every single one unless everybody has questions, but I'll try and summarize as to what each of the groups mean. So the first one is, "Operating Transactions," which starts with the Annual Surplus. As I mentioned that was \$8 million during the year, and tries to adjust for multiple items that really are not cash-oriented. So you have some transactions within the course of the year that does not represent

an actual exchange of cash between parties. So those are trying to, in that \$8 million back out those items that are not cash-related. For instance, there's the Trust Income Allocation of 3.5 which we described already. It's not an actual exchange of cash. So that gets backed out to try and reconcile down to what true cash is. Capital Transactions is the next Line Item. As you can see, the biggest part of that is, "Purchase of Tangible Capital Assets." So there was \$3.2 million of Capital Assets purchased within the businesses during the year. The next piece is, "Financing Transactions," which is meant to really capture mostly items that are kinda debt-oriented. So how are you financing certain pieces of your business? So you can see the main lines are the, "Repayment of the Payable to the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*," the increase in the, "Due to the Nunatsiavut Government," the, "Repayment of Debt," and, "Repayment of Capital Lease." So all items that have to do with financing within the business. And then, "Investing Transactions." So investments that you would have, what are those changes in the cash flows from those businesses? So the change in the Net Investment and Finance Lease of \$1.1 million is the entity's receiving payments on those leases. So you're receiving cash. The, Change in Equity Investments of \$3 million. The Equity Investments, as I described a little earlier, all went up in value or in total, they went up in value to the tune of \$3 million. So this line is meant to capture that value change. And then the Increase in Receivables from Related Parties, it was a decrease. Again, it's a non-cash transaction, but it's part of the reconciliation that happens to get

you to a total cash number. So you can see that the entity grew from a cash perspective by \$3.3 million, coupled with the beginning balance of 13.5 to get you to the ending balance of cash of \$16.8 million.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Patricia? Patricia Kemuksigak, when you're ready.

**MS. KEMUKSIGAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chair. I wanted to ask under the, "Repayment of Payables to the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*," I'm assuming this is a large loan that this Trust must've got from *Tasiujatsoak Trust*? Do you know how much is still remaining to be paid?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Mr. Janes?

**MR. JANES:**

Yeah, so great question. There is \$14.7 million left to be repaid and the details of the-, it's actually four separate loans. And the details of those loans are actually on Page 14, should you wish to look at it but they're in, "Note 10 to the Financial Statements," on Page 14. Yeah, still \$14.7 million to be repaid.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Melva Williams, did you have a question? When you're ready.

**MS. WILLIAMS:**

Thank you. It's a lot of numbers coming at us, a lot to take in and I'm a little bit slower on the uptake. So I'm gonna try to go back to Page Four. In relation to the, "Due to Nunatsiavut Government Non-interest-bearing, no-set terms repayment," it's sitting at 17,933,000. Is that an interest-bearing-, LICSD is holding that for the Nunatsiavut Government. Is that in an Interest-bearing account and is that reflected in there, or is Nunatsiavut Government being compensated or provided for the additional interest that's earning on those dollars?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Mr. Janes?

**MR. JANES:**

So the amount that is due is non-interest bearing, so there's no-, because it's essentially, as I mentioned, an income allocation out of the Trust under the *Income Tax Act*, and the terms of the Trust Deed itself, there's no legal obligation within those terms for it to be interest. So that amount is not accumulating interest over time or interest being paid on it.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Go ahead.

**MS. WILLIAMS:**

So for further clarification for me, I'm assuming that, you know, you would be storing your money where it is interest-bearing until it pays out. So that interest is going to-, into the accounts of the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust*.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Mr. Janes.

**MR. JANES:**

So I can't a hundred percent speak to exactly where the cash is held, 'cause I don't know that a hundred percent certain, but I believe the majority of it is sitting in bank accounts within Canadian banks. So there's not-, I wouldn't say a large of amount of interest accumulating on it. It's not like it's sitting in an investment vehicle of any sort, similar to a GIC or a mutual fund where it's actually gaining value of that sort. And I'll also add that at the end of the year, the entity has \$16.8 million in cash as I mentioned, but that's going to grossly fluctuate during the year. So from any time from January 1st to December 31st, a business is going to increase and decrease their cash based on activity. So if you have a lot of

activity and if there's any cyclical in your business, where-, let's just pick one. Construction is gonna do a lot more business in summer months than it is in the winter months. So you're gonna use a lot more cash. So that cash balance could significantly decrease in the summertime and then start to ramp up because you're not spending as much, and you're collecting receivables from customers throughout the end of the year. So it looks like there's more cash there. But that's not gonna be a static dollar value throughout the year, is what I'm trying to say.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Are there any other questions at this time? Seeing none, you can continue when you're ready.

**MR. JANES:**

Thank you. And I do appreciate the fact that I'm going through a lot of numbers in a very short period of time. So I'm happy to answer questions to try and clarify. Sure.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Roxanne Barbour.

**MS. BARBOUR:**

I'm really happy you said that because, you know, a lot people here, they don't really understand accounting terms and that come with understanding the numbers and how they sit, where they sit, where it grows interest, how they're accumulated, how they're expedited or as such and such. So it will be really appreciated if you can, you know, do your best to really explain that out in the simplest terms so that understanding may be provided.

**MR. JANES:**

Yeah, absolutely, I understand that. I live and breathe this stuff every day, so it comes natural to me. But I'm trying to provide those explanations where I can and like I said, if something is not clear, please ask a question and I'll do my best to describe it. So usually that's the end of-, we're all kinda stop going through the statements. The remaining pages that you have there are what we call the, "Notes to the Financial Statements," and it's meant to provide further clarification or details of a particular number. So as I pointed out in the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*, balances, there's details on the notes there. I mentioned earlier there's detail on Page 11, I think I said, of all the investments. So it just provides even more detail to the reader, of those statements. So it would be very repetitious for me to kinda continue to go through those notes from a perspective of not adding any more value to the numbers of what I've already discussed. So happy to take any further questions you may have, but that's-, I'll stop there.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Recognizing Wally Andersen.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you. Turn to Page 10 and Article Four, and it says, "Loans Receivable." And it states that the Trust is loaned amounts totalling \$2.5 million to a third party. Probably the ordinary person might look at this and they would say, "Well, okay, it was as you find in the *Transportation Service Agreement* dated 2006." Then they might read on that said, "Total balance of a loan receivable as of December 31st, 2022," is the same amount. So like some of our beneficiaries might look at that and say, "Well, was the loan made in 2006? And if the amount owing is the

same, therefore whoever the third-party is, they haven't paid any money since 2006." So probably we just clarify.

**MR. WINTERS:** When you're ready, Mr. Janes.

**MR. JANES:** Yeah, it's a great question. So just again, it's the details that are on Page 10, and Note Four. So that \$2.5 million is outstanding, you're right, since 2006. And it bears interest, so there's interest being collected on it at \$416,000 every year. It is not repayable as of yet. The 2.5 isn't. So it's still outstanding based on the terms of that loan and will be-, I think there's an extension period on that loan. So it's another few years, yet before that loan actually becomes due and payable. In the meantime, you're collecting-, or the *Trust* is collecting interest on that 10 and a half percent. So you're receiving \$400,000 in interest every year until that loan gets paid. It's not that it's in default of any sort. It's just that the terms of the loan haven't-, it hasn't become due yet for it to be repaid by a third-party.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*. Are there other questions around the Table related to Mr. Janes part of the presentation? Seeing none...

**MR. JANES:** We'll go to Chris.

**MR. WINTERS:** Thank you, Mr. Janes, Mr. Best when you're ready, Ms. Leo and Mr. Webb.

**MR. WEBB:** *Ullâkut, Nakummek* for allowing us to present to you again today. It's an honour to be here and usually every September to walk through NGC's operations. Thank you, Paul and Garry for the opening remarks and

walking through the Financial Statements Presentation. Just to give everyone a reminder that this is a year in review of 2022. So it's always difficult to kinda, "Okay, we're going-, we're delivering the presentation in September of 2023 and we're talking about a 2022 year in review." But nonetheless, we're here. I didn't get an opportunity, or we didn't get an opportunity to put in front of you, as we usually do, our Annual Report. But it is in the final stages. We just got approval from our finance group, Paul's group, that the Financial Statements that we're entering into our Annual Report were good to be released. So it's ready for printing. So I'll get those out to you as soon as we get them. Again, our condolences to Isabella. You know, she has a passing in the family, so we just wanna, you know, send our condolences to her. Just turning to the second slide at the beginning of the presentation there, "Strong Financial Performance," Paul walked through, obviously, our Consolidated Financial Statements. And there are numbers in there that are due to NG and some of our loans that we have to the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*. So, you know, sometimes when we go to financial institutions, you know, it's harder for us to get loans if we're looking at big projects or acquisitions, just because some of those numbers are big and they sit on our Financial Statements. So just wanted to kinda put that out there as well. And yes, I'll slow down. I apologize. I tend to talk faster in these things. And it's always a challenge for the translator. Sorry for that. But you can tell, obviously, by the Financial Statements that year-over-year, we're getting better. We're performing at a very high level and we're



well on our way into 2024 and beyond. We've made considerable change.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Mr. Webb, I'll ask Roland Saunders to hand over his headset so that Mr. Webb can get an idea of the pace of the translation right now. I'll give you a moment to get that set up. It should be channel two, I believe. *Nakummek. Say something, Gus.*

**MR. WEBB:**

Okay.

**MR. WINTERS:**

When you're ready, Mr. Webb.

