



**Nunatsiavut kavamanga
Nunatsiavut Government**

FIFTH ASSEMBLY

OF

NUNATSIAVUT

FALL SESSION 5TH Session 2ND SITTING

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

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 Rigolet, Mr. Chesley Sheppard

AngajukKâk for Postville, Ms. Diane Gear

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

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

Director of Legal Services, Mr. Mark Gillette

Absent:

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

AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Mr. Barry Andersen

**The Nunatsiavut Assembly proceedings were recorded in Inuktitut and English.
November 21, 2023
Assembly commenced at 9 AM November 21, 2023**

MR. WINTERS: I would like to call to order the second sitting of the Fall Session of the Fifth Nunatsiavut Assembly and I would like ask Diane Gear to say the opening prayer, when you're ready.

MS. GEAR: [Recites prayer]

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* We will now move on to Item Two. Item Two is the, "Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery." I would welcome those listening in on our audio feed and thank them for their interest in the Nunatsiavut Assembly. I would also like to welcome those in the gallery. I see Mr. Mark Gillette, Director of Legal Services and Isabella Pain, the Deputy Minister of the Nunatsiavut Secretariat. For the information of the Assembly, the pages are Madison Dicker and Kansas Winters. The Interpreter Translator are Katie Winters and Gus Semigak. We would like to welcome Preston Snow, our new IT staff for this Assembly, as well as Robert Ford, Director of Information Technologies. I would also like to recognize Sarah Abel from the OKâlaKatiget Society. We will now move on to Item Three. Item Three is, "Ministers Statements." I will now open the floor for Ministers Statements. Oh, I apologize. We're missing the

President's Address here. I will now call upon President Lampe to give his address. *Nakummek*.

PRESIDENT LAMPE:

Nakummek, UKatti. [Speaks in Inuttitut]

Mr. Speaker, in relation to the issue around NCC, we have repeatedly called for the resignation of Indigenous Affairs and Reconciliation Minister Lisa Dempster as we have no confidence in her ability to carry out her duties in an unbiased manner. Ministers of the Crown are required to fulfill their responsibilities with accountability by demonstrating impartiality, appropriate diligence and competence, in a discharge of their duties, Mr. Speaker.

Minister Dempster, through her public comments and actions in support of the NCC has failed to uphold the standards required of her as Minister in her current portfolio. She had repeatedly supported the NCC on Social Media and at public events and through lobbying Federal Ministers directly et cetera. In this goal to seek a Land Claim, we would expect Ministers of the Crown to remain objective in their positions on issues such as this. Given that there has been no formal acceptance of NCC's Land Claim by the Federal or Provincial Governments, that is clearly not the case in this matter. In light of this, as a Government we have lost trust in her to represent the best interests of Inuit or her ability to discharge her duties fairly without being partial to the goals and

objectives of the NCC. Ms. Dempster is a member of NCC and a former long-time employee of the Labrador Metis Nation. Her obvious conflict of interest clearly undermines her objectivity as she stands to benefit personally from any gains achieved by the NCC. Her riding, Mr. Speaker, is in the area identified by NCC as an area it is claiming. So her political success is also tied to her support of the NCC. Once again, we call on Premier Furey to immediately remove Minister Dempster from her current portfolio. As long as she remains there in her position, achieving reconciliation will be very difficult. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month I attended the apologies delivered by the Premier on behalf of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to residential school survivors in all of our communities, as well as Happy Valley-Goose Bay. Thanks to Minister Asivak and First Minister Williams for accompanying me during the week. While these apologies is a significant step towards acknowledging the harm caused by the residential school system, Mr. Speaker, it is important to recognize that forgiveness is a personal journey, and not all survivors are ready to take that step. We must respect their journey and provide support in any way possible. I, along with the First Minister, Deputy Minister Pain and our archaeologist Lena Onalik recently attended a two-day workshop on policies around repatriation at

the University of Edinburgh in Scotland. We were invited by an international working group from Canada, in collaboration with the University of Toronto along with two First Nation bands from British Columbia. During the visit, we had the opportunity to tour the National Museum of Scotland where we sat with the ancestor remains of an unidentified Inuk that were removed from the Hopedale area to 1824. We held a Kullik Lighting Ceremony and shared some words and a prayer with the remains. We left gifts of sealskin, Labradorite and a Labrador flag to be kept with the remains until a decision is made on repatriation to Nunatsiavut. I should note, Mr. Speaker, that while NG Archaeology is responsible for creating a repatriation policy for our Government, it is now required to have one in place prior to commencing the repatriation process of the remains. This process can take as long as 18 months to two years to complete. During the workshop we learned that there are grave belongings housed at the University of Aberdeen, and Labrador Inuit remains at Cambridge University. NG Archaeology is currently working on a briefing note to present more detailed information to the NEC. From that, Mr. Speaker we hope to have guidance on steps moving forward for finalizing or repatriation policy as well as starting the repatriation process for the Inuit ancestor housed at the University of Edinburgh. Mr.

Speaker, I will be traveling to Ottawa next week, or I should say, later on this week along with the First Minister for the release of the Federal Housing Advocates Observational Report on Inuit Housing in Nunatsiavut and Nunavut. The Housing Advocate, the first for Canada, is an independent non-partisan watchdog whose goal it is to drive change on key systemic housing issues and to hold Government decision makers accountable for their human rights obligations related to housing and homelessness. The Advocate visited our communities last fall on the invitation of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, to witness firsthand, the housing conditions in Inuit Nunangat. The report summarizes what was learned during those visits. It's a scathing report, Mr. Speaker, but not surprising. There are critical shortages of every type of housing in our communities, particularly, Nain and Hopedale, from shelters to transitional housing, to affordable rentals and market housing. Housing is the foundation of many of the struggles facing our people, Mr. Speaker, and the report demonstrates how we are impacted by these shortages. From women fleeing violence to children aging out of foster care with nowhere to go, to men exiting the criminal justice system with no supports. Our communities suffer every day and have for generations due to these shortages and indignities. We will be holding an immediate conference in Ottawa to release

the report. And we are also working to set up meetings with key Federal Ministers to discuss recommendations and a path forward to deal with what is simply a human rights crisis. In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, as this is our last sitting of the year, I want to wish all Members of the Assembly a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, as well as our dedicated staff, best wishes for the holiday season. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Mr. President. And I apologize for the error in Items. This was a formatting mistake. So we will now be moving on to Item Four, recognizing Ministers who are already holding up their hands, it's time for "Minister Statements." We'll start with the Honourable Gerald Asivak, from the Department of Health and Social Development, when you're ready.

MR. ASIVAK:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. I will provide updates on Health Services and Mental Wellness and Healing this morning. Tuberculosis. Case counts for 2023 remain stable with no new outbreaks or clusters. Community Engagement Sessions are going well with Postville, Makkovik, Rigolet and Hopedale have been completed. Nain will be later in November. Jennifer Bull, "End TB," Regional Action Plan Manager had the opportunity to speak at the Elder's Gathering during the Makkovik visit which went extremely well. The fall bulletin will be based on these engagement sessions. The

Diagnostic Imaging Working Group, chaired by NG, is making great progress. The portable X-ray unit in Nain has been swapped out for a more current unit as a direct result of this work. The old unit was on loan from National Emergency Stockpile System. However, the replacement unit comes from the Labrador Health Centre. Work continues on procuring an ultra portable unit for use in Hopedale.

Mr. Speaker, COVID-19 and influenza. New package for COVID-19 have been circulated to Nunatsiavut Government's Public Health Nurses from Labrador Grenfell Zone. In-services were completed in October. If you test positive for COVID-19, stay at home until your symptoms have improved and you haven't had a fever for at least 24 hours. If you think you may be eligible for COVID-19 treatments, contact your primary care provider or pharmacist, to determine if Paxlovid is right for you. When you are feeling better and leave home, for 10 days after your symptoms started you should wear a mask outside your household, avoid non-essential visits to high-risk areas including hospitals, long-term care homes, large crowded settings and social gatherings. Avoid non-essential close contact with high-risk individuals including those with chronic conditions, compromised immune systems and older adults. More information can be found on NG SharePoint. Influenza vaccines started to roll out across the region. Communities throughout

Nunatsiavut are organized by the local Public Health Nursing teams. Mr. Speaker, Non-insured Health Benefits. Vision. Mobile Vision Clinic was held in Rigolet in February 2023 and in Makkovik in September. No clinics planned at this time. Extensive work being completed internally to develop a request for proposals for optometry service delivery in Nunatsiavut as well as Upper Lake Melville. NIHB Organization Structure: The Division is currently under review to align services to improve service delivery. A Policy Analyst NIHB has been approved permanently by Nunatsiavut Executive Council and is currently with Translation before posting.

Mr. Speaker, Mental Health and Wellness. The Mobile Trauma and Addictions Treatment Team delivered the following workshops this fall: September 11th through the 15th, a workshop entitled, "Healing Trauma with Self-Compassion," was held in Rigolet. Crisis response, at the end of September traveled to Hopedale for Crisis Response. October 19th to the 22nd, Sharon Edmunds traveled to Nain for Crisis Response. Partnerships. We partnered with the Justice Department and the Labrador Friendship Centre to educate men on services available to them. The end of October, Sharon Edmunds provided transportation for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, wellness gathering. Upcoming, the Mobile Team will be delivering a workshop in Nain on Trauma and

Alcohol misuse, Healing Through Lived Experience and Culture. The Mobile Team will be organizing and partnering with the staff at the Corte Real office to host Christmas family events for beneficiaries living in Upper Lake Melville. Youth Programs: The Youth Symposium will be held this spring. In Hopedale, the Youth Outreach delivered water runs for the community, thawing and chopping wood with youth for seniors and single mothers. Nain has a lot of programming upcoming. The majority of youth staff are expected to take part in First Aid training as well as Mental Health First Aid and harm reduction within the next couple of months. All Community Sheds have placed their winter order to go ahead with usual program. Regional Justice Service Manager and Sexual Violence Prevention and Outreach Counsellor are currently delivering a Safety and Repair Program to inmates at the Labrador Correctional Centre. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Minister. The next hand that I saw was the Honourable Melva Williams, First Minister, when you're ready.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. *Ullâkut Ilonnasi*. I will start first with the Nunatsiavut Affairs update and I'll follow-up-, finish that tomorrow with the Infrastructure update but I will do the other departments first. In addition, I have an update for the Language, Culture and Tourism Division and today I'll be presenting on the Tourism

Division. In relation to Nunatsiavut Affairs, Illusuak Cultural Centre, Mr. Speaker, the restoration of Illusuak is now underway. The team is working with Nunatsiavut Affairs to ensure this is completed as thoroughly as possible. Working with the insurance company, NG is overseeing the restoration project. We are working with our tenants, Parks Canada and NGC to ensure they are aware of how the work is progressing. We anticipate that this work will take a few months as this requires extensive cleaning and renovations. Any resources that can be saved will be, and items that need to be destroyed are being documented. Membership and Enrollment. Mr. Speaker, Nunatsiavut Government is advertising for a new Assistant Registrar position in Nain. This position will assist the Registrar in fulfilling the duties required in the Membership Office. As of November 20, 2023, there is a total of 6,936 beneficiaries on the register. Nain Airport Community Session. Mr. Speaker, I traveled to Nain in October to complete an open house information session on the feasibility studies under way for a potential new airport in Nain. The open house was very successful with approximately 30 individuals attending the meeting. There were many questions and concerns raised at the open house as this is a very important initiative for the community of Nain. Concerns raised include location of the airport, length of

road to the airport, services required to allow residents access to the airport, current state of the current airstrip, crossing individual hunting and traditional areas, to name a few. Housing. Affordable Warmth and Home Repair Program. Mr. Speaker, the Affordable Warmth and Home Repair Program 2023, is scheduled to finish in February 2024. Due to lack of materials on site, and the lateness of this construction season, some of the work scheduled to be completed may be delayed. If there are delays, homeowners will be notified as soon as possible. There are 34 homes approved under the Program, 11 for Nain, 9 for Hopedale, 3 for Makkovik, 8 for Postville and 3 for Rigolet. Collier's Project Management is overseeing the project. There were four homes initially not approved for the Home Repair Program due to the amount of work required to complete the repairs. These homes were reassessed and determined that they did meet the requirements of the program. The requests for proposals for these repairs did not receive any tenders for these homes. This work will be retendered to be completed in 2024. NG will attempt or complete critical items such as heat and, or plumbing in the statement of work, as soon as possible. Emergency Home Repair Program. Mr. Speaker, there was an RFP released twice to complete emergency repairs in Nain, Hopedale and Rigolet. There were no tenders received to

complete this work. NG is currently working towards completing critical components of the statement of work such as heat, plumbing and electrical. NG will look to complete this work through an open tender for summer 2024. There are an additional 10 emergency repair applications approved to be completed. Where possible, this work will be completed as soon as possible. In addition to these, there are still a high volume of applications submitted for emergency repairs. Unfortunately, due to no uptake on tenders these repairs are taking longer to complete. NG will continue to take applications and will look to complete those repairs as qualified contractors become available. A primary focus is to ensure Labrador Inuit have heat and water in their homes.

Nunatsiavut Housing Commission. Mr. Speaker, the position for Director of Housing is currently advertised. This position is advertised for Nunatsiavut and a three-year term in Upper Lake Melville. A new affordable rental program will now be offered by the Nunatsiavut Housing Commission. This program covers all rental units currently in Nunatsiavut. A new Barrier-Free Furnace and Oil Inspection and Repair Program is moving to the next phase with inspections taking place in Rigolet and Makkovik this past summer. The next phase will begin in summer 2024 with communities to be determined. The Nunatsiavut Housing

Commission new Emergency Repair Program will begin in the very near future. This program is similar to the NG Affordable Rental Program focusing on emergency repairs required in the Inuit communities. Mr. Speaker, that is the end of my Affairs report or update. I will move into Language, Culture and Tourism with a focus on the Tourism Division. Mr. Speaker, the Tourism Division continues to work on many projects related to the Nunatsiavut Government's Tourism Strategy, including the Annual Visitor's Guide, community maps, and community guidebooks. Tourism in conjunction with the Economic Development Division and the IBA coordinator are developing experience and products for the Mealy Mountains National Park Reserve, in partnership with Parks Canada. Mr. Speaker, a Best Practice Mission for this National Park is planned for the spring of 2024. Another successful tourism season occurred at the Torngat Mountains National Park. A facilitator is engaged to assist with a debrief of the 2023 Torngat Mountains Basecamp and Research Station season with stakeholders. This will be occurring early in the new year. As well, a request for proposals will be released for an operator for the Torngat Mountains National Park Base Camp and Research Station in the upcoming months, Mr. Speaker. Arts, Mr. Speaker, also falls under this department. The annual Nunatsiavut Christmas Arts and

Crafts online auction ended on November 19th. Forty-three artists participated this year with over 4,500 members of the auction group. Mr. Speaker, it is an excellent showcase and promotion of the talented Labrador Inuit artists. I'm also pleased to report the two artists attended the, "Craft It," event in Winnipeg and five artists attended the Newfoundland and Labrador Craft Councils Christmas Craft Fair in St. John's this past month. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. The next Minister we'll be hearing from is the Honourable Tom Evans, the Director of-, sorry, Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology as well as Education and Economic Development. When you're ready, sir.

MR. EVANS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First I'll do my first statement for today. I'll be doing another statement tomorrow for Finance, Human Resource and IT. And then I'll follow up with that with an update statement from Economic Development and the Education Division. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to report that the Labrador North Wireless project is on schedule. Bell Canada is completing design and engineering components of this project. Engineers will be in Nain this week to determine the location of a new tower. All information and data, both internal and external is a valued asset of the Nunatsiavut Government deserving of careful governance

and management around both short-term use and long-term re-use. To (inaudible), Mr. Speaker, the NEC recently approved the Nunatsiavut Government Data Governance Strategy. This strategy outlines the vision, foundations, goals, timelines, rules, responsibilities and data classifications towards advancing data governance across the Government. This strategy provides the structure for the data governance framework which has more detailed policies and procedures for governing data. The IT Division is having meetings with all departments on the data governance framework. Cybersecurity is of the utmost importance to the Government, Mr. Speaker. We have a secure network. However, cybersecurity is always evolving, and we need to be constantly improving the networks, data and information. Recently, the Director of Information Technology, and our Deputy Minister, along with members of the Nunatsiavut Government met with the Government of Canada on cybersecurity and gained valuable knowledge and tools to help protect the Government. The IT Division has assisted many departments with improvements to their workflows using technologies. To name a couple of examples, the Economic Development Division implemented a new CRM Module this past summer. And the Education Division developed a new student database. The IT staff are working with external

companies such as Esri to implement a centralized ArcGIS platform for the entire Government with Vision33 to upgrade the financial management system, Mr. Speaker. Our staff are also working to overhaul the audio-visual system here in the Assembly building. This upgrade, while in the planning stages, is to bring it up to date with current technologies and enable live video streaming of the Assembly sittings. The ability to work on these projects and provide continued day-to-day support is only possible with a full compliment of staff, Mr. Speaker. Please join me in welcoming two new members of the department, Preston Snow and Vivek Malholtra. *Nakummek*. If I may, Mr. Speaker. Can I continue? I have a brief update from our Director of Economic Development which I'll read. Our annual plan for the Division focuses on business development, community development policy, data collection and offering supports. Under Business Development, since September, the Division has no new businesses added to our Inuit Business registry. We continue to have 244 listed. We have received nine packages from Vale, with our Division submitting 23 Inuit Business Nominations and no qualified Business Enterprise nominations. There are a total of 21 clients, 15 in Business Start-up and six in Business Growth. We have increased our Holiday Social Media promotion for Inuit businesses. The Division has launched a,

“Shop Local,” campaign for the holiday season, encouraging purchasing from our Inuit businesses. These ads are circulated on our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages. Community Development. Our Community Economic Development Fund, CEDP, and our *Fiscal Financing Agreement* programs, the FFA programs remain open. We had three CDP applications and one FFA under review. We have provided 11,000 to the Makkovik Inuit Community Government for a Graveyard Cleanup and Expansion Project. Policy and Data collection. Our Division continues to move forward on labour database development. We have confirmed with the Division of Education, the best practices on database development technology and promotion. We expect to begin program design in late January with the database going live in late March. Under the Self-Employment Benefit Program, we have approved two new clients, one in the Arts and Crafts sector and one in Accommodations. We are currently reviewing one new application and as we like to promote start-ups are encouraged to apply for the program. For training, based a poll of our Inuit Business Registers training needs, we have begun researching the option to provide a third bookkeeping training session. We will confirm the training focus location and timeframe in January 2024. Also, we are launching a Nunatsiavut-specific Youth

Entrepreneurship Box program. This was inspired by the program offered by the Community Business Development Corporation, CBDC. The box will provide small-scale projects to make and sell. Our goal is to encourage early entrepreneurship interest in school-age children. A Christmas-themed box will be a first in a series of youth boxes for the fall, winter and spring. On the Financial Support, the Division is developing a micro-grant program for Inuit businesses to avail of. We will seek out external funding along with our internal funds. To launch this program, it has to be presented for review to the NEC in the new year. *Nakummek*. If I could just continue just to finish off the brief statement from the Education Division? The Director of Education has provided an update here. She had given me a copy of her Summer Camp Literacy Report and I'm sorry I didn't share this before, but what I'll do is I'll share it with the Assembly Members. It's quite an interesting read. For Fall 2023, we are holding steady with approximately 240 students enrolled in a variety of programs this fall with about 50 in part-time studies and around 190 in full-time studies. And currently, there's 15 new applications for the Winter 2024 Semester. In addition to funding for training, our Divisions are currently supporting two beneficiaries under Self-Employment Benefit Programs. We have also recently completed work experience programs with an

additional two beneficiaries, one of whom has continued employment with the same company. The other individual has completed the Work Experience Program and will be hired again in the new season. Just an update on staff. Abigail Ford has joined the Education Division as a new secretary/receptionist. Abigail started work on November 3rd and is transitioning quickly into the new role. Kaylee Webb, our student liaison is going on maternity leave. And her last day of work is November 30th, 2023. Her replacement has been secured. We are waiting for some of the paperwork before she can actually start, but I know that she started Monday, 'cause I met her before she-, I left for the plane. The new student liaison will have approximately two weeks to shadow Kaylee and we hope that this will help her transition into the new role. The Grade 11 Career Trip-, and she's got a note here that, "By the time you read this, the trip may have already been delayed for weather," but I'm happy to note that they were successful and got out and they're actually in St. John's now with touring institutions there. Our Education Advisor Amalia McNeil has been busy planning the Grade 11 Career trip. This year, the original plan was to travel to Halifax. However due to the uncertainty of the changes in the flight schedules after Air Canada services were terminated in Goose Bay, we decided that it would

be best to focus on St. John's again this year. We currently have 12 students in total from Nain, Hopedale, Makkovik, Postville, Rigolet and Upper Lake Melville. And they're traveling to St. John's-, or they traveled to St. John's on November 20th. Students will visit a variety of post-secondary institutions and get a feel for living in the city. There's a Career Trip 2024. It's been a number of years since our Division has organized a Career Fair for our communities. With the new IPSC dollars, we have money specified for Community Engagement, which means that we'll now have dedicated funds to be able to hold a career fair each year in one of our Nunatsiavut communities. For the first one, as the majority of our staff are located in Makkovik, they'll have the first career trip-, the first career there. Plans are underway to bring youth from Nunatsiavut together from January 23rd to January 25, 2024. And they'll meet with representatives from various postsecondary institutions, businesses and organizations to learn more about career opportunities and postsecondary programs. Invitations have also been sent out to each Nunatsiavut Department. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ministers. Are there any other Ministers Statements coming at this time? Seeing none, we will take a break, and we'll come back at quarter past 10, when you're ready. *Nakummek*.

[Recess]

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. We will now move on to Members Statements. Are there any Members Statements around the Table? And just as a reminder, each Member can make two statements per day, no longer than five minutes each. The first statement I saw was the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Gerald Asivak, when you're ready, sir.

MR. ASIVAK:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Condolences to the family of the late Ms. Sophie Ford of Happy Valley, Goose Bay. Condolences to the family of the late Mr. Charlie Groves of Happy Valley, Goose Bay. Condolences to the family of Ms. Carol Myers of Happy Valley, Goose Bay. Mr. Groves and Ms. Myers were siblings who passed away in less than two weeks. In October, I attended Sivunivut Annual General Meeting in North West River. There was a good turnout, updates, lots of questions and feedback on programs and services. Good job, Chairperson Montague and Assistant Joanne Hibbs. I also attended at, "Take Back the Night," walk hosted by the Department of Health and Social Development in North West River in October. Great turnout with support for women and children. Happy 50th wedding anniversary to Joy and Richard Michelin of Happy Valley, Goose Bay who celebrated last week. Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I helped Debbie Hynes with NunaKatiget with a

lunch and bingo last week at Headland Apartments. Great time by all. The residents are very appreciative of the entertainment and company. I look forward to going back next month to help out for a Christmas dinner with fun and games. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Member. The next person we will hear from is the Ordinary Member for Nain, Roxanne Barbour, when you're ready.

MS. BARBOUR:

Nakummek, *Uhattik*. During the week of September 25, I had the opportunity to sit and listen into the 2023 ITK AGM that was held in Nain. I am proud of the support that the Nunatsiavut Government is receiving regarding false and harmful claims to Inuit identity within Labrador. It empowers me to have witnessed and continue to witness Inuit standing united in the protection of our identity as an Indigenous People of Canada. And for that, I must acknowledge the hard work of the Nunatsiavut Executive in protecting our rights and identity. It was an eventful week with the Community Feast and Canada Goose material giveaways. A lot of community spirit and love was felt when Mary Binkie and Simeonie got up to perform for the delegates. And they were even invited to a music festival in Nunavik by Makivvik President Pita Aatami. Also, during this week, Nain's first Inuk principal, Julie Dicker was recognized by the ITK in Inuit Excellence and work to advance Inuit self-determination in Canada. Julie is currently working towards her

Doctorate degree in Education and continues to support Jens Haven's extracurricular activities, particularly, school sports. Way to go, Jul. It's been quiet at the office since my mentor, colleague and friend resigned his seat as Ordinary Member. Even today in the Assembly Chambers, it feels empty. I would like to wish Tony Pony all the best in his next chapter of life and thank him for his life-long dedication to advancing and protecting the rights of Labrador Inuit and Nainimiut.

[Applause.]

Mr. Speaker, this year's annual Fall Sports Meet was held in Nain. I had the honour to attend, and boy was it ever energetic. To see Nunatsiavut and Innu Nation youth come together in friendly and healthy competition is always exciting. The highly anticipated event did not disappoint. The Makkovik Kapvet came out on top winning first place overall with a quarter of the point over the Nain Huskies. And Rigolet Eagles placing third overall. What a weekend of excitement, joy and memories. I would also like to congratulate the JHMS Huskies on capturing the AAA Regional Volleyball Championship this past weekend in Goose Bay. Huskies Melody Lampe and Ian Dicker were both awarded Most Valuable Players of the tournament. The Huskies travel to Newfoundland next weekend to participate in the AAA Volleyball Provincials and I wish

them all the best. On October 3rd, I had the opportunity to visit the Strange Lake Mine with President Lampe, Minister Vincent, DM to the Secretariat, Isabella Pain, and then there's Director of Non-renewable Resources, Claude Sheppard, Innu Nation Grand Chief Simon Pokue and Prote Poker, Luke Rich and George Rich who are also with the Innu Nation. We were provided with an info session by Torngat Metals Geologist Ed Walker, a campsite tour and had the opportunity to fly over the proposed route through LISA and LIL to the Voisey's Bay Mine site. On the topic of Torngat Metals, during the week of November 9, an organization called, "Keepers of the Circle," along with AnânuKatiget Tumingit organization held what they called an engagement session regarding Torngat Metals and their proposed road. During this session, it became clear to me that not a lot of Nainimiut understand the process for initiatives or proposals as such. Okay, I'm out of time, so I'm going to finish it after. *Nakku.*

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. The next Members statement we will receive is from the AngajukKâk of Nain, Mr. Joe Dicker, when you're ready, sir.

MR. DICKER:

Thank you, *Ukatti*. I'm happy to report that the project (inaudible) 1:05:40 this summer has been completed. This for the cemetery updates and new footbridge rebuild. The NICG wishes to thank the

NG Department of Economic Development for providing the funding for these projects. These projects provides work for six people and experience in the workforce with much-needed hours to qualify for EI. Mr. Speaker, the NICG through Budgell's Equipment contract had decommissioned the chambers across the brook, the one across the brook at the other side. They were a big problem for NICG in past years and they had been taken care of. Besides that, five other water hydrants were upgraded, and the only thing left to do is to build a hydrant house. The generator has arrived in Goose Bay. I'm not sure yet whether it's on the Kamutik W., but it's gonna be shipped out before the season ends. It's (inaudible) 1:07:16 that the generator get there because the water being pumped at the tank from Trout Lake was not known. By that I mean it had been manually pumped and you couldn't see how much water it took the fill the tank. They kept our pumps that we had which are so vital to the community going all the time. They contracted-, Pentagon has been awarded the contract to install its hardware and came to Nain this past week. An update will be provided at our next sitting in January. And Mr. Speaker, we have received our Canadian Economic monies, CEEP, programming as we meet here in Nain, today. The Town Manager is working on (inaudible) promise to see what rules and regulations had to have

been met in order to qualify for this program. So we have applications (inaudible) but they won't approve them for this program until they say so, making sure that they meet the regulations. No one's hired yet but they'll provide an update in January on this project. And at the same time I would like to thank Lela Evans for all the tireless work she put in for us. That's all I had but before I sit down, I'd like to wish each and every Community Government success in the New Year and to all the Ordinary Members or elected officials a very Merry Christmas. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, AngajukKâk. The next person we'll hear from is the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Marjorie Flowers, when you're ready.

