



Nunatsiavut kavamanga
Nunatsiavut Government

SECOND ASSEMBLY

OF

NUNATSIAVUT

FALL SESSION 10th Session 1st-2nd SITTING

kAVAMALIGIJET

KAUJITITSIUTINGA

PARLIAMENTARY REPORT

November 5&6, 2013

Deputy Speaker: Denise Lane

In Attendance:

President of Nunatsiavut, Honorable Sarah Leo

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

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

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

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

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

Ordinary Member for Postville, Glen Sheppard

Ordinary Member for Makkovik, Deputy Speaker, Denise Lane

Ordinary Member for Nain, William Barbour

Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Susan Nochasak

AngajukKâk for Nain, Anthony Andersen

AngajukKâk for Postville, Diane Gear

AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque

AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Wayne Piercy

AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey

Chair Person for the Sivunivut Community Corporation, Edward Tuttauik

Chair Person for the NunaKâtiget Community Corporation, Malcolm Winters

Director of Communications, Bert Pomeroy

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

Deputy Minister of Education and Economic Development, Tim McNeill

Deputy Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Carl McLean

Director of Legal Services, Loretta Michelin

Deputy Minister of Nunatsiavut Affairs, Toby Andersen

Clerk of the Assembly, Mary Sillett

Absent:

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

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

Deputy Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Dave Lough

Deputy Minister of Health and Social Development, Michelle Kinney

The Nunatsiavut Assembly proceedings

were recorded in Inuktitut and English.

November 5&6, 2013

Assembly commenced at 9:00 a.m. on November 5th, 2013

MS LANE: Good morning, everyone. I'd like to call the Assembly to order, the fall sitting of the 10th Session of the Second Nunatsiavut Assembly, and ask Wilson Jararuse to say the opening prayer. Please stand.

[Prayer off record]

MS LANE: Thank you, Wilson. The second item on the Orders of the Day is, "Opening Address from the President." I'd like to recognize the President of Nunatsiavut, the Honourable Sarah Leo, to give her opening address.

PRESIDENT LEO: Thank you, Madame Speaker. First, before I begin, I want to apologize to the Assembly Members. Last night the NEC held an Open House here in Hopedale, and it's something we've been doing in each of the communities. Unfortunately, because we were in Hopedale, by oversight, it completely slipped my mind that the rest of the Assembly Members were here, and we should have extended the courtesy of inviting you to the Open House. And to Susan and Wayne, I guess, somehow in the planning of the Open House that all of that got missed because we're so used to going into the other communities and being involved with the representatives from there. And again I want to apologize to the Assembly Members and to Susan and Wayne for not extending that invitation and to our Open House. I just wanted to start off with that. Madame Speaker, first I want to welcome all of the Assembly Members back to Hopedale. Some of you, I believe, were here last week for the Economic Development Summit, and from what I understand, it was a fairly successful event, despite the turnout not being what was expected. But I think overall the participants that were here made it the success that it was. I want to commend Minister Mitchell and his staff and the community who were involved in this initiative. I had hoped to be here. Unfortunately, it was conflicting with the Trust meetings that I had already planned to attend in Ottawa. But I do look forward to seeing the benefits from the summit as we continue to create a positive economic climate in our communities and for our people.

Economic and social prosperity brought about by a balance-approached government will make our communities vibrant and stronger. As a government we're committed to finding ways to work with industry, and with the federal and provincial governments so we can all move forward. At the same time we have to ensure people have access to tools and training they need to fully participate in the economic development activities, including those related to our natural resources. These are indeed challenging times for Nunatsiavut, but they're also exciting times. As a proud people we do have much hope for our future. As members of this Assembly are aware, Madame Speaker, this government has spent a considerable amount of time trying to find ways to deal with the housing situation. We have raised our concerns at all levels, including, as I reported in my last address to the Assembly, with the Prime Minister in Rankin Inlet this past summer. During the week of September 16th we hosted the AGM for ITC and ICC here in Hopedale. We had Inuit leaders from across the country here in the community, and this is where we raised the housing issue again, and they are certainly supportive in our attempts to find solutions. But we're certainly making progress on this issue, but it's been very difficult. We're hoping to be in a position during the Assembly session to release the results. We had been hoping to be able to release the results of the housing needs assessment during this Assembly sitting that was carried out, but we're still waiting on the provincial government to release the results. But

what we do know from the data we received, Madame Speaker, is that approximately 2 in 5, which is almost 40 percent of the houses within Nunatsiavut, are occupied by multiple family units, which means there are different families living in one house. Over 50 percent of the additional family units indicated do not have a place of their own because housing is just not available, or they can't afford what is available, although there seems to be no relationship or association between income level and overcrowding. So they're saying, you know, people aren't overcrowded because they have low income. They're overcrowded because they have nowhere else to live. It's as simple as that. As well, some 75 percent of all the dwellings in Nunatsiavut are in need of some sort of repairs, be it major or minor repairs. And of these houses, almost 50 percent are between 10 and 24 years old. When you look at a 10-year-old house needing major repairs you know there's something wrong. Nearly half of the homes in Nunatsiavut have mould issues. Twelve percent of households in Nain were housing short-term residents that do not have a home elsewhere at the time of the survey. That's saying 12 out of a hundred homes in Nain have somebody staying with them because they have nowhere else to live. That's pretty scary. As was announced in this year's budget, Madame Speaker, the Nunatsiavut Government is working on a long-term strategy to address the housing crisis. Part of that strategy is the Sustainable Communities Initiative. The overall goal of the initiative is to find the best practises and provide guidance

for community sustainability in coastal sub-Arctic under changing environmental, social and economic conditions. The initiative addresses issues that are central to community well-being and sustainability in the context of climate change. I think this is a great initiative, Madame Speaker, and for those who haven't heard, the great news is, and those that are familiar with the sustainable communities and the Arctic Inspiration Prize submission that went in looking at building a rental unit or a model home possibly in Nain through the Sustainable Communities Initiative, the initiative has been shortlisted by the Arctic Inspiration Prize, and I think we hope to hear the first week of December, if we were successful in getting a part of that prize, and I want to commend the people that were working on the Sustainable Communities Initiative for the model home, for all the great work that they did. It took a lot of work, but I think was well worth it in the end. Just to be shortlisted is certainly encouraging and will highlight the project, itself, and if not successful, will make it easier to possibly find funding somewhere else. I also want to note that, Madame Speaker, that First Minister Shiwak will be meeting with Federal Infrastructure Minister, Denis Lebel, in Ottawa on the 18th of November. He's hoping to discuss with Minister Lebel if we can take advantage of the New Building Canada Fund. This 53 billion-dollar fund will be used to build roads, bridges, public infrastructure in co-operation with the provinces, territories and municipalities over 10 years, starting next year. We feel we have a strong argument to include housing in

this plan as it relates to our Sustainable Communities Initiative. Other issues also to be addressed are in the meeting include a new air strip for Nain. That is something that we've always talked to the Ministers about. It's never off the radar at all, and I believe the survey for that has been done. It's complete, so hopefully they can start moving forward with it. Also access to affordable and reliable energy, something we're familiar with in all of our communities, the feasibility of road links and improvements to existing infrastructure, particularly to ports and harbours. Madame Speaker, caribou is a vital source of food and an integral part of our cultural, spiritual and physical well-being. We must take action and we have taken action to respond to the critical decline of the George River herd, as well as the uncertain of the Torngat herd. As co-chair of the Ungava Peninsula Caribou Aboriginal Round Table, I was pleased to host the Aboriginal leaders from Labrador and Quebec in Nain on September 24th and 25th. This proved to be a very productive summit, and we're confident we had made significant progress in understanding one another, respecting our needs and all of our relationships with the caribou. A tremendous amount of trust and respect has been built up through frank and open discussions around the table. All nations and Aboriginal governments are committed to sacrifices aimed at ensuring the survival of the Ungava caribou, in particular, the George River herd. The discussions at the latest summit included adopting a terms of reference for the functioning of the Round Table, as well

as actions towards conservation and preservation of the caribou of the Ungava Peninsula, which include the George River herd, the Torngat herd and the Leaf River herd. We have also come up with a table of contents for a management plan for the caribou herd. As a follow-up to the summit we have written to Aboriginal Affairs Minister Nick McGrath to once again request financial assistance, financial support from the Government of Newfoundland to allow us, as a government and other Aboriginal organizations and nations to continue participating in the Round Table. We will also be making a similar request to the Government of Quebec, and I believe that's already been done. As well, given the sacrifices we have made in order to protect and preserve the George River herd, Madame Speaker, some time ago we put in a request to the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to assist us in providing an alternative food source for our people. To that end, Madame Speaker, I am proud to announce though he had been granted a special permit to harvest a total of 24 moose from Gros Morne Park area on the islands northern peninsula. We're still finalizing the details on this, but we're quite confident that this moose will be in Nunatsiavut before the winter. I believe the season ends on the moose the 1st week of February, so we have until then to find some way to get that moose harvested and brought back. As part of the finding an alternate food source, the Lands and Resources Department was also looking for some funding to help with this and I believe \$30,000 has been provided

from the provincial government that will help with the transportation of the moose and again getting it into our communities. So I want to commend Lands and Resources and all the work they did in making that possible. I believe there's still some discussion, and I don't want to get into the Lands and Resources Department, but there's still discussion on getting additional moose licences for Nunatsiavut as well. Last month, Madame Speaker, I had the pleasure to represent ITK and ICC and all of Inuit from Inuit Nunangat at a meeting in Ottawa with Professor James Anaya, the UN Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous people. I was asked to fill in for ITK President, Terry Audla, who was unable to attend for health reasons. We had a very good discussion with Professor Anaya about several issues that we Inuit leaders raised during our meetings in Hopedale in September, as well as our meeting with the Prime Minister. We had decided because we had limited time with Professor Anaya, the same with the Prime Minister, that we would focus on housing. That seems to be the biggest challenge for Inuit. So the message we delivered to him was basically the same message we delivered to the Prime Minister. We need housing. Housing is at a critical stage in Nunatsiavut. It's at a critical stage in Nunavut. It's at a critical stage in Nunavik. And we also pointed out the fact that, you know, the government, that Canada needs to look at housing for those of us that are south of 60, or those of us that aren't on reserves, understanding that that's where the federal government needs to focus in providing

programs to allow us to have dollars to help with the housing issue. Mr. Anaya agreed with many of our concerns, which also included issues around education, health, abuse, and made his view publicly and known through the media that suggesting that Canada is facing a crisis with respect to Aboriginal issues. While I was in Ottawa I also represented ITK and ICC at a special ceremony marking the 250th anniversary of the Royal Proclamation of 1763, and the history of treaty making in Canada. The Assembly was hosted by the Assembly of First Nations in co-operation with the Land Claims Coalition. During this ceremony, I, on behalf of all Inuit leaders, called on the Government of Canada to reaffirm its commitment to Land Claims negotiation and implementation, something that has been clearly lacking. Following my visit to Ottawa I travelled to St. John's and had an informal meeting with Premier Dunderdale and Minister McGrath. We spoke about ongoing issues and how our government should work together more closely to resolve our differences. You know, we keep saying when we get together we have to talk more, but we never do, and she says, you know, it's only a phone call, and I told her the phone works both ways. October was Women's History month recognized nationally to celebrate women's contribution to Canada's development, past and present. As part of the celebration, like I believe all of the other female leaders around this table, we were asked to speak during receptions in our respect communities to provide an overview of the Nunatsiavut

Government, talk about our experiences and provide advice for other women who have aspiration to seek public office. Like I said 7 of our 18 members are women, something we should be very proud of, and I would urge more women to become involved in helping to build a better future for our people in our communities. I want to note that Mary Simon, another very prominent Inuit woman, who is Chair of the National Committee on Inuit Education will be here in Hopedale on Wednesday. She will host the Meet and Greet at the school to discuss ideas surrounding education, as well as share ideas on education and the role of parents. She will hold a similar meeting in Nain. She is also presenting, from what I understand, to the Assembly tomorrow morning. As well as OKâlaKatiget Radio on Thursday, she and I will host an open air show where people who weren't able to attend the public meetings will have an opportunity to call in to OKâlaKatiget and ask questions, or raise their concerns about Inuit education within Nunatsiavut. Before I conclude I just want to say that, as President, I am so excited about our future. We have made some tremendous progress, and I think we will continue to move forward and I want to thank the Assembly for all of their support, and the staff for all the work that they do in helping our government move forward. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE:

Thank you, Madame President. For the information of the Assembly, speaker Patricia Ford is absent from this Assembly

sitting. The pages are Tabea Onalik and Colin Hunter. The interpreter/translators are Rita Andersen, Augusta Erving and Wilson Jararuse. Robert Ford is the IT staff helping out with this Assembly as well. We would like to recognize the OKâlaKatiget staff, Percy Ponniuk and Simone Kohlmeister. And if you have any questions with travel and logistics, please see Hilda Hunter. Item number four, "Minister Statements". Are there any Minister Statements? I'd like to recognize the First Minister, Darryl Shiwak.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Madame Speaker. Also present on the Department of Nunatsiavut Affairs. Membership. A membership workshop was held in Goose Bay, September 17th to the 19th. This workshop was attended as I reported in the last sitting by the Membership Committee Members, Inuit Appeal Board members, CLO's, the Registrar and the Registrar's Office staff. It was facilitated by Veryan Haysom and Loretta Michelin. Madame Speaker, the workshop was successful and helpful for the participants. A detailed report had been submitted to the Department of Nunatsiavut Affairs, with a number of recommendations that we are commencing to follow up on. Madame Speaker, Phase I of the process to preparing the regional membership list in compliance with the LILCA has been completed, and the co-ordinator is preparing to commence Phase II. These phases include preparing a draft list from the Court Registry and then finalizing it in consultation with the membership committees. The

implementation of the LILCA, the Implementation Committee and fiscal negotiators met at St. John's to discuss implementation issues and schedule process for negotiation of a 10-year implementation plan. The next meeting for the fiscal negotiation team for the implementation plan renewal is scheduled for January in Goose Bay. Transportation. Madame Speaker, we continue our efforts with Minister McGrath and the provincial government to issue the RFP for a new vessel for replacement of the Northern Ranger for Nunatsiavut. This issue is ongoing. I understand that the province intends to issue the RFP this month, but we still haven't received confirmation or a time when that will be released. A contingency plan, Madame Speaker, is essential for in any part of the plan in moving forward with the ferry service. As President Leo said, I will be meeting with Minister Lebel on November 18th, and one of the biggest issues on the agenda is the Nain airstrip. It's very important to get that done, and the weather monitoring study for that project has been completed in August and is crucial right now for the provincial and federal government to come on board and to commit to this project. Housing. The housing need assessment report will expect to be signed on November 4th, however, we are still waiting for final approval from the province. We were hoping to have that for this sitting, and once that report comes out we'll do a joint press release, a tripartite press release on the report. I've also notified the Provincial Minister about the Joint Working Group to assist with the strategy for implementing

recommendations from the report. I will be discussing the Nunatsiavut housing crisis port facility in Nain issue again with Minister Lebel. It remains a huge priority for us and we will continue to push it until we get the issue resolved. Public Property. The Makkovik Office Complex is progressing on schedule and it should be completed in January 2014. Again the Illusuak Culture Centre project's on hold pending the availability of the additional monies to get the contract awarded. The maintenance has been completed on the five mini homes in Nain, and all units are full for the winter. The Torngat Mountains National Park base camp had been closed and winterized, which is supervised by our public property manager. Our Transition Committee. A first draft in the transition plan is being developed for the NEC and will be submitted to the NEC in the very near future. Commanding Officers Aboriginal Advisory Committee. Madame Speaker, I sit on the Commanding Officers Aboriginal Advisory Committee and will be meeting with the Commanding Officer, the RCMP, later this month. So if anybody has any issues with they want brought forward to the RCMP, I suggest they contact my office and bring those issues to my attention. Madame Speaker, I will now do the report from the Department of Lands and Natural Resources. Madame Speaker, Renewable Resources Division. As President Leo said, 35 moose licence are provided to Nunatsiavut from the province and were provided in early September for the 2013-2014 season. Moose in LISA is currently managed under the total

allowable harvest established at 35 animals. Guidelines for distribution of licences and hunting are recommended by our department under a ministerial directive. And as President Leo has said, we have requested an additional 50 moose for the 2013-2014 season, but have not yet received a response to that request. In addition, as President Leo said, we have received 24 additional licences for the Gros Morne Region, and we have yet to work with the plans on how we are going to get that harvested back into Nunatsiavut and back into the communities. Again a focus for those moose will be seniors and low income families. Madame Speaker, the department is also reviewing the management measures in place for polar bear, and we're ready for the opening of the 2014 season. We anticipate carrying over current allocation of 12 bear for the 2014 hunting season. Madame Speaker, the Department of Lands and Natural Resources supports President Leo in her efforts with the Ungava Caribou Aboriginal Round Table, and the latest meeting that was held in Nain in September. Trust is a big element of this initiative and it continues to be built between all parties on this file. At the Nain meeting terms of reference for the Round Table were agreed to and table of contents for an Aboriginal management plan for the Ungava Peninsula caribou herd were discussed with the intention of having a draft plan completed early in 2014. Fisheries. Madame Speaker, the English River counting fence near Postville closed operations on October 11th. Salmon numbers for 2013 were 467

small salmon and a hundred and sixty large salmon. Compare that to last year where he had 377 small salmon. Pardon me, 377 small and 67 large in 2012. This fiscal year marks the final contribution from DFO to fund their \$80,000 towards this project. Unless other third party funding is secured, the NG will have to assume the full cost to operate the counting fence in 2014, if that project wishes to proceed. The shrimp fishery in SFA 5 is going well. Twelve designates were selected to harvest the twelve hundred and sixty metric tonnes quota held by the NG. Twelve hundred and thirty metric tonnes were landed. The last fisher had gear problems so that that final quota could not be landed. Madame Speaker, our department recently met with DFO officials to discuss the cod fish harvesting plan for the NG turbot allocation and addressing the issues that arose from 2013 fishery. Some minor adjustments were recommended to the DFO for the 2014 season. We are also able to participate in the competitive turbot fishery to land additional notes. This fishery provided an economic boost to the Makkovik plant, and created additional employment hours to the workers. The overall total allowable catch for 2014 is expected to reduce slightly, but this will have a minimal effect on the NG quota. Non-renewable Resources Division. I will now move to the Non-renewable Resources Division. The director, Brent Denniston, has been seconded to the Department of Education and Economic Development for a 15-month term. We had recently advertised to fill this position. Deputy Minister McLean

and Brent Denniston represented the Nunatsiavut Government at the third annual Quebec Labrador Mining Forum in Sept-Iles, Quebec. Deputy Minister McLean gave a presentation on exploration mining and regulatory requirements for this industry in Nunatsiavut. Madame Speaker, Aurora Energy completed a summer exploration program the first week of October. It consisted of prospecting, geology, geochemistry, ground geophysics construction of drill pads, a field platform and a generator shaft. They had a 20-person base camp with the majority of employees being Nunatsiavut beneficiaries sourced from the communities of Postville, Makkovik and Rigolet. Aurora intends to apply in the next couple of weeks for the winter drilling program to commence in late January of 2014. Quest Rare Minerals Ltd. released the results of positive pre-feasibility study on October 2nd, 2013. They plan on building a mine and associated facilities at Lac Brisson, Quebec and a 168 kilometre all weather road to the Labrador coast and the ports that lead near Anaktalâk. The estimated mine life is 30 years with the annual production of 1.44 million tonnes of ore shipped to a processing plant in southern Quebec. Madame Speaker, Quest had proposed an ambitious schedule and plan on starting a feasibility study on Strange Lake in the second quarter of next year. Construction of facilities in 2016 with the completion of construction and commissioning of the mine in 2017 with the first production out in 2018. As this project would cross over LISA if it goes ahead, and LIL, an environmental

assessment and a negotiation with IBA would be required. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Honourable Minister. I'd like to recognize the Honourable Minister Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek, UKâttek. Just a brief report on a few activities in the Department of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology from the period August 1st to October 31st, 2013. Madame Speaker, as everybody is aware, the Nunatsiavut Government is beginning its budgetary process for the upcoming fiscal year. Departments are beginning internal discussions on their departmental priorities, along with the budgetary requirements for achieving these departmental goals. Madame Speaker, we are also seeking the advice of the Joint Management Committee in November in Rigolet on the FFA allocations for the Inuit Community Governments. In planning for the Budget for 2014-15 we are cognizant of the fact that there are no new revenue streams or any increases in the current revenue streams for the government, and we're also cognizant and bear in mind as part of the budgetary process that we have a federal OSR inclusion of approximately a half a million dollars. Just a quick note on the provincial component of Own Source Revenue. We've come to the understanding with the provincial government as it was our understanding that we will not be required to remit any of our Own Source Revenues to the provincial government until we start to

draw down provincial government programs and services. So until we do that, we will not be required to remit any of our Own Source Revenues to the province. In the Information Technology Division, Madame Speaker, the Nunatsiavut Government website re-design is progressing well. The new site has completed the design stage and has begun the developmental stage. All design work for site navigation and the home page mock-up is complete and the various site templates are now under construction. Once the templates have been completed, they will be tested in all popular web browsers and on mobile devices. Madame Speaker, following the completion of the templates they will be loaded into the content management system of the website in preparation for the addition of the actual site content. In parallel to the development work, Madame Speaker, the copy editor is re-drafting the site content in preparation for populating the new site. Once we have approved a draft of the new content, it will be sent for translation. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, Madame Speaker, it is anticipated that we will have the new website ready for launch at the end of November. Nakummek, UKâttek.

MS LANE: Thank you, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize the Honourable Minister Gary Mitchell.

MR. MITCHELL: Thank you, Madame Speaker. First off, I'd just like to thank AngajukKâk Wayne Piercy and Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Susan Nochasak, for the reception, wonderful reception that we

got last week for our Economic Development Summit and the community of Hopedale for the reception that they gave us to put up this summit. It was important for us to feel part of the community while we're here and we certainly was given that feeling by the community of Hopedale. We had a well-attended summit by government agencies. We're unfortunate that we didn't get all the small business that we hoped to attract to the conference, but taking the time of the year when freight is coming in and a lot of small businesses have a few employees that you can't let anybody go at that time of the year, we understand the problem there, so in future I hope we can work around what the best time of the year to hold such a conference. What comes out of it, what the success we had was going to depend on what we analysed and the participants from the government were giving us some good review of their programs and we had a lot of good dialogue throughout the week on government programs and some of the problems we've had in the communities with economic development. Our *Procurement Act* certainly needs revision from - it kept coming up during the week on getting more local labour and how can we access more contracts in the community. All those things will be analysed when we put together our report and put it all together. Hopefully we'll try to do that as soon as we can so it's still fresh in our minds that we have a job to do here to create economic development and the communities for our people. My report this morning is just based on the social aspects of last week some of

the things that went on during the week, and I think it's good for people to know, the Nunatsiavut Economic Development Summit 2013 was attended by 49 participants. Representing Inuit communities of Nunatsiavut we had 10 people from the communities. From Inuit businesses and craft shops we had four businesses or craft shop people which included Scarlett Enterprises, Amaguk Inn, Makkovik Craft Shop and Rigolet Tourism. For ministry and business organizations we had five representatives. They were from Voisey's Bay, from Vale, Aurora, Nalcor, NGC, Nunatsiavut Group of Companies and Labrador North Chamber of Commerce. From government we had five representatives from ACOA, Aboriginal Northern Affairs, Advanced Education Skills, Service Canada, and IBRD, which is a provincial department. We had three elected officials, which included Susan Nochasak, Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Yvonne Jones and Randy Edmunds. And I have to apologize to these three people because during Wednesday night's activities at the gym these people got left out of being presented with a cardholder which we give to all the participants and we certainly apologize to these three elected officials for the oversight on our part. Other participants included 15 people and from other organizations, which included a Regional Women's Association, Inuit Women's Association, and we had seven people from our Economic Development team. So 49 participants in what we thought was a successful and well-attended meeting. The summit hired eight

persons locally which included a photographer, two drivers, two labourers and three note takers. In addition the summit work in collaboration with the Women's Sewing Circle for the presentation of a fashion show of traditional Inuit clothes and that was interesting to see their traditional clothes. The School Graduation Committee for the preparation and service of food at the trade show and entertainment evening, and the Moravian Church choir for singing to us on the same evening. Three vehicles were rented locally to transport the Economic Development team and the summit participants. It's estimated that up to 350 members of the community attended the trade show and entertainment community evening at the Hopedale School on Tuesday evening. There were 15 booths at the trade show. The Amaguk Inn was full for three nights. The Inuit Community Governments industry and various organizations provided gifts awarded to participants in the Hopedale community throughout the summit. The Economic Development team received generous support from the Nunatsiavut Government included the DHSD employees throughout the summit preparing the candy bags for the community evening while funding local resources to help with the tasks. Cardholders, Stone cardholders commemorate the Nunatsiavut Economic Development Summit were distributed to present their guest speakers and partners during the event. Summit participants were invited to participate in a pre-summit workshop on how to get the most out of those working activities and also was given a

guided tour of the Moravian Mission buildings. Thanks to Susan Nochasak for arranging the tour. I'd also like to welcome Brent Denniston in the gallery, our newest member of the Economic Development team, who's just our new business development manager and we look forward to having Brent on board with us, and he's located here in Hopedale. As I said, I thought it was a well-organized conference. We will build on our strengths that we have. We had broken down in workshops and went through our strengths that we have, and we also went through the weaknesses in Nunatsiavut that causes some hurdles in Economic Development, so we have to balance with those two and see what hurdles we can get around. And I'd just like to ask a question. Are we meeting in a regular session tomorrow? Okay. So I'm just going to finish up on that with my Economic Development summit report, and tomorrow I'll do the Education Report for you.

Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize Patricia Kemuksigak.