**MR. WEBB:**

So to pick things up, we have made considerable changes to our organization and added significant capacity in all sectors from Human Resources, Equipment, IT, Digitization, Marketing, making us a more sustainable, profitable and professional organization. We keep safety at top of mind when carrying out our duties. We want all of our staff, our clients, our customers and the people we work around, to go home at the end of the day. So safety is a very high priority for our organization. Looking at the chart on the next page, just kinda-, we wanted to share with you a kinda 10-year review of our Consolidated Annual Surplus Deficit. So you can see we're on the rise. The last three years after we've done some significant clean-up, we're in a very good position. So you see 2020, 2021, 2022 our net income has increased to the numbers that Paul spoke to you about today of \$8.2 million-, or 8 million plus. So this goes to show-, Garry touched on our-, in his opening remarks, our business strategy on a go-forward basis. We're midway through our five-year

strategy and we're doing things that we said we were going to do. So we're actioning that and putting it into play. So you know, we've got a number of things to move forward and we'll chat about those a little bit later on. Moving into the next slide, I'll just touch base on Nunatsiavut Marine for a second. We're in our fourth year of contract. A very solid performance for this shore-based operation that we currently do right now. We have been increasing efficiencies by purchasing various pieces of equipment and making other improvements to the service. Now, keep in mind that we are just a shore-based operations. We also take care of the ticketing as well as the freight on-shore. We've moved 15,000 tons of freight in 2022. We were responsible for the ticketing as well. We've moved 5,331 passengers in 2022 and transported 1,025 vehicles with the roll-on, roll-off service. Now, obviously, LMI owns the vessel and they're- , all the components of that would fall under them, but we're strictly a shore-based operation. So everything seems to be moving well. Cargo gets moved on an annual basis. And we'll continue to do that service. Moving into the next slide, we also have with on our Nunatsiavut Marine, a partnership with Integrated Logistics called Integrated Nunatsiavut Logistics. And we do a lot of work with Voisey's Bay and Vale. We've moved 44 barge lifts, four lifts by ship since 2018. We also were contracted to service the Flotel when the Flotel was sitting in Edward's Cove for the additional camp space for the site. Moving on to the next slide, "Nunatsiavut Construction." Major capital equipment purchases in 2022, as Garry alluded to in his intro. 2022 was a year we made

significant equipment purchases. We acquired assets from Melville Trucking and we now have capabilities to participate in all divisions of construction work-, water, sewer, snow clearing, crushing, cement work, heavy haul, lifts and general construction, housing works. We had 85 staff in construction at the end of 2022. And 44 of them were beneficiaries and most of them on the Coast in Nunatsiavut. Next slide, obviously, is continuing on with construction. And we wanna continue to be a year-round employer. We're getting contracts that allow that and with a lot of-, in Upper Lake Melville, we have the snow clearing capability to do snow clearing contracts. And anything on the Coast that we might be able to do inside, within the winter months. Moving on into our Nuluak, which is our fishing enterprise. Performance, again, is strong, despite declining quotas. And many of you, obviously, probably know, you know, with the species that we fish, are shrimp, turbot, Greenland halibut and crab. We've had a number of decreases due to zones being in critical or cautious areas. However, we're still looking at strong financial performance. We're actually looking at a number of acquisitions in 2023 with regards to licences and quotas. And I've had some discussions around the Table with some DM's. And we are doing a Deloitte analysis on some of them right now to see if they are a feasible operation on a go-forward. So we're gonna continue to stay within the fishing industry and work collectively with the Nunatsiavut Government's licence quotas as well as Torngat Fish Producers licences and quotas. Next slide. Again this is Nunak Land Corporation. We have a number of properties, buildings in

Upper Lake Melville as well as in Nunatsiavut. We'll look at acquiring-, we have acquired some additional space in early 2023. So we will continue to be in the real estate industry. Moving into Nunatsiavut Solutions. We operate the Café Illusuak. And, you know, we just want to, again, send our, you know, our thoughts to our staff and the staff that were in the building during the fire suppression system going off. And, you know, we helped and assisted our staff with anything that we could do to help them get through that, you know, traumatic event that they've all gone through. And we look forward to the Café and the Illusuak building opening again once everything is done with the investigation and cleaned up. Base Camp operations in 2022 went very well. It was probably the best year in operation. That was the second last year of Air Borealis's and Nunatsiavut Solutions partnership to operate the Base Camp. This year, 2023 will be the last year. And I think NG will be putting out another contract for that in the very near future.

**MR. WINTERS:** I'll ask Ms. Barbour to sit down. *Nakummek.* Yes, Joe Dicker.

**MR. WINTERS:** Your microphone. *Nakummek.*

**MR. DICKER:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. It's not a question about your operations. It's a question of pronunciation.

**MR. WINTERS:** Pronunciation?

**MR. DICKER:** Yeah, of the Inuttitut Businesses. You said, Nuluak(ph) something but it's Nulak(ph). You said, "Nunak." It's not "Nunak," it's "Nunak." And it means for a person who can read it properly in Inuttitut, it's okay but for

the owner to pronounce their own business differently than what it sounds like-, means, it's important. It's almost gives the meaning, you know, if you could encourage you to say the words in the right way, ask them to pronounce it the right way it would be helpful in presentations like this. I pick it up. I'm sure Roxanne do and Johannes. But just to remind you, please pronounce it properly.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Mr. Dicker. So not to provide any shame to any second language in the room, but it is important while in these Chambers to make sure that when you're presenting here, you're as close to the accurate pronunciation as possible in the future. Recognizing Mr. Wally Andersen.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Webb. I think we all realize that some of the difficulties that Torngat Fisheries has been going through with the crab fishery, you know, almost in jeopardy. And again, I would ask that, are you, like, with two fisheries-, with Torngat Fisheries running a fish operation and your company running a fish operation, again, like, I know you said, but are you working very closely in cooperation with Torngat Fisheries and assisting them in every way possible?

**MR. WINTERS:**

When you're ready, Mr. Webb.

**MR. WEBB:**

Thank you, Joe and I appreciate your comments and I'll do my best on a go-forward basis. Yes, we are working closely with Torngat Fish Producer's Cooperative, as well as NG, to do the best we can. Obviously, with some of our licence and quotas, they have a different harvester than

we do. So it's a little bit difficult. We gotta try to line up, you know, our agreements on a go-forward basis. I mean, the one fishing entity has never really gone away. But we work closely together. And down the road, I think it's all of our best interest that if we ever wanted to own an offshore shrimp vessel or trawler, we could pool together our resources and do that. I'd just have to get everyone on the same page. From a crab perspective, all of our crab in 2J is-, we allow NG to administer our quotas to beneficiary harvesters. So we don't get any royalties. We don't ask for any money back. So the poundage that we have for crab is given to beneficiaries. So we don't-, beneficiaries that have vessels and have allocations. So NG administers that on our behalf. And we don't ask for anything in return.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Thank you. There was also a question from Mr. Tony Andersen, when you're ready, sir.

**MR. A. ANDERSEN:**

I was gonna wait till the end. But it looks like we can ask questions at any time. Yeah, when you were talking about the fishery and you did mention that you were looking at I guess, other enterprises you acquire or (inaudible), I'm assuming this is offshore quotas that you're trying to acquire. I wanna say something and that is that, he asked a question about how you get along with Torngat and it seems as well that was not always the case in the day so of the LIDC. And I've been around a while and, you know, it's too bad that we don't have an inshore shrimp plant in Nunatsiavut. I think that we should. And I think that we-, I still believe that we should. And we see this summer that unable to get a workforce

in Makkovik for-, and so that our crab quota from 2J North had to be landed in Cartwright, again, out of our district. Our inshore shrimp quotas are landed in Charlottetown and so there's significant employment loss that NunatuKavut communities benefit from our quotas. And I know that you have shrimp quota offshore, and so does Torngat I suppose. But it seems that there's not enough effort put back into the fishery to try and rebuild our inshore fishery for instance. The return of the cod over the last two years looks, I have to say, interesting as I think it would take some more time before it proves that the stocks are back. But I hope, we can call you Chris, eh? I hope, Chris-, and I've asked this question before, like, you have significant resource and I always try to look at the statements to see where you put back into the fishery. I think that anyone who has fish quotas has the responsibility to put back and not just take. I think that's what's happened to our fishery in the past in this Province. There was too much take and not enough give-back to build and sustain the fishery. And I hope it's not the case with you and, you know, our Group of Companies. And I hope that-, I'd like to see perhaps more involvement in the inshore. I think that, you know, Rigolet, where it's located, could, if we had more inshore quota could have the workforce with Goose Bay in its backyard to, you know, to have a shrimp plant and create employment in our community of Rigolet where there is little industry at this time, and everyone has to go away to work. I've said a lot of stuff there, eh, but I've always had big interest in the inshore and I hope that-, it seems like it's just continuing to die

slowly. And all the profits are for the offshore where there is money to be made but not as much employment as we would see in inshore plants.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Mr. Webb?

**MR. WEBB:**

*Nakummek*, Tony. Thank you for the question and the comments. I'll be glad to sit, you know, collective with NG and Torngat Fish and us, NGC, to advance the fishery in the regard that you're discussing. And yes, our primary quotas are offshore. However, just with the crab, some of our give-back-, you know, I mentioned we didn't receive anything for our crab quota and our licence that we have. I know there was a decrease from 89,000 pounds to 67 maybe. And we don't get any of that. And that used to amount to about half a million dollars as an essential corporate social responsibility from NGC to the Nunatsiavut Fishery. Now, I know a lot of that quota gets harvested by other beneficiary harvesters. But that's some of the give-back that we give as well.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*. Gerald Asivak.

**MR. ASIVAK:**

Thank you. Chris, you mentioned that there was more acquisition and real estate in Happy Valley, Goose Bay. What building, specifically? And then my second part of the question, as you know, NG rents at least five buildings in Happy Valley, Goose Bay and very large buildings. Do you foresee or plan any large building acquisition in Happy Valley, Goose Bay that, you know, we can probably, eventually, because, you know, there's a lot of money that we're paying in rent? Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Mr. Webb.



**MR. WEBB:**

Thank you, Gerald, Minister. The acquisition that I was talking about happened early 2023, and that was the Plaza building on the corner of Hamilton River Road and Tenth Street. So we have seven office space, plus our construction outfit is upstairs. Also a maintenance shop for all of our equipment and the yard that goes along with it. As for your question with regards to, you know, potential acquisition in Upper Lake Melville, nothing currently in the works, however, I'd be glad to discuss anything that, you know, might come, 'cause if we can get a guaranteed lease, you know, it's easy enough to put up a building. And I know you've got, you know, a number of buildings in the Upper Lake Melville area and we'd love nothing more to have you under one roof.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Wally Anderson?

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and again, very quickly, sort of in response to what the Minister of Education said, was I can remember years ago that we did a shrimp-, what do you call it-, experimenting with shrimp. And we had beam trawls that was hired out just outside of Hopedale here. And the people in Hopedale can tell you that during their experiment, they would go out there about only 12 miles out and they brought these big, like, onion bags. And the people could take as much as they wanted to. And we've had our fishermen who are with the offshore that they tell us stories that in the wintertime, that they could see a glimmer of the lights on the site in Hopedale as the draggers were out there fishing shrimp. And we've seen the borderlines where they started off the shrimp-, there's all kinds of shrimp in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland.