MS. FLOWERS:

Nakummek, Uhalitik. I rise today and announce with a sad and heavy heart, the passing of Mr. Michael Kearney. Mike, as we all knew him worked with Municipal Affairs as a Design Approval Tech. He was also a liaison between the Provincial Municipal Affairs Department and Inuit Community Governments. Mike was instrumental in helping with many of our Capital Works projects in our communities. A long-term employee and a man of great integrity and trust. He knew many of our water and sewer issues in our communities. His passion was working with the Nunatsiavut communities, and he always had our back. On behalf of Hopedale Inuit Community Government, I extend my deepest condolences to

his daughter Ruth and her family. Thank you, Michael for loyalty and many years of service to our communities. May angels lead you home. Mr. Speaker, we also lost another elder in our community. I extend my deepest condolences to the family of Juliana Winters. Juliana was one of the first community health workers hired in then Labrador Inuit Health Commission. She continued to work with DHSD until her health started to deteriorate. A faithful and devoted worker, Juliana was missed after she retired. And we will always remember her beautiful laugh. She also was a foster parent and took in many children in her home. May she rest in peace. Fly high, Juliana. Your work on earth is done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, AngajukKâk. The next Members Statement will be from the Ordinary Member for Makkovik, Mr. Tom Evans.

MR. EVANS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our AngajukKâk Barry Andersen couldn't be here, so he asked me to read this statement from the Makkovik Inuit Community Government. "We wish to pass on our deepest condolences to the family and friends of the late Donald Jacque of Makkovik who passed since our last sitting. Donald was a good carpenter, trapper and fisherman who loved out on the land and sea. We, along with others, will miss him. MICG welcomed Premier Furey to Makkovik on November 2nd, 2023 where he

offered an apology to the survivors of the Residential School system. Thank you to Elder Toby Andersen for accepting the apology-, also to President Lampe, Ordinary Member Tom Evans and Minister Asivak for their attendance and support for this important event. Our MHA Lela Evans was not there in person, but she was there in spirit. MICG is still struggling to maintain a full staff. We are short a superintendent Public Works. Our CAO, also Recreation Director and the Community Economic Development Officer have submitted their respective resignations. We are thankful to the Department of Education for the funds to expand the cemetery. This project will be completed the end of this week. The fishing season ended with our plant seeing the least amount of crab landed since it opened. This was largely due to the lack of workforce in the community. The Turbot Fishery was a good success saving the season for the workers to get EI hours. We would also like to congratulate Beverly Hunter and her team at DHSD, Makkovik, for putting off a successful, seniors gathering last September at Makkovik. A great time was had by all of them from all accounts and feedback. We also congratulate the JCEM Girls Volleyball-, Girls and Boys Volleyball teams for their success at the Fall Sports Meet, top team overall, and at the Regionals for volleyball, bringing the Gold Medals in their respective divisions.

They will continue now with the-, they'll travel to the Provincials to compete. These youth bring pride to our school and community. We'd also like to acknowledge and congratulate JCEM's Drama Group, the Kaverna Players for their participation once again at the Annual High School Drama Festival taking place in Happy Valley, Goose Bay, this week. The local Harbour Authority finally got tenders out and our successful bidder was able to get to Makkovik and remove the two broken docks. The Harbour Authority of Makkovik is hoping this is a good sign for getting the new docks in place next summer season. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member the next Member we'll hear from is Mr. Wally Andersen, Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, when you're ready.

MR. W. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Shortly following our September Assembly, I had the opportunity to travel to Makkovik to take in the Senior's Gathering. Seniors from the five Inuit Communities, the Upper Lake Melville area and from the Canadian Constituency attended. And Mr. Speaker, I can tell the Assembly, what a time. To hear the laughter, the concerns, and story telling and the food, certainly shows how valuable our seniors are and the wealth of knowledge that they have brought to our way of life. Beverly Hunter and her staff was outstanding, and certainly unbelievable.

And COVID stopped them from having a previous one. But with their dedication of bringing the seniors together, the-, anyone who witnessed the gathering walked away educated by our seniors and a heart-warming for the contribution that they made. Hats off to the Ordinary Member for Makkovik and Minister Tom Evans and our AngajukKâk Barry Andersen for fixing the doors-, the bathroom door during the conference, setting up the tents, helping a staff member who had the keys locked in. Mr. Speaker, one of the most emotional thing that took place was when-, I won't call it the roll call, but they went through the communities, the five Inuit Communities and the Upper Lake Melville area and read the names of our seniors whom we lost from the previous meeting. And the numbers were great. And as they read out the names, you could hear people breaking down from their respective communities at the loss of a loved one. And as my colleague, Minister Asivak said that already in Goose Bay, we've lost quite a few since then. But Mr. Speaker, it was certainly a highlight to be there and to hear them speak and to come together as one. And there was-, while people talked of different things, there was no anger; there was no hate or nothing-, just elders getting together sharing their experiences and giving those who attended a wealth and I guess an experience of knowledge that many of us don't fully recognize

sometimes of what our seniors have done. But again, I look forward to the next one and certainly again to Beverly and her staff, thank you, so much for giving to our most treasured possessions, our seniors, the opportunity to come together to speak, laugh and to share memories. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. That is all of the Members Statements I've seen so far. Are there others around the Table? Okay, first, recognizing the AngajukKâk for Postville, Ms. Diane Gear, when you're ready.

MS. GEAR:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, a quick update on what's been happening in my community. We haven't had much on the go this year. But things are starting to wind down again now for another summer. The floating dock is taken up. The heavy equipment is being stored and winterized, ready for winter storage. And we're still waiting on our groomer for the town as well as the one for the winter trails. Also we've had a grader in Goose Bay that was sent out in August for-, on a recall. We're still waiting on that to be sent back. We also have a kopron that's been in Goose Bay since September that's still sitting on the dock. So we're hoping that by the end of the shipping season that we'll be able to get our equipment in. The boardwalk as put out on tender and Herd's Construction was the successful bidder. This should be done by the end of this week as well. Our PICG Christmas Tree

Lighting ceremonies will be held on December the 5th at 5:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. I want to wish the Postville Drama Group all the best. Have fun. Make new friends. Reunite with old ones but most of all have fun and stay safe. I want to thank President Lampe and Department of Health, Minister Asivak for coming to Postville with the Premier for the apology to the survivors of residential schools. Our own cemetery is being repaired and cleaned up and fresh paint has been put on the new cemetery. I want to send condolences out to the family of the late Christine Lane. Christine Lane was an elder of our community. She spend many years in the Long-Term Care in Happy Valley, Goose Bay, so I want to send condolences to her family. I also wanna send condolences to the family of Donald Jacque. Donald Jacque spent many years in our community. He was a well-loved resident. He was very helpful. He was a good carpenter and he was never one to turn down anything-, if you needed anything, he was always there to help. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. The next statement will be coming from the Chairperson of the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation, Mr. Jeff Montague, when you're ready.

MR. MONTAGUE:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in October, Sivunivut held it's AGM where the Audited Annual Financial Statement was

presented and accepted. There was a good turnout and as well also in October, Sivunivut sponsored a Canadian Firearms Safety Course and Hunter Education Course for members in North West River and Sheshatshiu. The course went well, as expected with 12 students, one of which couldn't make it but will be on the list for the next round in 2024. Sponsorship was made possible with funding from the *Tasiujatsoak Trust Fund*, that Sivunivut secured earlier this year and we're very grateful for that. Also in October, Sivunivut organized, sponsored and prepared for Youth Nights at the North West River Community Centre, which is so far, successful with six Fridays so far with activities such as movies, games tables and a pizza night where kids could help in making their own dishes. This was made possible with community volunteers such as Melanie Blake, David and Pauletta Tremblett and Joanne Hibbs. Funding for Youth Night comes from the Canada Post Community Foundation and Sivunivut is very thankful and grateful for that. Just a little note that-, mention about our Financial Statement. Sivunivut is in a very good financial standing and a good position to pay all of our obligations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. We will now hear from the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Mr. Chesley Sheppard, when you're ready.

MR. SHEPPARD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First, I'd like to congratulate the NLA Eagles in their participation in the Volleyball Regionals. They did our community proud. And I'd also like to congratulate all the other students from all the other communities in Nunatsiavut. They showed what athleticism we have to offer here in Nunatsiavut. And I'd also like to welcome our new CAO, Kevin Pottle. Welcome to our team. We've been hurting to fill the spot since I've been in the office and probably before, which is great. I'd also like to just update on our rink project. We do have our shelter over our rink and now we are in the process of rebuilding the rink itself and hopefully have it ready for our community in the beginning of December. As well as our Craft Shop we had funding from our insurance and we have our supplies in, so hopefully, we'll have our Craft Shop open by January, hopefully, which is a big staple for our elders and our young for doing crafts. And a little bit of bad news, our heavy equipment broke down just last month, our loader, excavator and we're not gonna get our loader back till next year but our excavator, hopefully our muffler's gonna be on a ferry soon because our-, we still got some stuff in the water like our floating dock and it has to come up hopefully before it freezes. But that's all I have for right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Are there any further first statements? Yes, recognizing George Gear, the Ordinary Member for Postville, when you're ready.

MR. GEAR: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to rise today and congratulate Ms. Vyann Andersen for graduating from her Social Work training and receiving her diploma. And she's a great asset for Nunatsiavut's Civil Service and she will be for years to come. And as you all know, it's very difficult even for a young person to try and go get their education and even is harder for a person that got their own family to do. So this is something she achieved and will be with her for the rest of her life. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek,* Ordinary Member. Are there further first statements around the Table? Seeing none, would any of the Members like to give a second Members Statement? Yes, recognizing Roxanne Barbour, Ordinary Member for Nain, when you're ready.

MS. BARBOUR: *Nakummek.* I'll just carry on from my first statement. So on the topic of Torngat Metals, during the week of November 9, an organization called, "Keepers of the Circle," along with AnânauKatiget Tumingit organization held what they called an Engagement Session regarding Torngat Metals and their proposed road. During this session, it became clear to me that not a lot of Nainimiut understand the process for initiatives or proposals such

as this. So I advised attendees that I would be hosting a constituency meeting on the coming Wednesday, where I would share information that we received from Torngat Metals during the previous sitting and site visit, as well as to share the response I received from Minister Vincent regarding mining exploration and development within LISA, LIL and the Inuit Communities. I was then asked to extend an invitation to Torngat Metals to attend the constituency meeting and they accepted it. Christian Burow, Marilyn Butland, Eric Lenole as well as others from the Torngat Metals Team provided a presentation to Nainimiut over videocall about their project and proposed road. I'd like to think I accomplished my goal of providing clarity and understanding of the process. And overall it was a great turnout. At one point there were 40 Nainimiut in the room. I would like to thank Frederick Dwyer Samuel, LNR's Environmental Assessment Manager for attending and answering some difficult questions as well as my colleague, AngajukKâk Joe Dicker. In this particular community meeting, it became evident that there is a certain level of mistrust between the Government and the general public. Nainimiut felt disappointed that there had been silence from our own Government since the initial project description was submitted in September. What I've heard and understand is Nainimiut feel like

there is a lot to learn from the Voisey's Bay Mine Project and the current *Impact and Benefits Agreement* for the Voisey's Bay Mine is insufficient. There were a lot of feelings of hurt as it is generally felt and understood that you cannot put a price on Labrador Inuit livelihood, and I strongly agree with this ideology. The proposed road threatens our way of life and cannot be determined by a price. The land through the proposed road is who we are, where we come from and who we will always be as Inuit. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. The next hand that I saw was from Ordinary Member of the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen, when you're ready, sir.

MR. W. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a Member of the-, a survivor, I guess, of the Residential School, I attended the apology in Happy Valley, Goose Bay presented by the Premier. I'm not saying that I accept his apology and I'm not gonna say that I do not accept it. But to me it will be a wait and see. The Federal and Provincial Governments are promising Truth and Reconciliation for those who attended boarding schools. And I guess in the words of Johnny Cash, maybe we have to wait to actually find out what they mean by what is truth. I look back over the years, Mr. Speaker, and I'm reminded of a little six-year-old Inuit girl who went to a boarding school. She

spoke very limited English. She went on to live to be 105 before she passed away a couple of years ago. You take 105 and the first day she attended at age six, is 99 years. It's a century. And nobody ever took the time to apologize to her and a lot more like her.

Some people went through a difficult time. Some more found it easier. But for those who went through difficult times, I think the proof will be in the pudding as to what they mean by, "Truth and Reconciliation." On a happier note, Mr. Speaker, I attended Happy Valley, Goose Bay Day on September the 24th. Eighty years of the town founded by three families that traveled from the North Coast, the Broomfields, the Saunders and the Perraults. And I know that Mr. Don Saunders, a member of the family is living in the Maritimes. And the other person is a resident at the Long-Term Care in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Ron Perrault who was eighty years old. And I encourage the town, and they asked me along with two of their staff to take over a piece of the birthday cake to him. And he told the story that night when they were setting up their tents, that his father was behind the other two and at eight years old he went into the Saunders tent. He fell asleep, so he said the first night in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, he spent in another tent. Ron can recall many memories of founding Happy Valley-Goose Bay. And that is the only person living in Happy Valley-Goose Bay now that it

was an honour to visit with him. Greetings from the Upper Lake Melville Area, the largest number of beneficiaries in any community, over 2,000 strong. We look forward to a lot of good things happening. Many things happen up there in the riding and getting close to Christmas-, and again, me and my colleague Mr. Asivak and I say this because people should know this, that the calls and requests that we get to attend functions as elected members is unbelievable. And as I said before, there's times when there's four functions sometimes going on at one time and we pick and choose. Christmas will be no different. But anyway, on behalf of all the people in the Upper Lake Melville Area, best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all of you. And must say that this morning, you're all good looking. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. Flattery will get you everywhere. Are there any other second Members Statements around the Table this morning? Seeing none, we'll now be moving on to Item Number Seven, "Returns to Oral Questions." In your binder, you will find the returns to oral questions under Tab Two. And under Standing Order 32(12), Ministers and the President may choose to read a return to oral question. All responses to oral questions are in your binder and will be entered into the September Hansard. Would any of the Ministers or the President like to read their

return at this time? Seeing none, we are now on to Item Eight. Item Eight is, "Oral Questions." Do any Assembly Members have any oral questions at this time? As a reminder, each Member can ask two oral questions and two supplemental questions per day. We'll begin. The first hand that I saw was the AngajukKâk for Postville, Ms. Diane Gear, when you're ready.

MS. GEAR:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure who to direct this question to, but maybe to the First Minister. Can you tell me if there's any plans in place to put an Act-, get an Act for the communities similar to the *Municipalities Act*? It can be very frustrating at times not knowing if we should follow the Municipalities Act or part of what NG has for us. And some changes are coming to the *Municipalities Act* that may not apply to us. And that's according to a letter that we had from the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Thank you, very much, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, AngajukKâk. First Minister, when you're ready.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Thank you, AngajukKâk for the question. At this time, I will take that under notice and hopefully have a return tomorrow for you.

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 First Minister on the several times now since we began our new Assembly, we raised questions about the annual migratory bird hunt in the Upper Lake Melville Area. Minister, can you give us an update if there's been anything done or proposed since the last question was raised?

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* First Minister?

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Ordinary Member, and I appreciate and thank you for the question in advance, so I could-, was able to find out some information for you to provide. Canada is coordinating a meeting between Nunatsiavut Affairs, Lands and Natural Resources, CIRNAC and ECCC, to attempt to come to an agreement. We expect this meeting to happen very soon. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. W. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister. People in the Upper Lake Melville Area who live outside the Land Claims Area are not entitled to a lot of benefits that those who live inside the Claim Area and maybe rightly so. But Minister, we are the only Aboriginal group in the Upper Lake Melville Area who don't have a spring hunt. We've been asking for it so Minister, would you and your staff take this as a serious and priority on behalf of the

members of the Upper Lake Melville Area to try and bring the Spring Migratory Bird Hunt to a reality?

MR. WINTERS: First Minister?

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for the supplementary question. As just previously answered, we do have a meeting planned and that in itself stands to the fact that we support moving this file forward and we are working hard to do that. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: Does the Member have another supplemental question? No. Are there any other questions around the Table? Yes, recognizing, Ordinary Member Roxanne Barbour of Nain.

MS. BARBOUR: *Nakku.* My question is for Lands and Natural Resources. I would like to understand why the NG still encourages the Provincial ban on caribou hunting but also at the same time encouraging mining exploration and project development within LISA and LIL?

MR. WINTERS: I will ask the Member to reframe the question in a way that doesn't assume the intentions of the Government.

MS. BARBOUR: Why is mining, exploration, project development within LISA and LIL still encouraged, but we cannot hunt caribou?

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* I appreciate it. Minister Vincent?

MR. VINCENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for the question, Ordinary Member Barbour. This is one that I will have to take under advisement. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: The Minister has taken the question under notice. Does the Member have a supplemental question?

MS. BARBOUR: Is there opportunity for the Department to exempt Labrador Inuit from the provincial ban?

MR. WINTERS: Minister Vincent?

MR. VINCENT: Not at this time with the herd being so low. We are waiting on numbers now for the-, from the last survey, so maybe something that could be a reality pretty soon. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* And does the Ordinary Member have another supplemental question? When you're ready.

MS. BARBOUR: It's my understanding that the NG is working on a Harvester Support Program. So I'm just wondering, in terms-, outside of purchasing caribou meat for Labrador Inuit, will the Department pursue other initiatives to obtain either caribou meat or licence hunting?

MR. WINTERS: Minister Vincent?

MR. VINCENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Ordinary Member Barbour. Yes, this is-, as you stated, this is a program we are still working on.

So a lot of quirks had to be worked out. Once we, I guess, finalize the project, we will know more. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. 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 First Minister, Honourable Melva Williams. It's come to my attention that many homeowners can't get home insurance because of the woodstoves or their oil tanks are not certified. Is there a way that NG can have a program whereby you bring an inspector into our communities to inspect the woodstoves and certify the oil tanks? Thank you.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. AngajukKâk. The question was for the First Minister, Melva Williams, when you're ready.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, AngajukKâk Flowers for the question. As mentioned previously during my Assembly statement, we are doing a program for inspection and repairs of furnaces and oil tanks. This year we are completing Rigolet and Makkovik. And there will be other communities chosen for the next year. So that is a program that currently we have ongoing. In relation to the woodstoves, we have-, the Secretariat has provided the woodstove program and whereby-, I don't know if your question is in reference to those programs of woodstoves that were bought in-,

with that program are you questioning the just generally people have woodstoves previous to that in their homes? I'm asking a question 'cause I'm looking for clarification on the question advanced to me.

MR. WINTERS: Maybe the AngajukKâk's supplemental question can provide some clarity.

MS. FLOWERS: Thank you. I'll rephrase. Would the Government bring in an inspector to inspect all woodstoves and/or, wood and oil furnaces for residents in Nunatsiavut?

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

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for clarification AngajukKâk Flowers. As mentioned the furnaces is a program that's currently ongoing in the region. In relation to all woodstoves in the communities, I would have to see if that's a program that the Nunatsiavut Housing Commission is planning to deliver in the region. I'll have to take that question under notice. Thank you.

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

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

MR. WINTERS: Are there any other first questions around the Table? Yes, recognizing the Ordinary Member for Postville, Mr. George Gear.

MR. GEAR: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is for the Honourable First Minister, Ms. Melva Williams. We're still having some trouble with the visits from Makkovik RCMP into Postville. I can't remember the last time they was in there, but do you have any more updates on when we can expect, like, a presence there or will there be coming for a permanent set-up or whatever? Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, Ordinary Member. First Minister, you're having a tough morning. When you're ready.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and than you, Ordinary Member Gear for your question. I do continue to raise this issue at every table that I attend and in fact I'm in the process of requesting a meeting with the Provincial Minister of Justice and I have that tabled as a topic to bring forward. In relation to the visits currently, I did-, I wasn't aware that they hadn't been back recently. So I will follow up on that with the RCMP. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. GEAR: No, I don't and thank you.

MR. WINTERS: Are there any other first questions around the Table? Seeing none, I will ask my Deputy Speaker to step in while I ask a question.

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I take it you have a question?

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* This question is for the Honourable Minister of the Department of Health and Social Development. Since taking office, we receive a lot of requests for help from our beneficiaries, but none more so than the Food Supplement Program. Since it ended, I've heard from our constituency members every week. Is there any appetite or ability for the Department of Health and Social Development to bring back the Food Supplement Program?

Nakummek.

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Mr. Winters. Minister Asivak, would you like to reply?

MR. ASIVAK: Thank you, Deputy Speaker Saunders and Ordinary Member Winters. When the Emergency Food Supplement Program was established during COVID-19, over three years ago, we received funds from the Government of Canada. This was a supplement to support people through the hard times during COVID-19. There are no programs or funds available within Nunatsiavut Government right now to bring back this program. Our Food Supplement Coordinator, Lynn Blackwood sometimes seeks external funds for limited programs and services but not specific to one, like the

Emergency Food Supplement Program. The Government of Canada met with President Lampe face-to-face a few years back in Ottawa and President Lampe did request additional funds for this program and we were denied, like many other organizations, groups and governments. So at this time we do not have any funds available internal or external, for an Emergency Food Supplement Program. *Nakummek.*

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Minister Asivak. Ordinary Member Winters, do you have a supplemental?

MR. WINTERS: Yes, I do. *Nakummek,* Deputy Speaker. Life has gotten only more expensive since the Emergency Food Supplement Program and I appreciate the advocacy of the President. Is there any opportunity for Labrador Inuit to access the Trusts for additional funding for the Food Supplement Program? *Nakummek.*

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Ordinary Member Winters. Minister Asivak?

MR. ASIVAK: Thank you, Deputy Speaker and Ordinary Member Winters. The Department of Health and Social Development, nor the Nunatsiavut Government would have the authority to make this happen. This would have to be asked during the question period through the Trust Settlement when it is Tabled in *Orders of the Day.* *Nakummek.*

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Minister Asivak. Ordinary Member Winters, a supplemental?

MR. WINTERS: I do not have a supplemental question, but I would like to thank both the Minister and President for their advocacy in this very important work. *Nakummek*.

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Ordinary Member Winters. Would you like to return to your chair?

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, Deputy Speaker and it's the Assembly's Chair. I just sit here. Are there any second questions round the Table? Yes, recognizing AngajukKâk Marjorie Flowers of Hopedale, when you're ready.

MS. FLOWERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for Minister of Lands and Resources, Honourable Terry Vincent. My question is will there be another moose harvesting program this fall? Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*. Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Minister Terry Vincent, when you're ready, sir.

MR. VINCENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for the question, AngajukKâk Flowers. Yes, there was a moose harvest. The meat has recently been butchered and should be arriving in Goose Bay-, I believe it should already be in Goose Bay and be ready for shipment out to the Coast. Thank you.

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

MS. FLOWERS: No, I don't and thank you, for your answer.

MR. WINTERS: The next second question to be asked is from the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen.

MR. W. ANDERSEN: Thank you. My question is for the Honourable Terry Vincent, the Minister of Lands and Resources. And boy, if that moose is gonna be in Goose Bay it might be high-jacked. Just joking. Minister, can you tell us if there will be a purchase of caribou for distribution again in 2024?

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* The Honourable Terry Vincent, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources.

MR. VINCENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, for the question, Ordinary Member Andersen. Yes, that is something we're working on right now. So we hope to be able to provide some caribou for his constituency once again this coming year. Thank you.

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

MR. W. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Minister, and again, the concerns of the Upper Lake Melville Area is that the-, we receive only a limited supply. We understand that every household in the Claim Area gets a meal of caribou. We're not asking that for the Upper Lake Melville Area,

but we have 270 seniors in the Upper Lake Melville Area, and we start off at 80 and over, and work down. And we run out.

Minister, on behalf of our seniors would you and your department, through the Government, at least look at providing a meal of caribou for every senior in the Upper Lake Melville Area?

MR. WINTERS: Minister Vincent, when you're ready.

MR. VINCENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, Ordinary Member Andersen. As you know, our formalized already set-, sorry, we have a strict set formula for our distribution process and in order to change it, it has to go to NEC. So in order to do this I need a request from you or somebody else to make this happen. Thank you.

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

MR. W. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Minister and on behalf of the seniors in the Upper Lake Melville Area I'm asking you if you would take this to the Executive Council for a decision.

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

MR. VINCENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Ordinary Member Andersen. It will be done. I shall take it to NEC and ask them to revise the formula. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: The next question will be from the Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency, Mr. Roland Saunders.

MR. SAUNDERS: *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Finance Minister, Minister Evans. Minister Evans, in the last Assembly, I asked you if there was any funding that you could find for the 10 members from the North West Territories that were displaced because of the forest fires that happened in July and August and September. You said you would get back to me with an answer from whatever Government department you could find funding. I haven't heard an answer. Can you tell me if you found any funding for those 10 people-, displaced people please? Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: Minister for Finance, Human Resources and Information Technologies, the Honourable Tom Evans, when you're ready, sir.

MR. EVANS: Thank you, for the question, Mr., Ordinary Member. I can tell you right now NG-, we don't have a program in place or funding appropriate for such a purpose. We're not eligible for Federal Programs, but as you know, like, Finance, we don't develop or administer programs. So I think your question would be better directed to the President.

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

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

NG does not have any current programs for these types of request and no funds appropriated for such an emergency or purpose. And NG reached out to the Government of Canada to Indigenous Services Canada and CIRNAC to see if they had programs that NG was eligible to apply for. Under Indigenous Services Canada, they had the Emergency Management Assistant Program. The NG is not eligible for this program as it is only eligible for First Nations on Reserves. There are currently no programs under the CIRNAC for us to avail of for funding. The implementation office did look at other departments but could not identify any programs. We are aware that there were relief funds being offered by the Government of Northwest Territories. This program is called, "Evacuee Income Disruption Support Program." They offered residents a one-time payment of \$750. This would have been available to any beneficiaries who resided in the Northwest Territories. At this time NG does not have any programs to support beneficiaries with this type of situation or funding appropriated for such a purpose. We were not eligible for any Federal Programs. Mr. Speaker, if the NG were to consider such programs, we will have to develop parameters, a policy and program in place as well as an appropriate fund for this purpose. And that is the only

answer that I have for your question, Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency. *Nakummek*.

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

MR. SAUNDERS: No, I don't, and thank you, very much Mr. President for the explanation and for looking into all that I asked. Thank you, very much, both of you and especially to the NEC, thank you.