MS KEMUKSIGAK: Thank you, Madame Speaker. I will try to be brief. Last week there was a career fair that was held in the Halifax area where 12 students and 3 chaperones, 1 from the Youth Division, 1 from Education and 1 from the DHSD, went around to the universities so youth could see the different university and colleges that they could attend, and it was a huge success. The funding came from

Aboriginal Health Human Resource Initiatives from Health Canada. Piita Irniq held sessions in Rigolet, Hopedale and Happy Valley, Goose Bay on culture and healing. The Trauma and Addictions Team presented at the Canadian Association of Suicide Prevention conference in Winnipeg on their program, and it was very well received. Two other Inuit regions are interested in coming to see how the program works and possibly bringing the program to other Inuit regions. Mental Health Addiction staff, youth outreach workers, social work liaisons that in Happy Valley for training and planning with the new Mental Health and Addictions Co-ordinator, Celeste Andersen. They also received a workshop from Moccasin Joe called, Healing Through Humour. The court monitoring program with the Status of Women Co-ordinator is going very well. There are people trained now and the co-ordinator went into Hopedale and Nain to help with the first sessions. As I mentioned before, the purpose of the court monitoring program is to, someone to monitor cases that are violence against women and children to find out what the sentence, how long it takes to go to court, and it's all going to be documented. The Status of Women Co-ordinator attended a meeting in St. John's two weeks ago, Justice Ministers Advisory Committee on Violence Against Women. One of the items that Ms Evans brought up was that there's lenient sentences for violence against women. The Status of Women Co-ordinator and AnânauKatiget Tumingit, Executive Director, Joan Andersen,

presented jointly at the Economic Development Summit last week. They presented on women and economic development. Julia Ford started with the Status of Women Office as a Project Co-ordinator for the I Am A Kind Man Program. I Am A Kind Man Program is a program for men to reduce violence, and it is First Nation-based. She will be adapting it to be Inuit-specific, and we received the funding for this project from *Tasiujatsoak Trust*. So I'd like to thank them. There was a public presentation by the Newfoundland and Labrador Network of Prevention of Elder Abuse in Happy Valley, Goose Bay. They highlighted the DHSD Home Support Program and our training program, as our training program is seen as a best practise. It was very well received. Just a reminder that this week is flu vaccines within Nunatsiavut. So it is important to get as many people out to get vaccinated as possible, and also we, as Assembly members, can attend. Unfortunately, the Nain Family Resource Centre closed as of October 31st. The province is going to begin discussions with the possibility of DHSD administering the program in the future. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize the Honourable Minister Johannes Lampe.

MR.LAMPE: Nakummek, UKâttek. Hebron : We were able in 2013 to have our Hebron Ambassadors the Merkuratsuk family back for the 5th season. Their passion for protecting the site and hosting visitors continues to get very positive feedback. The signed guest book

has over 600 names including a few surprises. On July 26, Danny Williams and his son visited the site unannounced. The former Premier wanted to show his son this special place where he as Premier officially unveiled the plaque with the official apology.

Three cruise ships, Torngat Base Camp Base Camp visitors, sailing yachts and numerous helicopters are bringing visitors.

A modest restoration program was also conducted which included work on the interior floors in the Mission Building.

With guidance from a development plan completed in 2012 we are tasked with finding the funds required to operate a significant restoration program which is required if the site is to achieve its potential as one of the most significant National Historic Sites in Canada. Madame Speaker, Language Update: Master Apprentice Program: We are now finalizing the recruitment of Masters and apprentices for a one to one learning program which has been a very successful teaching method in other regions. Language Hour: IlinniaKatigennik. In partnership with the OKâlaKatiget Society a one hour radio show on Monday's at 3:00 began in early October. I would like to thank the staff of the OK Society, the volunteers and the corporate sponsors. The program can also be found on the OK website. I encourage all Assembly members to listen and participate in the IlinniaKatigennik Language Hour. Madame Speaker, Heather Igloliorte: On September 13th Heather Igloliorte successfully defended her PhD Dissertation at Carleton University.

Dr Igloliorte's work is on the Arts in Nunatsiavut . Her research is the foundation from which we can build an Arts Strategy to support our many artists. We have seen the closure of the Labrador Craft Marketing Agency and the revival if the Inuit Art Foundation. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Igloliorte on her achievement as an academic and also her very insightful work which will help build our arts economy.

MS LANE: Thank you, Honourable Minister. Are there any other Minister Statements? Okay, if there's no more, we'll go down to item number five which is, "Member Statements? Are there any Member Statements? Each member is allowed to make one statement no more than five minutes. I recognize the Honourable Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek, Madame Speaker. Very quickly I'd just like to inform the Assembly that the Canadian Constituency Office will have the honour again this year in participating in the Remembrance Day ceremonies in St. John's. This is our second year in participating in this Remembrance Day ceremonies laying wreaths on behalf of the Nunatsiavut Government in recognition of Labrador Inuit who have served our country. I will be the wreath layer again this year, and Inuit Elder Emma Reelis, formerly of Nain, now living in St. John's will be the wreath bearer for that ceremony. And I encourage all of our elected officials to participate in Remembrance Day ceremonies if they are happening in your

community and, if not, maybe that's something that we could consider starting in each of our communities. I know most of our communities are engaged in Remembrance Day ceremonies. I think it's important that we honour and we recognize the contribution that Labrador Inuit have made in making Canada the country what it is today. Nakummek, UKâttek.

MS LANE: Thank you, Minister Pottle. I'd like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Susan Nochasak.

MS NOCHASAK: Thank you, Madame Speaker. I would like to start by thanking the Economic Development department for putting off a great summit here in my community last week. Having such events in our communities, Madame Speaker, is always wonderful to see and it helps our communities' economy. Last week in October, Madame Speaker, myself, on behalf of Agvituk Sivumuak Society, Minister Lampe and Deputy Minister Lough had travelled to St. John's to meet with three groups to discuss the Hopedale Mission Adaptive Reuse. The discussions went very well, Madame Speaker. We made new contacts and gathered new information on ways to work forward with the Adaptive Reuse Master Plan. Madame Speaker, lastly, I would like to give a small update on the Hopedale Rinkers Committee that I sit on. Our committee is working towards building an outdoor rink, and we are moving slow but making improvements as we continue to work on getting that outdoor rink for our community. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Ms Nochasak. Is there any more Member Statements?
I'd like to recognize Ordinary Member Gary Mitchell.

MR. MITCHELL: Nakummek, Madame Speaker. I'd just like to mention that in Upper Lake Melville the Nunatsiavut Government has been invited to lay a wreath at the Remembrance Day ceremonies on November 11th. So we'll be there to present a wreath on behalf of Nunatsiavut Government in Goose Bay. I'd just like to make a short statement as a Member for the Upper Lake Melville on the social problems that continue in our area. There's been some meetings recently on talking about the homelessness, and Patricia and I have sat in on the meetings, and I think there's a Committee formed with regard to homelessness. The thing I want to pass on to the Assembly, I guess, that there's some movement to create a homeless shelter in Upper Lake Melville area, and this is kind of initiated by the Salvation Army chaplain there who's started a mission to try to get a homeless shelter on the go. I sit on the Melville Native Housing as Vice Chair, and we're giving up one of our units to be used as a homeless shelter on Mesher Street. How it's going to be funded, I'm not sure, but one of the units will be going for that reason. But I think there's a bigger initiative on the go to create a homeless shelter in Goose Bay and this is, like I said, taken on by the Salvation Army. I think there's some people coming in from the Salvation Army organization to talk about setting up a permanent homeless shelter in Goose Bay. I think this

is very sad. I think with development so much on our doorstep, and we have to start looking at a homeless shelter for our own people, and we're being told that most of these people that are homeless are our beneficiaries. So it's very sad that we're widening the gap with some people that are getting trained and getting good jobs and some people falling through the cracks. The gap is widening for some of our own people and that's sad to see, and we've got to set up a homeless shelter in the middle of Labrador where there's so much development, and I'm asking the Assembly at some point, we have to take social responsibility for our beneficiaries. We have to inject something into that area to help our beneficiaries so that they don't have to go to a homeless shelter. It's sad that we have to go that route. I just want to pass that message on this morning. I'm not going to harp on it, but it's a message that I felt I have to bring to the Assembly on what is happening in our region. Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville. Is there any other Member Statements? I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque.

MR. JACQUE: Thank you, Madame Speaker. I'd just like to inform the Assembly today of a program that's ongoing, that just started in Makkovik, and it's also been ongoing in Rigolet and Postville as well. It's a research project funded by the Health Canada under a mental research project. Cultural Connect, it's called, and there's been

five mentors and five youth hired on, and the mentors are going to teach the youth traditional skills such as hunting and trapping, cooking, snowshoe making, sewing, etcetera, and we're very happy to have this project ongoing, and we'd like to thank them. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, AngajukKâk for Makkovik. Are there any other Member Statements? Okay, if there's no other Member Statements, we'll go onto item number six on the agenda, it's "Returns to Oral Questions". I do not believe there should be any returns today. Number seven is, "Oral Questions." Are there any oral questions? Each member is allowed to make two questions each day and two supplementary questions. AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Wayne Piercy.

MR. PIERCY: Nakummek, Madame Speaker. My question would be directed towards Minister Mitchell. The shrimp allocation that is allocated to us, or crude of shrimping, from what I gather they shrimp about five to six hours off of Hopedale here. And they steam approximately 32 hours to the nearest port, and then they'd have to at least steam 32 hours back, so they're losing two days within their fishing season. So that's two days lost just for transport. NGC is an arm's length away from us now so in their mandate, I guess, is to create meaningful employment for our beneficiaries. So I was wondering if we could try and work together to if the stone plant is not operational any more, to see if we can get, because you have a

dock down there, you have the plant down there, to see if we can get some kind of shrimp processing plant here in Hopedale. So that there's a study on the go, and then I asked for it there at the summit but I didn't have it. So I came here kind of unarmed, so I don't have no facts to back anything up, but my question to you is can we try and work together with the Hopedale Inuit Community Government to acquire a fish processing facility here in Hopedale with the infrastructure that NGC already has here? Like I said, there's a plant down there that's not being used and they do have a wharf, so it's just to do a few upgrades because we have the infrastructure there. So by saying that I'd say we'd be, like I said, I don't have the facts, but I say we'd be creating fifty to a hundred jobs within processing the shrimp. Thank you.

MR. MITCHELL: Nakummek, Madame Speaker. Thank you, AngajukKâk Piercy for your question. Unfortunately, I'm not aware that we have any shrimp quota right now, and I guess one of the first things that we'd have to do before you start talking about building a facility was acquiring a sort of a large quota for shrimp for off shore, and to get that quota, I guess, the application would have to be made to the federal government by the Nunatsiavut Government. I'm not sure if there has been a process in place whereby an application has been made for a shrimp quota to be processed in the area. Can I pass that question onto Lands and Resources to answer that? Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Madame Speaker. We do have a shrimp quota, but that shrimp quota would not nearly would not nearly justify or make a plant operational, or have the plant achieve the goals that it needs to achieve. I could be wrong and I hate to quote wrong theories, but I think you need 5 million metric tonnes for a plant to be viable. We are nowhere near that. And you reference working together to with the NGC or to build a plant. I know that there was a feasibility study done. I don't necessarily know if it's done for Hopedale. I know it was done maybe for Rigolet, and I don't know where that study is. I believe that the Deputy Minister for Economic Development has that study. It's certainly something that we would talk about, but again the caution here is the quota for a plant is huge and our quota is nowhere near that. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you. Does that answer your question?

MR. PIERCY: Over the next couple weeks I'd like to see if we can follow up so that we can exhaust every viable option if that is the case. So I'd like to at least see if we could make a go of it. And if not, I'd like to just find out that we took all the steps necessary to say that we tried it and it did not work. Thank you.

MS LANE: Thank you, Wayne. Minister Shiwak.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Madame Speaker. Yes, we're certainly happy to. I suggest that you make contact with either the Department of Lands and Natural Resources or the Department of Economic

Development so that we can co-ordinate getting the appropriate people together to answer your questions or even explore the idea. But we'd certainly be happy to, and I'm sure Minister Mitchell would be as well. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you. I'd now like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Postville, Glen Sheppard.

MR. SHEPPARD: Thank you, Madame Speaker. Big difference this morning on, not the different side of the table, but I guess part of the group that's responsible for holding our government accountable and in saying that, Madame Speaker, my question is directed to the Honourable Minister for Culture, Tourism, Recreation, the Honourable Minister Lampe. I have to give a little bit of background or share a little bit of background, I guess, before I get to my question, Madame Speaker, to, I guess, for everybody to understand. In the 70's when Brinex had this major exploration company on the go for uranium up around Michelin and Jacques Lake and Kitts, there was at the time, Madame Speaker, some caribou that our ancestors and parents and grandparents sort of called the stationary caribou, residential caribou in small pockets and groups. Madame Speaker, my question, I guess, to the Minister, would be, and it only caught my attention this morning as he was giving his presentation, that due to the activity up around the Hebron area in relation to helicopter flying and he mentioned yachts in the area, my question would the Minister see these as a contribution to the

decline in the Torngat caribou herd over the last number of years related to activity, such as helicopters and boats and whatever? That's my question for the Minister. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Glen. Minister Johannes Lampe.

MR. LAMPE: Nakummek, UKâttek. Thank you. Ordinary Member for Postville, Glen, the Nunatsiavut Government has started an assessment to find out from hunters within Nunatsiavut to get information on the Torngat Mountains caribou herd, and so different elders and hunters who have experience and have hunted the land for many years are giving information on their experience and the hunting that they have done. I, myself, was interviewed, and so I gave my experience of hunting the area and hunting the Torngat Mountains caribou herd. I, myself, know what the different effects are that are causing either the George River caribou herd and the Torngat Mountains caribou herd to shy away activity that is going on within Nunatsiavut. And having gone up to Hebron last March to hunt that caribou, we found that the caribou was climbing up to 25 hundred metres to run away from hunters and that was not usual. It was something that we never really had to do before, to climb a mountain to hunt caribou. So I believe activity like helicopters or any other things going on are causing the caribou to shy away, and three falls ago I was up to Mugford's hunting caribou and one night we camped out and at that time we saw something really strange. We saw a boat shining like onto a beach. I don't know what they

were doing. I don't know if they were caribou hunting or what, but they were doing something, but we thought that they were maybe hunting caribou at night. So to answer the question, Madame Speaker, I do believe that, as a hunter and having knowledge of the area around the Torngat Mountains area, some activities are causing the George River caribou herd or the Torngat Mountains caribou herd to shy away from the area that they normally have used to habitat or to calf and other things too. Nakummek, UKâttek.

MS LANE: Thank you, Minister Lampe. Does that answer your question? I would now like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey.

MS WOLFREY: Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question is to the First Minister. It's with regards, I think, to the housing study that I understand is going to be ready pretty soon. I think I ask about it about two Assembly meetings ago when it was going to be ready, but anyway, I think that when I was one of the people, I think, that answered some of the questions, and I was just wondering, I can't remember seeing if there was anything in there on emergency housing. As you're aware, we just had a fire in Rigolet and there's three people, a mother and her two sons, if not, her three sons don't have anywhere to live and are living with family, but I'm just wondering is there anything in our housing study that's going to address those kinds of things for emergency housing? There's, in

my mind there's two kinds of emergency housing that's needed. One for something like that when there is a tragedy like a fire that leaves people homeless, and the other thing is for women who are leaving abusive situations and don't always have a place to go back to, and it's called like second stage housing, so it's housing for women who are, and their children, who are leaving abusive relationships. I'm just wondering if there's anything in there, and if there's not anything in there about emergencies like that, is there any way that we can try to address those situations? Thank you.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Madame Speaker. The housing needs assessment was a very comprehensive assessment and to not give you a wrong answer. I'll check with the department and with the people within the government to see if that was part of the assessment and provide you with the appropriate answer. And if not, that's something certainly we will have to look at when we try to address the overall housing issue, but I will get back to the AngajukKâk for Rigolet. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Minister Shiwak. I'd now like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Susan Nochasak.

MS NOCHASAK: Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question this morning is for Minister of Education. I stand here with a question of finding a method within our government to show our *Inuttitut* teachers that we are behind them and that they are important to our government. I've asked this question since I've been elected and I'll continue to

stand and ask this question until we try and find a solution for our *Inuttitut* teachers. Maybe it's just me that feels without the early connections between kindergarten students and *Inuttitut* teachers our language would not develop as much. We spend thousands on a CD program where we launch the Rosetta Stone, not only once, but twice, and we put a lot of funds into just a CD program, and I know that the *Inuttitut* teachers do have a salary, but I believe that it is not enough. Our government needs to show how important these *Inuttitut* teachers are because they're more than just teachers, they're experts in our language, and that connection between starting in kindergarten from the beginning of the school year to the end of school year is important to our language. And I think we need to show how important our language really is to our beneficiaries. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MR. MITCHELL: Nakummek, Madame Speaker. Thank you, Ordinary Member. I was up for your question. Yes, this is an issue that has been ongoing since before I came in to the position of Minister of Education. And I can say this morning that there has been some movement on this issue. It has been brought to the Executive Council on a number of occasions and just recently it's been on their agenda again. The issue of a bonus for *Inuttitut* teachers or Native teachers as they are called by NAPE, I do believe, we have moved forward on this issue. There's been some discussion on what do we call this bonus? Like the teachers that have degrees

with NLTA get a \$5,000 retention bonus. This retention bonus is paid to retain teachers in Nunatsiavut. So we don't have continuing changeovers. So there's some continuity among the teachers in the schools that we have. So the school board did look at retention bonus, I think, a couple years ago and there was a business case put out by them, we made a business case that *Inuttitut* teachers are not leaving. They're staying where they are. So they couldn't call it a retention bonus because, you know, they're already here and they don't seem to be going anywhere. We looked at calling it a language bonus. There's the term language bonus has been used. And it was felt by the NEC that we really can't call it a language bonus because we have teachers in Nunatsiavut Government that are bilingual, considered bilingual, and they are paid I think sixteen hundred dollars for a year, annually, if they can speak the language. That's people in our civil service. It was felt that we couldn't go above that as a language bonus like somebody from that outside agency, but so we've come to the conclusion - I'm not sure if it's a conclusion, to call it a Diploma Incentive Program whereby if the teacher that's with NAPE has a diploma we would pay the incentive. It would be called a diploma incentive whereby you have your diploma, and we talked about a \$4,000 bonus for teachers with a diploma. For teachers, we call it a diploma incentive because of the fact that teachers that don't have a diploma, if we give them some incentive to get their diploma to reach that level whereby they would get their

bonus. So it's either the \$4,000 or you don't get none of the bonus. It's incentive for you to upgrade yourself to getting that diploma and whereby you get the \$4,000 bonus. Now this diploma incentive has to be sent to the school board, English school board, for their approval or discussion. We're in the process of drafting up a letter to the English school board to run this proposal by them whereby we call the diploma incentive program giving our Native teachers a \$4,000 annual bonus. This will be done sooner than later. Well, we're in the process now of drafting that letter and getting after the English school board for their input into this, and hopefully this issue will be action hopefully before too long. That's all I can tell you on this right now. Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Susan Nochasak, has a supplementary question.

MS NOCHASAK: Thank you, Madame Speaker. Thank you, Minister Mitchell. I'm very happy to hear that it's moving the way it has, and I appreciate you taking my banter every time I stand and ask this question. It is very important to me. But I do have a supplementary question. In regards of the English school board, does that mean you're going to need their approval in order for this to happen? And I guess what I'm saying is what if the English school board says no to this initiative? Does that mean that it won't go anywhere then? Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MR. MITCHELL: Nakummek, Madame Speaker. With regard to that question I'm not sure. The monies come from our budget. So we're paying the

money from our school board budget, so we're in control of the funds, itself. I'm not sure if the school board's going to turn this down. I honestly feel that they're not going to. It's just a matter of how are we going to put this into the pay system? I'm not sure how, you know, where are we going to go with this. I'm positive that they are going to look at it to get the incentive to let us pay the incentive, but as for your question what if they say no? I really don't know, but that's something that we have to deal with if the answer comes back that the answer is no. But I'm feeling good that it's going to go because we're in control of the funds. We've already made a decision that we'll call it diploma incentive, so I'm not sure what their final answer would be with regard to that. But we'll certainly push our case forward to them to get a positive answer on this. Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Minister Mitchell. I'd like to now recognize the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque.

MR. JACQUE: Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question's directed to the President. I might be jumping ahead because I just realized that the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* is on the agenda on item number 14. Maybe I'll wait. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, AngajukKâk for Makkovik. Would you like to answer that or?

PRESIDENT LEO: Thank you, Madame Speaker. And thank you AngajukKâk Jacque for Makkovik for recognizing that the trustees will be giving a

presentation on the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* and I sit here as President, not as a trustee member right now.

MS LANE: Thank you, Madame President. I'd like to now recognize the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Wayne Piercy.

MR. PIERCY: Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question's directed to the First Minister. And the last sitting I asked if we could, if the Nunatsiavut Government could look into the cost of fuel coming to the coast versus the cost of fuel to the island. So I was wondering if we got anywhere on that yet.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Madame Speaker. Yes, and I recognize that you asked that question the last sitting and we're still putting that data together, and that's said in the last sitting. I'm willing to sit down with the AngajukKâk and talk about the issue, but we are putting information together and it's an issue that has been dealt with by past Presidents and past Nunatsiavut Governments. But I wanted to make sure that we had the right data before I sit down with you and I am committed to sitting down with you. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Minister. I'd like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Susan Nochasak.

MS NOCHASAK: Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question is for the Minister responsible for justice. I have mentioned my concerns before with our justice system. I would like to ask a broad question right now. I'd like to ask if our government would entertain the idea of putting

an employee in place to aid the lacking system to assist our beneficiaries further. Something like a liaison, if you may, to help with our people at a timely and attentive manner. I understand that there are Legal Aids in place and whatnot, but right now currently that system isn't working for our beneficiaries, and I'd like to know if there is any ideas of entertaining such a position. I know it's not our responsibility and it's not our jurisdiction at the moment, but our beneficiaries are. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Ms Nochasak. The First Minister, Darryl Shiwak.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Madame Speaker, and thanks to the Ordinary Member for Hopedale for recognizing that it's not our jurisdiction and not our responsibility, but we do recognize that there is a real need and a real concern, a real problem here. And just last night when we had the open house that the issue was again brought to my attention from somebody directly involved in it. It's very concerning that the provincial government continues to cut the justice system. As they cut the justice system it cuts the court system on the coast and people have to wait up to two years to get heard. It's unfair to them. It's unfair to anybody involved in the court case. Up to this point we had not considered such a position, but I look forward to talking to you, speaking to you about what position you're putting forward, and we have not considered that position. So I can't give you an answer if you would be willing to do so. And again it's a very grey, or very fine line, if you want to say it, because it's a

provincial responsibility, but it is a real concern and we have to find a way to bring our concerns, the concerns of the beneficiary and the residents of our community forward so it's dealt with in the most appropriate way. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Minister. I'd now like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Postville, Glen Sheppard.

MR. SHEPPARD: Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question is to the First Minister and also the Minister responsible for Lands and Resources right now. The question would be do the Minister today have anything to share with the Assembly in relation to the, I guess, the happenings, to the fish plants on the coast, specifically, the one in Postville, what might be happening with that to date. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you Ordinary Member for Postville. Minister Shiwak.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Madame Speaker, and I guess happy to report specifically for the Postville plant. We have begun the process of the divestiture of the Postville plant for NG, and have made contact with the province to begin that process and we have yet to get a response back in moving ahead with, but the Nunatsiavut Government wishes to obtain that Postville plant. As for the other plants owned by the province, we have yet to address those plant, but with the Postville one we are moving ahead, yes, for divestiture of that plant. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, First Minister. Are there any other oral questions?
Okay, so there's no more oral questions so I guess we'll break for 25 minutes.

(Recess)

MS LANE: I'd like to call the Assembly back to order, and we're on item number eight, which is, "Written Questions". Are there any written questions? So if there's no written questions, we'll go down to number nine which is, "Return to Written Questions". There is no written questions today. So we'll move down to number 10 which is, "Petitions". Are there any petitions? Okay, so there's no petitions. So we'll go down to number 11 which is "Response to Petitions". So there's no responses today. Item number 12 is, "Reports of Standing and Special Committees." I like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Nain, Tony Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Madame Speaker. Madame Speaker, at the last sitting of the Assembly we began a discussion of the options related to language requirement for candidates for the President under the *Nunatsiavut Elections Act*. This was discussed in the Committee of the Whole, and it was decided that the Assembly Members should have the opportunity to review the discussion paper to examine the options more thoroughly and to discuss those options at this sitting of the Assembly. Therefore, Madame Speaker, I move, seconded by the Ordinary Member for Nain, William Barbour, that this matter be moved into Committee of the Whole to

fully explore the options identified in the report. Thank you,
Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Andersen. The motion is in order. Would you like to speak to the motion?

MR. ANDERSEN: No, Madame Speaker. At this time I have no wish to speak to the motion.

MS LANE: If no other member wishes to speak, does anybody wish to speak to the motion? Okay, if no other member wishes to speak, does the AngajukKâk for Nain wish to make final comments and close debate?

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

MS LANE: Thank you. That concludes debate. All those in favour of the motion?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MS LANE: All those opposed to the motion? The motion is carried. The Assembly is now in a Committee of a Whole, and I invite the AngajukKâk for Nain, Tony Andersen, to open and lead the discussion as Committee of a Whole.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Madame Speaker, and I was not aware that you were going to drop that one on me that I open and lead the discussion, but I did chair the committee, Madame Speaker, and I think in the last sitting of the house, Madame Speaker, we agreed that members be given more time to examine the options, and I hope

that since the last sitting they have had that opportunity. I suppose for ourselves, members of the committee we had extra time. And let me say, Madame Speaker, that you know the report that came from the legal technicians is, you know, members should not be overwhelmed by that. It's not a rocket science and I think that, you know, there were some questions asked during both presidential elections and it was, I guess, agreed by the Assembly that we should address this matter, Madame Speaker, and that we should put this matter to rest and that be prepared for the next presidential election and that those questions and concerns that were brought up during the last two that they be addressed, they be brought to a committee, they be addressed in committee and they be brought back to the house for the next steps and if changes need to be made to the *Nunatsiavut Elections Act*. The legal counsel, the legal advice and the report we have outlines a number of options. I think there are four options, and there are some definitions, if you will. Going on to say elaboration in the form of a definition. So these are things that we asked members to consider, Madame Speaker, in the last Assembly. And, you know, I don't know what else to say after that. I am certainly, you know, I have come to some conclusions myself, Madame Speaker, onto which of the options, you know, I like the best, if I can say it that way, Madame Speaker, to thank you for your patience. And but so, you know, if members are going to do that then I suppose that's how the debate goes, but I'm a little bit lost because I don't know where this is

going. So I guess that'll be my opening statement, Madame Speaker, and again I just wish to say that I am prepared to speak to an option, the option that I support, and I will give at that time reasons why I think it is the best option. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Andersen. Do anybody else would like to speak on the motion? Susan. We're in the Committee of a Whole so you can sit down if you want.

MS NOCHASAK: I can sit down?

MS LANE: Yes.