And it seemed like the boundaries are getting extended further and further and further north. And, yeah, I, you know, there's no doubt that I think on the Truth and Reconciliation and all this kind of stuff, that for us to get a shrimp plant within Nunatsiavut should be a given. The quotas are there. The fish is there, and I think the sooner we can get that to benefit our people-, and further more, our Community Freezers. Like what a way for us to put something back by employing our people and giving the opportunity of shrimp and other stuff for our people who find the cost of living so high. So I would strongly, you know, encourage you and your organization to work closely and begin talks with Torngat to the possibility of a shrimp plant on our coast. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Mr. Webb, when you're ready.

**MR. WEBB:**

Thank you, Mr. Andersen. We'll definitely have those discussions on a go-forward basis. Mr. Speaker, we've got our flight is landing in about 15 minutes. I'm here, but my colleagues may need to leave. So I don't know-, I can continue on the presentation and then they can leave and we can-, it's up to you. But if you wanted a break-, I can continue on with the presentation.

**MR. WINTERS:**

If any of the presenters absolutely need to go and they've completed their portion of the day, then we can excuse them. Is that the case?

**MR. WEBB:**

They don't need to leave till three.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Okay. We'll see where we go and if we get to three and we haven't completed, then we can rush them out the door. *Nakummek*. We have drivers. We have a question. Barry Andersen, when you're ready.

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and invited guests. Mr. Webb, after your remarks at the beginning when you mentioned about the marine operations, you mentioned that our vessel is roll-out, roll-off. I get a lot of feedback, and I'm sure the AngajukKâk here in the Chambers will disagree with that. We're the only area in all of Canada that we have a back-on, roll-off system. And it causes major problems. I've seen it again when I left Goose Bay on the 3rd of September. And one person from here, from Hopedale nearly had his trailer left behind that he could easily-, he drove straight on to the Qajaq in St. Barbe and drove off, straight off-, I'm sorry, in Blanc-Sablon and drove straight off in St. Barbe without having to reattach his trailer, right? But as we were getting ready to sail away from Goose Bay, the trailer was still left on the wharf. We're just lucky-, it was pure luck, just happened to see it there. And things like that, just as one example. Accommodations on the ship is not enough, no kids' menu whatsoever, expensive meals. So I just wanted to bring it up because I'm gonna bring this forward again next week. When Minister Abbott and his entourage arrive in Makkovik, we will be bringing forth our views as the AngajukKâk because we are the ones who take the heat, for lack of a better term, when it comes to transportation and stuff-, plus the infrastructure where the vessel has to hold up in Nain and not Makkovik, when the weather is bad at Cape Harrison. I know you guys have to go, but those

are some of the issues that are coming forward over and over and over. I just wanted to bring it up one more time.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Mr. Webb?

**MR. WEBB:**

Thank you, Barry, for the comments. And we will bring those forward to LMI, 'cause at the end of the day, Woodward's owns the vessel. So we just are shore-based operator for the cargo. If you're all on the Air Borealis slide, strong in, you know, all sectors under fixed-wing, you know, Vale, flying, Rotary-, you know the Fish Camp operations, Base Camp operations, charters, Medivac services. You know, we do have our challenges and, you know, they get kind of compiled over time when you run into a number of weather delays. But rest assured, you know, our staff are doing everything they can in the best way of their abilities to-, on a day-to-day basis to make sure we get people moving to and from their locations. Yeah?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Melva Williams?

**MS. WILLIAMS:**

Thank you. I'd like to ask the question in the Air Borealis section. I noticed that in the financial report that both this year and-, 2022 and 2021, they were showing profits. And I'm assuming that the profits are referenced directly to what the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust* gets, in relation to that partnership. I think it's along, similar along the lines of what Minister Andersen asked in relation to the fishery. Is there a plan or how do we see those investments being made back to Nunatsiavut? We see in our communities, the cost of flying to and from our communities, as that's the only means of transportation, basically, in the winter. We've seen the

costs of cargo be increased because they use a different formula than that they were normally using. So it's impacting a lot of our beneficiaries at the community level, in relation to the air service. So I'm wondering, is there any way, or any options that there could-, we could see some benefits to the beneficiaries in relation to the profits that are being realized from this partnership?

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Ms. Williams. I'll ask that the Committee refrain from using Ministerial titles while we're in Committee of the Whole. *Nakummek*. When you're ready, Mr. Webb.

**MR. WEBB:**

Thank you, Ms. Williams. Yeah, we as a Board, as we're a one-third owner of Air Borealis-, IDLP and PAL Airlines are the other two one-third owners-, we have these discussions all the time, and ways that we can maybe give back a little more. We're in the fifth year of operation right now with Air Borealis. And we've run into major inflationary costs. Granted the number is still very good from a financial perspective. You know, we're going through a set of union negotiations right now. But just get back to your question, we do-, NGC does have a Corporate Social Responsibility Policy and Program. And, you know, we have a number of ways that we do give back. We have our Sponsorship Donations Policy where, you know, we support, you know, elders groups, youth athletes-, anything youth-related, cultural-related, and sometimes that's, you know, providing airfare for those individuals to fly to tournaments in Upper Lake Melville, attend different programming events, maybe in St. John's, and things like that. So we do have a give-back. And then we have our scholarships and that was

gonna come a little bit later on in the presentation. But we do give back a significant amount of money on an annual basis. But, you know, I understand, you know, taking some of, you know, the Air Borealis money and finding ways to, you know, is there a way we can offer discounted airfares or discounted cargo rates? We've been lucky enough since our Air Borealis merger that we haven't increased airfares or fuel rates or cargo rates. You know, I know that there was an issue at one point in time with cube freight versus weighted freight and that. But that policy was always there. It just wasn't in force, essentially. And there was one incident where it had to be kind of enforced after because essentially, you know, the cargo that went up cost maybe \$900 from a weight perspective, but it took up the entire plane. So then, you know, it cost maybe five grand to operate a plane to that particular destination. So you're losing money at that stage, right? So-, but I hear your question and as a Board, Isabella and I are directors on the Air Borealis Board and we continue to fight for, you know, what we can do for Nunatsiavut beneficiaries. Continuing on, same Air Borealis slide, you know, Federal regulations dampen, obviously, some of our challenges as well, with a duty travel too, for the pilots. We have 10 aircraft in 2022. We have 15,500 flight hours, 22,000 passengers carried, four million pounds of freight transported. That's a significant amount of freight transported by air. And that's primarily when, you know, we're in the off-season and the vessel isn't operating. And we operated 300 Medivac flights in 2022. So significant amount of activity in Air Borealis and they are also going through the union negotiations. Actually, on the

weekend, they will be going into mediation. So we're at a little bit of a challenge right now. So we've brought a mediator in to assist with getting through some of those challenges. Okay, my colleagues are going to head out now. I'll continue to stay and just be nice to me.

**MR. WINTERS:**

We'll take a momentary break from the Committee of the Whole while the witnesses exit the room. *Nakummek*. The snack is here. We'll come back at 10 after the hour. *Nakummek*.

[Recess]

**MR. WINTERS:**

Welcome back into the Committee of the Whole. Before we get started again, I understand Patricia Kemuksigak, would like to recognize people in the gallery.

**MS. KEMUKSIGAK:**

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize our Community Freezer coordinator for NunaKatiget, Ms. Debbie Hynes and her daughter Tiana Hynes and Juliana Flowers. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*. We always appreciate an audience. Whenever you're ready, Mr. Webb.

**MR. WEBB:**

*Nakummek*. If you could turn to slide, "North Warning System and CFS Alert Contracts," this is probably a little bit of repetitive news. But nonetheless, it happened in 2022. Yeah. Nasittuq was successful in winning the North Warning System contract-, seven years, \$527 million- contract with four two-year option periods. So total contract could have a value of 1.3 Billion. NGC is a 16 percent owner of that particular contract-, of those contracts with Nasittuq. We were also successful in winning the

CFS Alert contract, which is an eight-year, \$122 million-contract. And coming with that, it positions Nasittuq very well for NORAD modernization, if you just turn your page. Huge opportunity here for Nasittuq. And also NGC and the other Ec Dev Corps across the arctic. There are 15 projects, of which five will be located in Inuit Nunangat.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Mr. Webb, we have a question from Tony Andersen.

**MR. A. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Chair. Just to go back to the North Warning system, Chris. This is the second go around for Nasittuq. And I guess-, and I did get good answer in Base Camp from Garry and-, but I wanted for the others to hear that employment levels today are not what they were back then. But if you could speak to employment levels, they're very low now and, like, recruitment efforts that you made-, because, I think, like, if people are aware then they can make people in their communities, that there's great opportunity for employment and for training and great future from-, even from the words that you said, like the long-term commitments that could come out of this North Warning and great opportunity. But employment levels are low and if you could speak to that and recruitment efforts that you made?

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Mr. Webb?

**MR. WEBB:**

Thank you, Tony for clarifying that. And that was coming up a little bit later on, but yes, this is the second go-around for Nasittuq. And in actual fact, there are a lot more employment opportunities now, given that the long-range radar sites are personned or manned 365, 24/7. In a contract



pervious, we were essentially staging from the LSS, which is Logistics Support Site, Goose Bay. And then you'd have Cambridge Bay, Hall Beach, Iqaluit, Inuvik. So now those-, all those long-range radars that are across the Arctic, they've started in the East and they're working their way West, and this is, you know, they're being manned 365. So there are more opportunities now. The Nasittuq numbers are actually, from a Nunatsiavut perspective, we've got the highest rate of employment in the North Warning System contract, than any other Land Claim region. So-, but we are doing all efforts. They have an Indigenous Coordinator that takes care of all the training development programs as well as, you know, as all the potential hires for Nunatsiavut beneficiaries. So there's someone attending all the trade shows, getting in the communities, talking to the Governments, talking to the, you know, us as well because we're an owner, a shareholder. And we're finding ways that, you know, we can employ and get people back into the North Warning System that may have left because they weren't happy or satisfied with the contract holder previous to Nasittuq getting it back again.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Yes, Roxanne Barbour?

**MS. BARBOUR:**

*Nakummek.* And just for clarification purposes, this is the radar sites that are North of Nain? Okay.

**MR. WEBB:**

Yeah, they're the radar stations right from Cartwright all up through Nunatsiavut into Nunavut, across the Northwest Territories-, 47 in total.

**MR. WINTERS:**

You may continue.