MR. WINTERS: The next question around the Table will be from the Ordinary Member for Nain, Ms. Roxanne Barbour, when you're ready.

MS. BARBOUR: *Nakummek*. My question is for the First Minister. In your statement you mentioned that the tender for the ERP went out twice with no successful bidders or no tenders received. I'm just wondering if the Department has considered waiving a clause in the *Procurement Act* to direct source either the NGC or other contractors that are available within Nunatsiavut so that the Emergency Repairs that are needed can be completed before freeze-up and the shipping season ends?

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, Ordinary Member. Honourable First Minister, Melva Williams, whenever you're ready.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And thank you to the Ordinary Member for the question. We have not considered waiving a clause as we

are approaching the issues in relation to those emergency repairs by an urgent basis. So we'll do the most critical needed things, whether it's furnaces, plumbing or other critical issues that homeowners require. And we will be doing each home on a case-by-case basis so that we can ensure we get those done. We have made plans to have supplies in the communities before the shipping season closes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, First Minister. Does the Ordinary Member have a supplemental question? When you're ready.

MS. BARBOUR: May you please help me understand things-, the Emergency Repair Program is for emergency repairs. How do you determine what is critical out of things that are already urgent or emergent or critical?

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, Ordinary Member. First Minister.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you Ordinary Member. As you are aware, we have housing inspectors that would assess each of the units on a case-by-case basis to identify what are the urgent repairs that are required for heat and safety. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, First Minister. Does the Ordinary Member have a second supplemental question? Whenever you're ready.

MS. BARBOUR:

Kind of referring back to my first question. In our previous sitting, through the presentation in the Committee of the Whole from the *Capital Strategy Trust*, they discussed having a partnership with the NG in terms of being able to advance business opportunities within Nunatsiavut. And that's just my preamble. Sorry about that. So again, referring back to that, in order to get the emergency repairs and potentially even the Affordable Warmth Repairs completed, will the Department consider waiving a clause in the *Procurement Act*, to direct source either the NGC or another business such as Budgell's or Bird that are available within Nunatsiavut?

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. First Minister?

MS. WILLIAMS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, Ordinary Member for your supplemental question. As we know, we have a *Procurement Act* that we have to follow. We have released the RFP twice. All those entities had an opportunity to put forth a bid on those. There was no bids received. So Nunatsiavut Affairs will be taking each of the Emergency Repair applications. We will reassess to ensure we can triage what the most urgent needs are and to ensure that the heat and life safety issues in those homes are addressed. And they will be done as quickly as we can. As I mentioned, we have ordered in supplies. So this work will begin and be carried out this season. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Ordinary Member.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.*

MS. BARBOUR: I feel like my question wasn't answered. I asked the Department if they will consider waiving that clause? And I was provided with the same answer that I received in the first question.

MR. WINTERS: Would the First Minister provide further clarification on whether the Department will consider?

MS. WILLIAMS: At this time, the answer is no, and the reason being is that we wouldn't have time to go through the process to ensure that this work is done. And we want to ensure that the work is completed in this fall for the Emergency Repair Program.

MR. WINTERS: The clarification is appreciated. Are there further second questions around the Table? Seeing none, I will ask my Deputy to step in.

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Ordinary Member Winters. You have a question?

MR. WINTERS: I do. My question is for President Lampe. We have been provided an amazing opportunity with the Inuit Crown Partnership Committee. Considering Inuit are more likely to be victims of climate change over all others, I wonder if the President would be willing to work with the Inuit Crown Partnership Committee to ensure that there is a fund available in emergency situations for Inuit across Inuit Nunangat. As an addition to my preamble, we

already know the impacts happening in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. *Nakummek.*

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Ordinary Member Winters. President Lampe, when you're ready, sir?

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

Yes, we did have the pleasure of hosting Minister Steven Guilbeault, and he did come to the park, and certainly I, as a President was able to show the Minister, Nunatsiavut, our beautiful land and how it is being impacted by climate change and most certainly to have the opportunity to point out the greater issues that we are having in terms of being impacted by climate change. And we did have a meeting with the Minister and his staff, including another Minister. And so during that meeting, we discussed the questions that you're asking. And so we will continue to discuss the impacts that Nunatsiavut is experiencing from the impacts of climate change. And that is all the answer that I can give you to this point, but I will continue to report to the Assembly on the work that the Nunatsiavut Government is doing to get the supported needs from Canada in terms of Nunatsiavut being impacted by climate change. *Nakummek.* [Speaks in Inuttitut.]

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. Winters, do you have a supplemental question?

MR. WINTERS: I do. Climate change has resulted in also a great deal of change to the migration patterns of our animals. Can the President commit to also ensuring that this part of the conversation, not just land erosion, not just ice, are also part of this advocacy with the ICPC?
Nakummek.

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Mr. Winters.

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

Yes, and certainly, as Inuit, we know. It is obvious that as-, and not just for wildlife, but for global countries looking to our lands and most certainly, it is obvious with the fish that we have never seen before, migratory birds and sea mammals that we have never seen before. And even insects that our ancestors have never seen before or even we, as Inuit of today. And so with that, we have researches on the ground to record these changes and the migration of the different species that are coming to Nunatsiavut. And so again, that is the only answer that I can provide to you for now, but we will continue to provide reports to the Assembly on the impacts of climate change and what species that are not

traditionally on our lands or our waters are coming to Nunatsiavut.

Nakummek, UKatti.

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Ordinary Member Winters, do you have a second supplemental question?

MR. WINTERS: No, I do not, but I do look forward to these future reports.

Nakummek, Mr. President.

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Ordinary Member Winters. I now return the Chair to you.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* I will ask again, are there any further second questions around the Table? Seeing none, we will break for lunch. It is right now 20 to 12. I will ask the Members of the Assembly to return for one o'clock and lunch will happen at the hotel.

Nakummek.

[Recess]

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Welcome back from lunch everyone. I appreciate your patience. We are happy to invite to the gallery to witness the Assembly, Ms. Dalley's Grade 7 Social Studies Class.

[Applause.]

MR. WINTERS: And for anyone following along who noticed the *Orders of the Day*, were out of order, I will go back through them, so everyone is clear. Item One was, "Prayer," Item Two, "Opening address by the

President,” Item Three, “Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery,” Item Four, “Ministers Statements,” Item Five, “Members Statements,” Item Six, “Returns to Oral Questions,” Item Seven, “Oral Questions,” Item Eight, “Written Questions,” and now we’re up to speed. We are now on Item Eight, “Written Questions.” Are there any written questions at this time? Yes, recognizing Ordinary Member Roxanne Barbour of Nain. Pages? In order received, the questions are directed to the Minister of Language, Culture and Tourism, the Honourable Melva Williams, First Minister, “What efforts are being made to increase the Interpreting Translating staff capacity, to address the severe backlog of IT services, outside of the IT Prioritization Policy?” Item two, to the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Terry Vincent, “Please provide a detailed update regarding contaminants within Nunatsiavut including methylmercury and the Postville oil spill, as well as a timeline for the scope of work and information sessions.” To the Honourable Gerald Asivak, Minister of the Department of Health and Social Development, “May you please describe the efforts of the Mental Health Division to use a non-clinical, language and cultural approach for addressing the mental health issues within Nunatsiavut?” *Nakummek*. Are there further written questions around the Table? Oh, and there’s a fourth. To the Honourable

Tom Evans, Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technologies, "Can you please identify the following statistics for NG employment, including the percentage of Inuit in senior management, the percentage of non-Inuit in senior management, how many positions have opened up to the Upper Lake Melville due to difficulty recruiting, how many positions are in the Upper Lake Melville all together, and how many positions are located within Nunatsiavut all together?" That's four. Are there any other written questions around the Table? Seeing none, we're now moving on to Item Nine. Item Nine is, "Returns to Written Questions." Under Standing Order 34(4), Ministers and the President may choose to read the returns written questions. In your binder you will find the returns to written questions under Tab Three. The return to written questions will also be entered into the September Hansard. Would any of the Ministers or the President like to read their return to written questions? Seeing none, that brings us to Item 10. Item 10 is, "Petitions." There are no petitions today. We will move on to Item 11, "Responses to Petitions." There are no responses today. We will move on to Item 12, "Reports of Standing in Special Committees." There are no standing or special committee reports today, so we will move on to

Item 13. Item 13 is the, “Tabling of Documents.” I would like to recognize the Nunatsiavut Treasurer, the Honourable Tom Evans.

MR. EVANS: Honourable Speaker, I’m pleased to Table the following documents, the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* Presentation 2022, the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust* Presentation 2022, the Consolidated Financial Statements of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust*, and the Consolidated Financial Statements of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust*. Excuse me, did I miss one?

MALE: Yeah. The *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation...*

MR. EVANS: Oh, I’m sorry, the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust* Presentation 2022.

MR. WINTERS: Minister, I believe there are two more.

MR. EVANS: I think I read them, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: Okay. *Nakummek*, Honourable Minister. The documents presented are tabled and numbered as follows: *Tasiujatsoak Trust* Presentation 2022, which is Tabled Document 03-54, *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust* Presentation 2022, is Tabled Document 04-54, *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust* Presentation 2022 is Tabled Document 05-54, Consolidated Financial Statement of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement*

Trust is Tabled Document 06-54. Consolidated Financial Statements of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust* is Tabled Document 07-54. At this time, under Standing Order 33, I table for information of the Member, the Assembly sitting calendar for 2024 which will be Tabled Document 08-54. We now move on to Item 14. Item 14, "Notices of Motion." I would like to once again recognize the Nunatsiavut Treasurer, the Honourable Tom Evans.

MR. EVANS: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, November 22nd, 2023, I will move, seconded by the Ordinary Member for Rigolet, Ms. Melva Williams, that the Assembly convene as Committee of the Whole to receive the presentations from the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust*, the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust*, and the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*, with Rexanne Crawford and Isabella Pain as witnesses. And Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent of the Assembly under Standing Order 16(1) to deal with this motion today.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*. The Minister is seeking unanimous consent under Standing Order 16(1) to proceed with his motion today. Are there any, "Nays?" Seeing none, Minister Evans, you have unanimous consent so the motion will be made today at the appropriate time. There are no more notices of motions today, so we'll move on to

Item 16. Item 15. Item 15 is the, “Notices of motion for first reading of bills.” I recognize at this time, the Honourable President of Nunatsiavut.

PRESIDENT LAMPE:

Nakummek, UKatti. Honourable Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, November 22, 2023, I will move, seconded by the First Minister, the first reading of Bill 2023-04, “*The Helmets Act.*”
Nakummek, UKatti.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, President Lampe. I recognize the Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology, the Honourable Tom Evans.

MR. EVANS:

Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, November 22nd, 2023, I will move, seconded by the First Minister, the first reading of Bill 2023-05, “*The Civil Service Amendments Act 2023.*”

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Honourable Minister. We move on to Item 16, “Motions.” I would like to recognize the Nunatsiavut Treasurer, the Honourable Tom Evans.

MR. EVANS:

Thank you, Honourable Speaker. My motion is as follows: Whereas the Nunatsiavut Assembly is required to receive reports from the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust*, the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust*, and the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*, and

whereas the Assembly should consider the presentations of these Trusts, as Tabled in the Committee of the Whole with witnesses, now, therefore, I move, seconded by the Ordinary Member for Rigolet, the Honourable Melva Williams, that the Assembly convene as Committee of the Whole to receive the presentations of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust*, the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust*, and the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* with Rexanne Crawford and Isabella Pain as witnesses.

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

MR. EVANS: No, Honourable Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: Would anyone else like to speak to the motion? If no other Member wishes to speak, does the Minister wish to make final comments and close debate?

MR. EVANS: Yes, Honourable Speaker, I wish to close debate.

MR. WINTERS: That concludes debate. All those in favour of the motion? All those opposed? Seeing none, the motion is carried. We will now take five minutes for our witnesses to join us in the Committee of the Whole. *Nakummek*.

[Recess]

MR. WINTERS: We will take another 15 minutes to see if we can provide clearer versions of the printed documents. It looks like our printer is failing. *Nakummek.*

[Recess]

MR. WINTERS: Can everyone confirm that they have the presentations? And are they under Tab Seven? Okay. *Nakummek.*

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Welcome back. We are now back in the Committee of the Whole and although the Financial Statements have been tabled, we are not reviewing them, which is why you can address them as need be, but It's not part of this discussion. We will be beginning with Tabled Document 04-54 under Tab Seven in your binder. This is the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust* Presentation 2022.

MS. CRAWFORD: It is the third document in there. I think it's the third presentation, so it has the picture of the Bay and on the top, it states, "*Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust.*" I'll just give everyone a few moments to get to the right presentation. *Nakku.* Everyone has the correct presentation. So my name's Rexanne and I sit as a Trustee on the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust.* So I'm here, to present on the *Settlement Trust* for the year 2022. So if you turn to first page, the title of slide is called, "Background." The

Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust Indenture was settled on March 1st, 2010. This Trust was created for the purpose of acquiring and holding the Capital Transfer payments as noted under Chapter 19 of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement*. And this particular Trust shall qualify as an *Inuit Settlement Trust*, as defined in the *Tax Treatment Agreement*. So just as a refresher, the Nunatsiavut Government and the Government of Canada have a *Tax Treatment Agreement* that outlines many different tax, I guess, provisions, between the two Governments. And there is a section in there on the *Inuit Settlement Trust*. The next slide is called, "Capital Transfer Payments." The Capital Transfer is the fund that the Nunatsiavut Government received from the Government of Canada for the Settlement of the Land Claim. This transfer is a one-time settlement and was made in 15 installments. Details of the payment was outlined in Schedule 19-A of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement*. I'll just pause here for a moment. I know there are a couple of Members that aren't on the right presentation. I think it was the third one. *Nakummek*. So just to follow up on the Capital Transfer Payments, all payments have been received as of December 1st, 2020. The next slide outlines the objectives of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust*. The main purpose is to maintain, administer and invest the Chapter

18 payments. And also to distribute for the benefit of the beneficiaries, in accordance with the following principals: to promote, advance, develop and improve the well-being of eligible beneficiaries, to advance and develop Inuit culture, to provide assistance and means to advance education of eligible beneficiaries, to provide financial assistance for the delivery of social, health, recreational and housing facilities, services and programs for eligible beneficiaries, to provide financial assistance for the promotion, advancement and development of financial, business, entrepreneurial and employment skills of eligible beneficiaries. And the remaining objectives are outlined in the Trust Indentures. The next slide outlines who the eligible beneficiaries are. And I will note that this agrees to who eligible beneficiaries can be under the *Tax Treatment Agreement*. So they are the Nunatsiavut Government, the Inuit Community Governments, another *Inuit Settlement Trust*, any Inuk or Inuit, and any registered charity or non-profit organization within the meaning of the *Income Tax Act* that directly and indirectly benefits at least one or more Inuit. So before I go any further, are there any questions on the first few slides on the settlement trust?

MR. WINTERS:

Yes, Ms. Marjorie Flowers, when you're ready.

MS. FLOWERS: Just a question or clarification. Another Inuit Settlement Trust means what?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford?

MS. CRAWFORD: Yeah, if the Government or the Assembly were to establish another Trust that the Government of Canada would agree is a Settlement Trust, then they could apply for funding to this Trust as well. But there are no other designated Inuit Settlement Trusts.

MR. WINTERS: Yes, Mr. Dicker?

MR. DICKER: Could you elaborate a little more on that? It seems like that you're expecting another Trust to come up somewhere somehow. Right now we don't have one. Could you explain that more?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford?

MS. CRAWFORD: I guess back in the days of the negotiation between the then Labrador Inuit Association and the Government of Canada, they were trying to contemplate any potential circumstance that could happen in the future. So to make sure it covered what they felt were parameters that they would agree to in terms of Chapter 19 funds, they put forth that another Inuit Settlement Trust could potentially be an eligible beneficiary under this Fund.

MR. WINTERS: Yes, Ms. Barbour?

MS. BARBOUR: I know we're not going over the Financial Statements, but this is for 2022, and the Financial Statements are for 2021. Is there a reason why?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford?

MS. CRAWFORD: So we went through the Annual Report for 2021 last year. And at the time, the Audited Financial Statements were not completed. So once they were completed, we were able to table them with the Assembly. However, we've already prepared and presented the Annual Report back last November-, or September. Yeah, November, I think it was. So we're presenting on 2022.

MR. WINTERS: Yes, Ms. Barbour?

MS. BARBOUR: So are the Financial Statements for 2020 available somewhere, 'cause I don't think we-, I don't recall seeing them last year. Or did we do 2019 last year? And when should we expect the 2022 Financial Statements?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford?

MS. CRAWFORD: So all Financial Statements should be tabled with the-, have been tabled with the Assembly and were-, would be with the Clerk for requesting. 2022 Audit is in progress and we're hoping to have Financial Statements to be tabled by the January sitting. They're

working on them right now. We've been addressing questions.

Nakku.

MS. BARBOUR:

Nakku.

MR. WINTERS:

Are there any further questions at this time? Seeing none, Ms. Crawford, you may continue.

MS. CRAWFORD:

For the *Settlement Trust* Indenture speaks to a term called Distributable Cash Flow. And if you recall, at the last presentation we made on the *Settlement Trust*, there were a number of questions on the calculation of Distributable Cash Flow. The Trust Deed was very specific but during the first 11 fiscal years of the Fund there would be no Distributable Cash Flow made to any eligible beneficiary other than the Nunatsiavut Government. Distributable Cash Flow is defined in the Trust Indenture with a very specific calculation. And restrictions to Distributable Cash is also defined in the Trust Indenture. Year 12 was in 2021. And there were delays from the *Settlement Trust* in accepting funding request due to the global pandemic. We have now completed the applications and procedures. If you proceed to the next slide, we'll go through the application process. There are key details to this process. There's one application deadline per year. The Statement of Principals and Purpose for the application is consistent with those in the Trust Indenture. We have the Distributable Cash Flow

calculations and restrictions as outlined in the Trust Indenture.

And you'll note the application package, it said is attached-, I have it here to ask the pages to pass around a copy for everyone. And this will be uploaded to the Nunatsiavut Government website as well as emailed out. If I can have a Page.

MR. WINTERS: Excuse me, Pages? Please distribute this document for Ms. Crawford. *Nakummek.*

MS. CRAWFORD: We'll just pause for a moment till the application is passed around. And then we'll walk you through the application. As a note, this is a fillable form, so you can go on electronically and just input-, type in all the information. There are items that will need to be attached, but we'll go through it as soon as everyone has a copy to review.

MR. WINTERS: Yes, absolutely, Ms. Barbour?

MS. BARBOUR: Is the Distributable Cash Flow, would that be under-, Page 8, sorry, would that be what is defined as, "Cash on hand," in Note three of the Financial Statements, even though it's for 2021, but I would assume it would be the same for 2022 but different numbers? Am I making sense?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford?

MS. CRAWFORD:

Sorry, I can't turn on my mic until the other one is turned off. But no, it is not. So cash-on-hand is not distributable cash flow. Under Article 4.1 of the Trust Indenture, there is a computation of Distributable Cash Flow of the fund. I'm just-, I know for those listening, they can't hear, pretty much this whole page of the Trust Indenture goes through the calculations. So it shall be equal. If everyone wants me to read it out, "All cash amounts that are received by the fund for and in respect of such distribution period including amounts on account of interest, income, royalties, distributions, dividends and returns on capital in respect of such distribution period and such other amounts as may be determined from time to time by the Trustees or the General Manager to be included in Distributable Cash Flow, provided that for greater certainty, certain capital contributions to the fund by the Nunatsiavut Government or by a designated Inuit organization, the proceeds of any loans and the expenses of such loans shall not be included in the calculations of Distributable Cash Flow with respect to any distribution period, less all liabilities of the Fund," I'm not gonna read word-for-word but, those that may be accrued or owing, related to the Distribution Period or a prior Distribution Period if had not been accrued, including any interest payable and all amounts which relate to the repayment of a principal amount of

any indebtedness, any amount in addition to those amounts set above, to which the Trustee or the General Manager may reasonably consider to be necessary to provide for the payment of any liabilities which have been or will be incurred by the Fund, including any Tax liability, and any amount as determined at the discretion of the Trustee as applicable for purpose of complying with Section 3.4-, 3.4 speaks to the Capital Reserve and there are many items in these clauses under the Trust Deed that are defined terms in the Trust Deed. There are things you have to look at in terms of the computation of income, and the computation of net realized capital gains. And so all those have to be factored into looking at what has to be for the calculation of Distributable Cash Flow. So cash in the bank is not Distributable Cash Flow. And you won't find it in your Financial Statements to say, "Oh, this is the amount of Distributable Cash Flow." It's not that.

MR. WINTERS:

Are there any questions? Seeing none.

MS. CRAWFORD:

So in front of you, you have the application form. The first page goes through the Purpose, which are the same as what I just went through earlier on in this presentation. It goes through the Statement of Principles. And priorities will be given to applicants whose activities contribute to: Sustaining Inuit society and community in perpetuity, recognizing Inuit Society as a collective

community, impacting beneficiaries in a collective manner as opposed to individually, maintaining the connection of beneficiaries to the Land Claims Area, contribution to Inuit society and community that has a lasting duration and effect, supporting the self sufficiency of Inuit communities and maintaining accountability in the use of Distributed Funds from the Trust, such as maintaining safeguards to ensure Trust Funds are properly accounted for, and recognition of the need to provide adequate financial reporting for recipient organizations. The next part is the, "Eligibility to Apply," which we've gone through. The application is then broken down into different parts that will cover items such as the Applicant's Information, the funding information which includes the amount being requested, as well as other sources of funding for your project. Part Three has Application Information which is about your project or what the funding will be used for. It has a request for which agency will be responsible for the financial administration of the funds. And it notes that Audited Financial Statements will be required if the funding is over \$100,000. For funds less than \$100,000, a Financial Statement at the end of the project will be required to be submitted. There's a section for the Proposed Budget which would have to be attached. The last part is the authorization and is signing off as that you have the authority

to submit this application on behalf of the organization that's applying for the funding. The deadline date will be on an annual basis, November 30th. We recognize that this is late for this particular year, but we did not want to release the application before we had an opportunity to present it to the elected officials here at the Assembly. We have been discussing internally to extend the date to December 15th, and then we do have an email address and mailing address that the applications can be sent to. So what you will find now is that-, I'll use the example of Inuit Community Governments. There are now three opportunities to apply for funding. You have September 30th for the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*. You have November 30th for the *Settlement Trust*, and then March 31st for the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* again. So there are three opportunities to apply for funding to two of the Trusts. I'll pause here to see if there are any questions on the application?

MR. WINTERS:

Yes, Mr. Jeff Montague?

MR. MONTAGUE:

Yes, under the, "Eligible Applicants," this-, the Inuit Community Governments, would that also include the Community Corporations?

MS. CRAWFORD:

You would fit under the clause of a non-profit organization. And I think it speaks to-, with the meaning under the *Income Tax Act* and my understanding is you do file T2s as an NPO. Yeah.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Ms. Barbour?

MS. BARBOUR: *Nakku.* Just for clarity for me, the deadlines includes this year but there is an extension to the 15th, is it, of December, for this year?
Okay. Nakku.

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Williams.

MS. CRAWFORD: That is correct.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you. Further to that question, my understanding, this is the first time we've had this program application developed and available to people. And with the deadline as December 15th, which would only give people two weeks to apply, is there any option to extend that so people-, where it's a new program, they might need to take some time to prepare and get things together in order to make application?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford or Ms. Pain?

MS. CRAWFORD: I mean, we can take that back for consideration. I think that the process and the application is very similar to the *T. Trust* application and process. So, you know, it would be really if it's a brand-new entity or brand-new proposal that needs to be developed from scratch. We're looking at some of these maybe ones that have applied and didn't get funded for other projects. But we definitely can take it back. We were trying-, the reason the

date, November 30th is selected as well is that the Trustees have a meeting always in January. So it's-, it will flow with having three application dates and then tie right into a meeting in early January. So we definitely can take it back for consideration and communicate out if there will be a change in that date.

MR. WINTERS: Yes, Ms. Barbour?

MS. BARBOUR: I'm not trying to play devil's advocate or anything too, but I think-, additionally I think, like, ICG's or individuals wanting to avail of funding pots already kind of have an idea of what they need funding for, so it might be a previous proposal to a different *Trust* or et cetera. So even though I think it's safe to say that some of us here will get back to our communities and get right on filling out these applications. But just for that little bit of hindsight too, as well.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Ms. Crawford-, or, wait. Are there any further questions right now? Not seeing any, Ms. Crawford, you may continue.

MS. CRAWFORD: So if we look on the next part of the presentation speaks to the qualifications of the Trustees. So to carry out the powers and the authorities found in the Trust Indenture, Trustees should have the following characteristics: The ability and desire to learn advanced

investment theory, skills to develop, revise and implement an investment policy, ability to review and assess the performance of investment managers, and the ability to make difficult funding decisions, the ability to say, “No.” The Trustees undergo continuing education to stay abreast of investment theories, policies, and practices. On the next slide it outlines the current Trustees of the *Settlement Trust*: Isabella Pain, Michael Flatters, myself, as Comptroller of the Government, Daniel Bennett and Sarah Leo. Composition of the Trustees is outlined in the Trust Indenture. There are parameters around the number of Trustees who are employees, the minimum number who are Inuk, minimum number who live in the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area, and gender, to name a few of those parameters. We’ll move on to the Investments. So our investments are governed by what we call, “SIPP,” a Statement of Investment Policies and Principles. Embedded in that is an Asset Mixed Policy. The Investment Policy was amended in July 2022 to comprise generally of-, so we have 60 percent of the funds in Equities. And this is broken down between Global Equities, Canadian Equities, Emerging Market Equities, Global Small Cap. We have five percent in Fixed Income, 10 percent in Real Estate. And again, that’s broken down between Canadian and Global Real Estate, five percent in Infrastructure

Equity, five percent in Alternatives, 3.5 percent in Private Debt, 3.5 percent in Infrastructure Debt, and three percent in Farmland and Timberland. You'll note on this policy we currently do not have a fund manager for Global Real Estate. We do have a fund manager selected. However, we have some discussions ongoing with the Government of Canada on our ability to be able to invest with that particular fund manager. And it's been ongoing for a couple of years. We're nearing the end of our discussions, I believe, but-, so we haven't moved that money into that particular fund yet. On the next page, it speaks to the Asset Based...

MR. WINTERS:

Yes, Ms. Barbour, you have a question?

MS. BARBOUR:

Yeah. So the percentages of these, when you add them up is to 95 percent. Is that of the total-, so you do 60 percent plus 5 plus 10 plus 5, 5, 3.5, 3.5 and 3 percent is 95 percent. I would assume 95 all together? So 95 percent of the funds are being invested into these different categories and agencies or something? So I just wondered, where's the other five percent, and?

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Crawford?

MS. CRAWFORD:

There is definitely 100 percent on the Asset Mixed Policy. Just give me one moment.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Excuse me, could I speak?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Williams?

MS. WILLIAMS: Just looking through, if you add up the Equities under-, and under the Equities in all the blue, it totals 65 percent, not 60.

MR. WINTERS: There's a typo. Ms. Crawford?