MS NOCHASAK: Okay. I've rather stand it's more comfortable for me. I'm too short to be sitting down and talking. I just want to also make a couple of points. This debate and discussion is very important to all our beneficiaries and to our government. And moving forward as a government, and as an Inuit government, I should say, and when we go back and we take this back and we've been discussing this for a while now we have to understand that the reason these discussions and this debate is happening is because there are people out there in our region, in our government, that have these concerns, not only on this language issue, but other concerns in regards of the Presidential election, and though it was said that we can go on integrity and honesty, these beneficiaries, there are some beneficiaries out there I should say that believe that it isn't working and it hadn't worked. This is why these beneficiaries are

complaining to us as elected officials. That's why beneficiaries had put this issue on the table in the first place for us elected officials because that they feel that it isn't enough that we go on sworn affidavits saying that they are true and to what they are signing. Beneficiaries in Nunatsiavut believe that it's not enough for them and I know that there are a lot of people out there that think we should leave fair enough alone, but as the beneficiaries elected officials we need to make sure that we're doing just by them and making sure that we are looking at every possible avenue to make their future better in regards of our government. Thank you.

MS LANE: Thank you, Ms. Nochasak. Anybody else wish to speak? Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE: Thank you, Madame Chair. Just to pick up on the statement made by Mr. Andersen about not knowing where to proceed from here, I think I have to concur with his sentiment on that. That being said in reading the report multiple times that came to the Assembly for consideration with respect to the options related to the language requirement for the candidate of President, I still am of the belief as stated on page 4 of 20 in the report where the question is asked what is wrong with the current approach? I still have yet to hear somebody identify what the problem is, and on that, I just don't know what else to say. I mean, I don't understand why we're engaging in this debate when nobody has recognized the problem with the current approach. Thank you, Madame Chair.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Pottle. Anybody else would like to speak?
AngajukKâk for Nain, Tony.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you. We are in Committee of the Whole, is this correct?

FEMALE: Yes.

MR. ANDERSEN: When we are in a Committee of the Whole, ask these questions, Madame Chair. Do we get the chance to speak a number of times or? Any, many or?

MS LANE: Subject to the discussion of the Chair, any member may speak more than once to a matter under discussion, but not until every member wishes to speak has spoken. Minister Mitchell.

MR. MITCHELL: In regard to the options, the question is what is wrong with the current approach, could we just think about the current approach which is speak and understand *Inuttitut*. Page four it says on top there an elaboration of the phrase. You know, I don't speak the language, myself. I wish I did. It was my fault that I didn't learn. But if you put somebody that's running for President in a room with three translators and sat there and had to have a serious conversation, wouldn't that tell you the story of if they could speak and understand *Inuttitut*? I can't answer that. Somebody that speaks the language would have to answer that.

MS LANE: Thank you, Minister Mitchell. Anyone else like to speak? Ed Tuttauq, Chair of Sivunivut.

MR. TUTTAUK: Thanks, Madame Chair. I think I raised this at the last sitting as well. All these options require somebody else to verify if a person can speak or understand *Inuttitut*. I think that's a really delicate situation, especially in a position such as the President. Having somebody else either decide to say this person is a valid candidate or not, I think it's a weighty problem. And the issues that I have with all these options if that they require somebody else to determine who is eligible for candidacy and it leads to more questions in my mind. Thank you.

MS LANE: Thank you, Ed. The AngajukKâk for Nain, Tony.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Madame Chair. For me and, you know, I echo what Mr. Pottle raised about what is wrong and the legal counsel asked question. What is wrong with the current approach? And maybe there isn't anything wrong with the current approach. Not to say it can't be strengthened, the current approach, and I believe that's identified on page 6 of 20 particularly in the second, third and fourth bullet. And beginning of the sentence it start out, is the problem, you know, is the problem, is the problem. And those things, I think, brings to light the questions and concerns, Madame Chair, that were asked during the first two Nunatsiavut Presidential elections. I believe that this is not a huge task and, you know, if members would accept and agree that perhaps the current approach is good if we add strengths to it, then we could take the option number one along with the definitions that are found

elaboration in the form of a definition in Annex I, and then amendments to the *Act* set up to set up a Presidential *Inuttitut* debate in Annex II. These things could be, we could in a very short time, if it was given, if this was tasked, you know, the option number one to strengthen the *Act* will not have to even consider Constitutional change, Madame Chair, but we'll strengthen the *Nunatsiavut Elections Act* and we'd strengthen the process to make candidates accountable and assure, you know, that the elected will be able to decide whether or not someone can speak and understand *Inuttitut*. And the questions and concerns that were raised during the two elections will be no more. So I really believe in that, and that's where I am anyway, Madame Speaker. I recommend to the Assembly that to if I can do that - probably it's not - I can't do that, but maybe I'll say it anyway. That if we were to choose option number one and give it to a committee, a Special Committee again, and to work with legal counsel that I think that we can come back, not we, but the committee could come back to recommend amendments to the *Elections Act* that would be not only satisfy us, but also the electorate. Thank you.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Andersen. Charlotte Wolfrey.

MS WOLFREY: I'm sitting here thinking, okay, if we have an *Inuttitut* debate, how many people in the communities and how many beneficiaries could understand that debate? So you know what? I don't know if, I'm going to make myself clear is that, okay? The people who are

voting still probably don't know if the person can speak and understand *Inuttitut*, only the people who can speak and understand *Inuttitut* would know that. So we would still be voting, I would still be voting for someone, I don't know if they could speak and understand *Inuttitut* and meet the Presidential requirements, you know, because if I listen to the debate in *Inuttitut*, I wouldn't have known. And I'm saying that there's a lot of voters that can't speak and understand *Inuttitut*. So the voters still aren't going to be the ones to determine if the person can speak and understand *Inuttitut* if the majority of the voters don't speak and understand *Inuttitut*, themselves. They're still going to vote for what they heard in English. I don't know if I'm making any sense or not, but that's because I think the Presidential candidate is determined by the majority of people, and the majority of the people don't necessarily speak and understand *Inuttitut*. So we're still, I think we're still at where we are if we accept that option we're still at where we are now which is a person's integrity, the people who nominated them have an integrity to say yes, they speak and understand *Inuttitut*. I don't think that debate would make that much difference to those of us who don't speak and understand *Inuttitut* which are possibly the majority of beneficiaries.

MS LANE: Thank you, Ms Wolfrey. President Sarah Leo.

PRESIDENT LEO: But to keep like Tony said, you know, we could make this simple, or we could make it more difficult, but if going with what Tony

talked about as some of these options and going with a debate, but you could have a completely bilingual debate. You could have, you have to respond to the question in *Inuttitut*. You have to respond to the question in English, and to make it fair, you know, if people are questioning the language, you start with *Inuttitut*. You ask a question in *Inuttitut*, they respond in *Inuttitut*. You ask the same question in English, then they respond in English. I mean, it's, you know, that certainly would be an option as well.

MS LANE: Thank you, Madame President. So it seems like what I'm hearing around the table is that we need to put a recommendation down.
Madame President.

PRESIDENT LEO: I don't want to cut Tony off or cut anybody off, and I know, you know, this could be a simple solution but I think at this point we still need a bit more discussion on - we've only briefly discussed one option. I think, you know, there are four options here, and I think we really seriously have to take our time and maybe if it means, you know, taking one option at a time and going through what's in the report, going through the, I guess, the questions that were raised about that particular option, going through the pros of that option, I mean, going through the cons of that option, but taking each option one by one and going through them. I think at this point for us to put any kind of recommendation, although, you know, we all have our own feelings, and we heard from maybe what, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven of us. I mean, that's not

much time. We've all seen this and we've all read it, and we may have our own opinions about it, but until we start sharing those opinions and discussing each of these and maybe getting each other's different take on it, I think it's only till then that we can actually start even moving towards one option or another or any sort of decision. That's my opinion.

MS LANE: Thank you. Johannes.

MR. LAMPE: Nakummek Itsivautak. I just want to pick up on what AngajukKâk from Rigolet said. To start off going back to the Presidential election in 2012 the requirements are well written, and they are there to show the qualifications of candidate, and that's the starting point, and from there whoever is the nominator, or the seconder, have the power to have the candidate run for election, but that in itself is also misleading because it is not proving the candidate is able to speak and understand *Inuttitut*. And so that is an issue for constituents who were supporting me when I ran for President in 2012. And so that issue remains. And so those constituents who were supporting me still feel the same way, and so the issue is the starting point, the qualification of the requirement of the candidate. And so, and I cannot go back and as, you know, as a government and come up with a recommendation to say otherwise, and so while I live and breathe I have a responsibility to my constituents. And so I can't go back and say I didn't know what to say. But it was clearly stated to me by my constituents what the issue was,

and so I have to speak to the issue and not remain silent.

Nakummek.

MS LANE: Max.

MR. WINTERS: Thank you. I think we should deal with the options we have in front of us. We only have January and March to deal with this. If this goes on to the next Presidential election, I think we could be back to square one. This has been going on now as far back as, I think, 1994 when this first came forward. So I think we should debate this to the fullest and hopefully where we can put this to rest.

Thank you.

MS LANE: Thank you. Dan.

MR. POTTLE: I'm wondering if I have the right to call a witness to the table. I'd like to hear more from legal counsel who drafted this report, I do believe, on behalf of the committee. And going back to Tony's statement a while ago regarding the issue and the four bullets outlined on page 6 of 20, and going through that again, maybe I'm missing something and that's why I'd like to hear from legal counsel. Because, I mean, in these four bullets, from my perspective, it's supposing, it's a supposition. Each of the bullets is prefaced with, you know, is the problem, is the problem, is the problem, is the problem. It's not in my mind clear whether or not if this is a problem, or if we're just supposing that this is a problem, and I have real fears of not fears, I retract that statement. I have

real concerns about discussing any option related to the language requirement before identifying again what the problem is.

MS LANE: Yes, we are in a Committee of the Whole and you can have a witness come to the table. So I'd invite Loretta Michelin to the table. Okay, Wayne Piercy.

MR. PIERCY: And before Loretta speaks, thank you, Madame Chair. Before Loretta speaks, in the *Act*, itself, it says to speak and understand *Inuttitut*. That's a qualification. And if somebody's going to put their self -up for candidacy as a candidate to run for Presidency, the qualification says speak and understand *Inuttitut*. All the years that people has been going through this like Max said, since 1994, people need to decide what they're going to do in life, right? So if you took it upon yourself to run for President, a qualification says speak and understand *Inuttitut*. Most everybody around here has grade 12. Most everybody passed and went on and done post-secondary, etcetera. So getting to the point, it says the qualification, had to speak and understand *Inuttitut*. So if you're going to put yourself up for a candidacy for Presidency, it should be your own responsibility to learn and speak our language because once you divert from speaking *Inuttitut*, what does that show the Labrador Inuit what we're trying to do? All we've been trying to do for the last number of years was to strengthen our language and our culture. So we've been doing pretty good. It's a very slow process, but if you take the definition speak and

understand *Inuttitut* out of the equation, then what else are we going to change? We come to this point now and we're back almost to when LIA first started. If you look at the people on the wall, all these people helped put us where we are today. So from my point of view if we take the definition out of it, because it's a qualification, what you're doing then is taking the whole meaning away from our lives to where we're at this point and our Labrador Inuit life here within Nunatsiavut. Everybody speaks so highly of keeping our traditions, our language and our culture, and I think if you took that part of the qualification out, you can just as well say we're no longer Labrador Inuit. Thank you.

MS LANE: Thank you, Wayne. Susan.

MS NOCHASAK: Thank you, Madame Chair. I guess, it all started because there are beneficiaries out there that believe that there are problems that there is something wrong with the process in the election. And the beneficiaries that came to me and, and voice their concerns was that there is a problem in regards that, like, one of them was language and the President being able to speak and understand. Now I believe that in the LIA document the word fluent was in there, but it was taken out, and the beneficiaries that have these concerns believe that speak and understand *Inuttitut* should be someone that's fluent. And right now in the election, in the past couple of elections, that isn't the case. So, in my opinion, the problem is that the candidates that are coming or will be coming,

should be able to be fluent in their beneficiaries' concerns. And I guess what I'm trying to say is that in the next Presidential election what the concerns are for these beneficiaries is that maybe somebody from British Columbia is going to go and apply to be President, and they say they can speak and understand *Inuttitut*. But right now the only way to challenge that person, if they wanted to challenge that person, is to go through a court system, and right now the ordinary beneficiary with low income cannot go to the court system and challenge this person. So, in my opinion, that's what's wrong. There isn't a good process where someone can go and challenge whether or not somebody from, let's say, British Columbia or Newfoundland or wherever wants to go in Presidency and then there are doubts on whether or not they can speak and understand. So, in my opinion, that is what's wrong with the process. There's no proper system in place where someone can challenge the integrity or the honesty of a Presidential candidate. And that's my opinion. That's what's wrong with the system right now.

MS LANE: Thank you. Loretta wants to respond to her question first.

MS MICHELIN: First I'd just like to caution, I guess, to throw out a caution. This is a really serious issue that you're dealing with, and I don't think there should be any rush to decision here. You've got two years before the next Presidential election. I think before any decision is made here, every Assembly Member needs to absolutely

understand the decision you're making and the consequences of that decision. So, you know, you may not come to a decision at this sitting, or the next sitting. But I think that when you do come to a decision everybody should understand what that decision is, what it means and what the consequences to your government are. So I'd just like to say that. In answer to Susan's point I think one of the things that we tried to outline in this paper was that going to the court is kind of the last of a number of options open to people that have problems. Because we have a democracy, the first option is open in public debate, and questioning, and challenging. If an individual has questions or concerns about the qualifications of a candidate, they have the right to speak up, to challenge, to question, to demand and take the qualifications to mobilize others and to vote, and that is, that's a lot of options in a democratic society, and really the option of going to court is the last option after you have run out of every other option available.

MS LANE: Thank you, Loretta. Gary.

MR. MITCHELL: I think there's some onus as well on the witnesses that sign the nomination forms because isn't there provisions there that, or that the person speak and understands *Inuttitut?* And is that onus on these people that are signing nomination forms, how do they **know** that the people can speak and write and understand, not just the candidate, themselves, but the witnesses that sign the form? I think we have to think about that.

MS LANE: Thank you. Charlotte.

MS WOLFREY: Part of the problem what I see with this confrontational kind of way that you're talking about is that that's not really the Inuit way to be going and saying I don't believe you. You know, you're telling a lie - like in a public kind of forum. I don't think anyway that that's really hard, I think, for people to do. It really, really is hard for people to do. If I was a candidate running against Tony and I thought Tony couldn't - and/or if I was just a person and I thought he could, it would be really hard to get up in public and say that. And to say to the people don't go voting for Tony, he don't speak and understand *Inuttitut*. Like that would be really, really hard. That's not the Inuit way of doing things. And I think that that's part of the problem is that we've got to brave ourselves enough or something. I don't know if it's brave. Whatever it is, it's something that we're not used to doing, I guess, this confrontational piece and being like that. That's what I see as part of the issue with this about the only way is going to court because it takes a lot. It would take a lot out of you, out of someone to do that, and I'm not sure that people wants to do that.

MS LANE: Thank you, Charlotte. Tony.

MR. ANDERSEN: Yes, and I suppose like you know in the first Presidential, Nunatsiavut Presidential election a candidate admitted on the CBC that he/she did not speak and understand *Inuttitut*, but eventually would and said that on the CBC that, you know, that that's not what

was most important to people. What was the most important to people was leadership. Now that was a Presidential candidate on a public airwaves admitting that he/she could not speak *Inuttitut* and yet was in the Presidential race knowing the Constitution. You know, that that Constitutional requirement is to understand and speak *Inuttitut*. Now that candidate didn't win, but that candidate was allowed to continue, and I think that that is a concern of the electorate, is that, you know, people can admit that they don't speak and yet they are allowed to run. And I think that people want us to be, you know, to be leaders and to be strong and they want us like because maybe...

MS LANE: I'd like to call the Assembly back. We're still in a Committee of a Whole, and before the lights went out, Tony was talking. So, Tony.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Madame Chair. I was talking about using the example, I think, from the first Presidential election, but I was trying to say that I think the electorate saw it as a candidate admittedly not being able to speak and understand *Inuttitut*, but at the same time was not asked to step down from running or prevented from running in any way. And I think that the electorate sees that as a weakness, and I think that that's what they want strengthened. Perhaps it's not that our current approach is the wrong approach, it's just that some of us feel and some of the electorate feel that it's not strong enough, and that in fact, it may allow people who don't fully understand or fully speak *Inuttitut* to run. And I don't think

that's what any of us want either. I know that there was some comments made in here by at the end of that option one, and it talks about the decision to reject the current approach. And maybe we don't have to reject the current approach, but certainly when the question was asked earlier about you know what is wrong with the current approach? Obviously, there is something wrong with the current approach, or there wouldn't have been all those

questions come forward to members of the Assembly and the Nunatsiavut Elections Officer if everything was fine. There would have been no questions, no criticisms, no comments made on CBC or other airwaves. So there has to be something a little bit wrong or a little bit off and it has to be fixed. And when we're in Committee we all agreed that we should try to fix it now, try to get it done. You know, as Max Winters pointed out this morning, we're only months away from another Ordinary Member election. There could be substantial change. I believe that if we don't make substantial progress on this particular issue that come the 4th of May or whenever it is, we may be back to square one and have to start again. I think that we are in a position. We've done work. The Committee has done some work. Legal counsel has done some work. We are in a position where we can move forward. We don't have to completely this take today or even in this, you know,

before the end of April. But we can set it up so that there is enough, we've made enough progress, we made comments on these options so that we are far enough ahead so that if there is substantial change in the makeup of this Assembly after May then that the new members will be in a position to carry on that work. But we just can't keep putting it off and delaying it. Everyone had time since the last election to review these options that were put forward by legal counsel. We were expecting and hoping that, you know, we'd come back with opinion on this. I guess some of us have. But we need to do something. We need to, you know, it's difficult. I suppose it's brand new ground, eh, Madame Chair, but because we seem to be a little bit lost.

MS LANE: Thank you. Patricia.

MS KEMUKSIGAK: I think the words speak and understand can be unclear and people can interpret it different ways and maybe that's because it's not defined. Like, there are people who could understand *Inuttitut* almost perfectly and they could speak somewhat, but they might not be able to speak fluently. So do that mean because it says speak and understand then a person may meet what they believe are these qualifications because it's not really clear and maybe that's where some of the issues come from. It's open to interpretation or subjective. That's my opinion. Like we might think in our mind, we think they can speak the language, they can talk back and forth to people, they understand what people are saying

to them, but other people might view it differently. So I just wanted to say that it can be viewed different ways.

MS LANE: Thank you. Loretta.

MS MICHELIN: One fairly simple way of clarifying would be what we have in Annex I. There's one of two options. You put in the Elections Act a clarification of what speak or understand means, or you can go and put in a definition of what speak and understand means. So in the first example, the clarification, you're clarifying, I guess, to make it clearer what it means and so the language that we put in there would be a candidate for the Office of President of Nunatsiavut shall be deemed to be able to speak and understand *Inuttitut* within the meaning of Subsection 3.3.7(c) of the *Labrador Inuit Constitution*. If the candidate can, by talking *Inuttitut*, convey his or her thoughts, feelings, emotions and opinions and communicate his or her analysis of facts or information and demonstrate that he or she comprehends or perceives the meaning of another person who communicates their thoughts, feelings, emotions or opinions or their analysis of facts or information in *Inuttitut* by responding to that person and exchanging information and views with them in *Inuttitut*. Or you could do it in a definition format where you just basically say the same thing, but you define what speak means and you define what understand means. So then that would eliminate, I think, anybody saying they don't really understand what speak and understand

means. So that would be a, you know, that's a simple option for clarifying what speak and understand means.

MS LANE: Thank you. Charlotte.

MS WOLFREY: I was thinking about this, and I've got to say what's on my mind because, you know, this debate has been around for a long, long time. I was, I mean, I've been involved with, while it was LIA and now Nunatsiavut, for over 30 years. And there was a real, at one point there was a debate about being fluent and being not able to speak at all. You know, like that debate was there, whether we should even have that, whether it should be a qualification. We had that debate a long time ago and it divided us, and really our language is what should be what holds us together. But I guess what I'm getting at is this, when I think about how long we've debated this, how long the lawyers, the negotiators, the whatever have debated this they debated it came to the conclusion of what we got now. I don't know if people understand where I'm going, but that it took a long time to get where we are now and through that process all of this was debated. Would this work, would that work, you know, and things like that so, I mean, I don't want us to go back there to where we were a long time ago, where we were in our thinking. And I guess you know the option one that's already there, what I'm saying is that's been debated, it's been thought about, and they came to the conclusion that this was the best way we could proceed. Now, like Tony said, there is some issues when

people are seeing that this is not, you know, this is not working, and then maybe putting the definitions in there might be a way to solve that issue. It's been around for a long time. It's not only us here today. We've been debating this forever. William knows. A lot of people around here knows. This has been on the table a long, long time and we fought about it. It divided us. And like I said this should be something that holds us together, our language is something that holds us together. I mean, not that having debate is not okay, but I think we should think about what our forefathers meant when they wanted the President of Nunatsiavut to be able to speak and understand or be fluent in *Inuttitut*. They wanted the language to survive. That's what they wanted, and somehow or other if I think that I'm a good candidate for President, I should be able, somehow or other to go out and learn how to speak *Inuttitut*. You know, like, I just put that on the floor because it's been so long that this has been there. This is not the first, or even when the first Assembly happened it wasn't the first debate about this. It's been around a long time.

MS LANE: Thank you, Wayne. Anybody else wish to speak? I recognize Glen.

MR. SHEPPARD: Thank you, Madame Chair. I guess I've been sort of silent on the issue and listening to different angles and different sides and opinions. I have, I guess, no other reason and no other choice but to agree with what the AngajukKâk from Rigolet just quoted about

being held and being kept together. I roll the age of 50. I don't mind saying it. I had a grandfather who lived to be 93 years old. He couldn't speak the language and he understood very little. He was the mayor of the community of Postville when I was very young, in my teens, and when meetings would come up that would include probably other Aboriginal groups, or if it was necessary that someone was needed there to speak the language, he would always ask and Mrs. Edmunds repeats that to me today. He would ask Silpa if she could go to attend the meeting where she was already fluent in speaking the language. I listened to all the different comments and opinions and I think about, Madame Chair, sometimes does this stuff come from vexatious or frivolous, or is it something that was there outstanding for a long, long time? I think from what I've heard Mr. Winters quote and Tony that this is something that's been there for a long, long time. I'm going to speak my mind and I think we have the right to speak our minds, and I'm going to use the example - the question was two or three times a day what is wrong with the current way that we go through the election process now for the Presidential election? No doubt from what we've heard and from what we've experienced there's something wrong. What is that something? That something to me is - I'm going to use the example, okay, if Johannes and Glen Sheppard and William Barbour was running in a Presidential election, there would be a problem because right away I don't understand and speak the language, and probably I would

certainly be the first to admit it. But if it was Mr. Barbour and Johannes running, I'm certainly sure around this table we would all agree a hundred percent there's no question they both understand and speak the language. But over the last couple of Presidential elections there has been a lot of questions, even to me, and I'm sure the AngajukKâk from my community has heard it in the small community of Postville have been questioned on it. And, you know, we come to a point of we just don't know. Yes, there are something further needs to be done here. What is that something? I'm not sure, but option one was mentioned a few times before lunch today and again since lunch with some additional bullets what Tony mentioned. Like I don't want to continue on and on and with my conversation just ramble on, but I think it's serious enough that we have to do something here to further, I guess, re-enforce what we have out there in the *Elections Act* to comfort people when there's an election. I'm not a Glen Sheppard that will judge anybody on their speaking and understanding, I don't know it. But we do have an Assembly here, we have members who's fairly fluent in the language and understand it a lot better than myself. So, Madame Chair, with that I'm going to stop, and I did my thoughts on it is that yes, we need to do something on the issue and what that something is, I guess, we'll have to brainstorm and like it's been quoted, we don't have to do it today. We might not have to do it the next sitting, but we need to do something. Thank you.

MS LANE: Thank you. William.

MR. BARBOUR: Thank you, Madame Chair. I'm just going to go back to more recent, being September of 2012 when the Special Committee was struck by the Assembly to look at the language issue based on the NEO's report on the last Presidential election on the last Presidential election. For two elections, not just the last one in 2012, but going back to 2008, it became an issue in the first Nunatsiavut Government Assembly Election, it became an issue, and has been an issue out there. We've talked about a number of things that can happen and Loretta pointed out this morning that court action should really be the last option. It really should be. In saying that I think that the Special Committee in trying to come up with something, and when through the Special Committee back in June of this year before this Special Committee was disbanded, if you will, we directed legal counsel to come up with possible options for definitions of speak and understand, which has been done quite clearly to me. That portion of it is done, in my mind. It makes absolutely clear, speak and understand. The second portion of our recommendation of the Committee was possible test. Now I've heard a number of people say, including our Chair at the time, Tony, talk about option one being a possible option and look at the reasons why legal counsel came up with what they came up with. One is an *Inuttitut* debate. I also listened to the AngajukKâk from Rigolet this morning. She said I'm not fully fluent, or I'm not

fully able to speak or understand, but she could phone or email other people. Hey, how did this candidate do? How did that candidate do? There's ways to determine that. I had a discussion with one of our elder statesman here in the Assembly. He, even in Goose Bay our *Inuttitut* speaker stated. They're going to listen to a debate, if it's done in *Inuttitut*. They will determine very quickly by listening who can and cannot speak and understand a language that they claim to speak and understand. So there are ways to do it. There is some risk, but there are ways to do it. And I also agree with Tony, the AngajukKâk for Nain, that while we were cautioned by legal counsel back in September and again today this morning that maybe we should not really rush this thing. But I think we can, as the AngajukKâk for Nain does say, we can make substantial progress at this sitting, in the January sitting and in the March sitting of 2014 that we can bring it so far forward that it's hard to turn it back even if there's half of a new Assembly come 2014. And with that I really think, and I go back to Glen. When I was, while a technician for LIA, used to be on the board. Charlotte Wolfrey was on the board. Tony was my boss at one time I was Vice President. The issue is this. When you go back to those old ancient objectives of over 30 years ago, one of the key things that we kept in mind was the language and culture. I hope we're not forgetting about those ancient objectives. I hope we're not forgetting about our language requirements that, hey, our language and our culture is what makes us who we are. Are we going to

erode that yet some more, and I have to stand up for my constituents when I say that. That, hey, am I going to be party to an erosion of my own language? And with that, you know, that's why I tend to go is that with the option one of an *Inuttitut* debate in the next Presidential election. Even if we don't have it done now, to me, the definitions are done. It's the options of how you do the test and the test will be a live *Inuttitut* debate of candidate, and that's my position on it now. Thank you, Madame Chair.