**MR. WEBB:**

As I mentioned, tremendous opportunity for Nasittuq, as well as NGC on a go-forward for this. There are 15 separate projects of which five will be located in Inuit Nunangat-, 40 Billion over the next 20 years to be spent in defence technology, infrastructure, logistics, base operations and in-service support. So this bodes well for our Inuit Ec Dev Corps across the Arctic. And, you know, we have a very close working relationship. We have an Inuit Development Corporations Association, the IDCA, where we meet quarterly and discuss all the opportunities that are before us, that we can work collective as Inuit across the Arctic. We believe that Canada can reach it's NATO spending target by investing in the Arctic. So this bodes very well for us. Moving on to the next slide, just to touch on Torngat Services Inc., you know, they're a five-year contract to 2027 right now with Vale. They do all the site services work-, 256 employees, 88 of which are beneficiaries at the end of 2022. And those numbers in to 2023 are still very high. Obviously, with VBME coming to an end eventually, in the next, you know, year-ish, you know, the numbers might come down some, just because, you know of this-, the service support that's needed. But Wyman and team continue to do a phenomenal job managing TSI's contractual obligations from Vale. They get immense pressure to hire individuals on short notice and short-term contracts. So it's sometimes difficult to find individuals for short-term work. Everyone wants to be fulltime permanent and longer-term work. So-, but they are doing a great job. They get a lot of accolades from Vale with the job that they do onsite. And they are seen as a contractor of choice at site, just because of the level

of commitments that they meet with the IBA's that are set up. Moving on to the next slide, our Vale Partnerships, you know, are doing very well. Some of them are coming to an end. Some are just getting started, and some are continuing to provide equipment, people, services to the Voisey's Bay mine site. You know, where Innu-Inuit partners with Toromont Cat, Kiewit, MacLean's Engineering, Redpath, ACI, and Bird Construction. And that's our partnership with Bird on some of the construction phase. So things are going very well at Voisey's Bay right now from our partnership perspective. Moving into, you know, Nunatsiavut beneficiary and Tony, here's-, you know, give you some other examples just with regards to our wholly-owned-, 100 percent wholly-owned companies. And this companies, and this doesn't include TSI, a 51 percent majority-owned company or an Air Borealis, but just our Nunatsiavut Marine, Nunatsiavut Construction, NGC, and those companies. You know, the wages-, we've got 76 employees, beneficiaries alone under our umbrella and we hover around 50 percent Inuit Nunatsiavut employment rate. The wages that we put out in 2022 were equated to 2.294 million. So a significant, you know, employer in the region-, 24 employees in Nain, 24 in Upper Lake Melville, six in Rigolet, eight in Makkovik, five in Postville and nine in Hopedale. So, you know, we're a significant employer and we do everything we can. These individuals are trained on-, if they're operating equipment, on all of the equipment that we have them operating. Any questions?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Yes, Johannes Lampe, when you're ready.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:**

*Nakummek*, [speaks Inuttitut].

Just looking at the picture there of Café Illusuak, the cooks and the servers that, you know, were enjoying serving foods and menus before the Café was shut down, I'm just wondering what these employees are doing now? Have they been laid off or are they continuing to do something to make sure that they're supporting their families? *Nakummek*.

**MR. WEBB:**

Yeah. And with regards to the Café Illusuak staff, during COVID, we had them on the entire time during COVID shutdown. So they continued to get paid and collected their benefits and their vacation pay. Since the Café Illusuak closure, they've been put on Unemployment. But we're still, you know, assisting them in any way they need in terms of any mental health applications or assistance that they need. We're still assisting them in that regard. Some, you know, and I know it was a traumatic event, some, you know, I think-, and I hope they'll all come back-, but, you know, it might be difficult to get some back into that position just with what they have gone through. So-, but we support them in whatever they choose to make that decision.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Yes, Roxanne Barbour?

**MS. BARBOUR:**

*Nakummek*. Just to add to that, Member Williams here mentioned that there-, the Illusuak is looking at being closed for another six to eight months. I know you mentioned that the employees are on Unemployment. But I'm wondering-, and this might be a question for the COO, but I'm wondering if there are any other options being explored for

the Café Illusuak too, so that they can still provide that service to the community?

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Mr. Webb?

**MR. WEBB:** Thank you, for the question. And, yeah, we'll gladly take anyone back if they want to do some work in another area or, you know, offer-, I don't know if we could offer Café services out of another location. I'm not a hundred percent sure but we will chat with the COO when I get back and see if that's an option at all.

**MR. WINTERS:** Melva Williams?

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Thank you, Chair. I'm wondering if the circle, the pie correlates with the silo or whatever it is on the side because it looks like, for instance the community of Makkovik had eight people working but with wages at \$2,332 is it because it was a day-long work project or something? 'Cause it seems like a really low level and I'm not sure if I'm understanding your charts correctly.

**MR. WINTERS:** Go ahead, Mr. Webb.

**MR. WEBB:** So just to kinda go through that silo, "Beneficiary Wages by Community," Rigolet is 145,864 of total wages paid to six individuals. Makkovik, 131,000, Postville, 52,000, Hopedale 161,000, Nain 720,000 and, "Other," which is Upper Lake Melville, Labrador City and areas, a million. The colours are off. I agree. Yeah.

**MR. WINTERS:** Yes, Melva Williams?

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Are you able to run through those again please, so I can note them? Because I didn't-, as you were going through it, I was correlating the colours there in my mind.

**MR. WINTERS:** Go ahead, Mr. Webb.

**MR. WEBB:** So orange is Rigolet on the silo, the top-, Makkovik is the blue-, Postville is the purple, green is Hopedale, red is Nain, and six is, "Other," Upper Lake Melville, Labrador West, Churchill Falls, et cetera.

**MR. WINTERS:** Go ahead Melva Williams.

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Thank you. So having said that, and looking at the values-, so you have 24 in other communities and 24 in Nain and we see the level of wages paid out with a difference of, like, \$300,000. Is it because it's more specialized positions in those, that, "Other communities?"

**MR. WINTERS:** Mr. Webb?

**MR. WEBB:** Yes, you're a hundred percent correct.

**MR. WINTERS:** Yes, Marjorie Flowers?

**MS. FLOWERS:** My question is, what do you do to try and enhance beneficiaries into any of your companies to come and work for you?

**MR. WINTERS:** Mr. Webb?

**MR. WEBB:** Yeah, we do all different avenues of advertising and recruitment. You know, we're lucky enough now that we have a full HR team. We attend trade shows. We want to be seen as an employer of choice. You know, we've got a lot of work. We do our community visits. We get into the

schools. We hit the grade school kids to high school kids to start thinking about the opportunities that they wanna do, 'cause a lot of our opportunities, they have to think about education and furtherance of their education. So whether that be a trade or, you know, a college program or even university, you think about some of the business lines that we do-, construction, marine, shore-based operations, site services work, airlines with fixed and rotary aviation. And all these companies need those professional services as well, the-, you know, I'd love nothing more than a beneficiary to roll into my position at some point in time. And, you know, we have mentorship and training programs that allow that. So we do everything that we can to, you know, administer having our company be Inuit-led, Inuit-built. So we do all facets of trying to employ and attract staff. You know, I'd like to think that we are, you know, an attractive employer with our benefits and compensation packages and things like that. And I mean, the world is essentially theirs if they wanna follow down that road. We are giving young Inuit and mid and older folks as well, an opportunity to grow and build within their community as well. It's not necessary that you need to go away to school and then you gotta go away to work. We want people working in Nunatsiavut. So, you know, that's what we're trying to commit to and trying to get our operations, you know, year- round, so that we can get our folks living in our communities and working for our organization.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Yes, recognizing Roxanne Barbour.

**MS. BARBOUR:**

*Nakummek.* I really like what you mentioned about mentorship and training programs. More often than not, you have to go south to obtain your education, indicating that-, or it can indicate that south is better, south is where you go to get smart, south is where you go for more opportunities. Since I've been elected in May 2022, I've been very passionate about bringing employment and very vocal about keeping employment within Nunatsiavut. And there's always difficulty obtaining trainers and having programs and services as such run within Nunatsiavut. So my train of thinking right now is-, and maybe this is a suggestion for you, more than a question-, is to work with the NG so that we can create training programs in Nunatsiavut, whether it's for electrical, plumbing, you know, a various number of trades that would benefit the business of the NGC and benefit Labrador Inuit to stay home while they obtain their formal education.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Mr. Webb, would you like to respond?

**MR. WEBB:**

And we've identified all those key areas as areas where we need to be training individuals. We see the infrastructure requirements in Nunatsiavut and, you know, we need Red Seal Carpenters. We need those folks. And we need those folks to train our individuals, right? So we've got diesel mechanics, Red Seal Diesel Mechanics that can take on apprentice individuals right now. So we've identified all those areas and we'd be glad to work with NG and we've also, you know, reached out to, you know, the College of the North Atlantic as well as the Labrador Institute and trying to



find ways that we can develop programs within Nunatsiavut or Upper Lake Melville, so that we can get more people trained and work with our group.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Mr. Wally Andersen.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you. Chris, since we sat down from the break, we've probably heard two planes either taking off or landing. And there's a concern that I think in a couple of years' time, that's going to affect the Coastal Communities and Labrador greatly. And that's gonna be have pilots. And today the American Airline companies are paying 35 to 40 percent more than what they're paying, like, Air Canada and West Jet. And anyone from, in the past from Air Labrador or Air Borealis who applied for a job with Air Canada or some other big company, it's known that they were hired immediately because of their experience. A professor did an interview a couple weeks ago indicating that the difficulty for people like Yukon and Northern Labrador to get enough pilots to operate the smaller airlines. And already we've had planes and hospital flights canceled with Air Borealis because pilots have maxed out. And to me that's a great concern. And things are gonna get difficult in two years' time. So I want to know, is our partnership with Air Borealis doing anything for recruitment and retention to make sure that we, I guess, lessen the burden as much as we can, in two years' time when the crunch comes on?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Before you respond, Mr. Webb, I'm hearing a cell phone again. If someone has mistakenly brought it in, can you please take it out. If the sound is coming from the gallery, please silence your phones. Go ahead, Mr. Webb.

**MR. WEBB:**

Thank you Mr. Andersen. I think the entire industry from an aviation perspective is in a similar state. And Air Borealis recognizes that. I mean, we've just recently brought on, I believe, 20 new co-pilots to train under Air Borealis, 'cause we have lost a significant number of individuals to the West Jets, the Porters, the Air Canadas, and we recognize that. And we don't wanna be just a training ground either. You know, we want our pilots to stick around and these are one of those inflationary costs, and costs that we're gonna be struggling with on a go-forward basis of keeping our pilots in-house and on the ground, with you mentioning the 35 percent increase in, you know, compensation package. So Air Borealis and the Board is well aware of this and we are actively trying to find ways that we can recruit and retain our pilots on a go-forward.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Are there further questions around the Table at this time? Seeing none, you may continue.