MS. CRAWFORD: Thank you, Melva, very much. So there was a typo. I knew there was a hundred. I've gone through the numbers individually. So 65 percent in Equities. And that is because in 2022 we reinvested-, we invested money into the Global Small Cap, which was an addition and the number wasn't changed on the top part. My apologies for that. So we monitor the Asset Mixed Policy quarterly to ensure that all investments are made within the terms of the approved policy. And your policy does allow for a plus or minus on either end of a couple of percent, just to-, you know, you can't always be perfect on the five percent when you're having income come into Equities or you're distributing cash out into a closed-end fund. But every quarter we receive a monitoring report that is quite extensive. I think I printed the *Settlement Trust* one for December and it's a hundred and something pages that we review on a quarterly basis. Under this particular Trust, investments must generally be eligible investments for RRSP's in order to enjoy the *Settlement Trust* status, which is a tax exempt and on investment income under the *Tax Treatment Agreement* that we have with

Canada and the Province. So this requires very careful monitoring which goes back to-, you'll see the Global Real Estate, we haven't invested in. And the fund manager we selected because it doesn't quite fit in with the RRSP's but we are having some discussions with Canada on that particular item. As well as monitoring the Asset Mixed Policy, if you turn to the next page, we also monitor each Individual fund manager. So a fund manager is hired to do a particular job. Some of them may be hired to be a Defensive Manager and protect the funds when the markets are going down. Some are, like, core quality. They're stock pickers. So they'll look at very good companies and invest in a particular company and a pool of companies. Some look at plots and make decisions based on those types of things. So when fund managers are selected, each quarter we review the following items on each fund manager: We look at changes in the ownership structure, personnel, philosophy of the firm, investment management process and investment style. We look at what mandates they've gained, what ones they've lost during the last quarter. We compare the assets under management by asset class at the end to the beginning of the next one. We compare it year over year. We look at the main characteristics of the portfolio at the end of each semester in comparison with those of the Market Index. We look at price-

earnings ratios, dividend yields, earnings growth, average capitalization for equities, term structure of the portfolio, average term, duration, allocation by sector, average quality when you're looking at bonds, and we look at any other event regarding the firm that could be relevant for us to be aware of. We do have a qualified investment advisor who helps and prepares quarterly monitoring reports that covers the items that I just noted, as well as data such as performance relative to objectives, portfolio characteristics relative to our expectations, performance analysis, annualized performance over a year, two years, three years, four years, five years and also since inception of the fund and inception of our mandate. We also meet three times a year as Trustees to review the quarterly reports. Trustees meet annually with each fund manager face-to-face or at times virtually, as we did throughout the global pandemic, to review their detailed performance. We talk about their investment management style, the organization and other relevant matters. And when certain events occur, under our policy, close monitoring may have to occur, and we may meet with the fund managers on a monthly basis or more frequently. We may meet-, get performance reports quarterly, monthly, more frequently. It depends on what type of monitoring we're undergoing. So I'll pause here on the monitoring,

'cause I know we've just gone through the Asset Mixed Policy and the Monitoring Policy that's relevant to the Trust Deeds-, each Trust.

MR. WINTERS: Yes, Ms. Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR: Who are the fund managers for each community?

MS. CRAWFORD: So if you go back to the slide that had the Asset Mixed Policy, each fund manager for each particular fund was listed on the right-hand side. As an example, Fiera Capital Management is one of our Global Equity Managers. Axiom Infrastructure is our Infrastructure Equity Manager, Hancock Timberland and Farmland Fund which operates under Manulife now, is our Farmland and Timberland funds. But every manager is listed on the Asset Mixed Policy on the right-hand side.

MR. WINTERS: Are there any questions? You can continue, Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD: The next slide talks about Annualized Performance, and this is as of December 31st, 2022. There are a couple things to take note of. This is a five-year chart. And so for the fund-, it says, "Total fund," so that was the percentage of earnings and which also includes unrealized earnings for the year. We have a benchmark. So whenever you hire a fund manager, you say, "Okay, we're going to have a benchmark where our Real Estate says that you're gonna

earn between five to seven percent a year.” That’s their benchmark. And then you monitor them against that benchmark to see if they’re doing their job. The Median is in terms of all the fund managers in that particular sector, whether it’s equities, infrastructure, debt, et cetera, what is the average of those fund managers earning? So on a one-year basis, the *Settlement Trust* had a -5.89 percent. The benchmark was 5.1 percent negative and the medium, the average fund manager was earning a -9.01 percent. The term underneath it is a quartile ranking. So of all the fund managers in that particular-, in our kind of space for each of the different sectors-, we were in the first quartile of earning. So while it was a -5 percent, we were in the top 25 percent of any fund of earnings. Average funds were bringing in a -9 percent for the year 2022. So we were in the first quartile which means that the Asset Mixed Policy and the fund managers that we’re investing in and the work that we’re doing, we’re doing well. One of the things that was pointed out to us is that we’ve had stable returns on our funds on all three Trusts consistently, over a very long period of time which is exceptionally hard to achieve. And so I had made a note of that when we were going through the presentation in October. It was one of the things that were pointed out to us, ‘cause it is sometimes hard to make difficult decisions, to let a fund

manager go, to look at things and understand what's happening. So if you look over the last five years, three of the last five years we've been in the first quartile, so the top 25 percent of, you know, Trusts or investment funds, we've been in the top 25 percent. And in one year, we were Q2 plus which means we were on that breaking point of, you know, we could've almost just been in the first quartile. So our advisor calls it that, "Plus." It's that really close point. And four years ago we were in the second quartile. The reason that we're in a negative is because of the downturn in the market and the very complex environment that the stock market and other inflation and interest rates have caused. But those are what we call, unrealized or unappreciated, unrealized capital gains or capital losses in terms of-, you've probably heard me say this over a long period of time of coming here-, like, you take your one dollar. You put it in the bank. That's your book value. And then your market value is when it grows. So if it, you know, or it goes down. So if you had it grow last year and it was \$1.50 and you didn't take it out, that money is still in the bank. It's \$1.50. So this year it went down and it's \$1.25. So, you know, on paper, we have an unrealized loss. But as long as we leave that money in the bank, next year it could grow again, and which is what we've seen over time is that our funds have consistently had

stable returns and grown. So the bulk of what you're seeing in the 2022 year is unrealized losses. And that still hasn't eroded our book value. So if you go to the next page on the, "Financial Update," the last bullet speaks that, the fund has increased by \$47.5 million over its original book values. For that every dollar that we've invested in and every income that we've received, like the interest, has been reinvested. This fund now is almost \$50 million than what the original value that we put into that fund. So it's doing very well. I'm not sure, Isabella, if you had anything you wanted to add on the *Settlement Trust*? That concludes the presentation. I know there's a lot of information in here and we're always open for questions, so-, and I'm not saying we're done with questions now. But if, as you leave, and you're reflecting on the presentations, please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or want to understand something. We're always here to answer questions to the best of our ability. *Nakummek*.

MR. WINTERS: Are there any further questions around the Table? Yes, recognizing Ms. Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR: Thank you. So the disbursements, is that what would be available to distribute through the application process on this last one?

MS. CRAWFORD: No. And I will be really honest, we haven't calculated the Distributable Cash Flow for the last period, but it is not a number

that we'll be able to pick out in any of the presentations that we've given to you. This comes from our Investment Statements. So this was the value at January 1st that we had in all our investment funds. Contributions and Transfers and Disbursements, we collapsed some funds out of Fiera Capital that was invested in fixed income. So those money, or what you will see on the \$69 million for, "Contributions and Transfers," they also compose the Disbursements that you see because that money was then disbursed into another fund managers and invested into those fund managers. We earned 4 million investment income. We did have a loss on the Fiera Funds because we were in fixed income in bonds. And in this market with rising interest rates, bonds are not favourable. And so we were monitoring this particular fund manager and watching it. And we had to make the difficult decision to collapse the fund, to leave a fund manager that we had been with since the beginning and invest our funds into other areas that would protect the money and help grow the funds over a longer period of time. And based on our analysis, it's worked. It's been a positive change for the Trust Fund over time, so far.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Ms. Williams.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Thank you. On the Financial Update at the Value at the beginning, I'm not sure-, that's not a number I can recognize or compute in my

head. I don't know what is that. And as well, I'm still-, even if that number was there and there was one too many numbers there, how does that correlate between the value and in-, where is that? Like at the end of the day, from the beginning of January 1 to December 31st, what's that gain or loss in total dollars?

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Crawford?

MS. CRAWFORD:

So there was an additional two after-, it's 294,214. That two shouldn't be there. And the value at December 31st is \$291,075. So our Investment Statement that we receive, the Contributions or Transfers were monies that came in from funds that were collapsed. We earned Investment Income of four million on various-, all our funds. That's what came in throughout the year. We had a Realized Loss of 11 million. So when you total those three together, there's another 2 there that shouldn't be there. Sorry, I should've picked up on that when I was adding them all through. So 65 million, I think is 62 million. And then your Disbursements were the monies that we reinvested in the fund managers and we had an unrealized loss in the year of 9.4 million for a total value at the end of 291,075. And that's what's in all the fund managers to date, at the end of December.

MR. WINTERS:

Are there further questions? Yes, Ms. Flowers?

MS. FLOWERS: I don't know if my question will make sense or if I'm misunderstanding. So if all this money is invested, how much is left to apply for?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford?

MS. CRAWFORD: We don't have the calculation done on Distributable Cash Flow, but we do have funds that are available to be collapsed and liquidated very easily in order to meet our Distributable Cash Flow needs.

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Flowers?

MS. FLOWERS: And that means what?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Pain?

MS. PAIN: I don't know if I can make this a little bit less complicated. So we have all the-, Rexanne talked about all the investments we have. Some are fairly easy to take our money out. So we'll do the calculation as set out in the Trust Deed as to what the Distributable Cash Flow is, and if, when the applications come in and we review them and we need money to go out, we'll go to our investments. We'll look at our Asset Mixed Policy and say, "We have to take cash from here, here and here." So we'll reduce our investments, get cash and be able to pay it out, basically, in a simplified way.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Are there further questions? Not seeing any, witnesses, you may continue.

MS. PAIN: Okay, so we're gonna carry on. And I'm going to do the-, start with the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust*. It should be the one right in front of the one you're looking at, I believe. So it should be the middle presentation.

MR. WINTERS: Does everyone have it and have you found them in your binders? Yes. Sorry for anyone who didn't hear, that's the *Implementation Trust*.

MR. WINTERS: Witnesses, when you're ready to continue.

MS. PAIN: Okay, *Nakummek*. So I'm gonna start with the Background and Objectives of the *Implementation Trust*. This Trust was settled on May 7, 2007. And the objectives of this Trust are really quite simple. They were-, it was to receive and invest the *Labrador Inuit Land Agreement* Chapter 23 payments, which are around implementation obligations for the Land Claim. We are also-, the objective is also to create a capital reserve of 75 percent of all Capital Transfers received from the Nunatsiavut Government and at least 15 percent of the income from the Fund. All payments have been received from the Government of Canada. So there are no new dollars coming into this Trust from any source, other than our investment income. On the next page, it talks about the eligible beneficiaries and there is only one eligible beneficiary for this particular Trust and that is the Nunatsiavut Government. And

in fact, every year when you do a budget there is a income line there that says a percentage from the *Implementation Trust*, which is the Trust gives NG to help implement its obligations under the Land Claim. So that's already being done and has been being done since 2007. There are three Trustees on the *Implementation Trust*: Myself, Michael Flatters and Patty Dicker. You've seen the next slide already, in terms of the Qualification of Trustees. It's the same qualifications that Rexanne identified as she went through the *Settlement Trust* presentation. So unless there's questions, I will just carry on because I'm assuming people have understood that one. I'm gonna flip through to the next slide which is on the Investments. And I'll probably have the same addition error there which it should say, "65 percent equities." So this Investment Policy, similar to the Settlement Trust was amended in 2022. And we have 65 percent in Equities, 22 in Canadian, 18 in Global, 12 percent in Global Equities Low Volatility, another three percent with a different manager in Global, five percent in Emerging Markets and five percent in Global Small Cap. There is in addition to that, in that the *Settlement Trust* is not able to invest in JP Morgan Emerging Markets, right? That's the correct one? Yes. So there is one that the *Settlement Trust* is not able to enter into because of the requirements of the *Tax Treatment Agreement*. We

have five percent in Fixed Income. We have 10 percent in total in Real Estate, five percent in Canadian and five percent in Global Real Estate. We have five percent Infrastructure Equity, five percent in Alternatives, 3.5 percent in Private Debt, 3.5 percent in Infrastructure Debt, and three percent in Farmland, Timberland. The Asset Mixed Policy, again, similar to the *Settlement Trust*. It's monitored quarterly to ensure that all investments are made in terms of the approved policy. I'm not gonna go through the next two slides, "Monitoring of Fund Managers," and-, because it's very-, it is the same as for the *Settlement Trust*, so it's not necessary to go through it unless there are more questions on that, then we can absolutely discuss that. I'm gonna skip to the next-, to the slide that says, "Annualized Performance, December 31, 2022," which is the Table. And so for-, in one year, the Total Fund returned -5.21 percent. The benchmark, which is what we're measuring ourselves against or holding our investment managers against, was -5.15 percent. The median was 9.01 percent, which meant even though it was a negative return, we were still in the top 25 percent of all managers in that investment in one year. I'm going to skip across right to the Five-Year Return which is one of the comparatives we often look at. So over a five-year period the total fund earned 6.6 percent. The benchmark, which is what we compare ourselves to is

at 6.57 percent. So we beat the benchmark by .3 percent. And we are-, again, we were in the first quartile ranking of investment-, with Investment Policy we have. I'm gonna flip to the next page, which is the Financial Update, from December 31, 2022. So the value at the beginning of 2022 was 515,787. We had contributions in transfers of 129 million, Investment Income of 10,525, and again Realized Gains or Losses of 17,942. Again, that's because we collapsed some investments. We had disbursements of 91 million. We had Unrealized Losses of 18 million with a value at the end of \$527,497. And the fund itself has increased approximately 75.3 million over its book value since inception. So that's the end of this presentation. I'll be happy to take any questions if anyone has any.

MR. WINTERS: Yes, Ms. Barbour?

MS. BARBOUR: I can't remember off the top of my head, but just for informational purposes, can you identify the numbers that are also outlined in *LILCA* in terms of the book value? I think it was 11 million received for the *Settlement Trust*, is it, or something? There's some kinda number somewhere in *LILCA*.

MS. WILLIAMS: Ms. Pain.

MS. PAIN: (Inaudible.)

MS. CRAWFORD: If you were-, so it wasn't 11 million but that might've been the initial contribution on year zero. I don't have *LILCA* in front of me-, my apologies-, for Schedule 19 or Schedule 23. But if you look at Note One of the Financial Statements that you have in front of you, it talks about the value. I think one is 145 million in 1997 dollars. And another one, I think was a hundred and fifty-something million in 1997 dollars, is how they refer to it under-, in the chapters.

MS. PAIN: This one was 115 million in 1997 dollars.

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Barbour, is that sufficient?

MS. BARBOUR: Yeah, it is but I had one more question. It's about the Financial Statement. And I know you mentioned we're not going over it, but I wanted to ask while we're here, on Page Three of this Financial Statement under (inaudible)...

MR. WINTERS: Can the Member make sure to speak at the mic?

MS. BARBOUR: Oh, sorry. On Page Three of the Financial Statements under, "Assets", it says, "Due from Nunatsiavut Government," and there's a number there. But under, "Liabilities," it says, "Due to Nunatsiavut Government." So I was just wondering can't one of the numbers just erase each other out?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford?

MS. CRAWFORD: Under generally accepted accounting principals, they cannot be, yeah.

MR. WINTERS: Are there further questions? Yes, Mr. Dicker?

MR. DICKER: Probably the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation*, the *Labrador Inuit Settlement Trust*, is that all because of Voisey's Bay? Would there be another Trust come by later, say uranium inside Postville or the rare earth minerals? Would there be more money for NG?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Pain?

MS. PAIN: So there are number of-, there's four Trusts that have been established currently. The *Settlement Trust* is the Land Claims Settlement dollars out of Chapter 19 in the *Land Claim Agreement*. That's said and done. We won't be getting any more money from the Government of Canada for that. The one I just spoke about-, Implementation is Chapter 21 of the *Land Claim Agreement* which is the *Implementation Trust* and it's for us to cover our obligations towards implementing the claim. This is all the money that's been received. There'll be no more funding there. I'm gonna speak about in a few minutes, when we're ready to go there, the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*, which is-, was established specifically to deal with the *Voisey's Bay Impact and Benefit Agreement*. And so we do

have funds in here which we're gonna get into the details. If there are any other developments and that we'd negotiate an impact and benefit for, it would be up to the Government to decide whether a Trust will be created or how that-, any of that income would be managed. So yes, we are able to create more Trusts to manage specific projects or to receive other income, as decided when things happen. You can't add those dollars to the Implementation or Settlement dollars because we have arrangements with the Government of Canada specifically for those two Trusts, because they are tied directly to the *Land Claim Agreement*.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Mr. Dicker, go ahead.

MR. DICKER:

So in the event of a new development, like you said, uranium money in Postville or rare earth minerals, that would be under the *Impact and Benefits Agreement* which would add to this?

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Pain?

MS. PAIN:

Yeah, we wouldn't add to the *Implementation or Settlement Trust*. Those will not change. Like what's in them is in them, other than its own investment income. We could possibly amend the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* if necessary or another Trust could be created to manage that. Those decisions would be made at some future date

if there were such a project that was approved to proceed and if there was an *Impact and Benefit Agreement* associated with it.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Mr. Dicker? No further questions? Are there- yes, Ms. Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR:

Nakku. I know the only beneficiary for the *Implementation Trust* is the NG, right? So in terms of investment income, like, would it be an application process too when-, like is it in the position-, is the Trust in a position now to transfer or whatever kind of term is used in terms of giving the money to the NG I guess for its programs and services? Like-, 'cause I was just thinking about the situation with the *Capital Strategy Trust* where there's like, these tax implications being considered. I'm just wondering if there might be a known date of when the NG might be seeing or would it be an application process, like, when the NG would be seeing transfers of funds to support its programs and services? For example, like a Food Security pot or, you know, hunters support pot or something? Did I make sense?

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Crawford?

MS. CRAWFORD:

So under the *Budget Act*, 50 percent of the investment income earned on the *Implementation Trust* in the year prior to the Budget is already budgeted and it's under the Schedule-, I think it's in

Schedule Two under the Table called, "Own Source Revenue." So-, and that's for tax purposes of the *Implementation Trust*.

Remember it's not a *Settlement Trust*. So it doesn't get those tax-free provisions. The way we help with that taxability is by giving 50 percent of the investment income to NG to help support their budgets, programs and services et cetera in any given year. At particular times, we, when we're fighting a provision under the *Land Claim Agreement*-, so for an example, we all know we've taken the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to Court and have gone through an extensive legal process. That was funded separately, outside of that 50 percent of the investment income, by the *Implementation Trust* because it was directly related to implementation of the *Land Claim Agreement*. So in terms of what the funds can be used for under the *implementation Trust*, you have to be very aware that Chapter 23 was specific to funds being provided to implement that *Land Claim Agreement*.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*. Yes, Mr. Dicker.

MR. DICKER: Just how do you put it-, now, Implementation, you're in Court with Newfoundland on that. Can I ask a question? How long do you expect to be in Court to get that settled? It's been going on for years and years.

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford?

MS. CRAWFORD:

I know it's not related to the particular presentations, however, the Supreme Court of Canada-, we had applied for leave under the Supreme Court of Canada, in order to proceed to the Supreme Court of Canada. They have directed Nunatsiavut Government and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador back under the Dispute Resolution Provisions under Chapter 21. And so our legal team is working through what that means in terms of Dispute Resolution under Chapter 21. There have been frequent meetings on the matter between our Internal, External Legal Teams and the team internally working on this matter. Yes, it's been a very long time.

MR. WINTERS:

Mr. Dicker?

MR. DICKER:

Just one more question. When you talk about a Legal Team, it's a different legal team than the legal advice we get from Mark Gillette, is it?

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Pain?

MS. PAIN:

Yeah, for the litigations, we hire expert legal counsel who are involved in litigations and Indigenous Rights is what they do. So our legal teams work with expert legal teams as we have these situations occur.

MR. WINTERS: Are there further questions regarding the *Implementation Trust*?

Yes, Ms. Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR: It's not necessarily a question, but more so a compliment. A good job again on taking care of Labrador Inuit dollars and it's refreshing to hear that you guys are of the top 25 percent in terms of investment and investment theory et cetera. So, way to go.

MR. WINTERS: Are there any further questions or comments at this time? Seeing none we will remain in the Committee of the Whole, but I'm going to recommend we take a 30-minute break before getting to the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*. *Nakummek*.

[Recess]

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*. We are now back in the Committee of the Whole. I will ask the witnesses to continue where we left off. *Nakummek*.

MS. PAIN: *Nakummek*. We're gonna start now with the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* Annual Report. It should be the first one in your binder, so if everybody has it there. I'll start with the background. Oh, I'll just wait. Tab Seven is the first slide you'll-, or document you'll open. So I'll start with the background and objectives. This Trust was created in 2002, as a result of the signing of the *Voisey's Bay Impact and Benefit Agreement*. It was actually created by the LIA Board at the time. The objectives of this Trust are to receive and

invest payments received under the 2002 *Impacts and Benefits Agreement*, as well, to disburse funds to enable Nunatsiavut Government to meet its obligations under the IBA, to assist the seven community volunteer centres to meet community needs, to reduce negative impacts of Voisey's Bay Project, to promote social, cultural, educational, language and business initiatives. There are a number of eligible beneficiaries on the next slide. The Nunatsiavut Government. Charitable organizations who meet specific criteria-, basically, they have to be working for the best interest of Inuit. And also an eligible beneficiary is a community or a class of Inuit.

MR. WINTERS:

Yes, Mr. Dicker.

MR. DICKER:

What does a class of Inuit mean-, different types of Inuit or what?

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Pain?

MS. PAIN:

The way the Trustees have interpreted that is, for example, we fund the Rigolet Youth Centre, so they're a class of Inuit in the communities. It's for youth. We fund other seniors' projects like the Seniors' Van. So for seniors as a group of Inuit specifically. So that's how we interpret it and-, 'cause there are no other directions other than the community or class. We know the ICG's have applied for funding and have received funding from the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*. Various Nunatsiavut Government Departments

have applied for and received funding from the Trust. and we'll go through some of that closer to the end of the presentation.

MR. WINTERS: Yes, Mr. Saunders?

MR. SAUNDERS: It says right there, "To assist seven community volunteer centres."
Which centres are they?

MS. PAIN: So the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* Deed established seven community volunteer centres. There's one in each of the Inuit Communities, one in North West River and one in Goose Bay.

MR. WINTERS: Any further questions right now? You may continue, Ms. Pain.

MS. PAIN: *Nakummek*. So the current Trustees are Michael Flatters, Sharon Pevie, myself, Tiffany Flowers and Darryl Shiwak. The Qualification of Trustees, I'm going to skip over because again, it's similar to what we've just seen with the other two Trusts. I'll go the slide on the Asset Mixed Policy and the Investments. And again, similar to the other ones, the Investment Policy was amended in 2022 to comprise generally, of 65 equities, five percent fixed income, 10 real estate, five percent infrastructure equity, five percent alternatives, three and a half percent private debt, three and a half percent in infrastructure debt and three percent in farmland, timberland. This is the same Investment Policy as we went through with the *Implementation Trust*. The next slide is a little bit

complicated and it's hard to see if it's not in colour and mine is not in colour. It's in black and white. So basically, to just summarize this quick slide and what we're trying to prove is that we were trying to talk about-, when this Trust was originally established, it was a Trust that invested in 60 percent equities, 40 percent bonds. That was it. None of these other alternatives we've talked about because we didn't know anything at the time. We were new Trustees and so we were getting in slowly. So what we've done since we've changed our Asset Mixed Policy, we've done back-testing to try and say, "Has the decision from 60/40 to the number of different investments we have now, has that benefited the Trust? And if you look at the bottom line, mine shows, like, little orange scissors over there. That's where we would've been if it were 60/40. And at the top is where we are because have this diversification. So this is back-testing. We didn't know this going ahead. We were making assumptions based on diversification and understanding why we would need to be diversified. So we did do the back-testing for this Trust to just, to say, "Did it work?" And what we've seen from this slide is that it does-, it has diversified and has benefited the Trust. We can skip over the, "Monitoring of Fund Managers," slides because they, again, are very similar to what we've done. And we'll go to the, "Annualized Performance."

Very similar to the other Trusts. Our first year, "One-Year Performance," our Total Fund performed at -5.29 percent. The benchmark was -5.15. As you can see, we were below the benchmark. The median was 9.01 percent. But at the end of the year, we were still in the first quartile, so we were still performing at the top 25 percent. In terms of the five-year mark for this particular fund, the total fund was at-, the return was 6.67 percent. The benchmark was at 6.57 percent. So we have added value there of .10 percent. And that put is over a five-year period-, we were at the Q1 plus, so at the high end of the first quartile of all the 25 percent manager. So the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* over a five-year period has done very well. I'm gonna go to the slide on the Financial...

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Pain? We have a question. Ms. Barbour, when you're ready.

MS. BARBOUR:

Sorry, I meant to ask this in the last presentation too as well. In terms of the years, when does that state from the-, is it from the beginning or since 2022 projecting into the next five years or was it the last five years?

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Pain?

MS. PAIN:

So when we talk about one year, it's our performance over 2022. Two years is 2021. So this five-years is just five years back. And normally, we will also have a column that says, "Since Inception." I

don't have that on here-, which tells you how you've performed since we have started the investment.

MR. WINTERS: Are there further questions at this time? Yes, Mr. Sheppard.

MR. SHEPPARD: Yes do you-, I don't see it on here-, do you know when you started disbursing the money or the funds, the investments?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Pain?

MR. SHEPPARD: Is it from the five years that you wrote here?

MS. PAIN: In terms of distribution? So this Trust has been distributing funds from day one.

MR. SHEPPARD: I mean from the-, first you said you're doing 60/40 for the first while.

MS. PAIN: I can't speak about when we-, I can't remember the year we actually started to diversify, but this-, it wasn't over one year. We-, Rexanne might be able to answer the question. So we started by 60/40, then we slowly changed that and we've added pieces as we've gone on through the years, including up to the last year, 2022, we continued to diversify. But Rexanne, if you wanna jump in on that. I can't remember all the years we added. We've added various pieces as we've gone on. So we didn't-, the Asset Mix that you see didn't all happen in one day. It's been like bit-by-bit as we've done education, training, talking to managers, and

understanding that we've ended up with this Asset Mix. Do you wanna add?