MS LANE: Thank you, William. Johannes.

MR. LAMPE: Nakummek Itsivautak. When we talk about our language, whether we are talking about it, we are not even speaking the language, Inuttitut. We are forgetting what we are talking about when we are looking for a President for Nunatsiavut Government who can speak and understand the language. When there is an election going on, the elector's said to us that we as Labrador Inuit should speak and understand Inuttitut. That is something that is supposed to be in our heart at all times. We are not supposed to lose that language. It is not only my way of talking; it is the Labrador Inuit who speak the language. I've been told more than once by the people and it was our forefathers who were the boss of the Labrador Inuit Association that was the position. But we want to keep our culture and our language, we are not supposed to forget that, we have to maintain our language and culture that will be belong to our children and our grandchildren. That is what we are supposed to

give to our children and grandchildren. If you speak only in English we won't understand what we are talking about, who we are as Labrador Inuit. I will stop on that issue for now. Thank you.

MS LANE: Thank you. Dan.

MR. POTTLE: Thank you, Madame Chair. I still have to ask the question again because I asked it this morning, of legal counsel, and I think it may have been inferred, but I don't like to go on something that's inferred. I'd like to just have a simple answer to my question and that is what is wrong with the current process? As I go through the paper again, and I'll ask legal counsel, and I think I've heard people say that nothing in this report identifies what the current problem is. Before I ask legal counsel to answer that question for me, I mean, I'd just like to ask the question again. If it's not identified in this report or by the Special Committee of what that current problem is, what I'm hearing and coming to a conclusion of around the table is simply a problem with, as Patricia had pointed out, people's interpretation or understanding of the phrase or terminology speak and understand *Inuttitut*. So, I mean, if that is the problem, and if that's what this Honourable Assembly comes to conclude then, I mean, the simple means to do that and to clarify that is to look at what the details in Annex A quite clearly, I believe, explains what speak and understand means. And if that's the case then yes, I would agree that that should be put into the *Elections Act* or the *Assembly Act*, whichever *Act* we're referring to where we want to

see it so that people have a clarification of what speak and understand means that's accepted by the Assembly. So again I ask legal counsel. Again, I mean, you know, does the report identify what the problem is, and again bring you to page 6 of 20 that legal counsel, I think, has already referred to and I quote, A decision to reject the current approach without saying what is wrong with it runs the risk of saying in effect that when it comes to the *Inuttitut* language requirement, 1) The integrity of Presidential candidates cannot be relied on. 2) The integrity of nominators cannot be relied on. 3) The political process of open and public debate and questioning will not reveal either dishonesty or lack of qualification and 4) The electorate is not capable of passing judgment on either the integrity of the candidates or their abilities. If there is any substance to this perception it is hard to imagine a more complete indictment of self-government, unquote. And again, I mean, you know, if we don't identify what the problem is with the current approach and we believe what's in the details of what I just quoted, I would have to ask the question, therefore, do we believe that democracy and self-government under our current approach is not working?

MS LANE: Thank you. Loretta.

MS MICHELIN: I can't answer the question what's wrong with the current approach. We posed the question. So and that's for the, you know, the people that feel there is a problem to identify. We ask

the question what's wrong with the current approach, and we came up with some questions and that's what's outlined on page six, is the problem, and then we list a number of issues there, but I guess it goes back to the saying, you know, unless you identify what's wrong with something, how can you fix it? And I think that some people around the table were trying to identify what they thought was wrong with the current system, and that's what debate is all about. To, you know, bring to the forefront. Before we fix something we have to understand what's wrong with it, and I think that's part of what people were trying to express, is their concerns with the current system. So I can't answer Danny's question. I can't say what's wrong with the current system. I think that's for the people who are identifying that there is something wrong with the current system to identify.

MS LANE: Thank you. Tony.

MR. ANDERSEN: Well, you know, I don't profess to speak and understand *Inuttitut*. And these are, I suppose, good questions from legal counsel, but they're also kind of hard questions and intimidating. Now I did say earlier that if there was nothing wrong with the current approach, then what was all the fuss about? Why did Jack Shiwak feel stressed and pressured and the phone calls and Assembly Members getting called. If the current approach was so good then why were there concerns and questions raised? Now that's not to say that there are, you know, that the integrity of Presidential

candidates can't be relied on, or say, well, the nominators can't be relied on, trusted over there. You know, but I believe that we can do stuff to strengthen, and maybe there is nothing wrong, but there is some perception that there is something wrong. The electorate, some or part of the electorate, there's a perception that there is something wrong and that candidates who are not, who don't understand and speak *Inuttitut* are slipping through. Now, I did mention it in the first Presidential election there was one who admitted to that. So, you know, admitted to that. So there must be something a little bit wrong, and what we're trying to do here, and make no mistake when the Committee spoke and want to say this, that the Committee wanted to ensure and it was the Committee's mandate to strengthen what was there. To strengthen beginning with the phrase or the clause in the *Constitution* that says the President shall understand and speak *Inuttitut*. We felt just everything that we tried to bring to the table was to strengthen the *Constitution*, to strengthen the *Elections Act*. That's where we are. And it was never the Committee's to, even entertain or bring back that would be discussed at, you know; forget about *Inuttitut* as a requirement for the Presidency. No, that was not there. It never was. But I think that, you know, maybe the current approach to answer Dan's question, and again this is probably not the answer that he wants to hear. Maybe the current approach is a little bit weak, Madame Chair.

MS LANE: Okay, we're still in a Committee of a Whole and we're still discussing the language requirements. William wanted to say something.

MR. BARBOUR: Okay, thank you, Madame Chair. And we're still in Committee of the Whole. Again sometimes during the breaks that the speaker allows us to have we can have some frank discussions at times and we're in the Committee of the Whole. We're not exactly comfortable until we have all of our facts straight. I think when I made my opinion known and my position known that to me the definition of speak and understand, that's clear, that's absolutely clear to me. When I made my position known that option one is an option, it's a real option for Presidential candidates to go to an *Inuttitut* debate with a moderator that's agreed to by Assembly written into the *Elections Act*, and even the moderator, because the moderator would be chosen by the Assembly in the Presidential election year prior to the election being called anyway, that we already have a moderator in place for that particular year. Those candidates must then follow all of their requirements under the *Elections Act* if amended by this Assembly or any other Assembly, if they're amended. But a moderator chosen by the Assembly now has the power following all of the rules to the amendments to the Elections Act, that Presidential candidates must participate in an *Inuttitut* debate, public debate by airway so that all beneficiaries can listen. Any candidate that refuses to

participate can be disqualified basically by saying that hey, maybe I don't - let's just talk about me. Maybe I don't feel competent to debate *Inuttitut* publically. And that's why I'm saying I'm more leaning towards a debate in addition to the definition of speak and understand. And I just wanted to make that known that sometimes during these breaks it does make a difference for small groups to talk to each other and try to make each other understand. And I just wish to add, had I had that train of thought in my mind I spoke earlier, I would have said it. But thanks to that break it gave me that train of thought that maybe it should be considered here, because when you go to the Annexes, the Annexes become clear in the bowl that these are potential, I don't know the word, amendments. When we say amendment usually we mean addition or a deletion, and in this case would be additions to the *Elections Act*. Nakummek, Madame Chair.

MS LANE: Thank you, William. Darryl.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Madame Chair. I just wanted to say a few comments on the discussion around, we're having around the table here today and some on William's comments there. But first off I'd like to say that during the past election I was quite closely connected to the election being in the position that I am, especially being connected to legal counsel and hearing from the NEO some of the concerns directly when the election was taking place, some of the concerns it would bring to him, and then subsequently they were

coming to me with some of the remarks that you hear and they were quite serious remarks, and that's probably the most serious one that you hear is that your because speak and understand is in the *Constitution* and because you're not upholding that you're letting down the *Constitution*. You have to uphold the *Constitution* and the process they have in place is not doing that. But the position of NEO's is a very important position. It had to be separate from the government. When he was going through that election he had to work on what he had, and at that time it was just he had to go by the affidavits that were sworn and that he had in front of him. That's what he had to use. And he did, I mean, he did that job quite well. But what I'm trying to say is that there were a lot of concerns brought forward, but the NEO position is a very important position, and that position must be very, very impartial. Every candidate that comes to him, that has an application, that is nominated, that has sworn affidavits, they have to know that they will be treated exactly the same as anybody else. It has to be a very impartial position. That's why I agree that the definition should be in there. I agree that there should be debate, there should be a Presidential debate. People should hear the candidates speak *Inuttitut*, but I'm not quite sure how you can bring that into a legislation, especially when the NEO position is the way it is. You need to be very impartial. There may be a way to do it. I'm not quite sure if it's as it is laid out right there. But there should be debate. There should be a definition. We should not change

speak and understand. Because I say, like the NEO position is a very important position and every candidate must know that they will be treated the same when they come to run for President. But I'm not quite sure how, as William said, put a debate in there. I'm not sure how you could do it. Maybe there is a way to do it, and I don't think we'll get that answer today, but I agree there should be debate. I'm not sure if it should be legislated. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you. Anyone else like to speak on this? Gary.

MR. MITCHELL: Thank you, Madame Chair. Yes, I agree with William, Ordinary Member for Nain, Barbour and First Minister on their comments on the debate. Yes, I fully agree. I think that's a good way to go, personally speaking, with a moderator in the *Inuttitut* language, and that'll give them that opportunity to let us know, you know, how well they can communicate in *Inuttitut*, speak and understand. I think that's a good way to do it in that kind of an atmosphere. The other thing is I would assume that the people that are going to be in debate are already nominated and are candidates for the Presidential position. So if they don't make the debate, if they don't meet, what's required of them in a debate, and they had to be removed, there has to be somebody who's going to say you didn't meet the requirements on the debate, not because you couldn't answer the question, but because you couldn't speak and understand *Inuttitut*. So there should be some authority in place

that will remove them from taking their name off the ballot, you know, there should be a process there to remove them. So that's another thing that we'd have to look at is that somebody have the authority to do that, to remove them from the ballot if they don't meet the requirements. Nakummek.

MS LANE: Thank you, Gary. Loretta.

MS MICHELIN: I'll just go over briefly because some of the answers are in the draft amendment to the *Elections Act*. This is just at this point, of course, is just something that we put together as a possibility. The draft amendment to the *Elections Act* lays out the process for a legislated *Inuttitut* debate. So if you go to Annex II what it does is it goes to provisions that are now existing in the *Elections Act*. And it includes the amendments that would be necessary to legislate a Presidential debate or a candidate's debate in *Inuttitut*. So if you look at 117 it's the Assembly shall no later than the 1st day of March in each year in which a Presidential election is to be held appoint a person who speaks and understands *Inuttitut* to moderate the Presidential *Inuttitut* debate under Section 126. The moderator shall be the person nominated by the speaker who receives the majority of the votes of members of the Assembly. The speaker then shall no later than the last day of January in each year in which a Presidential election is to be held nominate two candidates for the position of moderator by tabling the names of the candidates in the Assembly, or if the Assembly has not been

sitting by forwarding the names and writing to each member of the Assembly. The speaker also has to check and get the advice of the Minister, and in this case if you go back to the definition of Minister, it would be the Minister of Culture, as to whether the candidate can speak and understand *Inuttitut*, okay. The Assembly shall before appointing a person as moderator interview that person to determine whether he or she speaks and understands *Inuttitut* and is qualified to carry out the functions of the moderator. It can't be an employee of the Nunatsiavut Government. And then it just goes on to some other steps that have to be done in determining who the moderator is. If you look under 118(3) the moderator has the power and authority to c) disqualify a candidate who fails or refuses to participate in the debate. So the moderator is given the authority under the *Elections Act* to actually disqualify a candidate if they fail or refuses to participate in the debate. Then if you look on, you go on to 4) where the moderator disqualifies a candidate under Subsection 3(c) the moderator shall forthwith inform the NEO in writing and the NEO shall proceed in accordance with Section 26 to ensure that a disqualified candidate's name is not included on the ballot. So under this draft the moderator would have the authority to disqualify a candidate if they failed or refused to participate in the debate. And then they would inform the NEO to remove that candidate's name from the ballot. So under this amendment it would give a lot of authority to the moderator.

MS LANE: Thank you. Does anybody else wish to speak? Gary.

MR. MITCHELL: Thank you, Madame Chair. I think c) one is going to be the most difficult one if, you know, in a case like this who fails in a debate. You know, that's going to be a hard one to call on, even though I was going on with somebody just now had to have the authority to fail someone, but this is going to be, you know, the person who says you failed or it's going to be tough on that person.

MS MICHELIN: What this says is that the moderator can disqualify a candidate who refuses to take part in the debate, who fails or refuses to take part in debate.

MS LANE: Darryl.

MR. SHIWAK: Well, so it's not fail the debate, it's fail to participate in the debate. Is that what you were asking?

MR. MITCHELL: I misunderstood.

MR. SHIWAK: Okay.

MS LANE: Thank you. Patricia.

MS KEMUKSIGAK: I read this over several times over, you know, since we had it in the past. I think we talked a little bit about we need to strengthen speak and understand. So I believe that the definition or the explanatory does that, and I do agree with having a debate with a moderator and that the moderator is selected by the Assembly. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you. Charlotte, did you have your hand up?

MS WOLFREY: Yes, I still, when I heard that word fail, there's two questions I got. I still want to make sure that that's not meaning fail the debate. Does the moderator have the authority to say you failed a debate, you can't speak *Inuttitut*?

MS MICHELIN: The way it's written now, yes. Now that, of course, this is just an initial draft amendment, and that's why it's so important for the Assembly to debate this issue because if you want to clarify that, for example, if you want to be absolutely sure that the moderator has the authority to fail a candidate who takes part in a debate, but it's obvious from the debate that that person cannot speak and understand *Inuttitut* then maybe that particular provision should be expanded upon, okay. Right now the way it's worded, who fails or refuses to participate. So that is, my interpretation it fails that the person, the candidate fails the debate or refuses to participate in the debate. No? But that's why, okay, at this point it's just an initial draft and that's why it's up to the Assembly to be very clear about what it is that you want. Do you want it to mean just that a person who refuses to participate will be disqualified, or do you want to give the moderator the actual authority to determine whether or not a candidate has failed the debate that they've taken part in and, if so, do they then have the authority to inform the NEO that the person has failed the debate and therefore should be disqualified?

MS WOLFREY: The second part of my question, is it okay? The second question I got is when I think about debates that are now happening across

Canada, do the Government of Canada ever pick the moderator? You know what I mean, I mean, are we allowed to pick a moderator and how can that be challenged, would that be challenged in a court of law? I mean, you know, we're still going to be sitting for two years, all the rest of us. You know what I'm saying? I mean I don't - I'm not trying to indicate anything, but there is a possibility that it could be challenged. I mean, the rest of us is sitting here. We pick a moderator that we know is going to go for someone we like. You know, I don't know. You know, I got to ask that question because it don't sound to me like that's not how debate, I mean, normally a debate is on CBC radio and the moderator is, I don't know if Peter Mansbridge would be there. You know, someone like that. Not someone that the Government of Canada chooses to be a moderator.

MS MICHELIN: That's why this is your Assembly and you have the authority to make legislation. Legislation can always be challenged by anybody. That's why if you want to legislate this, you have to make sure that the details are covered and that you have a good argument for why you've enacted whatever piece of legislation you've enacted. But if you legislate - so if you put this in your *Elections Act* it becomes Inuit law. And so if somebody wants to challenge an Inuit law they always have the right to challenge it, but that's why the details are so important, and you have to know why you're doing something and what you're doing, because you

may be forced at some point to defend it. So unless you know why you're doing it and what you're doing, then it's very hard to defend something. But this is an Inuit Assembly and you have the right to make Inuit laws. But you have to understand why you're doing it and what you're doing and you have to be able to defend it.

MS LANE: Thank you, Loretta. I guess it's safe to say we're not going to come to a conclusion any time soon, I believe that I'd like to make a recommendation that we defer it to the next Assembly sitting. Tony, go ahead.

MR. ANDERSEN: Yes. Madame Chair, I'll make that request then. I suppose this is the correct way to do it, request that members of the Assembly ponder further or deeper or whatever it is. The options that was given to us by legal counsel. But just a couple of words of caution in that there are now, I think, just about five months before the Ordinary Member's election, and if we are going to debate this further in January then it will be, you know, two and a half months. If members were ever thinking that this would go back in some way, shape or form to Committee then the life of that Committee, of course, would end at the last sitting or on the when the Assembly was dissolved. When the President called the election for Ordinary Members I think that this Assembly is dissolved then, right? So, you know, if we're going to ponder this further then I hope that some real recommendations will be made in January because I don't see it that the life of this Assembly will be long enough to give

to task the Committee with this work. But I make the request that we work hard and study the options and come back, you know, in January with some real good stuff.

MS LANE: Does the Assembly agree with that request? Oh, sorry, Danny, go ahead.

MR. POTTLE: I'm wondering if I may just make one comment, and I think Tony's recommendation is well taken, but I think the Assembly, also in pondering this further, needs to come to a consensus of what the problem is. So, I mean, you know? Thank you.

MS LANE: Tony, would you like to make a motion to that? Oh, sorry, Sarah.

PRESIDENT LEO: I guess before we finish up today, I think and I keep hearing Danny ask the question what is the problem? Obviously you know there's nothing identified in this report. We heard a lot of discussion around the table as to concerns raised, not only during the last Presidential election, but the previous one, and it sounds like it's been a discussion that's been going on, from LIA to Nunatsiavut, for 30 years. But I'm just going to be quite frank and I think, you know, maybe people are a little uncomfortable because the reality is people are uncomfortable with me sitting here. I speak, I understand, but I am not fluent. I admit that and I admitted that throughout my whole campaign. Some people had issues with that. Some people were fine with that. Some people had issues, called me up, spoke to me in *Inuttitut* and I spoke to them back and they said, yes, you speak and you understand. But I think that's

where the problem is. Part of the problem is people know that I am not fluent. People know I speak and understand. When I got the affidavit signed for my nomination, every person that signed my nomination, we had a discussion over the term speak and understand *Inuttitut*. And I said you are signing an affidavit saying that you believe I speak and understand *Inuttitut*, and they said yes, we understand what we're signing and yes we do believe you speak and understand. That affidavit, I think, is very important in the nomination process. I think that's one of the more valuable pieces of paper. So but again I'm going to say a lot of this discussion is because I am the person sitting in this table. I am not fluent, I speak and understand. And that's it. And that's what the problem is.

MS LANE: So do the Assembly agree that we defer this to the next Assembly sitting? All those in favour?

MR. BARBOUR: Madame Chair, just like at the September sitting when legal counsel advised that we put it in motion form deferring it from a fall into a winter sitting, as we did in September when we deferred from September into this November sitting in motion form.

MS MICHELIN: It would probably, yes, I think you should, somebody should put forward a motion to defer this debate and carry it over to the next session.

MR. ANDERSEN: Yes, we've got to go back into the Assembly, though, we're in the Committee of the Whole, is it? To do the motion, go back to Assembly, no?

MS LANE: You can do this in a Committee of the Whole.

MR. ANDERSEN: Okay. I move, seconded by the Ordinary Member for Nain, William Barbour, that further debate on options related to language requirement for candidates for President under the *Nunatsiavut Elections Act* be deferred to the January sitting of the Assembly.

MS LANE: Thank you, Tony. The motion is in order. All in favour?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MS LANE: The motion is carried. Okay, we are now back in the Assembly. Item 13, "Tabling of Documents". I understand that there are a number of documents to be tabled today. I recognize the Minister of Finance, the Honourable Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek, Madame Speaker. I have six documents that I would like to table in the house today. These are the Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust Audited Financial Statements for the years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011. Nakummek, UKâttek.

MS LANE: Thank you. These documents will be numbered as tabled documents 01-2(10), 2-2(10), 3-2(10), 4-2(10), 5-2(10) and 6-2(10). I'd like to recognize the First Minister, the Honourable Darryl Shiwak.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Madame Speaker. I wish to table the 2012 Annual Report of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement*. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you. This will be numbered as tabled document 7-2(10). I recognize the First Minister again.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Madame Speaker. I wish to table the Standing Orders which were amended on September 11th, 2013.

MS LANE: Thank you, Minister Shiwak. These amending Standing Orders will be numbered as tabled document 8-2(10). As required by the Standing Orders 3(3), I wish to table the Assembly Sitting Calendar for 2014-15. This will be numbered as tabled document 9-2(10). I would like to recognize William Barbour, the Ordinary Member for Nain.

MR. BARBOUR: Nakummek, UKâttek. I wish to table the Members Handbook as recently printed. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you. This will be numbered as tabled document 10-2(10). We are on item 14, "Notices of Motion." I recognize the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey.

MS WOLFREY: Thank you, Madame Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, November 6th, 2013, that I will move the following motion. That the resolution setting up the Special Committee on Alcohol and Drugs dated September 11th, 2013, be rescinded and those members appointed to the Special Committee now be deemed to

be Members of the Standing Committee on Alcohol and Drugs.
Madame Speaker, I will be seeking unanimous consent to deal with this motion today under item 16, "Motions."

MS LANE: Thank you. I recognize the Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology, the Honourable Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek, Madame Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, November 6th, 2013, I will move the following motion. That the Assembly convene as the Committee of the Whole to receive a presentation from representatives of the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*.
Madame Speaker, I will seek unanimous consent to deal with this motion today under item 16, "Motions." Nakummek.

MS LANE: Thank you. Is there any other notices? Okay, we'll move on to item 15, "Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills," I do believe there are no Bills for this sitting. Item 16 is, "Motions". Ms Wolfrey, I understand that you wish to proceed with the motion that you gave notice to earlier.

MS WOLFREY: Yes, Madame Speaker. I am seeking unanimous consent to proceed with the motion.

MS LANE: The AngajukKâk for Rigolet is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with the motion today, are there any nays? Okay, there are none. Ms Wolfrey, proceed.

MS WOLFREY: Thank you, Madame Speaker, and Members. Whereas on September the 11th, 2013, the Nunatsiavut Assembly passed a

resolution setting up a Special Committee on Alcohol and Drugs, and whereas on September the 11th, 2013, the Nunatsiavut Assembly passed a resolution setting up a standing Committee on Alcohol and Drugs, and whereas the resolution setting up the Standing Committee did not include a provision rescinding the Special Committee. Now therefore I move, seconded by the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Wayne Piercy, that be it resolved that the resolution setting up the Special Committee on Alcohol and Drugs dated September 11th, 2013, be rescinded, and those Members appointed to the Special Committee now to be deemed the Members of the Standing Committee on Alcohol and Drugs.

MS LANE: Thank you, Ms Wolfrey. The motion is in order. Would you like to speak to the motion?

MS WOLFREY: No, Madame Speaker. I think I spoke the last time around to the motion. The reasons are still the same. The issues are still prevalent in our communities and we need to have this an ongoing committee. Thank you.

MS LANE: Does anybody else wish to speak to the motion? If no other Members wishes to speak, does the AngajukKâk for Rigolet wish to make final comments and close debate?

MS WOLFREY: Thank you, Madame Speaker. I wish to close debate.

MS LANE: That concludes debate. All those in favour of the motion?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MS LANE: All those opposed? The motion is carried. For the information of the Assembly, the Members of Standing Committee on Drugs and Alcohol that were recommended by the Rules and Procedures Committee and recommended to the Assembly were Charlotte Wolfrey, the AngajukKâk for Rigolet who is the Chair, Wayne Piercy, the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Herb Jacque, the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, and Michelle Kinney, Deputy Minister of the Department of Health and Social Development. And Johannes Lampe. He's the Minister of Culture and Tourism. Minister Pottle, I understand you wish to proceed with your motion that you gave notice to earlier.

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek, Madame Speaker. I am seeking unanimous consent to proceed with my motion on allowing the consideration of the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* in the Committee of the Whole. Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: The Minister is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with the motion today. Are there any nays? There are none. Mr. Minister, proceed.

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek, Madame Speaker. Whereas the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* is required to report regularly to the Nunatsiavut Assembly, and whereas the Assembly should discuss the reports and recommendations from the Trust, now therefore I move, seconded by the Honourable First Minister Darryl Shiwak, that the Assembly convene as a Committee of the Whole to receive a presentation

from representatives of the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*. Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Minister. The motion is in order. To the motion, Mr. Minister, would you like to speak on the motion?

MR. POTTLE: Just very quickly, Madame Speaker, as each of the Assembly knows the Trusts are accountable to the Assembly so I ask for the Assembly to vote in favour to proceed to a Committee of the Whole to have the presentation by *Tasiujatsoak Trust*. Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

MS LANE: Does anyone else wish to speak to the motion? If no other Member wishes to speak, does the Minister wish to have final comments and close debate?

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek, Madame Speaker. I wish to close debate.

MS LANE: That concludes debate. All those in favour of the motion?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MS LANE: The motion is carried. Before we go into the Committee of a Whole, we'll take a 25-minute break.

(Recess)

MS LANE: We are now in a Committee of a Whole and I'd like to invite the presenters from the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* to address the Assembly, Sarah Leo, Dan Pottle and Isabella Pain.

MR. POTTLE: Thank you, Madame Chair, and Members of the Assembly. We'll ask Isabella Pain, Trustee to *Tasiujatsoak Trust*, to take the lead in the presentation.