**MR. WEBB:**

*Nakummek.* Just moving into, "Corporate Social Responsibility," I think I touched on this already earlier on in the presentation. And this is just some images of some of the sporting teams that we've brought down and assisted with airfare costs and travel. And our attendance at some of the schools and our scholarship winner-, one of our scholarship winners, 'cause we offer four scholarships on an annual basis. And this was in 2022. We're also close to finalizing an economic analysis report that we will share with NG when we get it, of some of the things that NGC is doing. When we do the work in Nunatsiavut, you know, the spend that we spend within Nunatsiavut, the support we do when we support other Inuit Business by

sub-contracting work and all of our sponsorships and donations. And it will total the give-back. And it'll just, you know, show and demonstrate, you know, the good things that, you know, we're doing, and the benefit that goes back to Nunatsiavut at the end of the day. And I know, you know, Mr. Andersen, or Tony, has had many conversations with us about, okay, well, NGC is NGC. You know, we still want our Inuit entrepreneurs to flourish and develop and build and construct and, you know, at times, we'll probably be bidding against some. But for the most part, we're here to support them. So much like some individuals that we assisted, they didn't have the proper set-up with Vale. So NGC assisted them for six months going through the Vale Tender Program until they were able to get their enrollment within the Vale system. So these are some of the things that we do to assist some of our other Inuit organizations. We're not here to, you know, step on anyone or trample anyone, but, you know, we, at times we're gonna compete. But for the most part we're here to assist as well. And we will assist where we can. We normally do a \$50,000 donation annually for the Food Banks or the wood programs or, you know, some of the events or some of the freezer programs, community freezers and things like that. So when I get back to Goose Bay, we will send a cheque around so that people can-, for the communities-, it's all proportionate based on population as has been done in the past, so that it gives, you know, those organization an opportunity to order and get, you know, wood or food or what have you, whatever you wanna put that money towards. So when I get back, I'll reach out to, you know, those

organizations and assist with them. And this gives them a chance to kinda get anything needed up on the boat, on, you know, a lower cost fare.

**MR. WINTERS:** Yes, Patricia Kemuksigak.

**MS. KEMUKSIGAK:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. We are very glad over our donation that we get to help with our Christmas turkeys for our elders. It don't cover even half the cost though because we have so many elders. We've got 460 elders, 60 and over. But we're very thankful for what we get. But we don't get very much money for our Community Freezer. I have to be applying for funds constantly. Is there a possibility that it may be increased a little bit this year for everybody even, because of inflation and the cost of doing business?

**MR. WINTERS:** You opened the door, Mr. Webb.

**MR. WEBB:** Thank you, Patricia. Why don't you come see me when you're back in Goose, and we'll have a chat, okay?

**MR. WINTERS:** Roxanne Barbour? Melva Williams?

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Thank you. I'd like to follow up on the question from Ms. Kemuksigak. I too, as a Member of this House, as a Ordinary Member for the Community of Rigolet, we're seeing more and more challenges for our people in relation to the cost of food, cost of electricity-, all those things. I'm wondering what option or what route would this body have to be able to speak with you regarding on how you provide your Corporate Social Responsibility Funds. And is there a way that could be worked out that there'd be, you know, more emphasis on whether it's community food

banks or freezers or those kind of things, because people are really feeling the pinch right now. And I know you're willing to speak with Ms. Kemuksigak in Goose Bay, but I think that other communities would benefit as well.

**MR. WINTERS:** When you're ready, Mr. Webb.

**MR. WEBB:** I'm all ears. I'll-, reach out to me at any time and we can have a chat and see if there's anything that can be done.

**MR. WINTERS:** Tom Evans, did you have a question as well?

**MR. EVANS:** Yes, I just noticed (inaudible) the presentation, so I just wanted to-, I think we had touched on it before-, in terms of in Nunatsiavut, like, a presence like from a, like, a administration corporation, I know there's like Sarah's in Nain, right? But is-, it seems like a lot of the chief officers and management are situated in Upper Lake Melville and there's quite a salary-, I'm just wondering, like, are you still exploring putting a footprint in terms of administration corporation with your company, like, in Nunatsiavut as well?

**MR. WINTERS:** Go ahead, Mr. Webb.

**MR. WEBB:** Thanks, Tom. Yeah, we always have the discussion surrounding that topic. And I guess at the end of the day it comes down to infrastructure. So once the infrastructure, you know, with housing and things like that. Like we know the struggle with housing right now in our community. So, you know, I think, you know, if there was opportunity there, then, you know, there could be a bigger presence in Nunatsiavut.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Are there further questions around the Table? Yes, Roxanne Barbour?

**MS. BARBOUR:**

*Nakummek.* Earlier in my Members statement I mentioned that, you know, the extraordinary talents of Nunatsiavut youth in terms of recreational activities. The biggest thing that's impacting them for accessing further opportunities to advance their skill level or opportunities to be exposed, attend tournaments, et cetera, is travel outside of Nunatsiavut. That's the biggest thing that's stopping them. And it's kind of disabling them to advance. In Nain, we've heard that, you know, it feels like in the general public, that not a lot is being supported for Nunatsiavummiut but me, I understand, like, the sponsorship application that you guys have through your website and the policies on your website. And that, you know, any Inuk or beneficiary of LILCA can apply, right? I guess what I'm trying to touch at is it will be great to see increases in terms of supporting transportation outside of Nunatsiavut, so that our youth can have those opportunities even within Nunatsiavut, you know? There are a lot of local communities that, local tournaments that go, and like in Makkovik they have the Cape Makkovik Cup. In Nain they have the B&J Tournament. Here in Hopedale they have numerous volleyball tournaments, you know? Social opportunities to make long-lasting friendship and life-long memories. And there are a number of tournaments that happen outside of Nunatsiavut whether it's Regionals, Provincials, the NLVA, NAIG, hockey camps-, and you know, these are triple A opportunities, like, elite-level skilled where our student athletes in Nunatsiavut are-, perform exceptionally well. Like, you know, last year,

the NGC sponsored the Team Nunatsiavut to the NLVA Provincial Championship, and they placed second in all of the Province, in an elite league, in an elite tournament. That says a lot. Our youth are so talented. They're-, and they have the potential to be professional sports players if they had the opportunity to pursue that, the means to get outside of Nunatsiavut. And I think it's possible through support from the NGC in terms of increased-, whether it's charters or, you know, discounted airfare rates for group packages as such for student athletes, or et cetera. You know? It's types of things like that. And I just wanted to state that again here because it's really important for them to be able to know and understand that there are these opportunities out there for them to make life-long memories, long-lasting positive impacts in their lives.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Mr. Webb, would you like to respond?

**MR. WEBB:**

Yeah, thank you, for that and we do, do that, and we will continue to do that, and we will see if we can increase, yeah. There's not too much that comes across the Committee's table that they don't support. So, you know, I just, you know, suggest to people that, you know, they reach out. They get on the website and they fill out the application form and then they send it in. Yeah. We know how big these community events are, you know, the hockey tournament in Makkovik this past year, I think we sponsored it and we will continue to sponsor it in the future as well, right? So-, but that's not to say we don't do anything in any of the other communities as well. We do. So we try to be fair.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Are there further questions at this time? Seeing none, you can continue.

**MR. WEBB:**

Okay, well, thank you. That essentially concludes a little bit of a recap for 2022, you know, year in review for NGC and its Group of Companies. And last year during the Assembly sitting, you know, we heard it loud and clear and we've listened to what, you know, you all have said with regards to construction and things like that. And we've gone out and we've bolstered our assets and equipment to do more things. And one thing on the top of mind was-, and was discussed in great detail was the challenge surrounding medical travel and finding hotel accommodations in the Upper Lake Melville area when people are traveling. You know, not often-, often times people are traveling down. and they don't even know they have a room. So, you know, we took it upon ourselves to go out, design and develop a business plan for medical lodging. You know, I've-, I know some individuals around the Tables here have seen our presentation, but I'd be glad-, and I just wanted to bring it at this stage, at a very high level, just to indicate that, you know, we've put a significant amount of effort into this and we do have something designed. But at the end of the day, I think we'll need to discuss and get a commitment from NG. And we have meetings set up next with DHSD and Finance with Rexanne and Michelle, just to kinda walk through to see if there's-, what can be done here. You know, this can be used for medical lodging, but it can also be used for business travel as well. The only stipulation is that, you know, I don't wanna call it a hotel because if we build it and we build a hotel, then you might run into the same issues as before, there's no room. So we just need to make sure that there-, we do have something concrete that allows us to



move forward with a project like this, 'cause, you know, the cost of a project like this is, you know, in the vicinity of \$20 million to \$25 million. You know, and that doesn't include-, 'cause we wanna have this a cultural piece. We wanna run it similar to a Larga Baffin. And many of you have probably heard of the Larga Baffin model and seen it. So I think it is a great offering to, you know, Nunatsiavut individuals when traveling for medical, but also a good business opportunity for NGC as well. So I just wanted to put it out there that, you know, we have put considerable effort into this and I'd be glad to-, I know this wasn't the time or place to have a presentation on it, but just to let you know that, you know, it's out there and we are moving things forward and, you know, hopefully that, you know, we kinda get a way to actually make this a reality, 'cause it's a much-needed piece of infrastructure that will alleviate a lot of pressure and a lot of stress from individuals when they're traveling. And we wanna have this as a cultural showcase. You know, we've got colours. We've got-, we wanna have it all Inuit art. We wanna have, you know, so it's gonna promote other business lines and those artisans as well. So, yeah, we just wanted to get it on your radar that this could become a reality. Right now it's designed as a 51-unit medical lodging piece and it's pretty well all suites. Some will be, you know, studio-type suites, but some will be apartment-type suites as well. So-, but we'd be glad to deliver a presentation to you all-, the NEC-, whoever wants to participate, just to show what we have designed so far. So that is kind of it for my presentation. I wanted to leave you with the medical lodging piece but

*Nakummek* for having us today. And too bad my colleagues couldn't stay for the rest of the questions but nonetheless, thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Yes, I see Wally Andersen has a question. Are there any other questions after that? Okay. When you're ready, Wally.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Chris. I mentioned to Garry as well, like, it's a beautiful document that you gave us, but you passed it out just prior to us convening our Assembly and we never had a chance to go through it. Not saying anything wrong, but, you know, you like to sit down and go through it and crunch some numbers, you know? So in the future that if we could be presented with a document like this, you know, even two or three hours ahead of time, that we could certainly go through it and probably raise more questions.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* The next question I saw was from Marjorie Flowers.