MS. CRAWFORD:

So to add to what Isabella said, I think it was around 2012 that we actually started diversification but not out of the 60/40. So we were initially in 60 percent Canadian Equities. So the first step we made was to go Global and Canadian Equities. And then we went into Real Estate. We went into Canadian Real Estate and then we went into Global Real Estate and then we made the decision to go into Infrastructure. And as Isabella mentioned, there's a lot of education for us to understand and to be comfortable with those types of funds. So your traditional 60/40 Equity and Bonds, it's very liquid. You can cash out your money. Some of the funds were in our closed-ended funds, so we had to learn the difference between an open-ended and a closed-ended fund. We had to learn what it meant when you were invested in infrastructure debt and infrastructure equity, and then we had to make a decision whether that was something we wanted to do. To also make a change and go into a different fund and a different fund manager is quite a lengthy process because there's interviews you have to do, like, the first step we get a list of, you know, 15 to 20 potential managers. And, you know, a bunch of data comes in on them. And then we'll whittle it down to so many-, I think it's, like, 10 or 12 and

we do a whole lot of reports come in on them. And then we'll whittle it down even more. And then we'll go into face-to-face interviews because it's very important that we know who we're investing with. We trust who we're investing with because this is Labrador Inuit money that we're making decisions with. So it's quite a lengthy process. But it starts with education and then moving step-by-step into it. We were very hesitant to get into Global Equities 'cause it was so close after the markets had (indiscernible). 4:08:54

MR. WINTERS:

Are there further questions right now? Seeing none, witnesses, you may continue.

MS. PAIN:

Okay, so I'm going to go to the slide on, "Financial Update." So the value at the beginning of the-, of 2022, it was 417 million. The Contribution and Transfers were 92 million. We made a 8 million investment income and we had realized losses of 11 million, which meant total receipts of 88-, almost \$89 million. We had disbursements of \$96 million. We had unrealized losses of \$18 million for a value at the end of \$391,416. So in-, we have had an increase in value of \$68,910, net of distributions. So we have made a number of distributions from this Trust which we'll get to in a minute. So we have-, because it's been-, it's required to distribute money-, it has been since Day One, unlike the other Trusts. This

Trust does review proposals and does make allocations a couple of times a year to various things. So if there's no questions on this particular page, we can go over to the next page. The Trust Deed itself sets out the priorities for funding out of the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* and they are in order of things we have to do. So the first thing that this Trust has to do every year is to cover the IBA Implementation Budget. So we-, so the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* provides the money to NG to hire the people who work on *the Voisey's Bay Impact and Benefit Agreement* to make sure that we have the staff on the ground who are doing the jobs that need, you know, to the coordinator to ensure that they're hiring people and training people in various pieces. Also our environmental monitors we have on site, you know, some of that comes through here. So that's the first call on this particular Trust. NG submits an annual budget to us for what that's going to look like. The second thing we have to do is that 30 percent of all capital receipts and 10 percent of all net income is to be set aside to a Heritage Fund. And when we say, "Heritage Fund," it doesn't mean it's for heritage activities. It means it's set aside as forever money. Further to that, the Trustees are then directed to consider whether or not it's desirable to set aside up to 50 percent of capital receipts and 25 percent of income each year. So if we can set aside more, we're

directed to do so. The third priority is the \$100,000 to each volunteer centre annually. So every time-, when we sit down two times a year, we have to first figure out how much of our receipts we have, if the income we have, the receipts of income that we have available to distribute. Then we have to deduct these amounts before we can say, "This is the pot we have left to deal with the applications that have come in." And that changes because it's based on the cash flows provided from Vale through the IBA.

MR. WINTERS:

Yes, Mr. Dicker?

MR. DICKER:

Two questions. First, why is it called a Heritage Fund? I mean I understand heritage to be different in my meaning. In my-, I don't know. Heritage is heritage. Why call it the Heritage Fund? Why don't we put something more simple than Heritage Fund? That's question number one.

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Pain, when you're ready?

MS. PAIN:

I don't have a good answer for that, other than that was it what is was directed to be called and that's what it's meant for. It is-, I guess it's the heritage that is being left for future generations, right? So it's the money that's going to be set aside to grow for future generations.

MR. WINTERS: And Mr. Dicker, before you ask your second question, Ms. Barbour had a question.

MS. BARBOUR: Okay, you mentioned that you go through the priorities. When it-, I don't know if you guys have ever ended up in a situation where the \$100,000 wasn't available to each of the seven centres annually, but I was just wondering has that number ever had to be decreased or is it, like, through policy or through the Trust Deed that it has to be \$100,000?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Pain?

MS. PAIN: The amount is actually set out in the Trust Deed. That's what it says that we're required to contribute. We have not been in a situation where we haven't been able to meet that requirement. So we've never had to say we can't pay some of these volunteer centres. We've always had that money and extra money to actually then deal with proposals that have come in as well.

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

MR. DICKER: Why is that figure \$100,000 for each centre when you have a huge difference in population, like, Nain versus Postville, for example? It could swallow Postville about seven times, and they get the \$100,000? Why don't you-, why is it-, how did you come up with that formula? It doesn't make sense to me.

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Pain?

MS. PAIN: I think the \$100,000 per community was to provide a benefit to all communities because of the impact of the Voisey's Bay Project. It was for each community to be able to do something as a result of the project. Communities are also free to send in applications for other projects that are above and beyond the \$100,000. So I think there was a recognition that certain things will cost the same whether you're serving five people or 200 people, right? Like you-, if you need infrastructure, if you need to have transportation, you know, some of those things are really still expensive anyway. So that was what's in the Trust Deed and that's what we followed because that's what-, the directions we've been given.

MR. WINTERS: Are there any more questions right now? Seeing none-, oh, yes, Mr. Dicker?

MR. DICKER: I just wanna make clear that I'm not fighting the other communities. I'm just wondering how they came up with that figure, okay?

MR. WINTERS: You may continue, witnesses.

MS. PAIN: The next slide is titled, "Disbursements." The *Tasiujatsoak Trust* makes available funding on a proposal basis. And we accept applications two times a year. The deadlines are September 30th

and March 31st of each year. From the period of 2004 to 2022, distributions to communities and to community-, responding to applications have been over \$129,643,000. So that is the amount that's gone directly back to communities and community-based projects from the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* since 2004. The next slide is, "Proposals."

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Pain? Yes, Mr. Dicker, go ahead.

MR. DICKER:

The *Tasiujatsoak Trust* is monies that's ongoing, like, it's monies that are continuing to come into *Tasiujatsoak Trust*, right? And not (inaudible) 4:18:10 for the *Implementation Trusts* and not like-, okay.

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Pain?

MS. PAIN:

You're correct. We still have income coming in from the mine operator on a monthly basis and the payment schedule is set out in the IBA. But there's also some other formulas in the IBA which are a bit complicated which if the mine does really well, then we get a top-up. So, like, there's some complicating factors. So we have a payment schedule in the IBA. Then we always have to calculate other variables which mean we may get more money. So yes, there is a minimum that we get. The money was on a declining scale because we were at the end of the life of the (inaudible)

4:19:10 which is what we were taking into account. And during the IBA negotiation recall that there was no certainty that there would have been an underground mine because at the time it wasn't a proven resource. It was an inferred resource, so they thought there was stuff there, but they didn't have enough to say for sure that there was enough to go underground. So there are provisions to ensure that we keep getting a percentage. But the numbers in the payment schedule are gonna change a little bit because we now have this additional underground mine that's gonna be taking place.

MR. WINTERS:

Thank you. You can continue.

MS. PAIN:

So the proposals funded in 2022-, and remember, this is based on applications that we receive-, the 700,000 for the community allocations, volunteer centres. AnânauKatiget Tuningit received 151,000 and we have been funding them, I think probably since 2002. Nain Inuit Community Government had 137,000, Hopedale Inuit Community Government had 58, almost 59. Rigolet Inuit Community Government had 91,000. Native Spirit Youth Centre had 77,000. That's another one that we've been funding basically since 2022. I'm just trying to see if Katie is caught up. OkâlaKatiget Society 170,000. Again, that's been an ongoing funding obligation. It's proposal-based every year but some of them have been

applying every year. And then other ICG projects of 148,000. We spent-, allocated 316,000 for the funding of the Voisey's Bay Implementation Budget. One thing to note is that we have two positions now that we're covering under the IBA Implementation Budget as we've hired an extra IBA Coordinator because our permanent IBA Coordinator may be retiring, so we have somebody who's working to ensure that they have-, understand the full context and history so that we've hired to ensure that we're able to continue to implement the IBA.

MR. WINTERS: Yes, Mr. Asivak?

MR. ASIVAK: Thank you. Where's the Native Spirit Youth Centre?

MS. PAIN: That's in Rigolet.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*. Any other questions? Yes, Ms. Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR: Is there any way that I don't know-, sorry-, like, the seven community centres are allocated \$100,000, right? Is there any way that, that number can be increased?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Pain?

MS. PAIN: The Trust Deed would have to be amended to do that. And I know-, which year was it the Assembly had some discussions around that, but it never actually happened. But that is a question we have-, we would have to go back and look at the amending provisions for the

Tasiujatsoak Trust. The *Tasiujatsoak Trust* is different in a number of ways compared to the *Settlement and Land Claims Implementation Trust* because it was established before had a *Land Claim Agreement*. And so a number of the provisions talk about LIA and the LIA Board, not specifically about the Assembly or the governance procedures. Even the appointment for members-, for Trustees is very different here than compared to the other two. So I would have to go back and look at what the amendment provisions are, to be able to give you a real answer as to how that would be amended. But right now the Trustees have to follow what's in the Trust Deed. And all the Trustees take the directions that we have been given very seriously and try to-, and ensure that whatever decisions are made are in line with the direction that we've been given.

MR. WINTERS: Yes, Ms. Barbour?

MS. BARBOUR: Kind of a follow-up to Joe's or AngajukKâk Dicker's question, even-, and just additionally, like, even the ITK, they have a formalized Contribution Funding Agreement for the Inuit regions based on size. In terms of considering amendments for the Trust Deed, can it also be taken into consideration to formalize this community pot by population?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Pain?

MS. PAIN: We can go and certainly look at that to investigate that and you know, we'd have to figure out what that would mean. But just to be clear, the ITK funding formula includes a base amount first. There's a base, and then there's a small amount for per capita. So recognizing that even small communities or small populations will still have a certain base that they need in order to be able to do anything. So-, and that's how it's been reflected there that there are those provisions. It's similar as well to the FFA formula for the ICG's.

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Williams.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you. I'm just wondering, based on that question, if the information about how the amendment would fall out. Would there be consultation with all communities prior to making those kind of changes?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Pain?

MS. PAIN: I don't know that I can answer your question at this point. I would need to go and look at what the Trust Deed says about amending the Trust Deed. I can't recall off the top of my head, so we would have to, you know, as a first step, to go look at that and to see what it directs us to do, in terms of any amendments that would have to be made.

MR. WINTERS: We will look forward to that update when you have it. Mr. Vincent?

MR. VINCENT: A hundred thousand annually for each volunteer centre-, is this a one-time payment or given out on an as-need basis?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Pain?

MS. PAIN: So this has been ongoing for a number of years. Each community has had to identify and register a not-for-profit corporation in their community to receive and allocate these funds. In Hopedale it's Kamatsiatet Committee. So Kamatsiatet gets this money and then reallocates to community organizations, groups in their community for things that the community thinks are important for them. In Nain it's Ulipitsait. In Postville, it's Inland Resources. I'm trying to remember them all but I'm drawing a blank on the next few-, Illiget. So each of them has-, so there is-, it's not NG. It's not the ICG's. It's a volunteer group, registered as a not-for-profit who actually receives this 100,000. And it's been ongoing, and it will be ongoing until there is no IBA I guess, or no money left in there, incoming. But that's been-, it's been going on since 2004, I would say, when the volunteer centres were established.

MS. WILLIAMS: Mr. Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you. And not a question but a comment. The part of the seven community allotments, I would hope that it would stay in

place because over the years we've seen small communities with a very small tax base, fall behind. And their concerns are just as great and with self-government, I hope that, you know, like we don't ever see a part where the small communities start to fall behind in funding. And, you know, I think that it's a good move that was made and I certainly hope that it will be kept up.

MR. WINTERS:

Are there any further questions right now? Ms. Pain, whenever you're ready.

MS. PAIN:

I guess all I would say is, yeah, of course, that would be a consideration, but first I think even as a first step is just to look at the amendment provisions to see what would have to happen. So I think we'd be getting ahead of ourselves if we said what we would do, not knowing what the answer is. So I would need to-, we would need to look at that as a first step. And then figure out where we go from here. But I hear what you're saying.

MR. WINTERS:

Are there further questions or comments at this time? Ms. Pain?

MS. PAIN:

I have no other comments to make. That's the end of the presentation, so...

MR. WINTERS:

If there are no further questions at this time, then we will give the witnesses a couple of minutes to leave the room and we will return to the Assembly. *Nakummek.*

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Thank you again to Ms. Crawford and Ms. Pain. As mentioned, we are back in the Assembly. We are now on to Item 17, "First Reading of Bills." And there are no first reading of bills today. We will move on. Item 18 is the "Second Reading of Bills." There are no bills for second reading today, which brings us to Item 19. There are no, "Bills for Assent," today. We will then move on to Item 20. Item 20 is, "Adjournment." The Assembly is now adjourned until 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning, Wednesday, November 22nd, 2023. *Nakummek, everyone.*

4:30:08 (3:50:54 p.m.)

[Adjourned]

Day two November 22, 2023

MR. WINTERS:

Ullâkut. Good morning. Welcome back to the second day of our second sitting of the Fall Session. We had a great day yesterday, and to those listening in on our audio feed, we thank you for your interest in the Nunatsiavut Assembly. I would like to mention that AngajukKâk Barry Andersen and NunaKatiget Inuit Community Chairperson, Patricia Kemuksigak, have been properly excused from the sitting of the Assembly. I would also like to welcome those in the gallery. Right now I see only Mr. Mark Gillette, Director of Legal Services. We will now move on to Item Two. Item

Two is, “Ministers Statements.” I see First Minister, Melva Williams has a statement, when you’re ready.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will finish for both departments for Day Two. I’ll begin with the Nunatsiavut Affairs statement.

Infrastructure. There will be some information that I provided yesterday but this is more indepth information today. Mr. Speaker, our small but dedicated infrastructure team is working diligently to ensure that each project progresses efficiently, meeting high quality standards and aligning with our vision for sustainable, thriving communities. Number one, Seniors Units. Nain Fourplex. All modular units are in the community, as well as building materials. They’re currently working on the foundation. This project is behind schedule. Nain Duplex. Foundations finished and expecting to lift modules onto foundations this week. Hopedale Fourplex. All modular units in the community, materials in the community with the exception of roof trusses which will be on the next ferry. Site service is prepared. And site ready for foundations. The project is behind schedule. The project was due to be completed by the end of 2023, but likely will run one year behind schedule. Hopedale Single Unit. Tendered in August 2023 but no bids received. Infrastructure is looking into other options of construction. Number two, Nain staff six-plex. Sixty percent

complete. Contractor working on interior. Initial completion date was early 2025. However, contractor is aiming to complete by June 2024. Hopedale fourplex, Rapid Housing Initiative. Hopedale, 20 percent complete. This project is behind schedule. Nain fourplex, Rapid Housing Initiative, 25 to 30 percent shell up. Behind schedule. Makkovik Fourplex, staff housing. Contractor currently framing, 20 percent complete. Expected finish, summer, fall 2024. Number six, "Regional Education Office." Project is behind schedule. The project team have identified a path forward and are working to get the project back on schedule. Construction package one, CP1, package for civil work to be completed by November 2023. Number seven, Makkovik Duplex, "Social housing." Tendered, but was over-budget. Project team is re-evaluating. Number eight, Postville Duplex, "Social Staff Housing." Project to be tendered. Number nine, "Postville Office Addition." Project to be re-tendered. Number 10, "Rigolet DHSD." Some site preparation started for construction. Site services completed and materials on site to begin foundations. The substantial completion date is anticipated for August 31, 2025. Long-term Infrastructure Planning. Number one, "Nunatsiavut Growth, Land Development and Housing Strategies." RFP is out to 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 create a long-term infrastructure strategic plan which focuses on developing a long-term strategic vision for infrastructure in Nunatsiavut. Nain Airport Feasibility Study: 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 Government Environmental Division, in collaboration with Provincial, Federal and Nunatsiavut Environmental regulators is streamlining the EIA process for efficiency. Upon completing the EIA-IA Process by 2026, the next phase entails a Go-No Go decision. Detailed design and construction requiring substantial investment and possibly

extending over the next six years. As a result, the final airport construction is estimated to conclude after 2030. R1 "Weather Station and Collect Data," Phase One, 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. R12, "Environmental Impact Assessment," RFP under review. NG, ICG, MOU-, so, the Nunatsiavut Government, Inuit Community Governments Memorandum of Understanding. Mr. Speaker, the NEC has authorized Nunatsiavut Secretariat and Nunatsiavut Affairs to create a 10-year MOU with the ICGs. The MOU will allow the joint creation of a long-term plan to address engineering issues and harmonized policy and projects in the Inuit Communities. As reported previously, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador's Municipal Affairs Department has informed the ICGs that it will be terminating engineering support. NG has agreed to

provide this support. Alternative Lands Housing. NG will be proceeding with development of sustainable multi-unit housing in Nunatsiavut, starting with Nain and Hopedale. Preliminary studies have been complete, and authorization given to proceed with a next phase of design for multi-unit housing projects. In Nain, 60 units, Hopedale, 50 units. The concept moves away from traditional expense of land development towards housing construction that utilizes the land that is available in the communities. So figure that is the end of Nunatsiavut Affairs. I will finalize the Language and Culture portion of LCT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce changes to the Bilingual Allowance. The Bilingual Allowance recognizes the importance and value of language and applies to any eligible employee or elected official. The current allowance was established in 2007, and there has been no adjustments to rates until now. The newly approved allowance has three levels and is based on proficiency. The first level, Mr. Speaker, is called a, "Silent Speaker," which recognizes the ability to understand Inuttitut when spoken to and is at \$1,500 per year. The second level is, "Fluency," the ability to speak and understand Inuttitut or required to be bilingual for their position at a value of \$3,000 per year. Finally, Mr. Speaker, the third level is, "Fluency Plus Reading and Writing," which is the ability to speak and

understand Inuttitut, plus the ability to read and write Inuttitut, at \$5,000 per year. The Department is working on the Implementation for this new allowance and communications will be issued when the effective date is known. I will now highlight some other items that the Department is working on, Mr. Speaker, in Language and Culture. The Terminology Workshop occurred in Nain, from November 14th to the 17th. Fifty-three participants attended to discuss terminology within the Labradorimi dictionary. The Illusuak Cultural Centre has been deep cleaned. The reopening date is tentatively set for April 2024. The majority of the artifacts have been removed and are in storage at the Nain Administration Building. Discussions with the Canadian Conservation Institute are ongoing to develop a plan on how to best care for the items still in cases in the Illusuak Cultural Centre. We are in, "Year Two," of the Language Strategy. Activities occurring, Mr. Speaker include the Master Apprentice Inuttitut Program, Illinikatiget, Tupik Program, Elders' Socials, Language Resources, Sewing Programs, et cetera. Next, Mr. Speaker, I will highlight some key areas we are working on at the Nunatsiavut Archaeology Office. Mr. Speaker, I recently attended a two-day workshop with President Lampe, Isabella Pain and Lena Onalik in Edinburgh, at the University of Edinburgh. Mr. Speaker, we had an opportunity to visit the Inuit Ancestor removed

from Hopedale area prior to 1824 and honour them with a kullik ceremony. We, along with two other Indigenous groups from British Columbia met with the University of Edinburgh officials and curators of museum collections. We discussed the repatriation processes, policies, and proper care for Indigenous remains. Mr. Speaker, we also learned, while at the University of Edinburgh, that there are grave belongings from Labrador Inuit graves, at the University of Aberdeen as well. There are Labrador Inuit remains at Cambridge University in the United Kingdom. It was a moving experience with a lot of emotion as well as a lot of learning and building relationships. Stantec has been engaged to complete a feasibility study for a repository for Nunatsiavut Heritage Materials. Deirdre Elliot has been compiling inventories of artifacts and Inuit cultural materials from Nunatsiavut that are housed elsewhere as well as of heritage materials already in the NG's possession within the Archaeology Office. She continues to work closely with the proponent, review their work and develop capacity and Best Practices for managing our collections. Mr. Speaker, the Archaeology Office reviewed 28 land-use and mineral exploration applications to date. In addition, we have recently reviewed and provided comment and direction for two archaeology applications for work taking place in LISA within the Mealy Mountain National

Park. With the end of 2023 field work season, the archaeology office will be receiving and reviewing reports related to the seven archaeological permits issued this season. Mr. Speaker, the Nunatsiavut Heritage Forum took place in Rigolet from October 3rd to the 6th, 2023. The theme this year was, "Where we Came From." The forum saw presentations on topics ranging from Ground Penetrating Radar to the World War II presence in Rigolet. The event was a huge success with discussions on future projects. The long-term project of archiving the Ray Chipeniuk collection of photos is complete. A selection of the photos was posted to the Nunatsiavut Archaeology Facebook page. Mr. Speaker, the post has garnered hundreds of reactions and it has been shared widely. The Archaeology Office worked closely with The Rooms to select participants for their 3D Scanning Workshop taking place this week. Participants will have the opportunity to tour the collections of the Provincial Museum along with receiving training in how to 3D scan and record objects. This project fits well with our own 3D scanning project and we hope to provide the chance for more people to get this training in the future. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Our next, Ministers Statement will be from the Honourable Gerald Asivak, Minister of Department of Health and Social Development. When you're ready, sir.

MR. ASIVAK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had the privilege and honour to attend the Residential School Apologies in Rigolet, Postville, Makkovik and Hopedale. Thank you, President Lampe for the invite, First Minister Williams, Ordinary Members and all AngajukKâks.

MR. WINTERS:

I'll ask the Minister to use the mic beside him. We're getting some feedback from your device. Apologies for the interruption.

MR. ASIVAK:

Most importantly, I thank the residential school survivors for your warm welcome. This was an emotional day for the survivors and families. I too felt the emotions as my parents are survivors. My mother was with me during the apology and I let out some of the pain for her and my family. I want to send a heart-felt thank you to everyone involved on the ground. The cooks, the servers, the drivers, organizers, mental health staff, schools, youth and elders. This was a hard day for many. However, this is part of the healing journey. I wish the survivors well wishes and continued healing.

Mr. Speaker, Family Services. Ad hoc Child Welfare Working Group. The director and regional social worker liaison attended in-person meetings in Ottawa on November 24th to 26th finalize governance engagement mechanisms which included topics on a variety of issues. This ad hoc Child Welfare Working Group will eventually lead to the devolution of Child Welfare to Nunatsiavut Government from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador.

This is a very technical, demanding working group with NG and the Federal Government. Listed Community Discussion. Mr. Speaker, in the Province of Ontario the Listed community in their Provincial Act for Inuit Children is currently Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami who is represented by TI. Once TI is served notice by the Ministry, they offer support to the family. The Nunatsiavut Government in partnership with ITK are now entering a discussion and process to be listed community for Nunatsiavut beneficiary children and youth in the Province of Ontario. The Director and Regional Social Worker Liaison met with the Ministry and ITK on November 9th. Preventing Child Sexual Abuse Forum in Iqaluit Nunavut is being held in Iqaluit from November 27th and 28th. The theme for sharing this year is around engaging men and boys in services and programs as a measure in preventing childhood sexual abuse. We have staff traveling to the forum from Family Services and Mental Wellness and Healing. Caring for our Children Project, Mr. Speaker. October was Foster Families Appreciation month. We celebrated the event in Nunatsiavut and Upper Lake Melville by hosting events. Events included homecooked spaghetti with garlic bread and Caesar salad with a cheesecake. Staff welcomed all foster parents and were served by staff for a relaxing meal. We had prizes, appreciation certificates and gifts for all foster families. We

hosted a family movie with treats for the special guests to enjoy.

DHSD sends a sincere thank you to our foster parents in Nunatsiavut and Upper Lake Melville. We appreciate the care, dedication and commitment you provide to our children and youth.

Family Connections Program. We welcome two new staff, Bernice Boase, Family Connections Worker in Hopedale, Victoria Bennett, Supervised Access Worker in Nain. Congratulations to you both in your new positions.

Community Programs. Community Health Workers traveled to Happy Valley, Goose Bay for an in-person training session. They participated in a three-day mental health first aid Inuit version training. An in-person meeting with training components are planned for team leaders and managers within the Community Programs Division. We were very sorry to hear of Julianna Jukie Winters passing. Jukie was a community health worker in Hopedale for many years prior to her retirement. Our condolences go out to her family, friends and community.

Mr. Speaker, Food Security. We did complete interviews for the Nain Community Field Worker, hoping to have that position filled as soon as possible. Lynn Blackwood attended Adaptation Futures Conference in Montreal. Lots of networking opportunities to meet Federal partners and others working in Inuit Nunangat. Lynn did an interview on CBC Radio regarding the cost of eating in Nunatsiavut.

Programming at Nigivik has been limited due to staffing. And lastly, Mr. Speaker, under Childcare, this is the first summer with daycares open. There were a few hiccups, but overall things went okay. We advertised several times for the Maternity Daycare Operator in Nain with no qualified applicants. 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 Provincial regulations. Sadly, we are seeing staff move onto other positions with higher pay. Three childcare workers in Nain recently tendered their resignations. We held our annual ECE Conference in Nain on October 25th and 26th with 28 staff attending. The playgrounds for Nain and Hopedale got delayed to due to tender process. Hopefully start next summer. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Minister, and I want to thank you for your strength in delivering that statement. We've all been affected by residential schools and some more directly than others. So, *Nakummek*. I'll now call upon the Honourable Terry Vincent, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources for his statement. *Nakummek*.

MR. VINCENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to table my 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 shrimp fishery closed on October 28th. The closure of the processing plant in Charlottetown. It was good season overall with the majority of quotas being landed. Any residual shrimp leftover will be sold offshore as per Nunatsiavut Government policy. Mr. Speaker, my department attended the Annual Torngat Joint Fisheries Board Workshop in Goose Bay during November 7th and 8th. We are now in the process of getting annual report letters out to all designates who participated in the 2023 Commercial Fishery as per policy guidelines. Wildlife: Mr. Speaker, the 2023 moose hunting season opened on September 18th and the department had 19 licences allocated to the communities. The season will close on March 7th, 2024. To date, three licences have been filled in Nain. Mr. Speaker, my department in cooperation with the Ulipitsait Committee had access to 31 non-profit moose licences again this year in Gros Morne National Park. Our staff traveled there on October 16th to begin the project. All licences

were filled. and the meat is now being processed with the butcher. We expect to receive it in Goose during the week of November 20 after which we will start to get it out to the communities. We would like to extend our thanks to Parks Canada for their ongoing support in this project. 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.

MR. WINTERS:

I'll ask the Minister to pause at this point. We've reached the 35-minute time limit allotted for Ministers Statements but per Standing Order 29(3) we can extend. I just need approval of the Assembly. Do we have approval to continue the Ministers Statements? Thank you. You may continue, sir. And before you do, we didn't reach the time limit yesterday so I would encourage the Ministers to give as much of their statements on Day One as possible from here on. *Nakummek.*

MR. VINCENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Lands Division. Mr. Speaker, 34 land-use applications have been submitted in 2023 and are at various stages of processing. Since the last Assembly, Mr. Speaker, our GIS specialist has carried on with routine tasks including maintaining land-use files, preparing graphics, and participating in working groups. They attended the Free and Open-Source Software for

Geospatial Conference for North America in Baltimore at the end of October. They presented their ongoing use of Q-GIS for various tasks related to the role. They also continued working on LILCA GIS data connected to the LILCA Misalignment work to publish a fresh data set for this before the end of the year. Mr. Speaker, the Assembly passed the *Postville Quarries Act 2023* at the last sitting for the development of quarries near Postville for the rehabilitation of the airport apron and access road. This project is complete and quarry operator has removed all their equipment from the area.