MS PAIN: Thank you. Hilda handed out a presentation just earlier so we're going to go through that and follow the PowerPoint presentation. The *Tasiujatsoak Trust* was established by a *Trust Deed* that was signed in 2004 by the then LIA Board of Directors and so that's the deed that we follow in making any decisions that the trust makes in relation to funding, investing and those sorts of things. The beginning of the presentation I want to take you back through some of the things that we have to consider when we're making decisions about some of these funds. So the *Trust Deed* identifies what the objects or the purpose of the fund is to do, and the reason it was established was to receive and invest payments under the *2002 Impacts and Benefits Agreement*. So there was an *Impact and Benefits Agreement* signed with Voisey's Bay Nickel Company in 2002 and this trust is responsible to receive and invest those payments. It's also to disperse the funds to enable Nunatsiavut Government to meet its obligations under the IBA. So every year the Department of Lands and Natural Resources establishes a budget for the cost of implementing the IBA because we do have implementation costs and they submit that to the trust, and that is a first call in relation to any of the funds under the IBA. Also to disperse funds to assist the seven community volunteer centres to

meet community needs, and that takes place every year. We allocate \$100,000 to each of the communities for community priorities in relation to with their volunteer centres. Also to disperse funds to reduce negative impacts of the Voisey's Bay project, to promote cultural, social, educational, language and business initiatives. So these are some of the objects and those are more fully laid out in the *Trust Deed*. The *Trust Deed* also establishes who is eligible to receive funding under the IBA. So the eligible beneficiaries are the Nunatsiavut Government, charitable organizations who have specific criteria, and I can get into those, if you want to, but they're laid out in the *Trust Deed* as well. So it's not just any charitable organization. It's charitable organizations who have specific purposes. Mainly, they are those which will provide and carry on good works for Inuit or Community of Inuit. And eligible beneficiaries are Community or Class of Inuit as well. Currently the Trustees are Sarah Leo, President of Nunatsiavut Government, Dan Pottle, Minister of Finance, HR and IT, Michael Flatters, and he's been a Trustee since it was initially populated, Sharon Pevie, she's also been a Trustee since the first Trust was established, and myself. The next line we talk a little bit about elected officials as trustees, and just so that the Assembly is aware, that as per the Assembly decision in September the Trustees are currently discussing the necessary amendments to the *Trust Deeds* in relation to the removal of elected officials from the trust. So we're currently discussing what the replacement

criteria for trustees would be so that we can bring that back. We have to look at what amendments the *Trust Deed* would have to have. We haven't done that, but we are currently having the discussion. We believe that the criteria for Trustees needs to include the ability to learn and understand the basics of investing, and the ability to understand and discuss investments with financial managers. If you want, I can talk a little more about that, or if you have questions about what that means, we can get into that, but we do spend a fair amount of time when we have our meetings dealing with investment managers, and considering investment type, and so we spend a lot of time on that particular issue.

PRESIDENT LEO: I just wanted to add just before we're talking about what time we spend on, you know, looking at investments and the criteria of replacement Trustees, I think as an Assembly, and this is more speaking from experience now that I've spent time on an actual Trust and you see what you're involved in. When we're going through this, and you look at the numbers of dollars that are involved with each Trust and what the intent of the Trust is to preserve the capital in the Trust, but as well, to grow through investments, it's really important when we start talking about replacements on the Trust when we start looking at who we're going to get sitting on these Trusts, not only the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* when Danny and I are taken off of it, but any the other of the Trusts

when they come up for replacement of Trustees, one thing we really have to be aware of is how important it is that these trustees have at least a very basic understanding of investments. It's been a wickedly steep learning curve. I know what stocks are. I know what bonds are. But when you start talking to the financial managers and trying to make the best decision possible as to what you're going to do with the money for our future as a government and for our people, you really have to have people on these Trusts that understand or have the ability to understand about investments. And I think that's another good validation for removing the elected officials from the Trusts as well, because by removing those positions and going by appointment, I'm not sure how the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* is. Is it through the Assembly and nominations coming in? You're in a much better position to put individuals in those trustee positions that are the best for our Trusts. In saying that, though, I think we also have to have beneficiaries or Trustees who understand our culture, understand where our government is going and understand the needs of our communities. That is almost as important as understanding the investment portfolios. These Trusts are not just you sit there; you go through a pile of applications trying to decide who you're going to provide funding for. It's understanding what's in your *Trust Deed*, what the money is there was intended for. Once that's done then you're sitting with all the financial managers that you have and listening to all of the discussion on the way stocks are going, the

way bonds are going, where you should be investing your money, what you should be investing it in, and so again I can only say when it comes up for appointment to the Trust, keep that in mind. When we're going through the selection of Trustees, it's very, very important that they have that ability to follow that through because this is our money and we have to protect it. One of the best ways to protect it is ensuring we have trustees on there who know what they're doing and can protect it and grow it for us.

MS PAIN:

Thank you. One of the things that we did as a Trust and any Trust, I guess, does this as part of their rules of operating, is you establish something called a statement of investment. It's your plan and your policy in relation to how you're going to allocate your investment dollars. And the way this was originally established was by looking at what the *Trust Deed* determined, the level of risk it could take, and weighing that against how much you wanted your money to grow. So in the case of the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* the investments are generally of two types. So we have Canadian and foreign equities and we have 70 percent of those. Canadian and foreign equities are generally what we would consider stocks. So when you think of investing, equities are in the stock market. And we talk about Canadian and foreign equities, one is in the Canadian markets, and foreign means exactly what it sounds like. We have gone into the foreign investment market. We also have another category investment called fixed income cash and bonds,

and I'm sure many of you are familiar with bonds as in Government of Canada bonds. They come around every year for individuals to buy, but it is exactly that kind of thing, very safe, very low rate of return, but necessary as part of a basket or a portfolio investment to ensure that you maintain a certain level of investment. You know, you want to protect your assets while growing it and so we're trying to find an investment mix that meets those two objectives. Protect your capital and grow the investment. So we had to figure out how to allocate those equities. Between equities and fixed income, obviously, equities are riskier, bonds are safer. And historically, equities outperformed fixed income over the long term. I have a note here that says as of April 1 we are in line with the SIP, the investment policy and what that means is if you can imagine you have a bank account with different amounts of money in it, we say 70 percent is going to be in equities and 30 percent in bonds. The amounts in each change by how much interest you're earning on each one so we have to re-balance regularly so we have to look at how much we actually have. Is it up to 75 percent? Is it gone to 80 percent in one category and, if so, we have to reduce it and put ourselves back in line with the policy we've established. So as of April 1, we were in line with our statement of investment policy.

MS WOLFREY: So were you in line with your statement policy because you moved it around, or because it didn't make any money or what?

MS PAIN:

We were in line because we actually re-balanced. So we'd take the numbers, we look at the numbers and say do we have to collapse some of the bonds and put it into equity and so that's what we do on a regular basis. You have to look at your numbers and then re-balance. And so that's what we've tried to do that regularly. We get those numbers and we rebalance. We also have in here that we can be three percent up or down on either one and so because you can't be changing every time you're up, but we have given ourselves a margin either way of three percent, and once we go above or below by three percent we try to rebalance. Sometimes it doesn't make sense to do it immediately because it may mean you have to collapse stocks or bonds, which means selling, and you might not always be able to, and so we do it regularly, but it doesn't mean that every time we may end up 74 percent, we might not actually do it at that moment, but you try to be in line as much as you can with your investment policy. Yes, to be clear, I guess, yeah we haven't lost money. That's not why we did it. We have actually earned money this year. We've actually had a pretty good year. So we'll get into the values in minute, but it's just an ongoing process that we use. Again I want to talk about the *Trust Deed* priorities for just a second because as Trustees, we have decided that a way to get money out into our communities through an application process, but we need to do that considering our priorities. So, as I said, the IBA implementation budget is the first priority. It's the first call. And that was done based on the

Trust Deed, itself. The *Trust Deed* also requires that 30 percent of all capital receipts and 10 percent of all net income are to be set aside to a heritage fund. So every year as we get money coming in, we have to take 30 percent of it, a minimum of 30 percent of it away and put it into a heritage fund and that means a fund for a future generation so it's something that we can't touch. So anything new that comes in from Vale has to go in there. Thirty percent has to go in there. And 10 percent of all money that we earn, all of our net income in a year, also has to go to that heritage fund. The *Trust Deed* also directs us to consider the desirability of setting aside up to 50 percent of capital receipts and 25 percent of income each year. So while the *Trust Deed* says we have to put in 30 percent, it tells us to consider the desirability of actually going up to 50 percent of capital receipts every year and the whole purpose of that is to ensure that we're not spending all of the capital of the trust in one generation because this is a multi-generational Trust and it needs to be considered that way. And again the 100,000 to each volunteer centre annually. So that's also a priority for us every time we sit down and meet. So the Trust has decided that the way to make money available to other eligible beneficiaries is through an application process, and so we consider applications two times a year. Deadlines are September 30th and March 30th of every year, and then we meet within a month to try and, you know, consider all of the applications and make allocations. We have just gone through another round of

funding, but what we have here is given that this is our report for 2012, what follows is a list of proposals that we funded in 2012. And I'm not sure, I don't think I'm going to go through all of them, specifically, but you can see by the bottom we have approved and spent in 2012 just over \$7 million on various projects, some to government departments, some to Inuit Community Government, some to people who are outside, you know, such as OKâlaKatiget Society or AnânuKatiget Tumingit, those kinds of agencies who what we consider to be the test to be an eligible beneficiary.

MR. POTTLE: Just on that I think, I mean, I would use encourage each Assembly Member to use, I mean, you know, and look at what we funded, by way of example, in 2012 to oftentimes people come to us and say when are we going to get more money? When are we going to get, you know, another \$5,000? How come we're not getting any money? I mean, this is a prime, prime example and real life examples of what you can provide to those beneficiaries who may be saying that we're not getting any money. Just I thought that it was important to make that statement.

MR. ANDERSEN: On the deed priorities on the amount of capital receipts and the net income, would you say that your, are you closer to the 30 percent or the 50 percent for putting away, or is it actually more than that?

MS PAIN: I would say currently it's actually more than that.

MR. ANDERSEN: More than 30 or what?

MS PAIN:

More than 50 at this point and I can give you a couple of reasons. The first is, is we, we don't actually have more than 50 in a heritage fund, but there is more money that's been invested. So the way we actually account for all this, is that we actually take money and put it into a separate heritage account. That is money that we can't touch. In terms of money that we have set aside at the moment and haven't dispersed is actually more than 50 percent. And the reason for that is because much of our allocations are based on proposals other than money that we allocated to the Inuit Community Governments, the \$20 million and then the money for the multi-purpose centres. Most of it is proposal-driven. So that is not heritage money, but it is currently invested. That's not to say it can't come out. The minimum and the maximum are between the 30 and the 50. And I should be able to tell you. I might have it here, but we do have a creation of a heritage fund which tells us exactly how much we have. Not on that paper, but we are in line with that amount, with those amounts. One of things with this Trust is obviously that we continue to receive money from our IBA. We receive money on a monthly basis as per the schedule set out in the IBA, and we call that on the - there's a page called Sources of Payments received, and it's 2012 Vale loan payments, and we call it loan payments because if you recall that the way we set up the whole Voisey's Bay IBA was that they originally paid us one lump sum which we loaned back to them and they're paying us with interest over time. That increased

the overall value of the Trust dollars to us, okay. So in 2012 we received \$3.5 million of loan repayments. And if you look at the IBA schedule, that's exactly how much they should have paid us back as per that schedule.

MS WOLFREY: Is it Vale, is there going to be another IBA when they go underground or what, or is it already negotiated with this one?

MS PAIN: I think that the current IBA will apply to underground mining as well. In 2012 we also received something called additional payments, and the additional payments in 2012 were worth \$22.3 million. Now in the IBA there were actually three streams of payments. So this is the second stream of payments, and this amount was based on price of nickel, how well the company was doing on profitability. So this is our share of profitability, okay, based on the IBA. So when you see additional payments you'll know that that's not the amount that's in the IBA schedule. It's additional and it's based and it's calculated every year, but it's based on profitability and other measures that are in our IBA. Then we also have another stream of payment called Supplemental Payment Tax and \$1.5 million, and this becomes very convoluted in some ways and difficult to explain and understand, but part of our argument in the IBA and what we have in there is when Vale files its income tax statements, a payment to us can be written off. So they get, well, they get a tax credit for it for making that payment. So we argued that we should receive a

share of that tax payment, and so this is our share of what they would have paid, okay. So this is another stream of payment of \$1.5 million. In 2012 we had interest income of \$1 million. And then we also had investment income of \$3.5 million. So that's how much we earned or added into the Trust value last year. So excluding the loans receivable from LICST and the cash on hand, so there are some loans out there to LICST, the fair market value of the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* assets at the end of December, 2012 was approximately a hundred and fifty-nine million, seven hundred and eighty-four thousand dollars. At the last slide is one on loans to LICST. And there's approximately \$11.6 million owing by the trustees of LICST to the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* at July 31st, 2012. Some of those are historical advances or loans that were made before the current trustees were, of LICST, were appointed. Since 2010 the additional amounts have been loaned to ICST to respond to the tender call for marine shipping, you know, because there was a bonding process so a bond had to be up fronted there, and also to purchase the controlling interest in Labrador. But the total is about 11.6 and they have loan papers associated to repay those amounts of money back to the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*.

MS LANE: Does anybody have any questions? Gary.

MR. MITCHELL: Yes. In regard to the loans that you grant by the Capital Trust, can beneficiaries borrow that money as well to, like, it's borrowed for business, right, like tender calls and re-contracts, interest and

labour, can beneficiaries who are worthy of borrowing money and has business, borrow that much money, or is it only for lending money to the Capital Trust?

MR PAIN: The *Trust Deed* provides for the ability to invest. The actual words are for the promotion, advancement and development of financial business entrepreneurial economic and employment skills amongst Inuit including without limitation by the loan of funds from the Trust Fund add interest to eligible trust beneficiaries upon reasonably commercial terms and conditions. So the *Trust Deed* tells us that we can make investments to people who are eligible beneficiaries. In 2008 there was a decision made by the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* to actually set aside an economic development fund for ICST to do economic development, and that's where this amount of money has been coming from. When ICST was created they weren't capitalized, they were not given any money to do, you know, for the purpose of economic development. So if a business wants to apply they can apply at the normal funding times as anybody else because it could be considered as one of the reasons you would provide funding. We haven't done it to date because I don't think we've actually received any applications from business, not to my knowledge, other than ICST.

MS LANE: Gary.

MR. MITCHELL: Can I ask a supplementary question? With the Capital Trust borrowing that money and to NGC, I would imagine, was any of

that money spent on the land development project in Goose Bay because when you lend money to a trust and they, in turn, like, put NGC to work, I guess that's the way it works, does it specify where the money has to be spent?

MS PAIN: No. This is not going to be a *Tasiujatsoak Trust* answer. This will be an LICST answer. The LICST answer is that we can - the LICST can invest wherever as long as they're making wealth interest for beneficiaries. So it's an investment to earn money to bring back to beneficiaries. So there has been no limitation placed on where you invest money.

PRESIDENT LEO: The money that was loaned, from what I understand, to the LICST from the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* was for specific projects and that was the marine shipping and the Air Lab deal. But there was that fund that loan fund created that LICST could draw on for specific projects, but that was generally identified. Say they needed to borrow 5 million for whatever.

MR. POTTLE: And if I just may add to that, again, I guess, as a *Tasiujatsoak* Trustee and not a LICST trustee because I'm not, the \$20 million that, or the Economic Development fund that Isabella referred to a few minutes ago the tune I believe it was \$20 million, I mean, that's where the money that the LICST through NGC used a portion of that money for the Goose Bay authority.

MS LANE: Patricia.

MS KEMUKSIGAK: I have two questions. I know we're dealing with last year, but I guess *Tasiujatsoak Trust* also borrowed money from, I mean, LICST also borrowed money from *Tasiujatsoak Trust* to purchase Universal Helicopters from the press release.

MS PAIN: Yes, that was again out of that \$20 million-fund that was decided upon in 2008, and *Tasiujatsoak Trust* is going to be an equity investor along with Cape Fund as investors in the Universal Helicopter deal, so there are other investors in that particular opportunity.

MS KEMUKSIGAK: And I have one more question. Under the eligible beneficiaries on slide two, what does or class of Inuit mean?

PRESIDENT LEO: Like the community governments, they put in proposals jointly. Community governments put in proposals jointly. That's pretty well what that includes.

MS LANE: Glen.

MR. SHEPPARD: Thank you, Madame Chair. Thank you, Isabella, for your presentation. The question I have for the Trust is related to the *Trust Deed* itself under definitions. Where the advisory Committee means the Board of Directors of the Labrador Inuit Association until such time *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement* is in effect and thereafter means the Nunatsiavut Assembly. So in the absence of an advisory committee, my understanding is that it's the NG Assembly who would act as the body as the advisory committee. In saying that, you know, I feel sometimes, I guess, as an elected

official in a community sort of lost or lacking big time in information to provide especially when there's big dollars spent or Trust dollars in whether it's a Universal Helicopter deal or whether it's an Air Labrador deal. We are, the elected officials are in the spotlight. As soon as that press release comes out, we are, Oh, Glen, I understand you bought Universal Helicopters. I'm not familiar with it. I have not much more information than what you see on the press release. So as NG Assembly Members acting as the Advisory Committee, I'd like to know what our roles and responsibilities are when it come to the Advisory Committee. So if that can be answered and cleared up, I'm sure it would help, maybe because I'm sort of lost here on what our roles and responsibilities are.

MS PAIN:

In relation to your question, Advisory Committee, you've read out the definition and I, other than saying yes, you read the definition, we have not used the Assembly in a role as an Advisory Committee. I'm not sure why or how that came to be, but that has never been a practise. I think what we have done at a trust level in relation to ensuring that we understand government priorities, so if there are priorities of the government and various departments where applying for funds for departmental projects, we ask that we have letters of support from Ministers, for example. So we have never come back to the Assembly as an Advisory Committee, but we do go to departments and say is this something that's important

to your department in relation to governmental priorities. I can't even go through and tell you exactly where the Advisory Committees are supposed to be, but if you give me some time I can find it and get back to you.

MS LANE: Susan. Oh, sorry, Danny.

MR. POTTLE: Sorry, don't mean to interrupt you, but just in response to Glen's question, as well, President Leo and I and I think the Members of the Executive Council had discussed briefly the rules and responsibilities of Assembly Members. This is one prime example of that and one of the things we believe that's necessary to be done after the next General Assembly for Ordinary Members and possibly when the new Chairs and AngajukKâk are elected in September. One of the things that we believe is necessary to be done is to provide and have some discussions on issues such as what Glen had raised because going back to Isabella's answer again, I mean, you know, historically, the Trust had not sought the advice of the Assembly, and for what reasons, I mean, I can't give you that, but that's just been historical practice. So, I mean, I think we have an obligation as Assembly Members to clearly understand what our roles and responsibilities is, by way of example, in relation as advisors of this Trust. So I think that'll be forthcoming.

MS LANE: Susan.

MS NOCHASAK: Thank you. I was just wondering if we can generate a little bit more discussion in regards of what Gary mentioned for

businesses, I guess, being eligible for loans from this Trust because right now I'm of the information that the government don't really give out loans or to start businesses or grants to start-up businesses, and if that's the case then I'm a bit confused, and if it's not the case then I'd like a little bit more information so I can give back to my community constituents and let him know that that is an avenue that they can seek out from the Trust to put in an application for a loan to start a business or continuing business.

MS LANE: Sarah.

PRESIDENT LEO: Okay. First off, I want to clarify the government is not in the business of giving loans. This is the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*. It is completely separate from the government, and I think that's one of the things when Danny was talking about information sessions for the elected officials with regards to the Trust, is getting that understanding out. Because like Glen, too, you know, we face the questions as why is the government investing in a helicopter company? Why is the government investigating in marine services? It's not the government that's investing, it's the Trusts that are investing, and I think that's one thing we really have to be clear with. Now it makes it kind of difficult for Danny and I, particularly, because as elected officials we sit on the Trust. So it's really hard to make that separation, the perception that the government is involved with the trust when actually we're not. And it's, you know, we have to really ensure that when we are sitting on

the Trust, we're sitting there as Trustees, not as President and Minister of Finance. And I think when the information comes out where the Trust, the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* has the ability to make loans. It's not the Nunatsiavut Government that has the ability to make loans. It's the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* and the application goes into the Trustees for that loan.

MS NOCHASAK: Thank you. Just before Isabella starts we at the table understand that it's like I knew before I asked a question that the government don't give loans, but the average person, like, they, for some reason they don't see the Trust not be in the government, and I was just wondering, and I'd like to know if maybe a press release or just word of mouth, I know I'll do it to the best of my ability for the people in this community to let them know that the avenue is available for business start-up or existing business people to put in an application, but she did say that there has never been a loan or an application put into the Trust maybe because they are mixing it up as government not giving out loans and the Trusts not being the government. Maybe that's why they're not putting that application in because they're mixing that up.

PRESIDENT LEO: And I think it's very important for the Members around this table to make sure that that message gets out. I mean, who better to say that we, as a government, are not, we're not keepers of the Trust. We have Trustees for that, and I think it's our job as Trustees putting on one hat saying this is a Trust. It has nothing to do with

Nunatsiavut Government. On the other side putting on the Presidential hat saying this has nothing to do with Nunatsiavut Government that's a Trust decision. And I think we have to make sure we keep that disconnect so that people understand that it's not the government that are the trustees of these, whether it be the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*, the LICST, the Settlement Trust or the Implementation Trust. Those are two completely separate entities, I think, and maybe we do need to do a better job of communicating that to beneficiaries, but I think the onus is on us as elected officials to certainly get that message out as well.

MS LANE: Thank you. Isabella.

MS PAIN: Can I just add to Susan's question. I guess the place that we go to in relation to looking at and what we can fund is actually again in our *Trust Deed* are objects that we can fund. And we actually have that right on the application form so it tells us and it tells the person who's applying for funds what the objects of the Trust are and the one I read out about business that's listed there as an object that's eligible, and so we direct people to fill out the form to tell us what status are they. Are they a Nunatsiavut Government? Are they a charitable person? Are they an Inuit beneficiary? And then we ask them to document and tell us how their proposal would meet one of these objectives because that's what we have to consider and so economic development and financial business skills, they're all listed as eligible proposals. So, you know, people can look at this

and look at and decide whether or not what they're requesting can fall in line, but it's up to them to make the argument as to how it would meet those objectives. So maybe the application is not clear, but that's where we put the information.

MS LANE: Thank you. Tony.

MR. ANDERSEN: On that page, Trustee Priorities, that little writing there that Trustees are directed to consider desirability of setting aside 50 percent, I'm assuming that means you're directed by the Trust document, is it? Does the Trust document direct any minimum that you should, or could you disperse zero to eligible beneficiaries in any area if you so choose? I'm not saying that you would, but...

MS PAIN: The *Trust Deed* basically gives us that as a guide. That's the only direction. The IBA budget, implementation budget, the volunteer centres, the heritage fund. Originally there was the harvesting compensation fund as well for \$1 million, but that's been set aside already. And then there is no requirement to actually make allocations other than those in the *Trust Deed*, itself.

MR. POTTLE: And just to add a little bit to that, I mean, the Trust, we do have an investment advisor who we call upon from time to time to provide us advice if we're thinking in lines of something like the desirability of setting aside X versus X. I mean, you know, the advisor will provide advice to that, but it's solely the decision of the Trustees and not the advisor who makes those decisions. I mean, it's like

anybody, we ask for legal advice, we take it or we don't take it, or we take it into consideration in making a decision.

MS LANE: Thank you, Herb.

MR. JACQUE: Thank you. In September five Inuit Community Governments submitted a joint application. We're wondering was there a decision made? When can we expect a response? Thank you.

PRESIDENT LEO: The *Tasiujatsoak Trust* has gone through its applications. We have considered and made decisions on most of them. I can tell you the ones that are approved from now. Like I said decisions haven't been made on all of them. We have approved a hundred and fifty thousand for OKâlaKatiget. We have approved thirty-three hundred for Sivunivut for the Community Freezer program, a hundred and thirty-one thousand for AT, 79,500 for the Native Spirit Youth Centre in Rigolet, a hundred thousand for the Agvituk Sivumuak Society here in Hopedale and another twenty-one hundred to an Aerial Drone Project in Nain, as well earlier this year we had approved it earlier because it was time-sensitive. It was another fifty-five hundred for Jacob White to take part in a partnering with Global Vision project. The others that we received we still haven't got a final decision on, and will be contacting the applicants with our decision later, but those are the projects of the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*. That was this last round of funding in October, and I believe everybody that put their proposals in for April have already heard back from theirs. So that's where we are for this

year. Yes, the ones that we have - the reason the decision hasn't been made on some of them yet, the ones that I didn't list off, including the ones from the Community Government is we're going to be going back to the applicants and asking for more information. There may have been something missing in their application that we need more information on, or we need clarification on. So of the ones that I've read out, those are the ones we were happy with their application. We felt they met with the criteria in the Trust, and we had no issues with approving the dollar amount for them. The ones that we have been sent in and we have not yet approved, it's because we need more information before we can make a final decision on the applications. Good, Herb?

MS LANE: Thank you. Dan.

MR. POTTLE: If I just may add something to that as well in relation to, I guess, anybody who may be considering applying to the Trust for a loan for a business or what have you. I mean, I think it's important that people know that the trust would expect a well thought out presentation, a business plan. I mean, you know, looking at, I mean, your valuation of your company, by way of example, how you intend to pay back the loan over time, that sort of thing. So it is a comprehensive proposal that would need to be submitted and I think that the Trustees in relation to a couple of loans that we'd made, I mean, we did not make those and give those OK's lightly. There was a lot of back and forth between the applicant and the

Trustees before a final decision was made to loan any money. I guess the proponent had to satisfy all the concerns and answer the questions from the Trustees before - by way of example for the Universal Helicopter deal we had the information come in from the proponents of that proposal. We even took it upon ourselves to get a second opinion from the audited firm of Deloitte & Touche just to make sure that what they were presenting was in, I guess, what an auditing firm or a financial manager would expect with relation to saying that yes, this is a good deal or that's a bad deal.

MS LANE: Thank you. Darryl.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you. I guess that my point or my sort of question is more along the lines of what Glen had asked earlier. I guess the question, first off, is I notice that for 2012 it was \$7 million allocation to various things. I guess that's excluding the allocation from the \$20-million economic fund. I guess this is more of a point with the Assembly is that we're more accountable than we're actually saying around here because as an Advisory Committee to the Trust, one of the responsibilities that's set out in the *Trust Deed* is that we have to be consulted on the yearly allocation of funding. I don't know, I'm not really up on the Trust, but that's one of the responsibilities, my interpretation of that is that the Trust would have to come to the Assembly before they allocate that year's thing. I don't know, now I don't know if that would include the Economic Development fund, but it's in the *Trust Deed*. So I think

we are more accountable. We are more responsible. It's more for the Assembly Members to know that you can be held accountable for what's happening with the Trust. As well, we are supposed to be in the *Trust Deed* representatives of the eligible Trust beneficiaries. We have to do our own homework on that, but we are responsible, and you have to know how responsible you are for what's happening with this Trust. And one of the things, as I interpret it is, that \$7 million is something that needs to come to the Assembly at some point in the future for our advice on if that's the amount that you're going to be allocating. Just a heads up to everybody around the table that you should be reading the *Trust Deed* because there are things in there that make us very responsible for this Trust. Not to say that we have anything to do with how it's allocated, but we are responsible for the money that's being allocated in certain ways. It's in the *Trust Deed*.