**MS. FLOWERS:**

My question is, I think it's a wonderful idea, and if you get the support, I'm wondering for the medical lodging, if you have land already secured for it?

**MR. WINTERS:**

She's wondering if there's land already secured for it-, Mr. Webb?

**MR. WEBB:**

We have a prime parcel of land secured for that already, and it's right across from the hospital.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* The next question is Patricia Kemuksigak, when you're ready.

**MS. KEMUKSIGAK:**

I don't know if it's so much of a question, but I'm really pleased to see that Nasittuq won the North Warning System contract back again because the other company that was running it really didn't have the knowledge of the North and heart of the North, maybe. So it's really good, and I'm hoping

that more people will be able to be hired and I think they're doing-, I'm hearing from people who's working there, they're doing six and six now, which is a little bit easier for family lives and stuff. So I just wanted to say it's a wonderful improvement. And also, I think the medical place to stay will be really positive because sometimes they've got nowhere to stay. You'll hear them at the hospital, and they say they don't have anywhere for us to stay yet, which is sad. And maybe in the future you might look at something in St. John's, 'cause sometimes they have problems there as well. Okay, thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Patricia and would you like to respond to any of these comments?

**MR. WEBB:**

No, just other than, thank you. Yeah, we're doing our best and, you know, St. John's might be a bit of a challenge 'cause the room rates there are already very cheap. So-, but we'll focus on Upper Lake Melville first for medical lodging.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*. Yes, Tom Evans?

**MR. EVANS:**

Yes, I just wanted to mention, Chris, thank you, for bringing that topic up because we had discussed it at NEC and a big shout out to Health for initiating the whole conversation because it was coming back to, the real challenge for our communities. And I'm glad you mention it because there's people here that are not on NEC and it would be great for them to hear it.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Are there any further questions? Yes, Johannes Lampe.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:**

*Nakummek.* [Speaks in Inuttitut] *Nakummek*, Chris and not so very long ago, NGC was experiencing some challenging times and it's good to see that things are starting to look up and most certainly looking at opportunities in creating more opportunities. And I'm so glad that there's an organization that is able to handle the resources that Nunatsiavut Government has at arm's length. And so-, and doing a good job of it too. And so I certainly want to commend the NGC for doing good work. *Nakummek.*

**MR. WINTERS:**

George Gear?

**MR. GEAR:**

Thank you, Mr. Chair. And thank you, for giving such a good speech. NGC is doing a lot for our communities and I really appreciate that as Member of the Assembly. I don't know if it's a question or just a statement. As we all know, Tourism is getting quite popular in Nunatsiavut and I had the opportunity to be a manager, a camp manager up in (inaudible) in 2009. And there were quite a few struggles with different things at the time, communication for one, but with Starlink, it's got really good. Another one was getting the guests from the airport in Saglek to the Base Camp. Even with helicopters, so expensive. I was wondering-, there was one way that I was thinking could be a benefit because I worked up in Nunavut too and in remote areas. And if we could get a small airstrip somehow near the Base Camp. To get this I think you cut a lot of the money, the expenses down by doing it. So just-, it's a question and a, I guess a request. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Would you like to respond, Mr. Webb?

**MR. WEBB:**

I'll respond to the best of my abilities. Obviously, this is Nunatsiavut Government infrastructure. So I know there have been talks in the past about, you know, a mini airstrip right at Base Camp but obviously, that would have to go through, you know, the environmental process and all the, you know, departments within NG in order to do that from a Tourism, Culture perspective, from a Lands, Resources perspective, from an Environmental perspective. So, you know, I think the question that would have to go back to the Nunatsiavut Government is if they would want a airstrip there. At the end of the day, it is their infrastructure and, you know, they're gonna be putting out a contract for an operator to operate Base Camp, you know, probably for the next five years, probably at the end of this year. So it might need to go back to NG.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Roxanne Barbour?

**MS. BARBOUR:**

Yes, *Nakummek*. Looking at the bigger picture and the future of Nunatsiavut, you know, a lot of great things are coming and I'm really happy that-, again, just echoing some of the comments that NG is very supportive of that. You know, throughout the summer, in our conversations you were very supportive for the social and cultural endeavours of that time. So it's really good to see and I just wanted to highlight that here. You know, thank you, for being so willing to have multiple conversations and willing to hear what people have to say. My question now is, I know that you guys were supposed to come to Nain-, the Board was supposed to come to Nain earlier this summer, I think it

was, but it was canceled due to weather. So I'm just wondering now, when you guys are planning to come to the Coast again?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Mr. Webb?

**MR. WEBB:**

We're looking at coming back to each of the communities in the October, November timeframe. It won't be our Trust but it will be our NGC Group. It would be myself and Sarah and Janice and a few other folks from an HR perspective. So we'll be getting some schedules together and firming it up. And, yeah, we did run into the issues where we had some weather delays and we just couldn't get there. So we plan on rescheduling those dates. We just don't have them firmed up yet.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Roxanne Barbour.

**MS. BARBOUR:**

Yeah, thank you, for that. The other question that I wanted to ask was, you mentioned just now that the papers for the Annual Reports-, I know this was-, I'm just wondering if I should ask this question here or wait until then when the report comes about the investments that the LICST have. Should I ask it here or should I wait until then?

**MR. WINTERS:**

He can answer to the best of his abilities at this time.

**MS. BARBOUR:**

Okay. I think it's for the Trust though, and this was the Board, right? Just to be clear. Okay, it's for the Trust, yeah.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Are there other questions around the Table? Yes, recognizing Joe Dicker.

**MR. DICKER:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just one simple question. When is this gonna happen, the medical building and all that? It's good to announce it but can you tell people it's happening, when?

**MR. WINTERS:** Mic, thank you. Mr. Webb?

**MR. WEBB:** So right now, it's in a design phase. But from a Finance perspective it's a large project. So, you know, we're talking \$25 million. So right now, we wanna have some discussions with NG to-, we know what the numbers look like from a travel perspective. So, you know, I think it can work. We just need to get a commitment I guess on, you know, so many rooms, or something, so that we can consider this a medical lodging infrastructure as opposed to-, if we go to a hotel, as I mentioned before, then it's opened up to everyone again. Like we can't just block off rooms and not have anyone be in them, right? So we need to, you know, kinda work the numbers a little bit. So when we have some further discussions, you know, I think that this, you know, obviously, could be a project. So there's no timeframe right now, but we're having discussions to see if this can work. And I mean, you can-, we're ready enough to start moving dirt and putting foundations in as early as 2024 if we can make it work from a Finance perspective.

**MR. WINTERS:** Are there further questions? Marjorie Flowers?

**MS. FLOWERS:** It's not a question, actually. I just wanna thank you, so much for your contribution to our community last year. It was really good and we actually kept a lot of the money in our town because instead of ordering wood from

outside, we paid people to buy wood and it really worked out and this community was very grateful. So thank you, so much, and we're looking forward to the next contribution.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Are there further questions? Seeing none, I would look for a motion to move out of the Committee of the Whole and excuse our guest. I'm looking for approval, unanimous? And are there any, "Nays?" Seeing none, and recognizing that we're approaching Orange Shirt Day, and the anniversary of Truth and Reconciliation, the Report, anyway, I do want to thank Joe Dicker for bringing up the pronunciation issue. We're all survivors of residential schools, although some of us are generations removed. So it is incredibly important that we focus on pronunciation, and that we're shown patience as we try and learn. *Nakummek*. Thank you, Mr. Webb. We'll take five minutes.

[Recess]

**MR. WINTERS:**

I also just want to, in case we're going past five, I want to acknowledge Standing Order 5(3) and look for consent of the room to move past-, to continue our work past five o'clock if necessary. So I'm looking for consent. Can I see a show of hands? Are there any, "Nays?" Seeing none, I appreciate it everyone. We will now move on to Item 15. Item 15 is, "The First Reading of Bills." We will now be entering the first reading of Bill 2023-03, "*Postville Quarries Act 2023*." I would to recognize the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Terry Vincent, when you're ready, sir.



**MR. VINCENT:**

Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I move, seconded by Minister Gerald Asivak, that Bill 2023-03, "*Postville Quarries Act 2023*" now be introduced and read for the first time.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Would you like to introduce the Bill?

**MR. VINCENT:**

Thank you. *Postville Quarries Act 2023*. I would like to introduce the first reading of Bill 2023-03 *Postville Quarries Act 2023*. The Assembly will recall that it previously approved a petition by C&T Enterprises Ltd, for me as Minister to bring a Bill to the Assembly to make an Inuit law approving the lease for purposes of operating rock quarries for completing the rehabilitation of the Postville Airport apron and access road for the Provincial Department of Transportation and Infrastructure. The purpose of the Bill is to provide authority to myself, as the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources to issue a lease to C&T Enterprises Ltd., for developing and operating two quarries. 0.479 hectares and 0.878 hectares within LIL parcel, LIL-15, for a term of three months. The Bill will also provide me authority to establish the terms and conditions of the lease subject to this Act. Lastly it will waive the requirement for Impacts and Benefits Agreements for the proposed quarries which is appropriate in this circumstance as the duration of the project is short and the impacts are limited. The term proposing this Bill are substantially the same as the Acts by the Nunatsiavut Assembly in recent years to approve quarry leases in various Inuit communities. I am hopeful that the Assembly will see the importance and value of the project for the community of Postville and approve the Bill. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* I see everyone leafing through their binders. I've just been notified that the copies haven't been made. They're being made now and will be handed out to you all very-, any minute now. There were copies handed out yesterday. You may not all have them in front of you, but extra copies are being made now. Does anyone not have a copy in front of them? Seeing one, two, three-, the pages will bring them around and with apologies to the Members of the Assembly, I've been advised that the Inuttitut version of the Bill 2023-03 is not available for this sitting today. It was submitted to Translations as soon as it was possible to do so weeks ago. But it appears there was an error on the translation side of things. The information I have is that the Bill was not referred to a translator to complete until today. Again, apologies. Given that the Bill appears to be time sensitive, I'm asking that the Assembly agree to proceed with the review of the English version of the Bill as is the normal procedure. The review of the Bill will be interpreted as usual. The Clerk will ensure that the Inuttitut version of the Bill if passed, is received and published in accordance with the *Nunatsiavut Laws Registration Act*. Yes, Roxanne Barbour, Ordinary Member for Nain.