Impact Benefit Agreement. Mr. Speaker, the Voisey's Bay Mine and Mill and Mine Expansion is going well with bulk of the capital works coming to an end. The mine expansion is on track to be completed in 2024. The Labrador Aboriginal Training Partnership is currently funding five Nunatsiavut Government beneficiaries in the common core training at the NORCAT Training Institute in Sudbury, Ontario. Vale is currently in the process of hiring more underground mine beginners including beneficiaries who recently completed the Underground Common Core training. Mr. Speaker, the IBA Coordinators, in partnership with Vale and LAMP traveled to Hopedale and Nain on November 14th to the 17th to host information sessions on Vale's Job Readiness Training Program, as well as recruit for LAMP's sponsored training. Mr. Speaker, Mealy

Mountain National Park Reserve Co-Management Board held an in-person meeting on October 25th and 26th with a site visit to Swallow Harbour. The meetings included discussions on Boreal Caribou, the Implementation Strategy, archaeological artifacts collections and potential trail building for tourism opportunities. The next in-person meeting is scheduled for mid to late March 2024 in Rigolet. Non-Renewable Resources. Since the last Assembly meeting, Non-Renewable Resource Division has been engaged in the following files pertaining to mineral exploration and quarries. Mr. Speaker, Vale's Mineral Exploration Drill Program finished up on October 21st. Vale drilled two holes on Labrador Inuit lands. The Division has completed the final mineral exploration inspection on October 17th with no concerns. Mr. Speaker, Aurora Energy has been actively exploring the Michelin Project located on LIL. The Division has completed an inspection on October 18th with no major concerns identified. This fall, Aurora started their drill program at the Michelin Deposit with two active drill rigs at site. The program is scheduled to be completed on November 15th for the season. It is anticipated that Aurora will continue drilling at Michelin with a winter drill program. Mr. Speaker, Edward John Clarke's application has recently been approved to explore his claims on Udlivik Island Southeast of

Makkovik. He plans on completing a one to two-day prospecting program to collect rock samples. The Division Deputy Minister and myself, attended the Canadian Institute of Mining Metallurgy and Petroleum Newfoundland and Labrador Branch Annual Conference. Mineral Resource Review during the first week of November in St. John's. Despite weather delays, the Division and I made a presence by attending the technical talks, meetings, chatted with Provincial and Federal counterparts, as well as company representatives and prospectors. Environment Division. Since the last Assembly meeting, the Environment Division has been engaged in the following files. Mr. Speaker, the Environment Division continues to meet 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. Torngat Metals Rare Earth Mineral Mine Road (inaudible) to the new Nain Airport. Recently, the Environment Division had in-person meetings to work through specific issues on the collaborative process with all jurisdictions for environmental assessments and to understand impacts of the Supreme Court of Canada decision related to the *Impact Assessment Act* and these projects. There have been specific meetings between all jurisdictions and proponents from both

projects to discuss potential impacts. In-person community sessions are planned for Strange Lake Project in Nain and Hopedale at the end of November and early December. Lands and Natural Resources Continue to work on a development of the Torngat AOI as an Inuit Protected Area under the *National Marines Conservation Area Act*. Staff met with Parks Canada with support from other organizations including DFO, Oceans North and hired consultants to use the information and data collected to develop a revised boundary for the Torngat Area of Interest. This included Inuit knowledge, research information, economic assessments including the commercial fishery, and other considerations. Communities and stakeholders will be consulted on this revised boundary once approved by executive. Finally, Mr. Speaker, the Environment Division continues to work on the Climate Change file. The National Inuit Climate Change Committee, Nunatsiavut Government Climate Change Committee met this month to ensure there is continued progress on the development of the Nunatsiavut Climate Change Strategy as well as the implementation of the National Inuit Climate Change Strategy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Minister. The next person we'll hear from is the Honourable Tom Evans, the Minister of the Department of Finance,

Human Resources, Information Technology and currently Education and Economic Development. When you're ready, sir.

MR. EVANS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For my second day statement I thought I would just do a brief summary update on a lot of things that's happening behind the scenes with our HR Department. We hear the statements from the other Ministers and I, and just to let you know that a lot of the work that's going on with the other departments involves Finance, involves Information Technology and Human Resources like we have over 50 employees in our Government. So, there's quite a bit of work that is usually ongoing behind the scenes, like our staff is doing a lot of work and there's just, there's quite a few things in my statement that we didn't put in there but I've just got, like, a brief summary that just to update the Assembly on what's happening. Mr. Speaker, recruitment and retention of employees for the Nunatsiavut Government is a high priority. It has direct impact on operations of the Government and delivery of programs and services. Mr. Speaker, the Ministers participated in the recruitment session facilitated by the Atlantic Greenhouse in October. The output from that session is six key focus areas. The HR Division is currently reviewing these focus areas and initiatives and will lead the task specific to the HR Division. There will also be assignment of tasks to other divisions

that are relevant to their scope of work. Regular meetings will occur to ensure that each focus area is being actioned. One of the focus areas is the review of current roles and responsibilities within the Government. Mr. Speaker, we already have started work in this area. Nunatsiavut Affairs had an organizational review completed earlier this year along with the Human Resource Division. My Department is currently reviewing the Finance Division organizational structure. The next department that we will be working on is the Department of Health and Social Development. Meetings have been scheduled with the management team to develop the scope of work and an outside consultant will be engaged to complete the work. It is imperative that each department has the appropriate structure with manageable workloads for each position. This is key for retaining employees and not losing them to stress, overwork with a limited work-life balance. To date the Human Resource Division has issued 160 job competitions and this figure has not included the re-advertisement of current job competitions. So the actual number of job ads released is much higher. The demand for recruitment of positions has the HR Division struggling with keeping up due to capacity issues. There are currently two vacancies in this division. As such, the Government awarded the contract to a company early

in November to provide recruitment services with the services beginning on job competition files in January 2024. Mr. Speaker, although a contract has been awarded for recruitment services, HR staff will still continue to recruit for the vacant HR positions to build internal capacity. In August 2023 the HR Division engaged an external marketing agency, "JACK" that conducted an audit on current recruitment practices and recommendations for improvements were provided. JACK, along with the HR and communication divisions are implementing some of these recommendations. A major focus has been on the presentation on the job advertisements, the platforms they reach and the overall image of the Nunatsiavut Government. Mr. Speaker, the last six months there have been small changes in the distribution of the job ads in addition of a LinkedIn account and the implementation of these new recommendations will further provide improvements. JACK is engaged to create a more comprehensive experience for those visiting the Nunatsiavut Government website. More information will be provided along with exciting opportunities to individuals who want to work with the Nunatsiavut Government and live in Nunatsiavut. Mr. Speaker, a longer-term goal is to add promotional videos targeting individuals interested in visiting and moving to Nunatsiavut. The HR Division is partnering with the

Tourism and Communication Division to issue a request for proposals for a company to collect videography and pictures to create these promotional videos. This work is planned to be completed in 2024. Lastly, the HR Division is developing employment engagement surveys. Employment engagement surveys are often referred to as, "Stay Interviews." The purpose of the survey is to understand why employees choose to stay with the Nunatsiavut Government and also to provide their feedback where they believe improvements in the workplace can be made. This quantitative and qualitative data from the surveys will be really beneficial. And finally, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that Joanne Wall has recently been appointed to the Human Resource Management Position. *Nakummek.*

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. At this time we will take a break until 10 after the hour. That's just over 15 minutes and we will be seated here at 10 after the hour. *Nakummek.* Snack is here.

[Recess]

MR. WINTERS:

Welcome back. Are there any Members Statements? Yes, recognizing the Ordinary Member for Rigolet, Ms. Melva Williams, when you're ready.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to rise today to pass along congratulations to the students at Northern Lights Academy for the efforts in the sports meet in the Volleyball Regionals. They did our community proud. I'd also like to pass along congratulations to the Rigolet Recreation Department for their Halloween Community Events for the children, for their Guy Fawkes Night activities and all the other activities that they continue to deliver in our community. Thank you, very much. I know that they were also planning Christmas events that will be well-attended by community members and very much look forward to, especially the Turkey and Ham Bingos. I would like to also pass along wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to the community of Rigolet as well as all of the other communities and beneficiaries of Nunatsiavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. The next person that we'll hear from is the Ordinary Member for Nain, Ms. Roxanne Barbour, when you're ready.

MS. BARBOUR:

Nakummek, Uhatik. It's been an eventful few months at the Nain Constituency Office. I continue to receive requests for support letters as well as other supports for filling applications and navigating various organizations. One thing in particular is for banking and photo identification. A driver examiner comes to Nain a few times a year in collaboration with the NICG. Currently, the

only way to open a bank account for individuals is if they happen to be in Goose Bay or to make numerous phone calls to the Bank of Montreal. Some can't even open a bank account because their card expired-, they're photo ID card expired. This prevents Inuit from receiving their payroll or support benefits and is a common issue in Nain creating further hardships in maintaining their livelihoods. I'm glad to state that I've partially participated in the Terminology Workshop that was held by the DLCT last week. It's always so good to be surrounded by Inuttitut. I don't know if anybody can really understand the happiness I feel in my chest when I am completely surrounded by Inuttitut and Inuttukhaite. Contemporarily, Inuit rely on the resources that are available to them as opposed to traditional and natural learning throughout the cycle of life. As contributors to Inuit society and economy, we must work to make a living to provide food, shelter, clothing and the basic necessities of life to sustain ourselves as Inuit. The working class and particularly parents, don't have time to do anything outside of their employment, caring for the families and the upkeep of their homes. There's a wealth of resources within the DLCT that can be readily available if the proper time and effort was put into creating learning modules in beginner, intermediate and expert levels. When I spoke with Issumatat Committee Members,

they had stated that their meetings aren't as regular as before. In an already uphill battle for the revitalization, promotion and advancement of Labrador Inuttitut, we cannot sway away from our own understanding of our dialects, of what we know as distinct Inuit. We cannot sway away from the rich knowledge of the Issumatat Committee and the vital and necessary knowledge it holds. As an Inuit Government it is stated that we are so proud of our language and culture yet staff working in positions to maintain, protect, advance and promote our way of life are rarely supported and provided with runarounds when trying their hardest to fulfill their responsibilities. Additionally, the compensation rates for interpretation translation services are obscenely embarrassing and insulting to the very few who have the knowledge and ability to adequately execute this fundamental and constitutionally protected service. We talk a lot about and hear a lot of questions regarding food security. Food security also means Inuit livelihood, relying on the animals that the land and sea so graciously provides. In the founding provisions of the *Labrador Inuit Constitution* 1.1.3(x) states, "The recognition that the Inuit of Labrador have experienced change, new ideas and new technologies which we have integrated into our culture and our way of life. And therefore the Labrador Inuit political, social, cultural and economic

institutions must maintain and develop policies and ideas that address innovation and the adaptation of new ideas and technologies in ways that are appropriate to Labrador Inuit needs, values and aspirations. Labrador Inuit need skidoos, speedboats, outboard motors, rifles, ammunition, gas, engine oils, warm and waterproof clothing to sustain themselves and ourselves as Inuit. To eat and hunt like Inuit, you need good credit to even consider financing one or more of the items mentioned. These aren't recreational modes of transportation. They're vital and fundamental for traveling the land and sea. I'm out of time? Okay. I'll finish after.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. The next Members Statement will be from Wally Andersen, Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville

MR. W. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I wanna thank my colleague, the Ordinary Member, the Minister of Health and Social Development from Goose Bay for his emotional speech that he gave, and I know your mom. And yesterday when I spoke of a little six-year-old Inuit person who attended the boarding school, that was my mom. And I also lost a brother and a sister who attended as well. And Mr. Speaker, I realized this morning that my mom, my three sisters and my two brothers, all of us are survivors of a residential school. And again, colleague, not easy when these people were not around to

at least hear the apology. Mr. Speaker, the numbers of beneficiaries in the Upper Lake Melville area are growing and during my travels around to houses visiting people, that there are a lot of people who are forced to move to Happy Valley, Goose Bay because of health reasons. And sitting down to their table over a cup of tea, they talk about their home and how difficult it is to be away. And as the festive seasons, like Christmas and Easter, they say that these are the most difficult times of all. And they say, when you're in the House, they say, you don't have to mention my name, but just to let people know that we miss our home. We miss our families. And it's emotional at Christmas time and Easter time. So Mr. Speaker, you know, it's these people I want everyone to remember them in their thoughts and prayers during the festive season. And I know I have a lot of friends but I've got a close personal friend in Goose Bay and his mom right now is at the hospital in Happy Valley, Goose Bay for health reasons. And this will probably be-, it will be the first Christmas in 80-plus years that she's got to spend away from her little community, and I guess the customs and traditions that they went through every year. So remember them and to all of you and to all your communities and to all of our workers and staff, I wanna wish you all a Merry

Christmas and a Happy New Year and God's Blessing for the new year. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. The next Members Statement will come from the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Ms. Marjorie Flowers, when you're ready.

MS. FLOWERS:

Nakummek, Uhalitik. Several important events have occurred in our community since our last Assembly sitting in September. Early this month Premier Andrew Furey delivered an apology to residential school survivors in our town. He was accompanied by President Johannes Lamp, Minister Gerald Asivak, Minister of Health and Social Development. Residential school survivor Toby Obed accepted the apology on behalf of residential school survivors here. It was also long-time coming, however, the apology given by the Premier was heart-felt and sincere but very emotional. I too am a residential school survivor. Not all residential school survivors attended as for some, this experience in their lives are still too painful to move on from. My hope and prayer is that we never have to experience the residential school system again. And may the Governments be true in delivering better programs and services in the spirit of truth and reconciliation. In our ASMS news I always like to include the schools in our news because it's such an important part of our community, Mr. Speaker. A dinner theatre

was held by ACMS Nalajuk Players last Friday evening. A wonderful meal was served followed by their performance entitled, "Perspective." They traveled to Goose Bay this week, along with many other students who will perform at the Creative Arts Festival this week. We wish ACMS students all the best as they participate in one of the highlights of the school year. Other events from ACMS include the fall fair which took place this past Monday. A primary school ball is happening on December 8th. Always a memorable time for the primary students and their parents. The Christmas concert is on December the 14th which is another highlight of our Christmas season here. I thank the Grade 7 students along with their teachers, Ms. Nicole McLean and Mr. Joel Whelan for observing a part of the Assembly sitting yesterday. I feel it is important for our youth to learn more about how our NG Assembly operates. After all, they are our future leaders. The school council is now up and running. A big welcome to Mr. William Lucy who has joined the ACMS Team as their new Life Skill instructor. ACMS also thanks the community for joining efforts for their team-building and feel-good Friday sessions to support the mental wellness of our students. Special thanks to LG Health, DHSD, Youth Outreach and Mental Health Divisions. There were also two great CBC interviews held. Sophia and their observation

day student from MUN, Becky, and Nicole McLean on LGBTQ inclusions in school. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a second part which I'll do if there's time.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, AngajukKâk. We will now hear from the Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency, Mr. Roland Saunders.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Good day, ladies and gentleman Assembly Members. I had the honour and privilege of once again laying a wreath at the, this time, the Sergeant's Memorial in St. John's Newfoundland. It's at the bottom of Garrison Hill-, small spot, but it was well-attended. The only problem is, as usual, it was a regular Newfoundland day, wind, rain, fog-, all that kind of stuff. Anyway, they had held a meet and greet prior to that event and had a really good turnout. And there was regularly questions that they had about what's going on with Nunatsiavut with regards to the Food Supplement Program. Will there be any more funding. And all I could tell them was that NG is doing the best they can to secure funding for any other programs but probably nothing's gonna become of it. And then they also asked about what's happening with the Strange Lake Project. I says, "I don't think-, that's in Quebec-, I don't think we have much in the way to do with that, but if they want to build a road through the land and I don't think that's gonna happen. I told them my personal opinion.

That's all I told them. And then they were more concerned again about the high cost of everything, especially now with the cost of fuel for taxis and busses or anything. Their costs have gone up. The cost of food has gone sky high all across Canada. They were concerned about that. But they were also concerned about getting to appointments, medical appointments, dental, glasses, doctors. And they can't do it because some of them are handicapped. They have problems getting in and out of their own house. They have-, they can't get into certain vehicles. They can't get on a bus. They can't ride. And they wanna know if there's any help we could get for that. And I told them that we would look into it and I think we're doing that. I've talked to Deputy Minister and a few other people and I've got some information back from them that I will share. In the mean time, they're still waiting for that. And then they also asked me about, "Why was Minister Barbour removed? We have no idea." And I said, "Well, I can't give you an answer because I don't know." Then they asked, "Why did Minister Andersen after so many years in Government, retire from both positions?" And I said, "To the best of my knowledge, it was his personal choice and also his health." And I couldn't give them anymore. That's all I could say. And then they also asked about the upcoming Presidential Election when it's gonna be held, "Who

have you heard is running?" What names have I heard? And I told them, "I couldn't give you any answer. I have no idea." So those are the concerns. But the main thing is that they are happy with Nunatsiavut is doing for them with regards to benefits. They'd just like to see an increase of most benefits, especially for medical transportation. Oh, sorry. And then they asked about the Strange Lake project which I just explained about. And then they also wanted to know when there's gonna be more help for anything that we can get from the Federal Government. Is there any increases in any benefits that are gonna be coming from the Federal Government or from Nunatsiavut to the beneficiaries living outside the Land Claims Area? They all understand that we will never be equal to the Land Claims Area recipient. We know we won't get any caribou. We know we won't get any of that. And then also the members that are living in Southern Labrador are concerned about the Long-term care facility and the lack of help that they get from...

MR. WINTERS:

Member, that's your time. But you do get a second one.

Nakummek. We will now hear from Ordinary Member for Postville, Mr. George Gear.

MR. GEAR:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I'd like to thank Minister Asivak for his strong report on the residential schooling. I didn't attend

residential schooling myself, but my mother and father did and I was supposed to go in the 1970's but at that time my father got sick and I had to stay back and being the eldest of nine children, stay back and help Mom to look after the things. But in the meantime my father passed away that next year and I didn't get to go. But over the years I went back to school and got my Grade 12. I had to work, to help make things for being in the family. And I had a lot of help from my aunts, uncles, grandmother, grandfather. But it's very emotional for this kind of stuff that remind you, you know, of other things. But just to let you know, I've-, I had a good life even though I had to be a father at a very young age. Excuse me. Then I helped to grow up my siblings till the oldest one got 19 years old and left. And then I went and got married, had my own children, reared them up and now I got three more foster kids (inaudible) 1:16:33. So just to let you know it's not like it wasn't difficult for me. It's just that I had to work harder than the rest of the people had parents I guess. So I'd just like to let everybody know that's listening here on the radio and beneficiaries that some people got it harder than I had it. So I feel lucky to be where I am today. And also, I'd like to wish all the Members, all the staff of Nunatsiavut and all the beneficiaries a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Are there other first Members Statements around the Table? Yes, recognizing the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Gerald Asivak.

MR. ASIVAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I just wanna thank everyone for your dedication, your support throughout the year. I can't believe we're in our last sitting of the Assembly for 2023. And 2024 is just around the corner. It'll be here before we know it. I hope you get to enjoy your Christmas break with your families and your friends. Get away from screen time, the work phone, relax, recharge and look after yourselves. I wanna wish you all a very Merry Christmas.
Nakummek.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Are there any other first statements? Seeing none, we will now move on to second Members Statements. Recognizing the Ordinary Member for Nain, Ms. Roxanne Barbour, when you're ready.

MS. BARBOUR: *Nakummek.* I'll just keep reading my-, what I have written out here. So like I mentioned, you know, we need these types of items to sustain ourselves as Inuit. Providing access to the things that we need to sustain ourselves or supporting Inuit gain access to the skidoos, boats, guns, bullets, gas, et cetera, is supporting Food Security. In an article published on November 18 by the CBC, it states that Nain is currently experiencing the highest food prices in

the country, all of Canada. For your information purposes I'll send the link to the article in an email after today. And although there is work being completed to address this pressing issue, it cannot be forgotten that right now as we sit in these Assembly Chambers, Inuit are hungry, at risk of being hungry and currently worrying about how or what they will eat tomorrow or how or what their children will eat tomorrow. These vital supports were needed yesterday. A lot of people mentioned about the Residential School Apologies. I had the honour to attend with President Lampe and First Minister Williams in Nain. It was really good. I would like to say, you know, as a second-generation survivor of residential school and seeing firsthand the impacts of intergenerational trauma, having lived through that myself, I often wonder where's my apology and where's my apology for my generation and my parents' generation? You know, I'm a first-generation cycle-breaker, breaking the cycle. And so many Inuit are in the same situation as I am, struggling to unlearn ways that were so normal when I was younger. Anyways, where there's intergenerational trauma, there's room for intergenerational healing. And I hope that one day we can see Nunatsiavut's own healing facility within Nunatsiavut, a service that is sorely needed for so many of those who hide their pain or struggle in ways that I do, having to live with

my childhood trauma. Outside of that, I would like to wish everybody here Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, Happy Nalajuks night. There's a lot of work to be done in addressing a lot of issues concerning Nunatsiavut. And I look forward to hearing updates at the next Assembly and the time between then. And I wish you all the best. *Nakummek.*

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Member. The next Members Statement will be from AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Ms. Marjorie Flowers.

MS. FLOWERS:

Nakummek, Uhalitik. Today, 80-odd years ago, a baby girl entered into this world at Adlatok Bay. That little girl's name was Sylvia Flowers. She was a Gear then. And she is the oldest resident of Hopedale today. She don't like us to mention her age because we call her, "Grooving Grandma." But I'd like to say Happy Birthday to my mother-in-law, Sylvia Flowers. And wish her a wonderful day. Mr. Speaker, we are slowly becoming fully staffed at HICG. Kendra Winters joined our recreation team as Facility Recreation Manager and Cindy Aggek as Recreation Assistant. Our CYN position is still vacant. Christmas activities are being planned so we look forward to the Christmas season and all the events our beautiful town has to offer. The Town Manager and myself attended Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador Annual Convention held in St. John's in October. It was an interesting event although not all topics applied

to our smaller towns in Labrador, however, we made our voice and concerns known. So already Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador has reached out to me to start a conversation on how next year's convention can include our North Coast communities more. Our Capital Works Projects are winding down for this construction season. And two projects will be completed by the end of this month. I thank our HICG staff who have worked tirelessly this past year to make our town a better place to live. I would also like to acknowledge our two pages from Hopedale, Kansas and Maddison. They are wonderful youth. In closing, as the Christmas season approaches, I wish our staff, as well as each person here, and all beneficiaries, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, AngajukKâk. The next Members Statement will come from the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen.

MR. W. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, I'd like to pay a tribute to Anthony William Eugene Tony Andersen or, "Tony Pony." Tony is my baby brother and I was seven years old and Tony was four when our father passed away. And I soon learned who the baby of the family was. It was Tony. And Mom tells many stories that Tony was the cowboy of the family. At a early age he played, "Cowboys and

Indians," because that's what it was called back then in the movies. And she tells many stories but one she tells in particular was when we were in school, me and my older brother and sister, that she was washing clothes on the old washing board and trying to watch Tony out playing. And she looks out and here's Tony laying flat on the ground. And she said, she runs out and she said she thought he was hurt. But she looked up and he said, "I was playing Cowboys and Indians and they just shot me." Mr. Speaker, Tony dedicated his life to people and his values was that It wasn't about money. It wasn't about a name. It was about people. And I think that's the greatest aspect that any person who serves in public life can ever have. I crossed paths with Tony many times being in the Provincial Government, being the Minister of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs and he was out there negotiating the IBA's and so on that quite often we would have conversations. I appreciate my little baby brother for the stuff he done in life. And my greatest regret about Tony being my brother is that he's a Toronto Maple Leaf fan. And Mr. Speaker, Tony is no different than any other Toronto Maple Leaf fan, not just in Labrador, but across the world. And with that they've never, ever had the opportunity to watch while gathered around that television, watching the playoffs, they have never had the opportunity to watch their team win the Stanley Cup in colour.

Tony is far from finished, I can tell you. We haven't heard the last of him. But Tony, thank you, little baby brother for the contribution that you made, and I look forward to hearing from you in the future. And my last words to you, for the love of God boy, change to Montreal. At least you'll win the Stanley Cup.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Member. We will now hear from the Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency, Mr. Roland Saunders.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Mr. Speaker, forgive me for a minute there. I'm still giggling about that last statement. Thank you, Wally. It's a pleasure. Next month in the city of Edmonton, I will be hosting a winter gathering for all Nunatsiavut Members that live in the area-, too fast? Okay. Anyway, for all Inuit, Nunatsiavut Members living in the Edmonton area. This would be the third time I've held such a event and I hope we have a good turnout as we have always had. Not only the Inuit from Nunatsiavut, but Inuit from all of the North come to this gathering. We have around 20 or 21 of the 62 members attend with the children, but the rest come from all over the place. And we've had up to 125. Now that's quite a feat to have that many people plus entertainment. But we pull it off. We have five members of the committee that are Nunatsiavut members with regards to the planning. So it's a well-attended event and it's well-appreciated. But for now, I'd just like to wish each and every

Member here and your families, a very Merry Christmas and happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. See you again next year. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Member. Are there any other Members statements around the Table at this time? Yes, recognizing George Gear, Ordinary Member for the community of Postville.

MR. GEAR:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to rise now and congratulate and wish Douglas Jacque who's in Postville-, he celebrated his birthday on October 23rd, I believe. And he's the oldest person in Postville. He's 90-something years old now. He still sits down and likes for anybody to come visit him. He's not so active as he used to be, but he'll sit there and he'll smile and nod his head when you say something to him and he's very active. So I'd like to just congratulate and wish him well for the rest of his life. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Are there any further Members statements? Seeing none, I will ask the Deputy Speaker to take the Speaker's chair while I give a statement.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Okay, thank you, Ordinary Member Winters. You may proceed.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. After such emotional statements brought forward by the Residential School Apologies, I'd like to bring some good news. Last week, on November 16th, Dr. Heather Igloliorte of Happy

Valley-Goose Bay, daughter of Judge Jim and Linda Igloliorte and granddaughter of Suzanna and Matthew Igloliorte of Hopedale, was appointed the Canada Excellence Research Chair in Decolonial and Transformational Art Practices at the University of Victoria. This is an 8-year, \$8 million-dollar research Chair. It is the highest award for university researchers in Canada. Heather is an internationally recognized curator and art historian who has dedicated her career to helping other Inuit become leaders in the arts. One of her major exhibitions is "SakKijâjuk: Art and Craft from Nunatsiavut," which began in Nunatsiavut and toured across Canada between 2016 and 2020. Heather was also one of four Inuit curators to help design the Inaugural Exhibition, INUA at Qaumajuq, the Inuit Art Centre at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. She is the current president of the Inuit Art Foundation and she is the director of Inuit Futures in Arts Leadership which you would also likely be familiar with as it has given incredible opportunities to many Nunatsiavumiut artists. With this Canada Excellence Research Chair, Heather will continue to support the aspirations of Inuit pursuing careers in the arts, provide new learning opportunities in digital media for Northern Indigenous Peoples, create new exhibitions and develop policies that aim to reshape the relationship between Indigenous Peoples and museums. I

would like you all to join me in congratulating Dr. Igloliorte on this monumental achievement. *Nakummek*.