MS LANE: Thank you. Any other questions? Glen.

MR. SHEPPARD: No, it's not a question or nothing. It's just something I'd just like to add to what Darryl has been saying and in the *Trust Deed* 6.11 outlines or defines or explains what Darryl has been saying. For purposes of determining the annual amount or amounts, if any, to be allocated, paid or transferred to eligible Trust beneficiaries, the Trustees shall consult the Advisory Committee, and in the absence of an Advisory Committee, the Nunatsiavut Assembly. So just to

add to what Darryl has said. This is actually in the *Trust Deed*.

Thank you.

MS LANE: Thank you. Tony.

MR. ANDERSEN: I'm going to tell the truth because I was daydreaming through part of your presentation about sources of repayment received and that. But interest income and investment income looks like to be about \$4.5 million, and is that like reasonable return on the amount of money that you guys have invested? That's like everyone's saying that's about normal?

MS PAIN: Interest income is basically you'll see \$1 million in terms of interest. Is money we earned through interest of having cash still in the bank for the most part because we had some money in cash, also through some of our investments? The investment income is our rate of return based on our investments through the year. In 2012 it was a positive rate of return. It wasn't the greatest rate of return, but markets were still coming back up. So 3.5 is not too bad, but already in 2013 we're doing much better and we had in our last quarter, or from January to September, 2013 as an example we had a 10 percent rate of return. So next year when we report it'll have been a greater return. So markets are still improving, and one of the reasons that the rate is what it was there is that you'll recall I said we could go into foreign equities in addition to Canadian equities. We actually didn't invest in foreign equities until late last year, early this 2013 fiscal year. And so we weren't in the

foreign markets which were seeing some good rates of return. So that's where that investment income comes from.

MR. ANDERSEN: Did you say what time that Vale is going to have that loan repaid there? There's only a few more years left is it or what?

MS PAIN: I think it was a 40-year repayment of that loan, but I can't - let me confirm that. I just need to go back and look at the payment schedule, but I think that was the repayment timeframe.

MS LANE: Thank you. Susan.

MS NOCHASAK: I've just got, like, a comment. It might not be a comment. It might be a question or either/or. Just in regards of the NGC and the Air Lab deal and the Universal Helicopter deal, they're great, and I'm sure they're profiting and it was good to give them the loans to get them to start up so we can acquire those shares in those companies. But what I'm wondering is going forward I guess for new applicants, or if NGC's looking for multimillion-dollar loans again coming in the future, if there is clauses that can be in that loan where Nunatsiavut communities can reap the benefits as well, not just the government, but the beneficiaries and the Nunatsiavut communities can reap the benefits of those deals. Like, for instance, I'll just use Air Lab, for example, that just a rate to fly anywhere hasn't changed, and it's 51 percent owned by us, but it doesn't really benefit beneficiaries down here or the communities. And Universal Helicopters, it's great to have a helicopter company, but, like, what are the communities down here going to get out of

it? I don't know if I'm making any sense, but that's just my comment.

MS PAIN:

I can make a quick comment on that. I think what you need to consider when you think about NGC and LICST, the investments that are made are to actually earn money. It's not about subsidizing Economic Development. We saw that with the former LIDC, and we explained to this Assembly a number of times what situation we got into when we actually were subsidizing businesses that should be run as businesses. When we were at the Assembly in September as the Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust, when we presented we talked about the fact that we want each of the business lines under ICST to develop a Corporate Social Responsibility Policy and Plan which will identify how money will come back up to the ICST for reinvestment in communities or talking about how they're following through in terms of things like environmental stewardship, corporate donations, corporate giving, all of those things because those are other ways of, you know, providing benefits to community members which are not going to hurt the business because NGC's vision and mission is to create profitable businesses. And so that is where you're going to see that, but as an example of what comes back to the communities, the wood projects in Nain and Hopedale and other communities are completely funded through NGC based on profits it earns. It turns around and reinvests that into something that will then

actually benefit people on the ground, and so that's the way that we see investing back in communities. But we do want to bring to the Assembly the Corporate Social Responsibility Plan so that people will see what we mean when we talk about that whole piece of our company line.

MS LANE: Thank you. Tony.

MR. ANDERSEN: Those loans to LICST, it's there - the Trust make a bit of money there too, is it, or are they interest-free loans?

MR. POTTLE: No, they are not interest-free loans, Tony. They generally run about six percent. We ask for six percent interest on those loans over a certain period of time. They are not interest-free. And that, I mean, you know, it keeps in line, I guess, with the philosophy of the Trust for investing, we're loaning, but we're gaining on that loan by receiving interest on that.

MS PAIN: It's right in the *Trust Deed* that any loans had to be comparable to a commercial rate.

MS LANE: Is there any more questions for the Trustees? Glen.

MR. SHEPPARD: Thank you, Madame Chair. I can't help, I've got to get this off my chest while we got, and we're on the discussion of the Trust. I guess we're all, you know, we have computers accessible to us in our homes, at our offices. In preparation for this Assembly I knew this was one thing that was heading our way, that was a presentation from this Trust, and there was a lot of questions

surrounding, I guess, the helicopter business, in particular, and I couldn't answer. You go on computer. You Google up anything. You can Google up how to start a motor. You can Google up how governments work. I just went on there one day and Googled up, this was at home, Trust related to the governments of Nunavut. That's what I typed in, and then I start to go through the Trusts and the *Trust Deeds*, and I never got nowhere relating to these documents. But something caught my eye, and what caught my eye was what our people has always been saying. We're out, we're into these big, not us, NGC, out into these big business entities while the ordinary guy on the street and the road seems like they're getting overlooked. Something caught my eye in reading the one, and don't ask me the name because I'm really bad with names, my memory. But I was reading down through some of the things that one of the Aboriginal groups did up north, or do up north, and that is they don't touch their capital dollars. Their capital dollars is untouched. What they do, they take the interest from their capital, what they make in a year and they go out, and the person speak and commenting went on to say, and this is what we do to benefit our beneficiaries, whether they're old, young, mid age. If there's a family that cannot afford to buy a snowmobile, we don't go out and buy that snowmobile. We will help them put some money towards it. You have to come up with the rest. Eventually the snowmobile will be yours. Now I notice there are those around the table who are going through your mind

that, oh, well, we're not going to give, give, give and that's not a good thing to get into. But as we speak we're losing our elders one after the other without them elders really seeing something from NG since we became self-government, other than the existing health and education and the annual hundred thousand dollars from the Voisey's Bay money. Is this something that this Trust, or is it something that you might have looked in the past, or maybe it's under some preliminary discussion that, you know, down the road this is what we might have to look at? That's my question. Thank you.

MS PAIN:

I guess I can make a comment on some of what you said, Glen. You have to remember that in Nunatsiavut we have four different Trusts. We have a *Settlement and Implementation Trust*, and similar to some in Nunavut, we cannot touch the capital, so the *Settlement Trust* directs us that we cannot touch the capital of any of that money. So we have different *Trust Deeds* for different funds that we have here. We have met with one of the Nunavut Trusts and we've talked about various things that they do and things that we do. We have a *Trust Deed* that we're governed by, and at this point the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* specifically has decided not to make individual pay-outs to beneficiaries. We follow the application process we have. We follow the *Trust Deed* in terms of what it is that we're directed to do, which is paying for the IBA implementation, paying the volunteer centres, setting aside money

for a heritage account and then we've decided to follow the application process and get money into the communities that way. And to this point we haven't looked at making individual pay-outs. I can't speak specifically about what the Nunavut Trust does in relation to loans, like for skidoos and that because I'm not familiar with that at all, but it's not something that we have considered to this point.

MS LANE: Thank you. Charlotte.

MS WOLFREY: I've got to make a little bit of a comment to Glen's comment because all, I mean, people don't, I don't think they individually benefit, but I can tell you that the funding that comes to the Native Spirit Youth Centre in Rigolet, our children can go to that youth centre after school and they can be looked after and taught stuff and, you know, although it's not an individual benefit, it's certainly a benefit to our community, and I know that. And I think that's why we've got to try to get out there is that no, it's not individually, but there are things that do happen that benefits our community from our Trust. I know that we had a lot of money from the Trust and it's really good. But I, too, Glen, get what you're saying. I mean, people come to us and say, you know, they're looking at the other, maybe another group of people that benefit individually from their Voisey's Bay payments, and it is something that comes to me too that I ask about. But, I mean, I think that we, for me anyway, I mean, although we don't benefit individually, I think that there's

people in the community definitely that benefit from the money from the Trust that we get.

PRESIDENT LEO: Thanks, Charlotte. And I agree, and I'm speaking from experience from my AngajukKâk days to now. You look at the, I guess you could call it the investment that *Tasiujatsoak Trust* has made into the communities. I mean, the reason the communities are able to build their multi-purpose centres today is from the T -Trust. You know, a lot of that \$20 million that the community governments had a few years ago, that would not have been possible without the T-Trust and that did so much in each of the communities, and every year the proposals come in. They don't benefit one person. They benefit to the whole community and they benefit all of Nunatsiavut or Nunatsiavummiut in one way, shape or form, and I think, you know, we get the calls ourselves about the money especially when you hear again other groups giving out their pay-outs on a semi-annual or annual basis, or whatever it is, but then the other side of it. You think, you know what, we are doing some things to help our seniors that may not be here in a few years. We're also helping the youth that are coming up and taking over. But we're also making sure that, you know, this is long-term. This is a hundred years, a hundred and fifty years, 200 years down the road that these Trusts, if they're managed right and they're developed right, there will be money there so that, you know, in a hundred years and somebody else is sitting around in Assembly similar to this

talking about the *Trust Deed* because they're presenting to the Nunatsiavut Assembly, they could say thank God those people way back when it first started had sense enough to think about us. Otherwise we would have nothing, you know.

MS LANE: Thank you, Sarah. I guess I'd like to say thank you to the Trustees for their presentation, Isabella Pain, Dan Pottle and Sarah. Oh, sorry, Patricia. I never saw your hand before. Patricia.

MS KEMUKSIGAK: It's kind of a strange question, but if we are considered the Advisory Committee, what would happen, if say when the two elected officials go off the trust and the Trustees start making financial decisions that aren't good and they may lose money or loan out a whole lot of money or do something that's not financially responsible? As the Advisory Committee, do we have the right to replace Trustees?

PRESIDENT LEO: I think, first off, I want to say I don't think by having the President and the First Minister not on the Trust may not change any of that. I mean, those decisions still could have been made with Danny and I sitting on the Trust. But in relation to the Advisory Committee in regards to who sits on the trust, certainly, and I think in this Deed, the Assembly has the authority to remove Trustees as well as appoint them. So in that sense the ultimate control of the Trust through the Trustees is through the Assembly.

MS PAIN: But I can just add one point as well for you to think about. When we were talking about amending the *Trust Deed* to replace elected

officials, one of the reasons we were cautious was to say that we actually have to go back to each of the *Trust Deed* and to look at what changes would be necessary through the *Trust Deed* with all of - if you removed elected officials and we said at the time there would be different changes for different *Trust Deeds* because they are composed differently, and so that maybe one of the issues that comes back after we have - as I said, we've taken this back now to discuss based on the decision in the Assembly in September to look at what needs to be changed. So I don't know if that'll be something that comes back when we have something to bring back to the Assembly in relation to changing the *Trust Deed* provisions there, amending the *Trust Deed* to replace elected officials, but that's the kind of thing we were talking about that it wasn't as simple as saying we're going to change the President and the Minister of Finance to somebody else because there are other implications throughout each of them which we need to look at and consider.

MS LANE:

Thank you. Any more questions? Okay, if there's no more questions I'd like to say thank you again to the Trustees for their presentation, Isabella Pain, Dan Pottle and Sarah Leo. We are now back into the Assembly on item number 17 the, "First Reading of Bills." There are no first reading of Bills. Number 18, "Second Reading of Bills." There are no second reading of Bills. Nineteen, "Assent to Bills". There are no assent to Bills today. And tonight

Rita Andersen was going to do some Inuit *Inuttitut* classes, but it's going to be done at the next Assembly sitting because they're going to be doing the flu shots tonight and tomorrow we'll be hearing from Mary Simon - six o'clock to eight for the flu shot, sorry. And we'll be hearing from Mary Simon on the National Inuit Education Strategy. So the Assembly is now adjourned until 9:00 a.m., November the 6th.

MS LANE:

Welcome. I would like to call to order the fall sitting of the 10th Session of the Second Nunatsiavut Assembly. If there's any questions around travel and logistics, please see Hilda Hunter, and there's a paper going around, so if you never signed it already to say where you're going, just make sure you get your name put on there before lunchtime. The second item on the agenda for today is, "Minister Statements." Are there any Minister Statements? I recognize the Honourable First Minister, Darryl Shiwak.

MR. SHIWAK:

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'll give the second part to the report from the Department of Lands and Natural Resources. Lands Division. One of the key files of this Division was to co-ordinate our involvement in the Land Use Planning process and review the Draft Land Use Plan. As you know, after June sitting of the Assembly we threw out the Bill to adopt the Land Use Plan from the Assembly agenda. Shortly after that we requested a judicial review of the Land Use Plan process in the Provincial Court. Madam Speaker, our new land manager is now getting up to

speed in all of our lands files. The lien process is moving much quicker and we are making decisions on applications in a reasonable period of time. Once approval has been granted the leases are printed and sent off for signatures. Since January 1st, 2013 the Lands Department has received 32 land use applications. The majority of the applications are for cabin use. What is remaining, you'll have a range of uses. The manager of lands made community visits in Makkovik and Postville in early October to meet with the conservation officers in the CLARC committees. Community visits will be made to Hopedale and Nain in November. The GIS Department has been busy collaborating with the lands manager; continue working through the backlog of Labrador Inuit land application registry files while adding new applications and schedules to the GIS. The GIS Department Communities to work with external partners on GIS-related projects of note is the Torngat Caribou Inuit Knowledge Study with Trent University and the Sustainable Community Initiative with Nunatsiavut Government and the Memorial University. Over the next month we will also begin issuing certificates of Inuit freehold title for those applications that were approved under the Traditional Tenure Process. Madam Speaker, I would like to update the Assembly on several key files of the Environment Division. We continue to work very closely with the Hopedale Inuit Community Government to move the contamination issue in Hopedale ahead. Although we are struggling in the fight for rights of Hopedale residents and have

seen delays from the province, my staff continues to work closely with AngajukKâk Piercy. In addition we are pushing the province to fully clean up the site. We have also done background work to figure out if you can conduct the human blood sampling study program that would help us better understand any potential health implications with real measurements. The Lower Churchill and Lake Melville file. Early in the summer we visited communities in Upper Lake Melville and Rigolet to provide an update on our Lake Melville research and monitoring program. Since we have completed one field program in Lake Melville we are currently conducting a second field program. We will continue to take critical measurements and conduct important baseline work to better fill gaps and knowledge and inform the Nunatsiavut Government's position in relation to Muskrat Falls. We just filed two judicial applications, one with the federal government and one with the provincial government. As an established Aboriginal government we demand meaningful consultation and accommodation. Thank you. Something which has not happened to date. We commit to continue to build and grow the program to protect the health and rights of Inuit downstream of the Muskrat Falls to aid in development. Madam Speaker, we are continuing to build Phase II of the Sustainable Communities Initiative which is called Putting Into Practice. During this phase we are working on landscape hazard mapping, community planning, water security, food security, energy security, and perhaps most importantly, housing.

We worked with Postville and Hopedale around landscape and hazard mapping and are working with them to create new sustainable community plans and update existing ones. Through the Housing Committee, including staff from Nunatsiavut Affairs, we are partnering with experts to conduct a housing risk assessment towards figure out the root causes of many of the housing problems identified in the housing needs assessment. We will be holding a housing design workshop with architects in communities to build culturally appropriate homes designed by Inuit for Inuit. Finally, the sustainable communities initiative has been nominated to subsequently shortlist it for the Arctic inspiration prize as President Leo had said yesterday in her speech. It's successful to plan, is to build and monitor Nunatsiavut's first sustainable multi-unit dwelling and establish a prototype for northern housing development that addresses changing northern client, infrastructure requirements, Inuit housing needs and preferences, and reduces the incidents of mould, overcrowding and the need for major repairs. Nain Community Freezer and Youth Outreach Program. We continue to take a proactive approach to implementing pilot programs to address food insecurity, youth mental health issues in our communities, and continue to run a youth harvester program in Nain called, "Going Off, Growing Strong," where we have seen tremendous improvements in mental health outcomes as well as food security. We look forward to fully presenting the framework and outcomes of

the program to the Assembly Members after Christmas. We have worked closely with the community of Hopedale including finding all funding since they had now started the same program here. In addition, we have partnered with the Department of Education, Economic Development as well as the Nain Fish Plant for an additional 10,000 pounds of char. This is being distributed to all the communities along the coast, and we've also partnered with the Department of Health and Social Development to provide healthy meals of char for day care programming and all the programs. Aboriginal Head Start and the Language Nest programs. We're actively supporting healthy communities while providing additional quota for fishermen and additional work or some fish plant workers. As a department we are committed to finding creative and integrated ways to support Labrador Inuit, their response to outcomes from programs like the Inuit Health Survey. The Quest proposed Transportation and Corridor Study. Madam Speaker, Quest Rare Minerals has released a pre-feasibility study publically. We are discussing harmonization of any potential environmental assessments with both federal and provincial governments so that any information gathering and decision making processes are conducted efficiently but, most importantly, effectively in a meaningful way for Labrador Inuit. Madam Speaker, I now update on the Voisey's Bay IBA. The Inuit Elders Tour took place on September 24th, with a total of eight elders from Lake Melville and Nain. There was supposed to be participants from the

other communities, but unfortunately the weather did not cooperate. There were also four representatives from Nain's women's group included in the tour. There were ongoing discussions around underground mining in regards to Human Resources needs, business opportunities and timelines. Engineering for underground has commenced. There are currently no updates on the Parks IBA since the face-to-face meeting, the CMV meeting in August. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize the Honourable Minister Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek, Madam Speaker. I don't have an update or a Minister Statement *per se*, and I know it's premature, but given that this is our final sitting before the Christmas Holiday and the New Year, as the Minister of the Department, I would just like to say thank you to all our public servants and all the Assembly Members for the hard work that we do in ensuring that our government is moving forward and addressing issues that are important to the well-being of our people. I would also like to say Merry Christmas to each of the Assembly Members, all of our civil servants and beneficiaries to the *Labrador Inuit Land Claim Agreement*, and I'd like to wish you all the best for 2014. Nakummek, UKâttek.

MS LANE: Thank you, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize the Honourable Patricia Kemuksigak.

MS KEMUKSIGAK: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I, too, would like to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Today I'm going to report on AnânauKatiget Tumingit, or AT. As of September 16th they have a new Executive Director, Joan Andersen, from Makkovik. AT has five community support workers that help women in the communities. They are working with Women in Resource Development and Inuit Pathways to try to adapt orientation to trades and technology to be better. The Status of Women Department. The DHSD and AT are working together to try to have a partnership agreement or an MOU. Madam Speaker, AT received funding from Status of Women Canada for a three-year project, 2012 to 2015, and the project is to support women and community partners to work together to develop and implement a community plan to promote women's economic security and prosperity in the local area. They now have their plan done. The focus is on Nain and Hopedale, and the co-ordinator is Joanna Tuglavina. She has two local committees that she meets with regularly. She interviewed over a hundred women in each community, so it's a very large survey, and this is what the women in Nain and Hopedale thought their priorities were. Housing. It's the major prices and severe overcrowding. Education, training and job readiness. They'd like to see ABE Level 1 and support for women in training. Seniors care and child care. Especially child care for zero to two and child care in the summer. Personal development, budgeting and engagement and craft and artist

business development. There will be more coming out on the needs assessment in the future. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize the Honourable Minister, Gary Mitchell.

MR. MITCHELL: Nakummek, Madam Speaker. I, too, would like to wish everybody a safe fall and a blessed and happy Christmas Season. I'm really looking forward to Advent. I love it when Advent kicks in and Christmas Season starts. My girls are, like, 17 and 22 now, but they look forward to Advent just like kids because the tradition of having their Christmas tree and the Moravian star, and a little gift at Advent is something to look forward to. Anyway, moving on with the update from Education Division, and this is the post-secondary education update for the 2013-2014 year. The year started with 205 students registering for post-secondary studies. Since the beginning of September some of those students have discontinued for various reasons, but seats are being refilled with late applicants who have their information in. At present we have 199 students currently registered. We are starting to see more students receive scholarships. We have been promoting scholarships in the schools and during counselling sessions with applicants. We're also working on a new link for scholarships to be added to our new website that is due to be up and running before Christmas. We continue to receive inquiries about the teacher education program for Labrador. Communications are ongoing and we plan to do

another series of visits to communities once the information is available. A meeting is planned for some time this month with partners to discuss schedules, start up and content. The PSSSP has been invited to be a part of a panel discussion at Mealy Mountain Collegiate in Happy Valley, Goose Bay in December during their annual career fair. The details for the event are few at the moment, but we are hoping to set up a booth and meet students and some parents during this time as well. Some programs at the college in Goose Bay were late starting due to staffing. We have been assured that the time lost from students will be made up and extra help will be available to students, if needed. The secretary/receptionist in the St. John's Office has left on maternity leave. Interviews are scheduled for this week to find a replacement. In continuing the efforts of going green, the PSSSP did not send out paper copies of the student handbooks this year. At the beginning of the academic year all students were provided with flash drives that held the student handbook forms and memos used in the education sector. This has been received quite well by students. We also provided magnets with all the deadline dates so students could place it on their fridges as a reminder of when documents are required. Both items can be used for the remainder of their studies of their programs of study. For the Inuit Pathways update for November, skills development training is well underway for the 2013-14 school year. For the most part students are doing well, but we have seen a few student

discontinue for various personal reasons over the past few weeks. The province's decision to discontinue the Aboriginal support person at the college of the North Atlantic and Goose Bay has meant there is less support for our students. I might add here that we do have another person in place because Bernice Tracy has left the Aboriginal support system as support position last spring with the layoffs, but we have Clara Ryan on our staff, is on the college staff, and we pay some of her wages. She was the Inuit Education Co-ordinator but now she's somewhere else or into Aboriginal support for the students there at the college. And I might add here that we have an Aboriginal student centre at the college of North Atlantic whereby students from Nunatsiavut or beneficiaries in Goose Bay. There's a room for them which are decorated with Labrador things around and Bobby McLean has been looking after the students in that room and look after the room. Kim and I've been over on a couple occasions to the Aboriginal Resource Centre and I had lunch with some seniors and did some music over there and just to drop in and just to chat with the people over that frequent the Aboriginal Resource Centre. Other college staff has stepped in to fill the gap, but more time will be needed to be implemented most effectively. It has left feeling somewhat of a discontent with our students in Goose Bay as this is where the majority of our students are. And, like I said, this person will help fill the role that Bernice Tracy left and to talk to students and help students and be supportive of the students that are

requiring any assistance. Due to discontinuation of some students, Inuit Pathways were able to recover some costs and therefore we are able to offer funding for all those who are on the funding wait list. Cost sharing arrangements were also put in place with LITP for five clients. This allowed more of the budget to be freed up for the wait list as well. The last time we met I reported that four graduates were taking part in work experience positions. Three of these have been now hired on with the employers for full-time employment. The fourth position is due to complete the program in a few weeks and it's looking hopeful that this employment will continue as well. ABE had a bit of a late start at learning centres in Nain and Hopedale, with Rigolet not being opened as the enrolment was too low. Academy Canada is offering these services with the high training costs, but as these costs were so high, the province has stepped in and is covering the cost difference to help us to allow to pay the same rates as we always have in the past. Since Rigolet isn't opened now we are filling all 15 seats in Nain and Hopedale. We are hoping that this will get us to get through our wait list faster and get our beneficiaries graduated and onto pre-employment training. Service Canada visited Inuit Pathways recently to complete the four quota monitor for 2012-2013 and a fresh quota for 2013-14. And have completed a mid-year dialogue process as mandatory for accountability. Staff are currently involved in national assets evaluations and will be participating in post 2015 engagement sessions for the planting

region in Halifax next week, and I might add that Deputy Minister Tim McNeill and I are travelling with the Inuit Pathways office staff to Halifax next week to take part in these talks with the funding agency there on the assets program. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Honourable Minister. Are there any other Minister Statements? Okay. So there's no other Minister Statements so we'll go on to item number three which is, "Member Statements". Are there any Member Statements? I'd like to recognize the Chair of NunaKâtiget, Max Winters.

MR. WINTERS: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'd also like to wish all you Assembly Members a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year. Last month I was chosen by the Chaplain Marathon Committee to be the Inuit elder for this great event. I was to meet the runners at the finish line and greet them to present them with their medals. I was deeply humbled and delighted to see the great turnout of runners from Makkovik and Nain. They put up a great try, and I think we should be all very proud of them. I hope that next year there will be more on to participate. I think that the posters and the information packages put out by the Department of Health and Social Development, Culture, Recreation Youth are sending out the two messages of healthy eating and exercise can be a great help to your health. Thank you very much.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Winters. I'd now like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Susan Nochasak.

MS NOCHASAK: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I don't have a update *per se*. I'd just like to take a few minutes, take advantage of the time that I have in the next couple Assemblies just to air the concerns that come to my office. Thank you, Madam Speaker. Once again I would like to take another opportunity to speak about the concerns I hear as an elected official. A few of my comments and concerns may have already been touched on yesterday, but I need to re-voice these concerns again. Though our region is making great strides, there are still a lot of overwhelming barriers and struggles for our constituents. Our communities, mostly Nain, Hopedale and Makkovik, Postville, Rigolet are struggling more so than Goose Bay, St. John's and so forth. Our beneficiaries are looking to all of us elected officials to make a difference in their lives. There are so many barriers in our region stopping a huge portion of our population from living comfortable, secure lives. Madam Speaker, we have a long-standing problem of housing, of overcrowding in at least two of our biggest communities, housing issues causing various effects on family members, effects so simple to some like attending or even completing basic education thus creating more issues down the road. The housing issue has so many branches of problems for our people. The cost of heating a home here is high and not everyone is able to do so causing mould problems,

damaging pipes, freeze-ups, and etcetera. We have the issue of couch surfing family members or friends to keep them from being homeless thus adding more stress on the household with food, cleaning, etcetera of an overcrowded home. That can add to family violence and individual self-medicating with alcohol and drugs. Madam Speaker, what I'm getting at is that the housing issue is a huge umbrella with pockets of rippling effects. I understand that we have a report or study coming out and money going towards that study. This is great, but we need to work faster. We have a high cost of food of living. We have mental health problems. We have suicide. Nunatsiavut has a huge need for employment and training and an even bigger need for basic education. We have limited jobs in the communities and most are attached to NG or health or the school board or the service industries. Our Inuit Community Governments at times make work projects in our communities, but that can even be challenging to receive. Madam Speaker, the cost of living with food, housing, fuel is a great burden for those on reduced incomes. The number of income support for my community alone in 2012 was a hundred and thirty-six cases. We have limited opportunities for our residents. If you had a good permanent job, great. If not, well, Madam Speaker, my statement is about our beneficiaries to get ahead, for our government to work faster and harder for our people. Our Executive Council is like a parent, and the beneficiaries are like its children. We need to see more support.