**MS. BARBOUR:**

Can you please clarify if we do proceed to go without the Inuttitut version of the Bill, are we going against the *Constitution*?

**MR. WINTERS:**

No, the Inuttitut version of the Bill is required in case we are debating it in Inuttitut. And when the version of the Bill has been translated, it will be registered as it would be any other way and in English. We just don't have a copy for any of you to look over at this time.

**MS. BARBOUR:**

It's my understanding that it's Inuit Law to have to translate the Bills introduced in both Inuttitut and English. I know that a lot of the Members around here today struggle with speaking and understanding Inuttitut but it's still Inuit Law and I'm just wondering if we're not abiding by that because of that?

**MR. WINTERS:**

The Law requires that it be registered in Inuttitut at the same time as English. It was not going to be debated in this room in Inuttitut because, as you said, the majority of the room is unable to speak Inuttitut as is. The two Bills, both the [speaks in Inuttitut] and Inuttitut versions will be registered at the same time as per the *Registration Act*.

**MS. BARBOUR:**

So just to clarify, there's no need, I guess, to present a Bill with the translated version?

**MR. WINTERS:**

In every possible circumstance, we strive to provide all documentation, all Bills especially, in Inuttitut. At this time, there was no capacity for the Bill to be translated in order to make the sitting of the Assembly. It was sent weeks ago. There was an error. An email got missed and so it wasn't translated. As you can understand, the Translations Department is woefully underprepared to produce everything that it's required to in a timely fashion. However, the Bill will not be passed-, sorry, the Bill will not be registered in only [speaks in Inuttitut]. It will be registered in Inuttitut at the same time. And it is only because this is such a time-sensitive issue that we are trying to push through even though we've had this set-back on the Inuttitut version. Does that help clarify?

**MS. BARBOUR:** It do, but can I make another comment please?

**MR. WINTERS:** You may.

**MS. BARBOUR:** If this was sent weeks ago and it was not received by the LNR in a timely manner, the LNR had the option to contract somebody else to complete the translation.

**MR. WINTERS:** The Bill was with the Translations Department weeks ago and it wasn't completed. That's all. It was sent to someone to be completed today and they were not able to get it done by this time. The-, ultimately, we thought that it was being completed. It was not. Without putting undue stress on anyone in that department or shaming or embarrassing anyone for this mistake happening, we want to proceed with the version because it is a time-sensitive situation and we can make sure that everyone around the Table is provided the Inuttitut copy as soon as it's completed. Is everyone around the Table content with moving forward at this time? Mr. Tony Andersen. Apologies. I thought everyone had questions all of a sudden. Can I have a show of hands that we're willing to move forward at this time? Are there any, "Nays?" Seeing one, we will be moving forward. The motion is in order. Does anyone wish to speak to the principal of the Bill?

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:** Question, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:** Yes, Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:** I do-, I hope I'm in line, Mr. Speaker. The only reason why I voted for the Bill to proceed is the urgency of what's needed to be done in the community of Postville for our people. We've heard from the pilots many

times that bedrock is showing on the airstrip. And had this not been of the safety and emergency, then I certainly would vote against it. And with regard to the questions raised by our colleague from Nain, I want to say the only reason I'm willing to move forward is because this is a safety issue for our people.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Does anyone else wish to speak to the principal of the Bill? If no other Member wishes to speak, does the Minister wish to conclude the debate?

**MR. VINCENT:** Thank you. I wish to conclude debate.

**MR. WINTERS:** Thank you, Minister. That concludes debate on first reading. Is the Assembly in favour of approving Bill 2023-03, on first reading? All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried, and accordingly, Bill 2023-03, *The Postville Quarries Act, 2023* has had first reading. I would like to again recognize the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Terry Vincent.

**MR. VINCENT:** Thank you. Honourable Speaker, in accordance with Standing Order 54(3), I seek unanimous consent to waive Standing Order 54(1)(d) to have the Assembly proceed to second reading of Bill 2023-03, *Postville Quarries Act*, today. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** The Minister is seeking unanimous consent to waive Standing Order 54(1)(d), to proceed with second reading today. All those in favour? Are there any, "Nays?" Seeing none, Minister, you have unanimous consent, so the Bill can proceed to second reading at the appropriate time. Item 17

is, "The Second Reading of Bills." Second reading of Bill 2023-03, *Postville Quarries Act 2023*. I would like to recognize the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Terry Vincent for the second reading of bills.

**MR. VINCENT:**

Thank you. I move, seconded by Minister of DHSD, Gerald Asivak, that 1) Bill 2023-03 *The Postville Quarries Act 2023*, be moved into Committee of the Whole with Mr. Brent Denniston and Mr. Mark Gillette as witnesses, and 2) that the said Bill be read for the second time. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*. The motion is to move into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Bill. All those in favour? All those opposed? Seeing none, the motion is carried. We will not wait five minutes for our witnesses to join us in the Committee of the Whole.

[Recess]

**MR. WINTERS:**

We are now in the Committee of the Whole. As the Members are aware, the procedure for second reading debate will be a page-by-page and clause-by-clause review of the Bill. Before doing so, I'll invite either of the witnesses to make remarks if they wish. Mr. Denniston? Mr. Gillette?

**MR. GILLETTE:**

Good afternoon. Glad to be back before the Committee of the Whole. Just some introductory remarks. So the Bill itself is fairly brief. I'll be mindful of the interpreter. And some of the Members who have been around for a little while would recognize that the Bill is in substantially the same form as other Quarry-, I'll call them quarry permission Bills, that have been passed by the Assembly over the last number of years. It's almost a carbon

copy of those similar types of Bills. So if it looks familiar to some Members, then it probably is. Other than that, I'll save any comments or questions for when we're going through the Bill.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Mr. Denniston, do you have any comments to add? Seeing you shaking your head, "No," we'll now go to the Bill itself. In reviewing the Bill, we will begin by voting on the substantive sections first, starting with Section Two. And then once the substantive sections are finished, we will go back to the beginning to consider the preamble and Title of the Bill. Starting on Page Three, Clause Two. I'll give you all a moment to read this if you haven't, but feel free to ask questions as we get to them. Are there any questions? Do we need more time? Yes, Wally Andersen?

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Again, I hope I'm in order but I'd just like to ask Mr. Gillette that, you did mention that this was in line with previous requests for quarries, but I'd like to ask the question, in the past when we submitted a permit like this, did we ever have an instance where I'll call them the operator or the contractor proceeded to do work prior to giving approval?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Mr. Gillette?

**MR. GILLETTE:**

I defer to Mr. Denniston on if there's been any issues but most of the quarry Acts that have been passed so far have been applications by the ICG's themselves to operate their own quarries. So I don't believe that's been an issue. Notwithstanding that, that particular issue that you're raising is not really within the confines of the Bill that we're dealing with

here. Right now, this is strictly about the language of the Bill itself but I'm not aware of a similar circumstance, to answer your question.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Mr. Denniston, do you have a comment to the Member's question?

**MR. DENNISTON:**

Yeah, just to say the same as Mark said. I'm not aware of any other company that's doing work on quarries without any approval. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*. Again, we are looking at Clause Two. Are there any other questions? Then are we agreed? Looking for a show of hands. Any opposed? Seeing none, we're on to Clause Three. Does anyone have any questions on Clause Three? And I'll give everyone a moment just in case you haven't had a chance to look at this. Yes, Roxanne Barbour?

**MS. BARBOUR:**

Can you please explain what Paragraph 2.11(1)(e) of the *Labrador Inuit Land Act* states?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Mr. Gillette, go ahead.

**MR. GILLETTE:**

I don't have my Lands Act in front of me so I'm going to go by memory here. Essentially, that's a section of the *Labrador Inuit Lands Act* that allows the Assembly to-, in making a law like this, to waive the requirement for the *Impact and Benefits Agreement*, 'cause normally, with regards to larger developments, the Government would normally see or wish the companies to enter into Impact and Benefits Agreements with either Nunatsiavut Government or Labrador Inuit-, with respect to developments. These developments are extremely small and they're for a very limited period of time. So Impacts and Benefits Agreements are not



really appropriate or within the scope of these very small land uses we could say. And they've been waived in all of the other Quarry Act bills that have been passed by the Assembly in the past, I'm gonna say five years or so.

**MR. WINTERS:**

First I'll ask you again to slow down for the interpreter. And yes, Roxanne Barbour, you had a follow-up question.

**MS. BARBOUR:**

Yes, Nakummek. The reason why asked that was because yesterday we heard concerns around-, what do you call it-, recovering the land that's being used, right? So I was just wondering if we waived that, would that affect the need to recover what's being used on that land parcel?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Mr. Gillette.

**MR. GILLETTE:**

I just confirmed with Mr. Denniston here but no, it wouldn't affect that at all. The general-, so, if I can back up a little bit. The purpose of the Bill is to give the authority to the Minister to issue the lease. So there's a lease that goes to the company that says, "Okay, you can operate this particular place as a quarry, subject to certain conditions." And the conditions with regards to either reclamation of a area of land or returning it to its former state, or any of those types of things are standard conditions. I can say that the Government-, the Department issues in any circumstance regardless if it's one of these types of leases or not-, any of these types of leases has those types of conditions in it. I believe, and Mr. Denniston might speak to this, that those conditions are already-, or similar conditions already is part of the work plan that's been approved by the

Department in relation to this already. So, yeah, so that's very-, sorry, I'm going fast-, a very long way of saying, no, it doesn't affect whether or not the company has to clean up after.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Are there other questions around the Table regarding Clause Three? Yes, Barry Andersen?

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And for me, I believe this is the second time now since we've-, in this newly elected Assembly with you, sir, as the Chairperson of the Assembly-, other bills that have been sitting around the Table was read by the Speaker or by the Chairman, word-for-word. And then it was, "Yay," or "Nay," if we agreed with it or if there was a typo, rather than reading silently. Just my thoughts.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Fair enough. If the Assembly-, sorry, the Committee of the Whole would like me to read the clauses, I certainly can. We're currently on Clause Three. Clause Three is, "The Approval of Petition and *Waiver of Impacts and Benefits Agreement*." The Assembly hereby: (a) affirms that it has by resolution, approved the petition of the C&T Enterprises Ltd., for access to two lots of Labrador Inuit Lands (0.479 hectares and 0.878 hectares within Parcel LIL-15) for purposes of operating two quarries subject to Section Four of this Act; and (b) pursuant to Paragraph 2.11(1)(e) of the *Labrador Inuit Lands Act*, waives the requirement for an Impacts and Benefit Agreement in respect of the development proposed by the C&T Enterprises Ltd. Is there a problem with your headset? Is that-, oh, okay. We're gonna take a five-minute recess while IT checks in with the

Translations Room and see what's happening with the Inuttitut Channel.  
Please be patient.