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Ordinary Member Winters. Are there any other statements? The chair is yours.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*. There are no further Members statements? Seeing none, we move on to Item Five, "Oral Questions." Do any Assembly Members have any oral questions? Apologies, one second. First Minister?

MS. WILLIAMS: Sorry, are you going to do Returns to Oral Questions, Number four before you go...

MR. WINTERS: I totally skipped past it. Thank you. Item Four is, "Returns to Oral Questions." There are no returns to oral-, oh, you have one. Thank you, First Minister, go ahead.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wanted to respond to the question by Diane yesterday in relation to plans for the communities to replace the *Municipalities Act*. The question actually should've went to the Secretariat but I did have an opportunity to consult and while there hasn't been any work done as of yet, they can begin that work. So that's in response to your question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Are there any other returns to oral questions? Yes, recognizing Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Terry Vincent.

MR. VINCENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is for Ordinary Member Barbour's question in regards to caribou harvesting and exploration. This is a two-part related question, so I'll answer them in two parts. "Can Labrador Inuit be excused from the harvesting ban on the George River Caribou Herd?" No, as a signed *Land Claim Agreement*, we have defined rights. However, this includes our agreement to abide by Federal and Provincial allocations of harvest. The current total allowable harvest for the George River Caribou Herd is zero, which means zero can be legally harvested. This does not factor into ethics or morals of harvesting a species that is on verge of total collapse, which the Nunatsiavut Government would have to debate if a total allowable harvest was above zero. 2) "If we can't harvest caribou, then why do we still have mineral exploration?" There are several different reasons for this. I will try to include them all. First, there's no scientific evidence available that suggests that mineral exploration is detrimental to the increase or stability of the caribou population demographics. Second, the decline of the George River Caribou Herd was in no way linked to mineral exploration. It was a combination of numerous environmental

factors and unrestricted harvesting. Third, most, I would say, most- , 80 percent or higher-, of mineral exploration takes place outside if the current range of the George River Caribou Herd. Our permitting also takes into account wildlife interactions and has reporting and mitigation measures included. Fourth, we have been fortunate that the Voisey's Bay mine site has had and will continue to have a long mine life. Voisey's Bay is the second-biggest employer in Nunatsiavut. Without mineral exploration, a possible future mine would simply not happen. If Voisey's Bay was removed from our economy tomorrow, the effects to Nunatsiavut and our standard of living would be disastrous. Fifth, Nunatsiavut will be and is a resource extraction-based economy. There will not be an economic saviour from Tourism, larger Government, rent factoring, et cetera. Our fisheries quotas aren't enough to sustain our economy and jobs as is. The Department of Lands and Natural Resources has been tasked with making sure our economy is stable and growing to resource extraction. Some of our communities depend on mineral exploration to provide much-needed income already. Until such a time is the Department is directed by the NEC and the Assembly, we will continue to promote and encourage mineral exploration in Nunatsiavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, Minister. Are there any further returns to oral questions at this time? Seeing none, we will now move on to Item Five, "Oral Questions." Do any Assembly Members have any oral questions? Recognizing first, the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen.

MR. W. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the First Minister. It's been some time though since we developed our new Housing Authority or new Housing Commission. The late person, the director, I understand the position has been vacant. Can you update that status on where that position is and if that position will be filled shortly?

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*. First Minister?

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Ordinary Member for the question. I can give you an update. The Director of Housing position is under the Nunatsiavut Housing Commission. Decisions related to this position falls under the authority of the Nunatsiavut Housing Commission Board. And the job ad is currently released. Thank you, Ordinary Member, and thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And we understand that the probably second person in charge or under the director, the former-, the job of Brian Lyall, that has been vacant. Can you update us if the job has been advertised and are there any interviews pending and when the job will be filled?

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* First Minister?

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That question is a different question. It doesn't relate to the Nunatsiavut Housing Commission or the Director of Housing, 'cause that position wasn't under the Director of Housing. I don't know if you wanna ask it at a different-, a second question?

MR. WINTERS: I will give the Ordinary Member the opportunity to ask a second supplemental question that directly pertains to the first.

Nakummek.

MR. W. ANDERSEN: Okay, thank you, Minister. So like with the job vacant at the present time, who should-, if people have a concern with housing, who should they direct their concerns to?

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* First Minister?

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Ordinary Member. In relation to the Nunatsiavut Housing Commission vacancy for the

Director of Housing, my Deputy Minister is taking on many of those duties. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* We will now hear from Mr. Joe Dicker, AngajukKâk for Nain. Correction, Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, since your first question did not qualify, would you like to ask another supplementary question?

MR. W. ANDERSEN: Yes, a question just for clarification, so you did say that your Deputy Minister would handle. So, the Deputy Minister being the name would be Darryl Shiwak?

MR. WINTERS: First Minister?

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is correct.

MR. WINTERS: Apologies, AngajukKâk Dicker. You may now ask your question.

MR. DICKER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The update you gave this morning, regarding the construction being behind schedule and the making of foundations for the duplexes. Who is the inspector for that to watch over to see if that's been done right?

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek,* AngajukKâk Dicker. You didn't say it but I could see that you were looking to the First Minister. Is that who you're directing the question to?

MR. DICKER: Yes, I'm sorry. Directed to Melva Williams, Honourable First Minister.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, AngajukKâk. Whenever you're ready, First Minister.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, AngajukKâk for your question. I am looking back through my notes from Day One, as I recall, that is, Nunatsiavut Government Infrastructure Team would be overseeing that. The Director of-, it's Colin Gilbride-, Infrastructure and Planning, would be responsible to ensure the project management on the project is carried out. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*. AngajukKâk, do you have a supplemental question? Yes. Thank you, for that. I-, my question is how often do we manage to go to the different communities, because each community reported that the construction of the houses was delayed and that the footing was delayed. It's now November and, you know, we can't pour cement in cold weather. Colin Gilbride is the-, watching over it but he can't be everywhere at one time. Can you show me that this has been safe and that the buildings are whatever. I'm talking when the spring comes there won't be no problems?

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

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, AngajukKâk for your second question. Mr. Gilbride, or our department may not necessarily

have to travel to the community. He is in charge of overseeing to ensure that the work is completed. So he has reports come to him and then he will ensure that the work is completed to standard. I understand and appreciate that it is getting late in the season. In your original question, you mentioned the Nain Duplex. If you will recall in my update, the duplex-, the foundations are finished and we're expecting to life the modules onto the foundations this week. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. DICKER: Yes, I guess the second one is for-, I can't speak for the communities but will-, I'm worried about safety and because it's going to create at the end, the buildings being unsettled, moving? How does the Infrastructure Committee see that this is not gonna be so? Is there a magic formula for that? Thank you.

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

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you. Mr. Speaker and thank you, AngajukKâk. I'm not aware of any magic formulas. And I actually am not aware of how the Infrastructure Team is planning to ensure that piece. So I will take this question under notice.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* The next question is from the AngajukKâk of Hopedale, Ms. Marjorie Flowers.

MS. FLOWERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for First Minister, Honourable Melva Williams. In your report, you said that the projects, the housing projects are behind schedule and many are in progress. Can you tell me what the reasoning is-, why so many-, the majority of them, are behind schedule and what, "In progress," means? Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* First Minister?

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, AngajukKâk for your question. Behind schedule may be a myriad of reasons whether or not the contract was awarded, the timing of the contract, or the amount of time to get the resources, supplies, materials into the communities. In progress means that the work is ongoing on those projects. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

MS. FLOWERS: Yes. So if there's so many behind schedule and in progress, does that mean that they'll be continued to be behind schedule where everything is so late starting up?

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

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, AngajukKâk Flowers for the supplemental question. In order to ensure that I provide you with a concise answer to this question, I will also take this one under notice. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, First Minister. The First Minister is taking the question under notice. If you would like to add a supplemental question, you can.

MS. FLOWERS: No, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the Honourable Minister for her answers.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*. The next question is from Ordinary Member for Nain, Roxanne Barbour, when you're ready.

MS. BARBOUR: *Nakummek, Uhattik*. I don't know who this question is really for. I'm thinking maybe the Secretariat. In the previous Assembly Sitting like I mentioned the yesterday, the *Capital Strategy Trust* mentioned that there's \$17 million that's owed to the NG. I was wondering, is it possible to collaborate or work with the NGC so that they might be able to provide a Food Security Program with the dollars that are owed to the NG?

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

MR. PRESIDENT: *Nakummek, UKatti*. [Speaks in Inuttitut] Yes, the question, being owed to an NG. I will take this question under notice and get the

answer to the question and will get back to the Assembly on the answer to the question. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

MR. WINTERS: Does the Member wish to ask a supplemental question?

MS. BARBOUR: I'm wondering if I-, I don't know if I might be called out of order in asking-, it's still pertaining to the NGC and the funding dollars. But it's outside of Food Security.

MR. WINTERS: Then I would recommend that you provide this potentially as a written question later because that would not pertain directly to your first question.

MS. BARBOUR: Okay. Then I would not like to ask a supplemental question.
Nakku.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Are there any other first questions around the Table? Yes, recognizing the Ordinary Member for Postville, Mr. George Gear.

MR. GEAR: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This one is for our Honourable Gerald Asivak. We're still having trouble with childcare in the community of Postville. I noticed that there was a job opportunity posted but it was filled. But it was then later not filled. Do you have any plans of trying yet to fill that position?

MR. WINTERS: Minister, whenever you're ready.

MR. ASIVAK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Member Gear. I don't know the specifics about the current vacancy and what position it is, however, we work closely with Finance, Human Resources, Information Technology to fill vacancies in our department and every other Government department. There are some strict Provincial guidelines under, "Childcare," that example, early childhood educators have to have certain standards or minimum qualifications to operate in these settings and its Provincial Law. So we have to maintain that in regards to postings. Sometimes there could be a combination of education, training and work experience. I do know, Mr. Speaker, that Postville is a smaller community and sometimes harder to recruit employees. However, we work closely with Finance and we continue to post vacancies to try to fill those vacancies. You're welcome to speak with me directly in person, privately, and we can work toward getting positions filled in your community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Ordinary Member Gear, do you have a supplemental question?

MR. GEAR:

No, I don't, and thank you, for your answer.

MR. WINTERS:

Are there further first questions around the Table? Seeing none, I will ask the Deputy Speaker to take my seat while I ask a question.

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Ordinary Member Winters. You have a question?

MR. WINTERS: Yes, thank you. My question is for Melva Williams. Last spring, the Government launched its Inuttitut blitz emphasizing the importance of our language. However, it is clear from our backlog of materials waiting for translation and the difficulty of attracting and retaining translators and interpreters. How can we, the Assembly, be asked to convince our beneficiaries that the Nunatsiavut Government values Inuttitut, when it isn't willing to spend actual money on it? *Nakummek.*

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Ordinary Member Winters. First Minister?

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you Deputy Speaker. I'm not sure if Ordinary Member you had heard or noticed my conversation this morning in relation to the changes we made to the Bilingual Allowance for people who speak Inuttitut and are employed or elected to the Nunatsiavut Government. The Nunatsiavut Government has just made changes to those levels which translates into spending money to increase the ability to hire or to encourage individuals to work for the Government. We know we've been challenged to have staff and we're hoping that this will be a step forward to providing an opportunity to hire-, for more people to become employed with the Nunatsiavut Government. Thank you, Deputy Speaker.

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, First Minister. Do you have a supplemental question Mr. Winters?

MR. WINTERS: I do. I did hear and appreciate the changes, however, I have to ask, will the Government commit to a full wage and salary comparison and review against other Inuit regions and Indigenous Governments in order to adequately inform and impact our next budget? We need to put the necessary emphasis on our language's importance by paying our language carriers like the invaluable resource that they are.

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Mr. Winters. First Minister?

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. In addition to my report this morning, we also had in the statement from the Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology that stated that there is currently a Recruitment and Retention piece of work ongoing within the Government. I'm assuming that we would encourage from our department to ensure that, that piece of work that you just requested would be incorporated into their considerations. Thank you, Deputy Speaker.

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, First Minister and do you have a second supplemental, Mr. Winters?

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Yes, thank you, Deputy Speaker. Recently, a Language Learning Program created by Vanessa and Nicholas Flowers has been offered to all beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claim. Can the Nunatsiavut Government promise that all Language Learning Resources and opportunities are offered to all beneficiaries as possible, as reasonable, not just those in the Land Claim Area?

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Mr. Winters. First Minister, would you like to respond?

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. I'm going to err on the side of caution and I'm not...

MR. SAUNDERS: Point of order.

MS. BARBOUR: The question that Ordinary Member asked isn't related to the first question.

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, for the point of order. Mr. Winters your second supplemental question was not related to the first. Do you have a second supplemental that is related to the first question?

MR. WINTERS: Not at this time, Deputy Speaker.

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you. Point of order, Mr...

MR. EVANS: Yes, if I could just-, your question to the First Minister regarding the salary view benefits for our Language Program, I'd just like to add that in addition to what the other Member has mentioned, in

terms of Review and Recruitment sessions that are ongoing, there is a lot of work being put into a benefit package. Like the salary itself, we might be by Canadian law-, we have to abide by Canadian law in terms of a worker performing the same work as certain salaried skill. But we do have the option with the benefit package. And so that's ongoing. But in terms of your question on language, a priority for the Nunatsiavut Government. I don't want to speak for the Secretariat, but the ICPC and ITK and Nunatsiavut Government are doing a lot of work with the language. There's a lot of potential funding dollars that would hopefully be coming from Canada for language, not only for Nunatsiavut, but for all regions across the North. They all realize, like, the language is an important part of the Inuit Governments. And so with the fine work of the ICPC and ITK-, we can't speak to the actual amounts or whatever, but just to assure you that the language is a priority and the retention of our translators, interpreters of the language, like, that's very important to the Nunatsiavut Government.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Thank you, Minister Evans. Mr. Winters?

MR. WINTERS:

Yes, with this new information I will add a supplemental question. Thank you, Deputy Speaker. As we know, Language, Culture and Tourism is the least-funded department within the Government. Based on the findings, will the Government commit to increasing

salaries to ensure the retention and attraction of new speakers and translators and interpreters? *Nakummek*.

MR. SAUNDERS: First Minister, would you like to respond?

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. As mentioned by the Minister for Finance, Human Resources, Information Technology, we are currently under that review. And that's where we are in relation to the entire Government. So the concerns presented will be brought into consideration. In addition, I'd also like to invite the President to add some clarification to the question as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, First Minister, Mr. President.

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

Yes, as the Minister of Finance, Information Technology, Human Resources mentioned, the Inuit of Inuit Nunangat are working together at the ITK level and at the Table of the Inuit Crown Partnership Committee on issues that are important to Inuit across Inuit Nunangat including Nunatsiavut Government serving Labrador Inuit. This issue of language is very challenging to table with the Government of Canada, and most certainly this issue is of the most vital importance to Labrador Inuit as it is our language and culture of who we are. And most certainly something that an

elder in Nain became concerned that our language, culture and way of life was at risk. And we have pointed that out to the Federal Government at the Inuit Crown Partnership Committee Table. But like I say, it is quite challenging and the funding dollars that we are asking are, we know, would help Labrador Inuit and also Inuit across Inuit Nunangat. And this issue is still at the Table. And then we as Labrador Inuit have the lowest number of Inuttitut Speakers across Inuit Nunangat and that is a great concern. But we are going to continue to fight for this very important issue and most certainly for our children and our grandchildren. They are the ones that have to continue the Labrador Inuit language culture and way of life. And we have to make sure that we work hard and not fail on this issue. And most certainly to help those language carriers, as you say, to help stop the erosion of language and culture and to rise above the issue that we are facing. And most certainly to help future generations to become leaders like our ancestors and have the concern of our language and culture being at risk. And it is more than being at risk. It is in crisis. And so we as Government have to work very hard to make sure that our Inuttitut, our language, our culture and way of life is a priority for the Government of Nunatsiavut. *Nakummek, Uhatik.*

MR. SAUNDERS:

Thank you, very much, Mr. President. Mr. Winters?

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.*

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you. You can have the Chair back. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, Deputy Speaker. Are there any other first questions at this time? Seeing none, are there any second questions at this time? Yes, recognizing Roxanne Barbour, the Ordinary Member for Nain, when you're ready.

MS. BARBOUR: *Nakummek.* I don't know if the Department of Education and Economic Development or Health and Social Development might want to answer if both of them can answer. But anyways, we've heard so many times about senior's homes within Nunatsiavut. And an answer that was often provided was that healthcare professionals and business ownership are usually the ones that provides this vital service, and the shortage of healthcare professionals. Have the departments ever considered collaborating to support either a nurse, a beneficiary who is a nurse, or qualified to provide senior-, proper-, like either level one or two senior care homes within Nunatsiavut?

MR. WINTERS: As we've just experienced, I'm also not necessarily sure which Minister should be asked which questions, so I'll ask the two Ministers which one.

MR. EVANS:

Excuse me, I'm not sure for myself but I think it's like a cross-departmental discussion, like, you know, like, I don't have to tell you or anyone in the Assembly, our senior's care ongoing, is like a really concern, like, I don't know-, not sure of the year that the survey was done with the elders a number of years ago. With that survey, I'm not sure-, I don't have the information or can speak to it but I know that survey the elders, when they responded, they-, what we-, what-, if they had to go into long-term care, they wanted to be near the hospital. That was, like, years ago, right? But now since then there's a lot of discussion however, and I think like it's under our Department of Health, so I don't want to say something that-, I mean, like, it's not my department so if you don't mine, Gerald, I'd like to defer that to you.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Minister Evans. The Honourable Gerald Asivak, Minister of the Department of Health and Social Development.

MR. ASIVAK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ordinary Member for Nain and Minister Evans. The question is not clear, for one. The Ordinary Member is asking for senior's homes. There's a difference in personal care homes and long-term care homes. There's different levels. There's different requirements that must be followed under Provincial Law, Federal Law. This would be multi-faceted in many areas within Government. Not on particular department would oversee this. I

would see Health helping out to some degree, Infrastructure from Affairs, the approval from the Executive Council. A lot of this would be the Inuit Community Governments for land development, getting, you know, land for \$1.00 so we can produce this. We'd have to-, also, with personal care homes as I've noted many times before, in the Assembly, they are privately ran by individuals. And I'm...

MR. WINTERS: Sorry, say it again, Member?

MS. BARBOUR: (Inaudible) answering the question.

MR. ASIVAK: I'm answering it.

MR. WINTERS: Go ahead, Gerald.

MS. BARBOUR: (Inaudible.)

MR. WINTERS: So Minister, what she was saying is outside of suggesting that they be privately run, is there an appetite for the Government to assist a private citizen, an Inuk?

MR. ASIVAK: If an individual wanted to operate a privately ran operation, they can reach out to many numerous departments, even through the Ordinary Members, and we'll gladly insist and ensure that we can get the support that individual needs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

MS. BARBOUR: Yes, I'm just wondering if I'm allowed to defer my question to a different Minister, but it's still pertaining to the first question, before I ask it?

MR. WINTERS: Given the broad nature of the question, and as mentioned, the many different departments and Governments that this would touch upon, I will allow you to ask the question. I can't guarantee the quality of answer.

MS. BARBOUR: Thank you, for that clarification. So like I mentioned in my first question, and like it was already stated, any Inuk can pursue their own business. I'm wondering now, can the Nunatsiavut Executive, so I guess the Nunatsiavut Government in whole, in all the departments come together to strategize how a long-term or personal care or some sort of senior's facility, whether it's level one or level two or that would be Provincially and Federally regulated-, can this research be completed in terms of feasibility and viability for a senior's care home in Nunatsiavut, whether it's level one, level two or a personal care home? *Nakku*. I think it would be for the President, where it's a Nunatsiavut Government or Nunatsiavut Executive-directed question.

MR. WINTERS: Mr. President, do you have an answer you would like to provide related to this question at this time?

PRESIDENT LAMPE:

Nakummek, UKatti, [Speaks in Inuttitut]

This question would have to be put to the Executive Council and so we would then pursue what answers that we might be able to come up with and most certainly, it would become an all-inclusive issue where it would involve, as mentioned the Executive and the Ordinary Member, the elected Members and most certainly the Deputy Ministers and whatever directors that may be involved in this issue that is being discussed. And most certainly, as President, I will do this and to make sure that this work will be looked at *Nakummek, UKatti.*

MR. WINTERS:

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

MS. BARBOUR:

Nakummek, UKatti and Nakummek [Speaks in Inuttitut] The other question that I wanted to ask was that in terms of senior's home within Nunatsiavut, whether it's personal care, Level One or Level Two, can the President commit to providing the answer that he said that he would provide, in a timely manner? *Nakummek UKatti.* Is that related?

MR. ASIVAK:

Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Yes, Minister Asivak. What's your point of order?

MR. ASIVAK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I feel that the questions, those oral questions do not permit and they should be classified as under Category Six, "Written Questions," because it is multi-faceted and not only for the President. (Inaudible) the Executive Department. And I feel it's more suitable under written questions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

I agree with the Minister and I was leaning the same way in that a large, comprehensive question like this does require the input from many different departments. And despite in oral questions, the Government's tendency to answer en masse, we do need to ensure that they have the best ability to answer our questions. So I will recommend that this be repeated as a written question.

MS. BARBOUR:

Ministers are required to-, are responsible to the Assembly and should already be educated in topics such as this as this is a common topic to have a question that's been answered.

MR. WINTERS:

Member Barbour, this should be moved to a written question. We're not going to continue with this because we don't have one specific Minister that can answer a question this large. That's specifically why I'm putting this to a written question.

MS. BARBOUR:

I was satisfied with my answers in terms of taking it under advisement from the President who is going to get back and take it

to the Executive and then my second supplemental question was just asking if the President can commit to providing the answer in a timely manner outside of...

MR. WINTERS: I heard you. The debate is over. We're moving on. *Nakummek*.

MS. BARBOUR: I didn't receive my answer.

MR. WINTERS: You've asked the question. You've made your point. You're not owed an answer at this time. It's being taken under notice and we'll move on from here.

MS. BARBOUR: My second question was called into Point of Order, so my second question wasn't answered. No, in point of order, you can debate it until it's concluded. That's what it says in the Standing Orders.

MR. WINTERS: What supplemental question would you ask, Ordinary Member?

MS. BARBOUR: The second one I already asked. I asked if the President can commit to providing an answer in a timely manner and it's not a comprehensive question.

MR. WINTERS: Mr. President?

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

I cannot promise an answer in a timely manner but this issue is large and most certainly will take some time to have discussions with those who may need to be involved and most certainly will need the help of staff who have the knowledge in helping the

Executive in how to move forward on this issue. And I'm not saying that this issue is not important. It is very important for Labrador Inuit, especially for the elders, the seniors that we have in Nunatsiavut and most certainly for the health and well-being and the care that they need. And so all of that would have to be taken into consideration and most certainly when that is done, it could be possible that we could provide an answer in a timely manner. But I am not promising that. But we will work on this very important issue to make sure that whatever level of facility that is being discussed, whether it be at the, you know, Category One or Two, long-term. And those issues will have to be discussed to come to an appropriate answer which will satisfy not just the Ordinary Member of Nain but all of the elected Members of the Nunatsiavut Assembly. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

MR. W. ANDERSEN: Point of Order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: Yes, Ordinary Member, Upper Lake Melville, Wally Anderson.

MR. W. ANDERSEN: Just a Point of Order, Mr. Speaker, this question and a similar question was asked a couple times in the House of Assembly already. The question was asked several times, so, like, hopefully we will get an answer.

MR. WINTERS:

Okay. Are there any other questions around the Table at this time? Seeing none, are there any written questions around the Table at this time? Seeing two, Page? The first written question is from the Chairperson of the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation, Ms. Patricia Kemuksigak. The question is addressed to the President. "In reference to your press release issued yesterday that the Nunatsiavut Government is withdrawing from the Premier's Indigenous Committee as the NCC is at the Table and should not be, would you recommend other Departments and Inuit Organizations that are on Committees or working groups with the NCC also withdraw? This is a written question. It will require a written response. Yes, Ordinary Member Barbour?

MS. BARBOUR:

Where Member Kemuksigak was properly excused can the question come from her?

MR. WINTERS:

I believe it was actually handed in-, it was actually handed in by Mr. Jeff Montague. I should've clarified that, as the Chairperson of the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation. It had been given to him from her.

MS. BARBOUR:

Yeah, that-, I was just gonna say can you clarify it for the record. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS:

Yes, for the record, the question does come from Mr. Jeff Montague. *Nakummek*. The next question is to the Minister of the Department of Health and Social Development. And this is from Ordinary Member for Nain, Ms. Roxanne Barbour. "What are the long and short-term plans to move the Regional Office from the Upper Lake Melville to Nunatsiavut? The-, for clarification, the Department of Health and Social Development's office, yeah.

Nakummek. That's in order. The third written question today is addressed to the Secretariat, so, Mr. President. Again, from the Ordinary Member for Nain, Ms. Roxanne Barbour. "What is the current timeline and scope of work for the anticipated Harvester Support Program as well as efforts and scope of work for securing Food Security funds through the ICPC and Federal Government? Where does the Provincial Government stand?" All of these questions will be provided to you in writing and responses will be expected within 10 days. *Nakummek*. We are now on Item Seven, "Return to Written Questions." Are there any returns to written questions at this time? Seeing none, we are now moving on to Item Eight, "Petitions." Are there any petitions at this time? There are none. This brings us to Item Nine, "Responses to Petitions." There are no responses to petitions at this time. Item 10, "Reports of Standing in Special Committees." There are no standing or

special committee reports today. So we will move on to Item 11, "Tabling of Documents." There are no documents to be tabled today. We will move on to Item 12, "Notices of Motion." There are no notices of motion today so we will move on to Item 13, "Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills." There are no motions for first reading of bills today. So we will move on to Item 14. Item 14 is, "Motions." There are no motions today. And at this time we will take a break for an hour, returning at 10 minutes to 1:00.

Nakummek.

[Recess]

MR. WINTERS: Can everyone check their headsets, please? Welcome back. Hope everyone is satisfied by your lunches. We are now on to Item 15, "First Reading of Bills." This is the first reading of Bill 2023-04, "*The Helmets Act*." And I recognize the President of Nunatsiavut.

PRESIDENT LAMPE: *Nakummek, UKatti.* Honourable Speaker, in accordance with Standing Order 54(3), I seek unanimous consent.

MR. WINTERS: One moment.

PRESIDENT LAMPE: [Speaks in Inuttitut] I move, seconded by First Minister that Bill 2023-04, "*The Helmets Act*," now be introduced and read for the first time. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Would you like to introduce the Bill?