We need to hire on additional people with specific tasks and jobs to get things started to transition into our region, to set up projects like they do up north. They use their interest off their pots of money to give back to the communities. Maybe we can hire on someone to do research. Send someone up there to job shadow or even shadow their ways of doing things as on some of their operations to see if they would work for us. They'd subsidize their hunters. They seemed to make things work for them, Madam Speaker. Let's make something work here. Nakummek.

MS LANE: Thank you, Ms Nochasak. Are there any more Member Statements? I recognize the AngajukKâk for Postville, Diane Gear.

MS GEAR: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I don't have a statement, but I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank, you, Ms Gear. I recognize the AngajukKâk for Nain, Tony Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'd just like to say a great big thank you to Nunatsiavut Group of Companies for once again coming through with some wood for our seniors over the age of 65 and single mothers, whatnot. Was perhaps the biggest load of wood we have received yet and very much appreciated and it's good to see that it is a start. I heard very well the statement made by the Ordinary Member from Hopedale and I absolutely agree with her, that we had to find ways and, you know, this wood that the

Nunatsiavut Group of Companies brings in to some communities where there is wood, it might not seem like a lot, but, oh, my, in Nain it means so much. I always go around and help deliver that wood. And, you know, the expressions of gratitude for something so little. So I just want to, as well, say that I heard very much the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, her statements, and I certainly do agree with her that it we have to try to find a way to help our communities that are calling out for support. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Andersen. I recognize the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey.

MS WOLFREY: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I, too, would like to say Merry Christmas to everyone. I do have something to say to the PSSSP Program, I guess, or the, it's not the PSSSP, what's the other part of it? The work part of it where - anyway Rigolet had some carpenters, carpenters helpers and labourers and through one of the programs that the Department of Education runs they got some tools and equipment to help them do their job so that was something that was really good for people. And also too from the same program we've got people trained in things like fall arrest and confined spaces and things like that. So if other communities don't know that you can avail of these programs, you really can. Another thing that's happening in Rigolet that I'm really excited about is the kamik making. We're learning how to make boots.

There's four or five people in our community that are starting from scratch and getting seal skins and learning how to make seal skin boots, so I'm really proud of that. I, like, Tony, listened to Susan's statement and we're all in the same boat. I mean, the housing crisis in Rigolet might not be the same as it is in Nain or Hopedale, and to that extent, but we still do have lots of houses that need upgrading and are mouldy and things like that. And I, too, want to talk about a little bit about jobs for our community. And I'm looking in the paper and I'm looking at specifically one job that's stationed in Goose Bay. It's to work with the Nunatsiavut communities. Why can't that job be stationed in any of the communities? Like I keep wondering why do we have to say it's stationed in Goose Bay? Why can't it be stationed anywhere? You know, like, I find that a problem when I look and see we're supposed to be moving towards - part of the implementation was moving things from Goose Bay to Nunatsiavut, and when I look in the paper and I see a job that's stationed only for Goose Bay, that worries me. It should be at least stationed anywhere in Nunatsiavut or Goose Bay. So, I mean, I think that that's one way we can move forward with trying to help our people because not everybody wants to live in Goose Bay and work, and they should be able to work out of any of our communities doing almost any of our jobs with the technology that we've got today. So having said all that I'm going to say thank you and Merry Christmas again.

MS LANE: Thank you, Ms Wolfrey. Is there any more Member Statements? I would now like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Nain, Johannes Lampe.

MR. LAMPE: Nakummek, UKâttek. I myself also like to wish the Assembly a Merry Christmas. Christmas will always be a happy time for us but sometimes it's very depressing at times. We see our families being together being happy. Also one day get us a brand new child, they're happy with it and sometimes it is very difficult for our family members especially during Christmas. Sometimes we lose our people and we always have to think about the people that have left us and that's our Inuit way of life and I know who's hurting, especially in the community of Nain. From my constituents, I would like to thank and have a good Christmas. For the people of Nain, we know that we will always go through difficult times but we will get through it and it will be a good Happy New year for each and every one even though there may be some heavy and difficult times for us. And also I would like to thank the Assembly, as a Member for Nain we will know what will happen tomorrow but today I will represent my constituents to the best of my ability. Thank you.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Lampe. Are there any more Member Statements? Okay. If there's no more Member Statements we'll go down to item 14 on the agenda which is, "Return to Oral Questions". Are there any returns? I recognize the First Minister, Darryl Shiwak.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I have two returns to oral questions. First is a question made by AngajukKâk Wolfrey regarding whether there was any reference to emergency housing within the housing needs assessment. There were no questions or questions directly associated with emergency housing within the housing needs assessment. The only sort of associated questions were along homelessness and couch surfing, but there was nothing directly regarding emergency housing. And the other return is to AngajukKâk Piercy regarding the NG quota for shrimp and whether that would be enough to do a shrimp plant. I believe yesterday I said that it was 5 million metric tonnes. NG has a quota, but 2.7 million metric tonnes. 2.7 million pounds of shrimp for shrimp fishing area five. And then this year we received a special allocation of 600,000 pounds of shrimp for area four. And so at the moment we have an allocation with 3.3 million pounds. In discussion with Torngat Fisheries Producers Co-op approximately 5,000 tonnes or 11 million pounds of shrimp per year is to make a shrimp plant viable. The Torngat Co-op had a report prepared in 2002 and identified a need for about again 5,000 metric tonnes. This is consistent with the current quota requirement for cooking and peeling shrimp. In 2006 the NG had a feasibility study completed and this also confirmed the need for a supply of 11 million pounds of shrimp. We will hold further discussions internally on this and as a department we're always looking for

further allocation to increase the allocation of shrimp within the NG.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Minister Shiwak. Are there any other returns to oral questions? Okay. There is no other returns. So we'll go down to item number five which is, "Oral Questions." Are there any oral questions? Okay. Each member is allowed to make two questions per day and two supplementary. And I recognize the Ordinary Member for Postville, Glen Sheppard.

MR. SHEPPARD: Thank you, Madam Speaker. My question is to the First Minister who's responsible for, I guess, transportation and whatever. Sitting here and listening, Madam Speaker, to the concerns and the statements, there was a lot mentioned about the cost of living and how hard it can be for a beneficiary in Nunatsiavut. Madam Speaker, some time ago I asked the question to the First Minister via email about how could I have an explanation on exactly what does the Province, or how does the Province come up with their freight costs for the shipping freight on the north coast? Just an example, Madam Speaker, to ship wood out of Postville to Nain, if you do the math on how it's done, it will work out to roughly 350 or 375 per stick. Now we don't ship wood per stick. It's done by the cord. But if you do the math it works out to three something a stick. So if you're going to have a hundred sticks up from Postville or Nain, well, you're looking at over \$300 for the shipment of that wood. My question to the First Minister, Madam Speaker, would

be is there an explanation or can you provide an explanation on how exactly the Province come up with their, I guess, their system for the shipment of freight, especially wood on the north coast?

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Sheppard. First Minister, Darryl Shiwak.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Usually, I don't like to answer for the Province and/or for the CAI Nunatsiavut Marine, but in this case you did send me that email and we did inquire. I believe first off I think the system they have in place through CAI Nunatsiavut Marine is they get their requirements from the Province. There's two systems, one is a short haul freight rate, one is a, I think they call it a long haul, freight rate and there's different formulas applied to each one. As for shipping bulk or shipping such things as wood, there's a measurement that they do regarding the length and the width and the height, and they apply that to the shipment, and they put that against the - I think it's a weight and they don't do it by the stick. They calculate their shipment by their measurements. And, again, it's probably I can go back and refresh my memory, but it's probably a better question that we can bring up with the Province or you can bring up with the Province directly. We've brought our concerns with regards to shipping, especially the inconsistencies of how they calculate the shipping and currently it still happens. We still receive complaints that is very inconsistent how they apply the shipping rates to different communities or different things that are

being shipped and we still hear about it and we still bring those concerns forward. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Shiwak. Do you have a supplementary, Glen? No. Are there any more questions? I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque.

MR. JACQUE: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'm going to direct my question to the Minister of Finance. This was brought to my attention once again to bring the issue - ask about the banking services in our community. Not all seniors or everyone use plastic those days, and the, you know, the tax flow in the communities is very poor, and individuals want to know what the status or where do we stand at as in banking. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Jacque. First Minister, Darryl Shiwak, was the question to you? Oh, sorry, Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek, Madam Speaker, and thank you to the AngajukKâk for Makkovik for your question. I believe that this issue was explored many times and with the approach that was taken by Nunatsiavut Group of Companies in Nain with respect to operating on behalf of the Bank of Montreal and entering into a service agreement with BMO for banking services in Nain. It was recommended that each of the other communities consult with and look at working with Nunatsiavut Group of Companies to possibly expand that service to communities such as Makkovik. The Nunatsiavut Government, Madam Speaker, is not in the business of banking. There are

many issues relative to that and, I mean, you know, like any government we are not a financial institution and we don't profess to carry that over in this government. So I would encourage the AngajukKâk for Makkovik and any other community with concerns with banking to again go back to Nunatsiavut Group of Companies and explore that option with them and the possibility of NGC providing those services in the communities. As we've heard, Madam Speaker, many times in this House of Assembly especially recently with respect to the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies, one of the things that's expected with the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies is to provide for opportunities, for lack of a better word, Madam Speaker, based on the dollars that the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies brings into that organization through other initiatives, and the plan always was for a Nunatsiavut Group of Companies expected to give something back to the communities. So therefore, Madam Speaker, I would encourage again the AngajukKâk and the Community Governments to certainly consult with Nunatsiavut Group of Companies. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Minister Pottle. Is there any other? Oh, sorry. I would like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Nain, Tony Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Madam Speaker. My question is for the acting Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. Yesterday, Madam Speaker, the Minister announced that access or ability to harvest 24 moose from

Gros Morne National Park. My question to the Minister is this harvest in Newfoundland in response to his department's request for additional licence for Nunatsiavut harvest?

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Andersen. Darryl Shiwak.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Madam Speaker. No. The short answer's no. We are still requesting additional moose harvest within Nunatsiavut. This is something that came out in discussions with Parks and Parks Canada and with the provincial government and as a possibility because we knew that there were additional moose licences within Newfoundland. We explored that and we made an application and thankfully we received a fair response and we will have additional 24 moose. And again we have yet to determine how we're going to harvest that or allocate that, but it's, the answer to your question is no, it's above and beyond what we're trying for Nunatsiavut, and we haven't heard a response on those additional licences. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Minister Shiwak. I now would like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Susan Nochasak.

MS NOCHASAK: Thank you, Madam Speaker. My question this morning is for Minister of Health. I'd like to ask about the dental, more specifically, the braces for beneficiaries. As I understand Nunatsiavut Government don't cover braces anymore. But they would cover the transport to a braces appointment. I'd like to know

what the reason is for not covering braces, and if this practise could be looked into again. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Ms Nochasak. Patricia Kemuksigak.

MS KEMUKSIGAK: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I will, I'm not exactly sure as NIHB still covers braces, but it has to be pre-authorized by Health Canada's regional dentist, and it has to be medically necessary. So the number of people receiving braces has been quite reduced, but we do still cover braces if it's medically necessary. I could check and give you a written email on further information, but we do still cover braces if it's approved by Health Canada's dentist in Halifax.

MS LANE: Thank you, Ms Kemuksigak. Is there any other oral questions? I'd like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Postville, Glen Sheppard.

MR. SHEPPARD: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I guess my question is going to the Minister responsible for Lands and Natural Resources, and the question, Madam Speaker, is in relation to the potential for possible development related to uranium near the community of Postville, Makkovik. We have ongoing exploration there now, Madam Speaker, for the last number of years. My question, Madam Speaker, for the Minister would be would NG or the Department of Natural Resources in the future look at a possibility of doing some research in the Kaipokok Bay area in relation to this potential for uranium development. An example would be it's a

prime fishing area for beneficiaries in the spring of the year, throughout the year, I should say, but more so in the spring of the year. I've heard in the past, Madam Speaker, that, you know, the onus may be on the proponent, but I think as a self-government we have a responsibility as well to take care and look after our beneficiaries. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Glen Sheppard. First Minister, Darryl Shiwak.

MR. SHIWAK: Can I get clarification on whether the Ordinary Member is speaking about the exploration activity that's going on now, or if he's talking about after mine is registered and going through the correct environmental process?

MS LANE: Yes.

MR. SHEPPARD: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Yes, my question would be related to the possible potential for uranium development which would mean the mine, the actual mine. Thank you.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Sheppard. Darryl Shiwak.

MR. SHIWAK: As written out, there's nothing within the department set up to address side research, as I assume that's what you're talking about. Once the project is registered for a development, like that there's a, there is a process for our own environmental assessment that it has to go through, which would look at all of the factors with regards to research and looking at the impacts on wildlife, the environment, the Inuit and culture and so on. But I'm not quite

sure if I'm answering your question, but there is a set process for when the project is registered. And again I'm not quite sure if you're talking about before that happens, but once it happens, there's we have it laid out within the department how to deal with that. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Minister Shiwak. Did you have something to contribute? Okay. I'd now like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Susan Nochasak.

MS NOCHASAK: Thank you, Madam Speaker. My question is for the First Minister. At the beginning of Nunatsiavut Government there was a pot of money put away for a seniors centre. Is that pot of money still there for the seniors centre, and if it is, is it gathering interest and if so, how much is that pot of money to date? Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Ms Nochasak. First Minister, Darryl Shiwak.

MR. SHIWAK: The money for the seniors centre or however that, the senior's home or whatever that term, it's still there. We'll have to consult with the Department of Finance to see exactly in depth where that sits and if that's receiving interest before I answer you. I don't have that with me, but the money is still there, and we still intend to use that money for a senior centre once we determine how that will fit into our strategic plan for housing. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Shiwak. Did you have something, Richard? Okay. Are there any other oral questions? I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque.

MR. JACQUE: Thank you, Madam Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Health. At the last sitting I had an issue regarding the ICU unit and the privacy of patients in the Lake Melville Hospital. I was just wondering if you did a follow up and what the outcome was. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Jacque. Patricia Kemuksigak.

MS KEMUKSIGAK: Thank you, Madam Speaker. We had a conversation with the CEO and he said he was going to look into the incident and try to tighten up confidentiality in the ICU. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Ms Kemuksigak. Are there any other oral questions? I'm going to recognize the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Wayne Piercy.

MR. PIERCY: Nakummek, Madam Speaker. My question is directed to the First Minister regarding our shipping and the shipping rates that Glen raised earlier. At our last sitting I asked if we could look into our fuel rates and the comparison from Nunatsiavut to the island. Now I'd like to see if we can do another information gathering on our freight rates. There at the end of September I had a new motor come in and I paid \$49 to get my motor in from Lewisporte, so that would be considered long haul, and that same evening or the next evening, I should say, the Ranger came in and there was a - one

of my friends had a pallet of groceries come in and it was just maybe 10 to 15 pieces on the pallet, and from Goose Bay to here, I think they paid \$69. So if we could have another study done or some information checking on that then we can have evidence to go back and justify our cause for all the questions and concerns raised with our shipping rates within Nunatsiavut, either coming from Goose Bay or the island. Nakummek.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Piercy. First Minister, Darryl Shiwak.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I believe CAI uses, it's the same formula that they use for long haul from the island, say from Lewisporte to Nain and Lewisporte to anywhere on the coast, and it's the same formula they use, say, for long haul from Goose Bay to the north coast as well. They're supposed to be using the same rates. Again I have to bring up the issue of inconsistency that we continue to hear. And we are recording these incidents that we hear. We also encourage beneficiaries and people who experience these shipping rates to send that directly to CAI Nunatsiavut Marine because they need to hear it. It's good for us to hear it and bring it forward, but they need to hear it directly so that when we bring these issues forward that they know that we're not just complaining to complain. That these are issues that are being experienced by beneficiaries and people all along the coast. But we are looking into it. We do, after a shipping season we do follow up with the provincial government and with CAI to look at

these issues and say look, this is what we've done. You need to fix this for the upcoming year because that's our whole goal is for them to fix the shipping along the coast. Not just shipping rates, but the ferry service as well. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Minister Shiwak. Supplementary, Wayne.

MR. PIERCY: Nakummek. Maybe if we could get our CLO's and gather the information within each of our communities so we can have factual information for when you do go back to the province. Maybe that's something we could look at. Nakummek.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Piercy. First Minister, Darryl Shiwak.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Madam Speaker. The CLO's have a very specific function so we probably would not go there. They have a very specific job function. For transportation it is within the department, so we deal with those issues within the department, but I thank you for your suggestion anyways.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Shiwak. I now recognize the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey.

MS WOLFREY: Nakummek, Madam Speaker. My question is for the First Minister. It's again thinking about the statement from our Member for Hopedale, Susan, and what she was saying about the lack of jobs and things like that in our communities, I'm just wondering where the relocation plan is for all of the offices or the majority of the offices to be moved from Happy Valley, Goose Bay, or wherever

they are to bring them back to Nunatsiavut. I thought that was always in the mix, and I'm just wondering where that plan is and where it's going, and when these things are going to start to happen. Thank you.

MS LANE: Thank you, Ms Wolfrey. Darryl Shiwak, First Minister.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Madam Speaker, and it's a good question. We don't call it the relocation plan. I think that's when we first came into government. We're now calling it a transition plan. That's not making much of a difference, but it is moving. It has gone to the Deputy Minister level as a draft. From there it will be approved and presented to the NEC. And from the NEC, when the NEC approves it, or looks at it and says this is the direction we want to go, then obviously we'll have to come here for budgeting. But it is moving and we are trying to fast track it. So because we knew that it's not going to happen overnight, a transition into Nunatsiavut for all the government offices or the majority government offices will not happen overnight and it will have to be a long-term plan. But it is moving and we are trying to move it along as quickly as we can. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mr. Shiwak. Any other oral questions? Okay, right now I'd like to say we have some special visitors in our gallery. Mary Simon, Chair of the National Committee on Inuit Education and her assistant Peter Geikie. Sorry, if I don't say it right. And

Peter Langlois. Mine manager of Voisey's Bay and knowing that Vale is a major contributor to the ITK Inuit Education Strategy.

MR. ANDERSEN: Greetings here for Mary Simons.

[Applause]

MS LANE: Okay. Next on the agenda is, "Written Questions," are there any written questions? Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, Gary Mitchell.

MR. MITCHELL: I'd just like to mention, you mentioned Jodie Lane as well is up there as the Education Counsellor.

MS LANE: Welcome, Jodie. I didn't see you there. Okay. Next on the agenda is, "Return to Oral Questions," is there any returns? "Petitions"? "Responses to Petitions"? "Reports of Standing and Special Committees"? "Tabling of Documents"? "Notices of Motions"? "Notices of Motions for First Reading"? And item 14, "Motions"? Before we have the presentation from Mary Simon we'll take a 25-minute break.

(Recess)

MS LANE: Okay, we are back in Assembly and we are on item 14. At the last sitting the Assembly agreed to receive a presentation from Mary Simon on the National Inuit Education Strategy by Motion 5-2(9). We will now convene as a Committee of the Whole and on behalf of the Assembly I recognize Gary Mitchell who is going to introduce Mary Simon on National Committee on Inuit Education.

MR. MITCHELL: I'd like to welcome Mary Simon to our Assembly here this morning to present her report on the Inuit National Committee on Inuit Education. We've been looking forward to this report for some time and hopefully we're going to see more on this in the future to bring that to a level that we're happy with. Mary Simon is the Chairperson of the National Committee on Inuit Education with a mandate to implement a comprehensive national strategy and that improving Inuit educational standards and achievement. Ms Simon was born in Kangiqsualujjuaq Arctic Quebec formerly known as George River. She has advanced critical social economic and human rights for Canadian Inuit regionally, nationally and internationally. Over four decades she has held senior leadership positions including President of Makivik Corporation, the land claims organization for the Inuit and Nunavik. President of the Inuit Circumpolar Council. Canadian Ambassador for Circumpolar Affairs as well as to the Kingdom of Denmark. More recently she was President of Canada's National Inuit organization, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami. Nakummek.

MS LANE: Thank you Minister of Education and Economic Development. Mary Simon, you may proceed with your presentation.

MS SIMON: Nakummek, Minister.

PRESIDENT LEO: Sorry, can we do introductions because I'm not sure if everybody's familiar.

- MS LANE:** Okay. My name is Denise Lane. I'm the Ordinary Member for Makkovik and also the Deputy Speaker for the Nunatsiavut Assembly.
- MR. TUTTAUK:** Ed Tuttauk, Chair of Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation, Northwest River.
- MR. BARBOUR:** Good to see you again, Mary. My position's Ordinary Member for, one of two Ordinary Members for Nain.
- MS NOCHASAK:** Welcome back to Hopedale, Mary. I'm the Ordinary Member for Hopedale.
- MR. SHEPPARD:** Glen Sheppard, Ordinary Member for Postville.
- MR. MITCHELL:** Gary Mitchell, Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville and Minister of Education and Economic Development.
- MS KEMUKSIGAK:** Patricia Kemuksigak, Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville and Minister of Health and Social Development and Minister responsible for Status of Women.
- MR. LAMPE:** Good to see you Mary. I am the Ordinary Member for Nain and Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, thank you for coming.
- MR. SHIWAK:** Welcome, Mary. I'm the Ordinary Member for Rigolet and I'm the First Minister and Minister of Lands and Natural Resources.
- PRESIDENT LEO:** Welcome, Mary.
- MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek, Mary. Welcome, and it's good to say you again. I'm Danny Pottle, Minister of Finance, Human Resources and

information Technology and one of two Members for the Ordinary Member position for the Constituency of Canada.

MR. PIERCY: Wayne Piercy, AngajukKâk for Hopedale, and I'm pleased and honoured to welcome you to Hopedale.

MS GEAR: Diane Gear, AngajukKâk for Postville.

MR. JACQUE: Herb Jacque, AngajukKâk, Makkovik.

MS WOLFREY: Charlotte Wolfrey, AngajukKâk, Rigolet.

MR. ANDERSEN: It is very good to see you again, Mary, and welcome. Tony Andersen, AngajukKâk for Nain Inuit Community Government.

MR. WINTERS: Max Winters, I'm Chairperson for NunaKâtiget Inuit Community Corporation for Happy Valley, Goose Bay and Mud Lake. Welcome.

MS LANE: Yes, the interpreter/translators are Wilson Jararuse, Augusta Erving and Rita Andersen, and the OKâlaKatiget staff is Percy Ponniuk and Simone Kohlmeister. And also in the room we have special guest Jodie Lane and Peter Langlois and also Peter Geikie. Welcome. And also Mary Sillett. She's the Clerk of the Assembly, sorry.