[Recess]

**MR. WINTERS:**

Okay. Quickest five minutes. And please, I appreciate the commentary Barry Andersen. If there are any other suggestions around the Table, I'm happy to take them. Were there any questions on any of the words? Does anyone see any typos? Seeing none, are we agreed on Clause Three? Are there any, "Nays"? Seeing none, on Page Three, Clause Four which continues on to Page Four. This is a long one. Minister Authorized to Issue Lease. 4) The Minister is authorized to lease a 0.479 hectare parcel piece, parcel, or lot of land and a 0.878 hectare piece, parcel or lot of land within Labrador Inuit Lands Parcel LIL-15, to C&T Enterprises Ltd., for a term of three months under Section 4.11 of the *Labrador Inuit Lands Act*, on such terms as the Minister deems necessary or advisable, subject to the following: (a) The Lessee shall pay rent of \$1. (b) The lease shall prohibit the Lessee from using the land for any purpose other than as outlined in the work plan required in subsection E or other such work plan approved by the Minister. (c) The Lessee shall take all steps and precautions necessary to prevent risk of accidents or harm to persons or property at the site of the quarry or as a result of quarry operations including, without limitation, by the posting of multilingual warning signs and notices in the erection of fences and barriers. (d) The Lessee and its agents and Permittees must obtain from the Provincial Government all necessary permits and authorizations and comply with all applicable regulations for

the development and operation of a quarry, and must maintain all such permits and authorizations in good standing, at all times during the term of the Lease; (e) The Lessee must submit for the Minister's approval, a work plan detailing the proposed development and operation of the quarry and the leased Labrador Inuit Lands which work plan shall be in a form satisfactory to the Minister and substantially in compliance with the consultation draft of proposed quarry standards provided to the Postville Inuit Community Government; (f) the Lessee shall comply with any terms, conditions or arrangements for the protection of archaeological material or archaeological sites that may be prescribed by the Minister following completion of an archaeological impact assessment by the Nunatsiavut Archaeology Office; and (g) Other terms and conditions are required by the Minister. " Are there any questions on this clause? Seeing none, are we agreed? Is anyone opposed? Seeing none on Page Four, Clause Five. "Extension in Exigent Circumstances." Item Five. If the Minister is satisfied that exigent circumstances exist such that an extension of the term of the Lease authorized by this Act is necessary to ensure the project is completed, the Minister may, with the approval of the Executive Council, extend the lease for an additional period not exceeding six months. Are we agreed? Oh, sorry, are there any questions? Yes, Joe Dicker. Your mic, sir.

**MR. DICKER:**

What does the word, "Exigent," mean?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Mr. Gillette?

**MR. GILLETTE:**

Exigent would mean, well, the dictionary definition of exigent is, but it essentially means really important and crucial. So I know that the petition that was provided by the Minister yesterday and was approved by the Assembly yesterday, talked about a three-month lease just because of the time of the year-, we're getting close to winter, there was thought there'd be a little bit of a leeway put in there just in case for some reason something got delayed and they didn't get the whole project done. And they had to-, it was gonna take a little bit longer than three months. I don't think that's really anticipated it's going to be the issue. It's just a buffer, really. So-, but exigent circumstances has-, basically, what this clause says is that if the Minister is advised and-, that there's been a serious issue with delay circumstance that would require a longer period of time than three months for the company to finish their work, then the Lease could be extended to six months. But then even then, that would have to be approved by the Executive Council. So there would be two levels of approval there for such a thing. So it's just a built-in contingency really.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Are there any further questions? Yes, Roxanne Barbour.

**MS. BARBOUR:**

Can we add in this clause that the NEC will advise the PICG and the Inuit of Postville as soon as possible if it comes to this?

**MR. WINTERS:**

If it comes to a delay?

**MS. BARBOUR:**

If it comes to an exigent-, however you say it-, circumstance where you have to extend it? I'm asking that NEC advise the PICG and the public-, the Inuit of Postville immediately.

**MR. WINTERS:** Witness?

**MR. GILLETTE:** Well, what I would say is that by the passing of this Act, the Postville Inuit Community Government would be aware that there already is a potential for an extension and I would assure that the Minister and the Department would communicate with the community in the event that an extension was there. I'm not sure it's necessarily required to be a part of the Bill because the potential for extension is already in the Bill.

**MR. WINTERS:** Are there further questions? Roxanne Barbour.

**MS. BARBOUR:** Yes. It's kinda up to the Department after that, I guess, if they want to put to the public, you know, a motion passed by the NEC or a decision made by the NEC. If we don't include it in there, they don't necessarily have to, even though the PICG or the community might already have preconceived knowledge that there may be an extension. So if we put it in there, the LNR has to notify the PICG.

**MR. WINTERS:** Witness?

**MR. GILLETTE:** I'm not taking a position for or against this. If someone wants to move an amendment to the Bill then that would require an amendment to the Bill.

**MR. WINTERS:** Would someone like to move an amendment to the Bill to include such language to be drafted with the Legal Services?

**MR. GILLETTE:** Mr. Chair, I would state that pursuant to the Standing Orders a draft amendment would have to be made in writing.

**MR. WINTERS:** So then the motion would be to take a break and make the amendment in writing to make an amendment to this Bill? Yes, Johannes Lampe.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** *Nakummek* [speaks in Inuttitut].

This issue has already been put to the Executive Council in a briefing note form. And that the Department of Lands and Natural Resources have been given approval to present this to the Assembly. *Nakummek*.

**MR. WINTERS:** Barry Andersen.

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** No, I was just going to ask something similar. Like the reason we're here is because it must've come to the Executive. And if we had to include the PICG, we should include NG as well. I mean, this is standard Legislation. I think the way standard Legislation is written, I trust what the NEC has done in their deliberations regarding this issue. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** Are there further questions or comments around the Table regarding this discussion? Yes, Melva Williams.

**MS. WILLIAMS:** I'm just wondering if we were to incorporate those pieces, would that cause delay to passing the Bill today?

**MR. WINTERS:** Witness?

**MR. GILLETTE:** No. We'd have to take a break, some Member who wishes to propose the amendment could ask me to draft an amendment, you know? That shouldn't take very long but it would require a mover and a seconder to be prepared to move that motion. But it would take a few minutes to draft one and then to circulate it.

**MR. WINTERS:** Is this something that the Members around the Table are intent on doing or can we move on? Are there any further questions or comments? Seeing none, are we agreed? Apologies-, to the Clause that we've been looking

at. Any opposed? Seeing none. We're now on Page Four, Clause Six: "Coming into Effect. This Act comes into effect upon its registration pursuant to the *Nunatsiavut Laws Registration Act*. "Are there any questions? Seeing none, are we agreed? Any opposed? Let's go back to Page Two. Clause One, Short Title, IL2023 *Postville Quarries Act 2023*, an Act to authorize the Nunatsiavut Government to issue a lease-, no, I'm reading the wrong part. One second. Just noticed a typo. On the top of the page, IL2023-, it should be dash 03.

**MR. GILLETTE:**

Actually, Mr. Chair, it's not a typo because the Act is not an Inuit Law yet. It's not an Inuit Law until it's passed, so once it's passed, it'll get its number. So...

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*. That's appreciated. The Short Title is at the bottom of your page. 1) This Act may be cited as *The Postville Quarries Act 2023*. Are there questions? Agreed? The preamble, starting at, "Whereas." "Whereas C&T Enterprises Ltd., has applied to the Nunatsiavut Government for access to pieces, parcels or lots of Labrador Inuit Lands within Parcel LIL-15, near the Inuit Community of Postville for purposes of operating rock quarries for completing the rehabilitation of the Postville Airport, apron and access road, for the Provincial Department of Transportation and Infrastructure, and whereas the Nunatsiavut Executive Council has approved each of the applications pursuant to sub paragraph 2.11(1)(c) of the *Labrador Inuit Lands Act*; and whereas the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources has obtained all necessary clearances with respect to the applications pursuant to Subsection 2.28(1) of the *Labrador Inuit Lands Act* and made



the determinations required under Section 5.3 of the *Labrador Inuit Lands Act*; and whereas the C&T Enterprises Ltd., has, with the consent of the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, petitioned the Assembly pursuant to Part 5 of the *Labrador Inuit Lands Act* for an Act authorizing access to Labrador Inuit Lands Parcel LIL-15 for purposes of operating two quarries." Questions? Seeing none, are we agreed? Any opposed? Finally, the Long Title of the Bill. "An Act to authorize the Nunatsiavut Government to issue a lease to C&T Enterprises Ltd., to develop and operate two quarries on Labrador Inuit Lands Parcel LIL-15." Are there any questions? Seeing none, are we agreed? That concludes the page-by-page, clause-by-clause review of the Bill. Does the Minister wish to conclude the debate?

**MR. VINCENT:**

Yes, I wish to conclude debate.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Thank you. That concludes debate. That concludes the Committee of the Whole and I thank the witnesses. We'll take a moment while they leave.

[Recess]

**MR. WINTERS:**

We are now back in the Assembly. All those in favour of second reading of Bill 2023-03, *The Postville Quarries Act 2023*? A show of hands, please? Any opposed? Seeing none, the motion is carried. Accordingly, Bill 2023-03, *The Postville Quarries Act* has had second reading. We'll move on to Item 17. Item 17 is, "The Assent to Bills." Honourable President, the Assembly has given second reading to Bill 2023-03 *The Postville Quarries Act 2023* and wish to present it for Assent.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:**

*Nakummek, UKatti.* Honourable Speaker and Members. As President of Nunatsiavut, I wish to Assent to 2023-03 *The Postville Quarries Act 2023*, and hereby sign it into Law. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

**MR. WINTERS:**

Thank you, Honourable President. We will now move on to Item 18. Item 18 is, "Adjournment." I would like to thank everyone around the Table, as well as our witnesses for their participation in this Assembly sitting. I would also like to thank the LIST Trustees, Brent Denniston, Kevin Maher, and Mark Gillette for presenting to our Assembly. If you have any questions around travel, please see assistant to the Clerk, Tabea Onalik. Thank you to our pages, Kaitlyn and Jocelyn. We appreciate all of your work for the last two days, and I want to again acknowledge, the losses that we've seen around the Table. They've been significant in the last few months, from IT to significant others. These things weigh on all of us. *Nakummek.* We'll see you all in November. Safe travels home.