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

MR. WINTERS: Apologies, one second.

PRESIDENT LAMPE: I will speak the Bill respecting the use of helmets by operators and passengers of off-road vehicles on Labrador Inuit lands. *UKatti.*

Mr. Speaker, Nunatsiavut Government and the Inuit Community Governments have expressed concerns about the impact of this legislation to Inuit who use these vehicles in both, Labrador Inuit lands and the Inuit Communities. One of the main issues of concern is the now mandated use of helmets. Historically, most residents of our communities have not used helmets, as many people find the use of helmets for their purposes, unnecessary and may not be practical if you are hunting. Use of helmets does not consider circumstances such as passenger transport from airports. It is not feasible for passengers to carry helmets with them for use on small aircraft when we are already restricted by the amount of luggage that we can carry. *Nunatsiavut Government*, the Inuit Community Governments and the public were consulted by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. During the development of the Act, Nunatsiavut Government included the Inuit Community Governments in its discussions and submissions on the new Act. We advocated against the need for mandatory helmets. This was not because the wearing of helmets is not a safe

practice, rather that the choice to wear a helmet should be left to individuals since in some circumstances, helmet use is not feasible. NG requested an exemption from the Act, but that request was refused by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador acknowledges that under the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement*, the Nunatsiavut Government and Inuit Community Governments have the authority to make laws with respect to recreational vehicles within their respective jurisdictions. This Bill, Mr. Speaker, if enacted, will remove any requirements for operators or passengers of off-road vehicles to wear helmets within Labrador Inuit Lands outside of the Inuit Communities. Rules regarding recreational vehicle use within Inuit Community Boundaries are in the jurisdiction of the Inuit Community Governments and will require the Inuit Community Governments to pass their own similar by-laws if they wish to do so. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. The motion is in order. Does anyone wish to speak to the principal of the Bill? Yes, go ahead. Sorry, Ordinary Member of Upper Lake Melville, Wally Andersen, go ahead.

MR. W. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a part like for a bit of clarification. I know, like, some people carry life insurance. And in some cases, you know, like, for off-road vehicles, the wearing of helmets is

mandatory. So I'm just wondering have we checked with, you know, like...

MR. WINTERS: So this would be part of the discussion in the Committee of the Whole. This is specific to the principal of the Bill. I appreciate it. If no other Member wishes to speak, does the President wish to conclude the debate?

PRESIDENT LAMPE: *Nakummek, UKatti.* I wish to conclude debate. *Nakummek.*

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek,* President Lampe. That concludes debate on first reading. Is the Assembly in favour of approving Bill 2023-04 on first reading? All those in favour? All opposed?

Seeing none, the motion is carried and accordingly, Bill 2023-04, "*The Helmets Act*," has had first reading. I would like to again recognize the President of Nunatsiavut, Johannes Lampe.

PRESIDENT LAMPE: *Nakummek, UKatti.* 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 2023-04, "*The Helmets Act*," today. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek,* Mr. President. The President is seeking unanimous consent to waive Standing Order 54(1)(d), to proceed with second reading today. All those in favour? All those opposed? Seeing none, Mr. President, you have unanimous consent so the Bill can

proceed to second reading at the appropriate time. I know recognize the Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology, Mr. Tom Evans.

MR. EVANS: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I move, seconded by the First Minister that Bill 2023-05, "*The Civil Service Amendments Act 2023*," now be introduced and read for the first time.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*. Would you like to introduce the Bill?

MR. EVANS: Mr. Speaker, the *Civil Service Act* was first enacted on December 1st, 2005. There have been three amendments to this Act since that time. A review of this Act was completed during the first half of 2023 by my Department, in conjunction with Legal Services. A number of portions of the Act required amendments. Much of this is for two primary reasons, Mr. Speaker. First, the Government's workforce has grown significantly in terms of numbers of positions and the types of work, or duties completed by positions of the Government. Secondly, the complexity and diversity of the Human Resource matters within the Government and legislated under Canada Labour Court, necessitates amendments to the Act. Along with this, a professional Human Resource Division is required to meet the Human Resource requirements of the NG. Mr. Speaker, this Bill is intended to be the first in a series of Bills proposed and amendments to the Act. This particular Bill contains amendments

related to Part One and Part Two of the Act. Section Three of this Bill fixes an issue with respect to the use of both the terms Minister and Treasurer with regard to the Member of the Executive Council responsible for the Act. It would remove the term, "Treasurer," in favour of the term, "Minister," which is more consistent with the *Nunatsiavut Government Organization Transitional Act*. Section Four of this Bill would remove the Act's automatic application to any agency of the NG in favour of a rule that the Act would apply to agencies only if required by Inuit law. This impacts the provisions under Section Nine. Section Five through Section Seven of the Act make up dates to the Act to reflect current practice and organization changes within NG. Mr. Speaker, the positions of the Deputy Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology and the Director of Human Resources were at one time held by one person. These positions have since been separated with the Director of Human Resources reporting to the Deputy Minister and to the Minister. The Executive Council does not appoint the Director of Human Resources, as it would be a Deputy Minister. Mr. Speaker, as I noted, this Bill is the first in a series of amendments. The growth in the workforce as well as complexity and diversity of the employees' duties and responsibilities has led to the detailed review of the Act. Mr. Speaker, the amendments to

this Inuit Law are important and I trust that they will be supported.

Nakummek.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, Minister. The motion is in order. Does anyone wish to speak to the principal of the Bill? Yes, recognizing Ordinary Member for Nain, Roxanne Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR: I recognize that the...

MR. WINTERS: The Member will stand.

MS. BARBOUR: Oh, sorry. I recognize that the term, "Treasurers," would like to be replaced by Minister because of the *Nunatsiavut Organization Act*, but in the *Constitution*, it states, "Treasurer," so just wondering should it stay as, "Treasurer," to reflect the *Constitution*, or is it more appropriate to keep it like that for the *Organization Act*?

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, Member. That is a very good question and we'll have to take a moment to discuss that. *Nakummek*. On a break.

[Recess]

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*. Thank you, for your patience. The principal of the Bill is that it is a Bill to make amendments to the existing Act. The question that you've asked, like I said, is a very good one. And it will be addressed during the second reading. *Nakummek*. Does anyone else wish to speak to the principal of the Bill? If no other

Members wish to speak, does the Minister wish to conclude the debate?

MR. EVANS: Yes, I wish to conclude debate.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Thank you, Minister. That concludes debate on first reading. Is the Assembly in favour of approving Bill 2023-05 on first reading? All those in favour? Any opposed? Seeing none, the motion is carried and accordingly, Bill 2023-05, "*The Civil Service Amendments Act 2023*," has had first reading. I would like to again recognize Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology, Mr. Tom Evans.

MR. EVANS: 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 the Bill 2023-05, "*The Civil Service Amendments Act 2023*," today.

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 16 is the Second Reading of Bills. This is the Second Reading of Bill 2023-04, "*The Helmets Act*." I would

like to again recognize the President of Nunatsiavut, the Honourable Johannes Lampe for the second reading of the Bill.

PRESIDENT LAMPE:

Nakummek, UKatti. I move, seconded by the First Minister that Number One, Bill 2023-04, "*The Helmets Act*," be moved into Committee of the Whole with Ms. Isabella Pain and Mr. Mark Gillette as witnesses and number two, that the said Bill be read for the second time. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

MR. WINTERS:

The motion is to move into the Committee of the Whole to consider the Bill. All those in favour? Any opposed? Seeing none, we are now in the Committee of the Whole and I invite the witnesses into the Chamber. 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 any of the witnesses to make remarks if they wish. Witnesses?

MR. GILLETTE:

Happy to be back before the Committee of the Whole again. So just, the President in first reading gave a very-, an overview of the purpose of the Bill. Just to reiterate that the purpose of the Bill again-, the Provincial Government enacted new legislation last year that would apply across the Province, to operators of recreational off-road vehicles. The *Land Claims Agreement* talks about recreational vehicles and the Provincial Legislation talks about off-road vehicles, but they're talking about the same thing and, yeah.

So part of that was the use-, required use of helmets by people who are operating snowmobiles or ATV's. The Nunatsiavut Government and the ICG's were consulted by the Provincial Government with regard to those new rules. The Nunatsiavut Government for its part had asked the Province not to implement a rule with respect to helmets for, you know, its territory and, or to-, if it was going to implement a bill or implement such a law, that Nunatsiavut would be exempt from it. The Province didn't do that-, didn't offer the exemption. It said that the-, either the Nunatsiavut Government or the Inuit Community Governments have the ability to make such a rule with respect to helmets on their own. And so the Provincial Government didn't do it. So this Bill is very short and all it really does is, with respect to Labrador Inuit Lands outside of the communities, remove the requirement for individuals to wear helmets. If individuals wish to wear helmets or have some other reason that they would have to wear a helmet, like, you know, if their employer tells them they have to, or they have some other reason that they'd feel that they should or that they have to, then they certainly can. It's just that there's-, they-, the Provincial Law requiring it wouldn't apply. So that's just generally the background of the purpose of bringing the Bill today.

MR. WINTERS:

We will 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'll go back to begin-, to consider the preamble and the Title of the Bill. Does everyone have your copy of the Bill in front of you? It appears as though you do. Starting on Page Three. Clause two, which continues on to Page Four, is, "In this Act, a) Inuit Community means one of the following communities: Nain, Hopedale, Makkovik, Postville or Rigolet." And Inuit Communities means all of those communities-, b) Labrador Inuit Lands-, has the same meaning as that term is given in Section 111 of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement*, c) Law of General Application-, means Provincial or Federal Law, d) Off-road vehicle means a wheeled or tracked motorized vehicle designed or adapted for cross-country travel on land, water, ice, snow, marsh, swampland or other natural terrain, including, i) A motorized snow vehicle, ii) An all-terrain vehicle. Iii)-, I should be saying, "Three," not iii. Apologies-, a mini-dirt bike-, sorry, a mini-bike, dirt bike and trail bike, Four, a miniature vehicle such as a dune or sport buggy, Five, an off-road maintenance machine and vi) an amphibious vehicle. The Assembly will note that these numbers are in Roman Numerals, but not including agricultural equipment, infrastructure

equipment or a garden lawn mower, lawn tractor or golf cart. Two, in this Act, a reference to, "Recreational Vehicles," includes off-road vehicles. Are there questions about this clause? Yes, recognizing Ms. Barbour, when you're ready.

MS. BARBOUR: In Two, in this Act, a reference to recreational vehicles include off-road vehicles, should it also include all-terrain vehicles?

MR. WINTERS: Mr. Gillette?

MR. GILLETTE: It does include all-terrain vehicles because it says so in (d)(2)

MR. WINTERS: Are there further questions to this clause? Yes, Mr. Wally Andersen.

MR. W. ANDERSEN: Many insurance companies require the wearing of helmets for off-road vehicles and some people have personal life-insurance that's taken out and I'm just wondering, like, what would happen if following our Law, we're not required to wear a helmet and where an insurance company requires it? Is there anything done to-, or will there be anything done to ensure that the people know that-, of the rules and regulations regarding the use of helmets, where, as I said, some insurance company would use that as to be mandatory?

MR. WINTERS: Mr. Gillette?

MR. GILLETTE: All I can say for that if someone is subject to-, so this is talking about general rules that apply to everybody who are gonna be on Labrador Inuit Lands. But as I said earlier, if there are specific reasons that a particular individual would be required to wear a helmet either because of an insurance policy-, if that was a case, that they have a contract for or if they have-, or if their employer tells them that they have to wear a helmet or something like that, well, then they'll have to follow those rules. But we're talking about the general rules that apply to the general public on Labrador Inuit Lands.

MR. WINTERS: Are there other questions? Yes, Ms. Barbour?

MS. BARBOUR: Can I just add to that? I don't know if I'm speaking out of place or whatever, but I would assume the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement* would come into effect anyways, regardless of Provincial or Federal or what is called, "Law of General Application?" I think so. I would like to think so, anyways.

MR. WINTERS: Would either witness like to comment?

MR. GILLETTE: I'm not quite sure what the Member means by that.

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Barbour?

MS. BARBOUR: Sorry. I was trying to add to that, like saying in terms of, like, law, like the-, this is Law. This is Inuit Law where the *Land Claims*

Agreement comes into effect, applied to Labrador Inuit Lands, right-
, or proposed Law, I should say. And it becomes Law if enacted. And
then, like, it would apply legally anyways, right, if-, like if something
happened on Labrador Inuit Lands, where their insurance come into
place, this Law would be applicable, is what I'm trying to say.

MR. WINTERS:

Mr. Gillette?

MR. GILLETTE:

I'm not really sure there's a question there that I can answer, but it
is a comment I think. So I think, just to clarify what I was saying
before-, if there are reasons that people need to wear helmets, apart
from whatever the general Law says, then that's between them and
the reasons that they have to wear a helmet, like their employer or
insurance company or things like that. So this wouldn't apply to-, it
doesn't affect those things.

MR. WINTERS:

Are there further questions? Yes, Mr. Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN:

And again, like, I just wanna make sure because, like, the way certain
things turn out-, like, for example, like, we have our *Constitution*, but
the *Charter of Rights* over-rules most all *Constitutions* across
Canada. So again, the part of where people do have life insurance, I
just hope that, you know, they take the time to check with the
insurance company because, like, anything can happen. And I hate
to see someone who's got a family who's got life insurance and

when-, if there was an accident and that person lost their life, and then the insurance comes back and says, "Well, no, our laws state clearly, insurance policies that any off-road vehicle it's mandatory to wear a helmet." So I'm not debating any-, just wanna be sure that people fully understand and maybe there should be a public notice put out that anyone who do have personal life insurance, maybe they could check, you know, with the insurance company just to make sure.

MR. WINTERS:

Are there further questions? Seeing none, all in favour? Any opposed? Seeing none. Apologies. We can't vote until the President is back, so we're taking a short break until he is back in the room.

[Recess]

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. So back to Clause Two. Now, we've had to excuse Ms. Pain to catch a flight. We will also be losing Katie Winters the translator, right now, who also needs to catch a flight-, personal reasons. So we're back to Clause Two. All in favour? Are any opposed? Seeing none, we move on to Page Four, Clause Three, "Application." Can the interpreter hear me? Okay. We are now onto Clause Three, "Application." This Act applies to the operation of off-road vehicles on Labrador Inuit Lands, outside of Inuit

Communities. I'm gonna have to call on IT. We're not receiving the Inuttitut in Channel Two. We'll take a short break

[Recess]

MR. WINTERS:

Again, Clause Three, this Act applies to the operation of off-road vehicles on Labrador Inuit Lands outside of the Inuit Communities. Are there any questions around Clause Three? Seeing none, all in favour? All opposed? Seeing none, Clause Four, "Helmet Not Required." "Despite any Law of general application to the contrary, an operator or passenger of an off-road vehicle or a passenger being towed by an off-road vehicle is not required to wear a helmet." Are there any questions around this clause? Seeing none. All in favour? All opposed? Seeing none, we are now on Clause Five, "Coming into Force." "This Act comes into force on a day to be set by order of the President". Are there any questions? Seeing none. All in favour? Any opposed? Seeing none, we are agreed. Okay, let's go back to Page Two. Apologise, Page Three. Clause One, "The Short Title." This Act may be cited as, "*The Helmets Act*." Are there any questions? Are we agreed? Any opposed? Seeing none. The Preamble. "Whereas the use of off-road vehicles is generally regulated by the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, however, whereas Section 17(9)(3), of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement*, grants the Nunatsiavut Government the authority to

make laws with respect to recreational vehicles on Labrador Inuit Lands and whereas the Nunatsiavut Assembly wishes to set out requirements for the use of helmets for persons using off-road vehicles on Labrador Inuit Lands." Are there any questions? Seeing none. All in favour-, or-, yes, all in favour? Okay. All in favour? Any opposed? Agreed. Finally, the Long Title of the Bill, "*An Act Respecting the Use of Helmets by Operators and Passengers of Off-Road Vehicles on Labrador Inuit Lands.*" Are there any questions? Seeing none, all in favour? Any opposed? We are agreed. That concludes the page-by-page, clause-by-clause review of the Bill. Does the President wish to conclude the debate?

PRESIDENT LAMPE:

Nakummek, UKatti. I wish to conclude debate. *Nakummek.*

MR. WINTERS:

Thank you. That concludes debate. That also concludes the Committee of the Whole and I would like to thank Mr. Mark Gillette, Director of Legal Services. You may exit. We are now back in the Assembly. All those in favour of second reading of Bill 2023-04, "*The Helmets Act,*" show of hands? Any opposed? The motion is carried. Accordingly, Bill 2023-04, "*The Helmets Act,*" has had second reading. I now recognize the Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technologies, Mr. Tom Evans, to continue the second reading of Bills.

MR. EVANS:

I move, seconded by the First Minister, that one, Bill 2023-05, "*The Civil Service Amendments Act 2023*," be moved into Committee of the Whole with Ms. Rexanne Crawford and Mr. Mark Gillette as witnesses and that the said bill be read for the second time.

MR. WINTERS:

The motion is to move into the Committee of the Whole to consider this Bill. All those in favour? Any opposed? Seeing none, the motion is carried. We are now in the Committee of the Whole and I invite the witnesses into the Chamber. Just as before, the procedure for second reading debates will be a page-by-page and clause-by-clause review of the Bill. Before the review, I'll ask the witnesses to make remarks as they wish. All right. No remarks. We will 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'll go back to begin the-, sorry, we will go back to consider the preamble and title of the bill. Starting on Page Two, under, "Amendments to Section 2(1) of the *Civil Service Act*-, just to check around the room, does everyone have the Inuttitut and English versions of the Bill? Okay. Clause Two, starting on Page Two, titled, "Amendments to Section 2(1) of the *Civil Service Act* and Consequential Amendments." One, "Paragraph 2(1)(l) of the *Civil Service Act* is replaced by the following, (l) "Minister", in quotations means the Nunatsiavut Treasurer or such

other Member of the Executive Council appointed as responsible for Human Resources. Two, "Paragraph 2(1)(s) of the *Civil Service Act* is repealed." Three, "In every instance where the word Treasurer appears in the *Civil Service Act*, it is replaced by the word, Minister." Are there questions? Yes, Ms. Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR: *Nakummek.* I'm just wondering what it says in 2(1)(s) of the, *Civil Service Act*?

MR. WINTERS: Yes, Ms. Crawford?

MS. CRAWFORD: 2(1)(s) provides the definition of, "Treasurer," and is no longer needed in this *Act* because we're replacing it with the word, "Minister." *Nakummek.*

MR. WINTERS: Are there further questions? Seeing none, all in favour? Any opposed? We are agreed. Clause Three, "Amendment to Section Two of the *Civil Service Act*." "Section Two of the *Civil Service Act* is amended by adding the following as sub-section three. In this Act a reference made to an action or a responsibility of the Minister of a Department includes the President if the President acts as the Minister of a Department." Are there any questions? All those in favour? Any opposed? We are agreed. Clause Four, which continues on to Page Three, all in favour? Oh, apologies. Jumping well ahead of myself. Getting tired of reading, I guess-, 4(1). This is

the Section Three of the *Civil Service Act*. Paragraph 3(1)(a) of the *Civil Service Act* is amended by repealing the phrase or with an agency. Two, Subsection 3(2) of the *Civil Service Act* is replaced by the following: "An Act of the Nunatsiavut Assembly may prescribe that this Act applies in whole or in part to an agency or to persons appointed to or employed by an agency." Are there any questions on this clause? All in favour? Any opposed? Seeing none. Page Three, Clause Five. This is amendment to Section 7(1) of the *Civil Service Act*. Subsection 7(1) of the *Civil Service Act* is replaced by the following, "A committee composed of Deputy Ministers and chaired by the Deputy responsible for Human Resources, must appoint a Director of Human Resources for the Nunatsiavut Government." Are there any questions on Clause Five? Seeing none. Are we in favour? Any opposed? We are agreed. Clause Six, is, "Amendment to Section 7(2) of the *Civil Service Act*. The portion of Subsection 7(2) of the *Civil Service Act* before Paragraph (a) is replaced by the following, "The Director of Human Resources is responsible to both the Deputy Minister responsible for Human Resources and the Minister for personnel management in the Nunatsiavut Civil Service and shall assist them in." Are there any questions? Yes, Ms. Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR: I find that statement kind of long-winded. It's basically saying the Director of Human Resources is responsible to both the Deputy Minister and the Minister responsible for Human Resources? It's just kinda long-winded for me.

MR. WINTERS: Witnesses?

MS. CRAWFORD: I think most things you'll read when they're written in legal terms are not in very layman's terms but this does provide clarity and it is really the way the terminology should be worded.

MR. WINTERS: Are there any further questions or comments? Seeing none, all in favour? Any opposed? We are agreed. Amendment to Section 7(3) of the *Civil Service Act*, Paragraph 7(3)(g) as in, "Golf," of the *Civil Service Act* is replaced by the following, "The establishment of payroll savings, pension and benefits programs." Are there any questions? Seeing none, are we agreed? Any opposed? Under Item 8, Paragraph 7(3)(f) of the *Civil Service Act* is repealed. Are there questions? Yes, Ms. Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR: Thank you. For information purposes, can you state what it says in Paragraph 7(3)(f), please?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford?

MS. CRAWFORD: 7(3)(f) and 7(3)(l) of the *Nunatsiavut Civil Service Act* were stating the exact same thing. So this purpose of this particular clause is to repeal the duplication.

MR. WINTERS: Are there any further questions? Yes, Ms. Williams.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, the word prior to the eight on the page it says, "Idem."
Is it supposed to be Idem or Item?

MR. WINTERS: Mr. Gillette.

MR. GILLETTE: No, that's a legal term and it means the same thing as before. So what the word idem means-, and I tend not to use that as much as I possibly can-, but it means-, you see before Number seven there, "Amendment to 7(3) of the *Civil Service Act*," it means that it's also an amendment to 7(3) of the *Civil Service Act*. It means, "The same thing," is what it means.

MR. WINTERS: Mr. Dicker. No? That was also your question? Okay. All in favour? Any opposed? Seeing none, we are agreed. Amendment to Section 7(4) of the *Civil Service Act*, subsection 7(4) of the *Civil Service Act* is replaced by the following, "The Director of Human Resources must provide advice and assistance on Human Resource Matters to (a) all departments, (b) an agency if an Inuit Law specifies that this Act applies to that agency"-, on to the next page-, oh, that's the full

clause. Apologies. Are there any questions on Clause Nine? Yes, Mr. Dicker.

MR. DICKER: You forgot to mention, to add four in your...

MR. WINTERS: Yes, subsection 7(4). So the (a) and (b) that I read are under (4) after-, 7(4). Are there any further questions on Clause Nine? Seeing none, you can turn to Page Four. Oh, are we all agreed? Any opposed? Seeing none, we are agreed. Clause 10. "This Act comes into force on a day to be fixed by order of the President." Are there any questions on this clause? Seeing none-, sorry, Mr. Dicker.

MR. DICKER: "Comes into force," so, like, in force, come into force any time on the (inaudible) it don't come to force today, I mean any time at all, is it?

MR. WINTERS: Mr. Gillette?

MR. GILLETTE: What the clause means is that the President will determine on what day it'll come into effect. So it won't come into effect right away. It'll come into effect on a day that the President issues an order saying, "This Act is in effect." So it could be today. It could be next week. It could be whenever the President decides. And part of the reason for this one, the same clause was in the last Act, by the way, and has been in a number of the other bills that we passed. It adds flexibility to ensure that if there's anything organizationally or

anything like that, that needs to be brought into line with what the Act is going to be, then that would also-, there is time for that if the President wants to set the time to be in effect at another date. It also-, I think it was mentioned that this is one of a series of bills that we anticipate is coming for amendments to the Act. So it could be possible that the President decides that maybe all those things once they're passed will all come into effect on the same date. So it just gives flexibility for when the bill will come into effect.

MR. WINTERS: Are there any other questions? Yes, Ms. Barbour?

MS. BARBOUR: Just adding-, not adding onto it, but you said, like, this is the first of many. How come we didn't do it all in one sitting instead of coming back again and again?

MR. WINTERS: Mr.-, oh, sorry, Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD: We wanted to make it manageable for the Assembly and for the Department. *Nakku.*

MR. WINTERS: Are there further questions? Are we agreed? Any opposed? We are agreed. Let's go back to Page Two, Clause One, "Short Title." This Act may be cited as the *Civil Service Amendment Act 2023.* Are there any questions? All in favour? Any opposed? We are agreed. Finally, the Long Title of the Bill is, "An Act," sorry, "Bill number 2023-04, A Bill for an Act to Amend the Civil Service Act 2023."

MS. BARBOUR:

It says, "05".

MR. WINTERS:

Oh, sorry, "05," not "04." An Act to amend the *Civil Service Act 2023.* Are there questions on the Long Title? Seeing none, are we agreed? Are there any opposed? Seeing none, we are agreed. That conclude the page-by-page, clause-by-clause review of the Bill. Does the Minister wish to conclude the debate?

MR. EVANS:

Yes, I wish to conclude debate.

MR. WINTERS:

Thank you, all. That concludes debate. That also concludes the Committee of the Whole and I'd like to thank the witnesses. You may exit the Chamber. We are now back in the Assembly. All those in favour of second reading of Bill 2023-05, *"The Civil Service Amendments Act 2023,"* all I favour? Any opposed? The motion is carried. Accordingly, Bill 2023-05, -05 for the interpreter, "The Civil Service Amendments Act 2023 has had second reading. Item 17 is the Assent to Bills. Honourable President, the Assembly has given second reading to two bills, Bill 2023-04, *"The Helmets Act,"* Bill 2023-05, *"The Civil Service Amendment's Act 2023,"* and wish to present them for assent. Mr. President?

PRESIDENT LAMPE:

Nakummek, UKatti. Honourable Speaker and Members, as President of Nunatsiavut, I assent to Bill 2023-04, *"The Helmets Act,"*

and Bill 2023-05, "*The Civil Service Amendments Act 2023*," and hereby sign them into Law. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

MR. WINTERS:

Thank you, Honourable President. That brings us to Item 18. Item 18 is, "Adjournment." This concludes this sitting of the Fall Session of the Fifth Assembly. I would like to thank everyone in the room and outside of this room for their participation in this Assembly Sitting. If you have any questions around travel, please see Tabea Onalik, Assistant to the Clerk. I would like to thank our pages, Kaneses and Maddison. We really appreciate your work for the last few days.

[Applause]

MR. WINTERS:

Thank you, as well to our IT staff, Preston Snow and Robert Ford as well. I would like to thank the Assembly staff, Tabea and Agnes as well as CLO Dawn(ph) 3:4:46 for all of their help in preparing for this Assembly. I would also like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Nunatsiavut Day on December 1st. I hope we can all take some time to reflect on what this day means and remember those who worked so hard to get us to where we are today with our Inuit Self-Government. I would also be remiss if I didn't mention Mr. Anthony Andersen and all of his contributions. We will see you all in January. Have a safe and Happy Holiday Season, safe travels home.

Assembly is now adjourned. *Nakummek.*

[Applause]

3:55:38 (2:13:42 p.m.)

[Adjourned]