MS SIMON: Nakummek. I will speak in the Inuktitut language. And I thank you very much, Minister, for the very kind introduction and President Leo, Members of the Executive Council, Members of the Assembly, and all my colleagues that I've worked with over the years, and my friends in Nunatsiavut, Nakummek ,it's good to be

back in Hopedale. I will be talking to you in regards to education and what I am working on and before I start I to make my presentation, I also want to recognize the people that are here with me. We have Peter Langlois who's from Vale, and he's the General Manager for the Labrador Operations, and we invited Vale to be with us because when we started the work that I'm doing now they were very supportive and instrumental in helping us get the fundraising going that we had to start because we raise money for all the work that we do and Vale was very much a part of that so I just wanted to recognize Peter. And also Peter Kikee who works at the Amauyaq National Education Centre. It's the centre that we set up in ITK for education to manage the work that we're doing. It's part of ITK. It's within the ITK offices, but it's a bit of a separate centre so that we can keep a focus on education, and Peter Kikee is the director of that. And, of course, everybody knows Jodie Lane. She's a member of our National Committee, and Tim McNeill, who is the Deputy Minister, is the two Members for Nunatsiavut, and it's been a real pleasure working with them. You know I've been with ITK in 2010 at that time President of ITK, so in 2011 the National Committee on Inuit Education released this document. I think you people have seen this. It's called First Canadians. Canadians for National Strategy on Inuit Education, and this document represents the combined work over three or four years now of Inuit across the four Inuit regions like Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, Nunavut and the Inuvialuit Region, and

along with other ITK and other national organizations like Pauktuutit and also ICC has been participating in some aspects of the work, ICC Canada. And we also have two levels of government. We also have the two territorial governments, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories and also the two provinces, Newfoundland and Labrador and the Province of Quebec. They're observers in our work. They're not official members of the Committee, but they do attend our meetings and they also can participate in the discussions, but when there are decisions being made about the committee, itself, the work that we're doing, it is made by the members of the committee. So this is a document that sets out a vision of where we want to close the gaps in Inuit education in order to improve the outcomes in our education of our children because right now the graduation rate is at least in - I'm not sure what the level is here, and I wanted to ask about that, like, the four Inuit, what the graduation rate is in Nunavik, Nunavut and Inuvialuit. If you average it out, only 25 percent of our kids graduate from high school. So we have to change that. It's way much too low. So right now what we're doing is that we're proceeding on the implementation of the recommendations that are in this strategy beginning with four areas that were highlighted by the leaders when I went back to meet with them and ask them out of the 10 recommendations which four would you really like to begin with? And these are the four that I'm going to be talking about today. The first one is mobilizing parents, engaging parents

in supporting their children to stay in school. We are not bad parents, but sometimes we don't always take the time to support our children to make sure they stay in school and they don't quit school. So engaging parents has been a big issue in the work leading up to the strategy. It was always a very big issue in our discussions. And the second one that we prioritized is we want to invest in quality early childhood education. Like we have a lot of early childhood education centres, but a lot of the educators are not - don't have the training that they require, especially the ones that are Inuit and speak *Inuttitut*. The third one is examining the feasibility of standardizing the Inuit writing system. As you know we all have three or four different writing systems, but we speak one language, different dialects, mind you, but we do speak one language, and when you look across the Arctic, the fact that we have a different writing system doesn't allow us to work together the way we should in education as one people, and it doesn't allow us to share the way we should on best practices and the way, you know, a high standard of education should be all across the Arctic. So we are doing a feasibility study on how we should approach the writing system for Inuit in the future. It's not going to affect anybody's future now, but it's something that we need to talk about and agree on, and it would be the people that would have to decide, not just a few leaders. It would have to be the people. The fourth area is we wanted to get more data on information on education. When we did the research for this strategy, we couldn't

find very much documentation about how education had developed in the Inuit communities, and it was hard to put the strategy together and put out the 10 recommendations, identify clearly where the gaps were. So we want to do more of that work through the National Centre for Inuit Education so that in the future we will have a better understanding of where we're going with our education in terms of where we're at and where we want to go with it. So we have been very deliberate about enlisting the support of non-governmental organizations, such as Vale, and foundations to help us fund and support the initiatives outlined in the strategy, especially these four recommendations. And in our first 18 months we have been successful in finding support to open up the Amaujaq National Centre for Inuit Education that is responsible for implementing this strategy working with the regions. We don't do it outside of the region. We work with the regions. We're there to support the regions. We're not trying to set up anything parallel to the education system that is offered within the four Inuit regions. We're there to help and support and to identify areas that you'd like to work on as well. Some of that support also comes from the four Inuit organizations including Nunatsiavut, like I said, from the corporations such as Vale Canada, who is a founding partner. They were the first ones that presented a sponsorship and a partnership with our work. So we're very glad and grateful for the support that they offered. So in other words the model for funding the National Strategy is based on building partnerships between

regional Inuit organizations, corporations and governments and foundations. And in our first 18 months we have succeeded in building a lot of those important partnerships. I'm going to have another Round Table session in Toronto with different CEO's in about a week, and we're bringing in our partners that are there now, and also we're bringing in new people that we're going to try and get a commitment to help us do our work in terms of funding and partnering. Like I said, Vale has been a very generous supporter, and I think this is an excellent example of a corporation having the vision and the commitment to contribute towards improving the socio-economic conditions of Inuit, not only in Labrador but throughout the Arctic because the funds that are given to us are not just designated to one region. We try and work through all the different regions and give equal opportunity for each of the four Inuit regions. So that's why I'm here this week in Nunatsiavut. It's to sit here and focus on an issue, I think, that has kept coming up in the consultations, not just around the strategy, but for years it has been a big issue for us. And, like I said, one of the things that kept coming up is the need to engage or re-engage parents in education. We really need to increase our efforts to get our children to school every day, all day, well-rested and ready to learn, and I just want to quote Nelson Mandela because he's so famous you always have to bring him up when he says anything about education. He said education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world. And I think that's very true. For

many decades education policies, I think, failed us as parents and failed our children. And I think now, thankfully, we are emerging from that long, dark period of our modern history, and I think we are making progress. I really do believe we are making progress. We are now transforming our curriculum, training more Inuit educators and offering bilingual education options in many of our schools. We are in the process of building 21st Century education systems within a context of Inuit culture and language. But here's the issue we simply have to pay more attention to. I said earlier in many Inuit communities, for reasons that are very complex, there's not one reason why this is happening. Seventy-five percent or more of our students are not completing high school, and I don't know. I saw some statistics in the legislative assembly or the parliament in Newfoundland yesterday and it said the graduation rate for Newfoundland and Labrador was something like 95 percent, but it didn't say anything about the Inuit of Labrador. So I didn't really know. So maybe if somebody knows the percentage of youth that graduate from high school, you could let me know, or we can find out after this meeting. One of the biggest reasons that we found that we have in terms of high dropout rates and low graduation rates is the poor attendance. Kids don't go to school. And here's some basic math to consider. If a student in primary school misses 40 days of school a year, by the time that child reaches high school they will have missed a combined total of two years of school. Like we figured that out when we were looking at

all the statistics. So for a grade nine student who has missed that many school days, it is really only a matter of time before they do drop out of school for different reasons because they're not attending school anyway a lot of the time. So we need to have our children in school every day, all day, well-fed and ready to learn. That sounds like a very simple thing to do, but it can be difficult. I mean, I have three children and I remember how difficult it was to keep at least one of my sons to stay in high school. It was an effort, and but he did get through, but it took a lot of commitment on the part of, as a parent to do that, and that saying, well-rested, well-fed and ready to learn is a difficult thing to do. Even if you're a good parent, it doesn't mean you're a bad parent if you're not doing all of those things every day. It's just a thing in life that happens. So since the beginning of this year, this is the last part of the campaign to kick off the parent engagement. I've been in Iqaluit in last winter, in Nunavik and Kuujjuarapik in the spring, and during the summer I went to the Northwest Territories to Inuvik, and we hosted radio and TV shows. Like, I was with, everybody probably knows Nellie Cournoyea and also the Minister of Education from NWT and we did radio talk shows and television interviews so that we'd get out to the parents as much as we can because it's hard to visit every family so you try and get out to as many people as you can. And the radio and the TV talk shows have captured a range of options, and I just want to give you a little sample of what I heard when I was going to those other regions. A lot of parents

said that schools have to work harder at being more welcoming to parents. There's a sense in a lot of the Inuit communities that the parents still feel isolated from the schools, and we need to change that so that there's better communication between the schools and the teachers and the parents in the community. Health care, in particular, mental health services, police, social services. Housing need to work closer together on strategies to keep children in school because the saying is, you know, it takes a community to raise a child. So it really requires the whole community working together to make sure that the kids are well looked after and are kept in school. So a lot of people talked about the need for these different agencies within the community to work closer together on children and youth issues, and on education. Also about the schools, schools need to shift from seeing children, their families and their communities as problems that need to be fixed toward an appreciation of their potential strengths and contributions. Rather than a problem, it should be a positive, and that shift has to take place. And parents can't just blame the school. They need to take responsibility for what is happening with their children at school and they must have an open mind when they go to the school to take up matters with the teachers or principals. So that communication issue between the school and the community is a huge issue. It was often talked about. And each region is a little bit different. It's not all the same, exactly, but it's a little bit different. So tomorrow I'm going to be doing some of this work

here, today, in Hopedale after I make the presentation, and also I'm going to Nain tomorrow. And after the campaign has, this is the last part of our campaign to kick off the launch of the Parental Mobilization Campaign. So and then after that we'll be coming back with myself and other people, and we're also preparing different things for the communities to work with. At the Amaujaq Centre we have been working with representatives from all the Inuit Regions, including Jodie Lane and Tim McNeill from your government to develop a mix of initiatives for Parent Mobilization Campaign, and depending on the success of our fund raising efforts, which is always a big question mark, the campaign will be expanded to include such things like parent tool kits. What that means is that we will collect and develop parent engagement programs and learning resources for Inuit, and then create tool kits for parents and schools. So we're collecting programs that exist that may not be culturally relevant to Inuit, but we can make them culturally appropriate, if they're successful programs. We're also promoting our successes. We will publish a series of profiles and successes of individuals and families whose children have succeeded in school, and we're also going to be doing a community-based parent engagement project, and I'm going to be personally leading that pilot project because if it works then we want to spread it to all the different communities in the regions, and it's an existing program that has worked in different situations and I found out about it through the Chief Justice in Nunavut because he

did it in the Yukon, in Whitehorse, as when he was a younger man and it's bringing parents together in the community. Parents that have, you know, done well in keeping their children in school, you know, for different reasons, and parents that have not been able to keep their children in school, and bringing those two groups together with a facilitator like myself and talking through things and getting issues out into the open has helped a lot of families, and that we'd like to try that in the four Inuit regions. And if it works we will train facilitators in the communities so that they're not leaving you, like there's always someone at the core of the program that'll bring people together so you're not just left up to your own wits to try and keep it going. So I was meeting with the Minister yesterday, I was in Newfoundland, and I met with the Minister of Education yesterday, and I was talking to him about all of this, and he seems very interested and supportive of what we're doing and he did say one thing to me which I said I would say during my presentation. He wanted me to say that he is going to be coming up. He was going to come with me, but they just opened the parliament session so he wasn't able to come, but he is definitely coming up. But he said if Nunatsiavut wanted one thing in education, just one thing, what would it be? So what I'm going to do is ask you not to respond to this right now, but I'm going to be writing a letter to the Minister with some ideas on what they can do to engage in our education work. So if you can give me some feedback on that, that would be really good. So nevertheless, you

know, it was the first time I had met him, and but he was quite aware of the work that we were doing. So he was supportive. I am going to say this in Inuktitut, you the Assembly members with the Nunatsiavut Government, I think you know how we were trying to work on this, like our ancestors because after that you can find out what things really worked before and what worked in the future and today we can only work together although we don't know how we can work at this. We have to look at what we did before and we can say that "oh this thing really worked before under education" and may be after 40 years we will be able how we did before because we don't know how long we're going to be on this earth so at the meantime we're just going to work on this. So I believe this is something, I've also been working hard at convincing the federal government that the measure of how Inuit prosper following the 2008 apology by the Prime Minister on residential schools back in 2008, unfortunately, Labrador was left out of that, is really how much we can improve our education outcomes for this generation. Like, it's really just words if you can't do something about it. And, unfortunately, we haven't been as successful as we'd like to be in engaging the federal government on Inuit education. They're very engaged in First Nations Education, but on Inuit education it has been a different matter. But we're continuing to work on them. How we should have a curriculum as Inuit in Canada, what we should use, as we are Inuit because we have moved ahead when we work together like the Nunatsiavut Government, Nunavut

Territorial Government, Land Claims Agreement, once we work together it was very important to move the Canadian Constitution in 1982. We as parents, mothers, fathers and leaders should try to move forward with what we never used before that is to try to make some improvement. And I'm going to say this in English because I think it's really important to say it in both languages because as parents and as community leaders and a society, we need to take ourselves where we have not yet been, and that is doing whatever it is necessary to close the gap in our education system. It's something that we envision, we have a vision for the education of our children and our education system and to graduate more of our children so that they can go to post-secondary education, or go to other training that they'd like to do, but you need to have a high school diploma in order to advance your education in this day and age. So those are my thoughts for today, and if you have any questions for me, I'd be happy to answer them. Nakummek and I thank you for being here and I'm going to be meeting you and other times you might be coming into Ottawa or wherever we meet I will be attending Nunatsiavut. Thank you.

MS LANE: Thank you, Mary. Is there any questions for Mary? Dan.

MR. POTTLE: Thank you, Mary, and I think its wonderful work that the committee is doing. I'm wondering if you could - I don't have a question *per se*, but I'm wondering if you could explain a little bit more, Mary, on mobilizing parents and what the response to date has been from

parents, and maybe talk a little bit about the standardization of *Inuttitut* and the challenges that may present, say, for somebody who's only used to writing and reading Syllabics by way of example in Nunavut. And maybe speak a little bit about - and it's good to see a collective approach to this, but I think based on - and I look at my own experience as a youth in reaching children who don't have support and children who are on their own, for lack of a better word. I mean, I look at my own experience when we were relocated from Rigolet to Goose Bay, and soon after that our family fell apart and, you know, the only thing that I hung onto was the conversation that I had with my atâta on my first day of school when he asked me what I wanted to do and told him, he said, well, in order to achieve that you have to stay in school. So I think, I mean, you know, I relied on my own resilience and my own values as a child that was instilled in me and I think that got me through, but there was so much more lacking in that and I'm wondering is there anything in the strategy in your approaches intended to reach the individual child? Nakummek.

MS SIMON:

Thank you very much, Minister. The first part of your question on mobilization or engaging parents, really what I have heard from parents and also youth because I've talked to high school students quite a bit, and I'll be doing that here as well, is that especially coming from the parents, the residential schools era, at least for normally people my age and maybe a bit younger, there's not

always a good feeling about education and there's a sense that maybe education isn't so important. Even though they say it's important, doesn't necessarily turn into practical aspects of how you keep your child in school. So that part still requires a lot of support and that's what I was saying, that pilot project that I'm trying to get started which would bring parents that for different reasons have kept their children in school and then those parents that have not been able to, that we discuss these issues together in the community and create role models in our communities of families that are engaged and are doing well and that and not to, there's a word in *Inuttitut*, nungak or putting people, like don't make another family feel inferior, but rather as your equal and not to think of the family that's doing well as being superior. You know that we're all equals within the community. And those discussions, I hope, will bring that in many ways because the Chief Justice of Nunavut was telling me that that's actually what happens when you get people working together, and he went through it in nine years and he liked it so much that he became a facilitator when he was still a young man, and he did it for nine years and he said it was very - he did it with First Nations, and I was just also talking to the Mi'kmaq in New Brunswick, or they were in Halifax, actually, and they've turned their statistics around in a lot of their communities and it's all about parental engagement. They said when the parents and the leaders started to work together in their community to keep their children in school, it has actually started to change

the statistics in the community, and now their graduation rates for high school are up around 70 percent or 75 percent. So it can change. Like it's not something that can't be changed, but it requires a commitment on the part of different people in the community. So these are things that really need to be worked out from the community level. Like I can't just come in and try and change things and it has never worked. As you know that as Inuit it has never worked for us. So I don't know if that sort of answers your first part. In terms of the writing system for Inuit, there's no intention of changing people's writing system, that the people that use their writing system now there is no intention of changing any of that. What we hope to do if we are successful in determining whether Inuit want a writing system that is common because it would really strengthen our culture and our language and our education system, if we did it. It has been done in other countries, like Greenland did it. And it's been done in the Farrel Islands. I went there to look at it as well when I was still in Denmark, and it's happened to the Maori people in New Zealand. And what they did was they created a common writing system and they introduced it through the early childhood education and through the education system, and through a few generations it changes. So the people that are using their system now it doesn't necessarily affect them, and that's what has been a big concern of our older people in the Inuit communities because I've been told don't touch my writing system, and but it shouldn't stop us from exploring, exploring the

opportunity. So it doesn't mean it'll be syllabics or lithography. We're not taking a position on it because you're right, when you have a writing system it's very dear to your heart, especially if you've had to learn it yourself. Like people didn't go to school to learn the writing system. A lot of old - like, I learned syllabics by teaching myself. So it's very hard to take. I mean, you can't take something like that away from anybody. So it's a task force, and we're just looking at how we could potentially make a recommendation to the people. And it won't change the dialects. It would not affect the dialects. Like in Greenland it's a proven fact now that when they standardized their writing system it didn't change the eastern dialect from the western dialect of Greenlandic. So it can be done using the same writing system. But syllabics and orthography are so different, like, they're so different 'cause even if, like, I can read your stuff because I read English. It's that simple. And I can read Inuvialuit because they use orthography as well. So that's where we're at. So nobody should feel challenged by the work that we're doing because a lot of people are questioning it, why we're doing it, but it's really an exploratory phase of what - because we couldn't leave it out because language is so important. It's such an important part of our culture and our identity. We couldn't just leave it out. And we couldn't just say we're going to accept all the writing systems because it's not going to bring us together either. So in terms of the children that are on their own, that's a really important one, and that's why I said that

the strategy recommends also that in that it takes a community to raise a child, and that's at the core of it is the children that don't have parents or in foster homes or, you know, that are having difficulty in their home environment, they need help from the community. And this inter-agency work that we want to see happen more and more would include education, would include social services, would include the just policing, would include different aspects of how communities do well or do not do well in their communities. And we need to tackle those issues because when we were developing this strategy it was an interesting discussion we had about what we could put in it. And we pretty much had to take a fairly narrow focus and keep it focused on academic achievement because if we started looking at why kids weren't attending school, you started to look at social services, you started to look at the justice system, you started to look at housing, and all these aspects affect a child's ability to stay in school. But we couldn't put it all in here because it would have turned out to be so massive that we couldn't focus what I'm doing right now. And it would be like the Royal Commission on, Report on Aboriginal Peoples, which was about this thick. So it's really important but for us to focus on the need to have others play a role in education. That's a really important part of community is to work together because I know that, like, in Kuujjuaq, where I come from, if somebody works in education and somebody works in health, they say leave me alone. Do your job and I'll do mine. Well, that's not a

very good approach, especially when it comes to children. So we need to break away from that side, well, sort of working in these sort of whatever you call them. They call them silos, but I'm not sure what that means, but leave me alone kind of approach which isn't going to work in the end.

MS LANE: Johannes Lampe.

MR. LAMPE: Nakummek, Mary. What you are talking about, all of this stuff is very true and I'm thankful that someone has come here and listen to us and to help us Inuit under education because Danny said as a child how he had to learn by himself because there are many people my age or older that I know have tried to survive on their own and like to take work home, my father and mother didn't know what I was bringing home. My homework that I brought home was very hard for me and for other people. In the morning when I go back to school my teacher would ask me "why didn't you do your homework" and this was hard for me and up to today this is happening in Inuit communities because me and my wife are taking care of our grandchild and I see what she has to learn under education. My wife didn't like to go to school because of the way she was treated, she was hurt very badly. I want to say; while we are Inuit, our culture, our language was hurt before so we have to look into this as Inuit. Our way of life, our culture, our language would only start to work if we work together. And we think "why can't that person learn"? "Why is that young person not moving

forward”? Like you said, you shouldn’t think bad about these people, we should be helping them, wherever we are in our communities or even if you’re a doctor or a nurse or someone working for the town. It is very true that the community has to work together and I would like to say this “the little children have to go to school”. Just Nain for example because Nain is getting so big: The little children, 4 to 6 year old children have to walk to go to school and the school is very far and then back home again. Some of them have 1 hour walk to school and 1 hour back home, by the time they get home it’s time to go back to school because they live very far away from school. So we have to think about these children; so they wouldn’t be so tired while they are in school because they can do better in school if they are not tired. You can see that they are so tired because the school is so far away and you only have 1 hour for dinner. In 1949 the Inuit were not ready at the time when the Newfoundland Government started confederation, people were not ready, and being told you have to do this. I often think about this. How people in communities, wherever they are, they were apologized to; this should be worked on, the people before us, when we were relocated, it was hard thing, it goes right down to our children and I think you should think about this too. Nakummek.

MS SIMON:

I understand what you have said. That is very true. What I said is referring to what you have said. Your last comment that you

mentioned, I think ITK should look into this. If you can say it to the President would be nice.

MS LANE: Any more questions for Mary? Gary Mitchell.

MR. MITCHELL: I'd like to thank you, Mary, for coming here today talking about the strategy. It's been mentioned in the Assembly on a couple occasions in my reports, but just touched on it, or just named it, but it's good that you can come here and then give us some insight into the strategy and the priorities so that when we talk about it again people will have a better understanding of what it's all about and easier to move ahead. I really appreciate what Johannes was talking about a minute ago about the kids living far from school and having one hour for lunch. That's a good point to bring out, you know. It takes them away from their studies and concentration. The other thing is we are planning an education conference at some point, and I think this is good timing for you and your team to come here to give us this information session this morning, presentation, because now when we do have an education conference we can plan it around having this into the agenda, and you've mentioned a couple things about having parents that come in that kids are doing well and some parents where their kids are not doing well. When you do the invitations for this conference, you keep that in your mind that when you're bringing delegates, you're bringing a cross section of delegates, and try to find some common ground on some of these issues you were talking about.

So it's a good timing that you've come and when we're planning our conference I'm sure you or somebody will be on our agenda. Nakummek.

MS SIMON: Thank you very much, Minister. That's a very good point; I think it is to make sure the delegates are comprised of both groups kind of thing. Also I just wanted to acknowledge the strategy that you have on language. I was reading it. The one you passed last year or approved last year. The Asiujittailillugit uKausivut I forget exactly how, what you call it, but it's the strategy that, to bring back your language, *Inuttitut*, and to make sure it's used in the Legislative Assembly that, you know, that whole strategy that you have. I think it really fits right into what we're doing also through the work that we're doing. It's a really important piece of work that you did. It's really good.

MR. MITCHELL: The other thing I was going to mention is that you ask about graduation percentages. I'm not sure off hand, I don't have it front of me, but it shouldn't be difficult to get. We've only got five schools and it's, you know, a small area to get stats on. We might already have them in our office somewhere. So that won't be difficult to get the stats on graduation percentages and push, you know.

MS LANE: Thank you. I recognize the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Wayne Piercy.

MR. PIERCY: Thank you. For the last two and a half years Hopedale Inuit Community Government is in our office. We use that as our Community Hall because our hall burned down. We're getting a new building built now, but every day we're in contact with our recreation and CYN departments, and we're working with the school, and we've got about a hundred and twenty kids in our school. So each day there's a list done up. For the last two years we've been keeping a record. So if a kid does come in late taking their time like walking up the school and so on, right? There's a note taken. Unless the parent calls to the school, we're using that note as trying to keep the kids in school. So if a child was late because they were just taking their time walking to school, or just goofing around or whatever, and they'd never had permission of parents, like if their parent called in and said I slept in so my child will be late coming in. My child has a doctor's appointment or appointment at the clinic. So they were taken into consideration. So we were using that as a tool. We would say that because our Community Office is our Community Hall, right? So we're using that as a tool so in 2012 we had 69 children late for school with no valid reason. So what we started doing was telling the kids that if you were late for school for no valid reason you would not be allowed into recreation or CYN that following evening or any of the programs that we offer. So from 2012 to 2013 our numbers dropped to 39. So in the span of one year we helped that many kids stay in school. So our efforts even though we're taking some

slack from parents because we're saying that we're keeping the kids away from programs, but we're saying we're only keeping a child away for one day. So the routine that they had for skipping school, skipping school and it was a trend for a while, but since we intervened and we partnered with the school CYN and recreation, the statistics that we got, we dropped from 69 down to 39. So efforts that we're doing to keep our kids in school, we're doing pretty good. So hopefully now with the multi-purpose building it's going to make that much more difference. So, like with what you said, we're what we need to do now is motivate the parents to drop it down again from 39 on further because for the 39 that's still not coming to school that's 39 invalidated reasons not to show up at the school. So and, like I say, thank you again for coming to Hopedale and what presentation you put out for us. So I hope that, and when you talk to the principal, he'll let you know the same thing that the program that we got in place in helping. And we'll continue to keep doing that even for the like a handful of people that's saying it's negative and we're impacting the child's life, but all we're doing is keeping them away from one evening program, and then if they're not late again the next day for anything else, they're allowed back into the program. But all we're doing was just keeping them away from one evening program because our office closes at 4:30 and we're open to roughly at 10:00 in the night, right? So just for the sake of one day we dropped from 69 to 39 and the partnership that we had will continue as long as the

program seems to be working. So I hope a lot of people show up tonight so that what you have to say will re-enforce what we're trying to do and help out for those kids that we want to see get an education, move on and come back to our communities and do something to help with what we're trying to do. Thank you.

MS SIMON: Thank you very much. Yes, it's a tough one to do, I know, but it just illustrates how children do respond to discipline, and it can be tough. I mean, tough love is something that we all know about. So there will be times when you may not be the most popular group in town because you're doing things that in the end will help the child, but that's why these discussions are so important that there is an understanding amongst the community that this is why this is happening, and this is what we're doing about it. And it may seem drastic to some people that keeping a child away from activities is very drastic, but in the end you can see that the child understood that this was something they couldn't do if they wanted to participate. So there's a sense, and we all have children, and we know that children do respond to discipline, and I applaud you for doing that. I think it's something that - you've done the right thing.

MS LANE: I recognize the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Susan Nochasak.

MS NOCHASAK: Thank you. Mary, I had more of a comment than a question. First, I just wanted to say how happy I feel that this idea you and your team have started with has now come to fruition and started into a strategy. For so long Inuit and education, just, it was such a

struggle for the two to come together, and for some reason we, as Inuit, struggled with becoming educated, and I really hope that the strategy will change all of that and increase our numbers in regards of having Inuit educated. The strategy's not just about education, but Inuit becoming their own, Inuit becoming smarter, becoming independent and being able to become employed at the end of it. And, lastly, I just wanted to end by hoping that these new changes in our future that will not forget about those who have dropped out of school and who are too old to enter into the school, the schooling system now, that we don't forget about them and that maybe we can try and come up with strategies and trying to get them in the education system as well.

MS SIMON:

Thank you very much, Minister. Yes, becoming educated can mean different things. I think one of the struggles that we've had as Inuit is the fact that we were self-educated. Like our tradition is that we educated our children, not in the institutional academic sense, but our people were highly-educated individuals. Even in the, you know, in the old days I remember my grandmother who had never gone to school was unilingual Inuk, and she knew more stuff than anybody I know, and she was highly, highly educated in her own way, and we must not forget that either. And I think we need to incorporate that into our schools because when we did division for this strategy, that's exactly what we were talking about, is that the vision for our education system is to embrace ourselves

as a people with a distinct culture and identity and a language while taking this new way of educating our people, which is sort of the academic institutionalized way of learning, which is really the way things are going, especially with the new technology that our young people are using and so on. So I think the whole - when we were mapping out the work that we felt needed to be presented to the four regions, that was exactly the vision that we created was to bring and let us not forget who we are and where we come from and take that into the system that we are now engaged in and make sure that we incorporate everything in a way that gives equal value to both sides. So that's something that I really believe in. It's like trying to live in two worlds sometimes, and our young people have struggled with that. We have struggled with it. And it's learning to do that, and we have to give the young people the tools to do that, and it's all about employability and having a job and bringing an income to your family because we live in a cash economy like everybody else in the world, you know, it's just the way the world has turned out to be. And then for the people that have dropped out of school, we are thinking about that, and one of the things that we've thought about, we haven't really started getting into it yet as we want to develop some programs in the school for adults so that the adults, like, to learn to write and read, maybe. I mean some people don't read and write even today. Even not just in our society, but in every society, and it's to try and engage the parents to come to the school to do something for

themselves, which will get them to more familiarized with the schools and also the teachers. So literacy programs or numeracy programs that we could probably develop and have adult courses in the evening for parents that have dropped out of school, that have children that are in school or trying to stay in school, you know. So there are a lot of things that we can do, but it requires resources and, as you know, education is not a well-funded area in Inuit regions. It's much lower than even First Nations in the south. The First Nations are considered to be the lowest in southern Canada. Ours is even lower than that. So it's not a well-funded system at all, not for what we'd like to do. Like, the vision that we have for our education is not something that we can do with the existing resources that we have. Not the same way, anyway. It's on bits and pieces. Like, we struggle, I mean, we raised a fair amount of money last year and we're going to try and fund raise again this year, but we're even limited in what we can do, because, you know, you have to really plan out how much you're going to spend within a given trip, even a given trip. So, it doesn't just boil down to money, but a lot of it has to do with how much money you have available to do your work.

MS LANE: Thank you. I recognize the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey.

MS WOLFREY: Thank you. Thank you for your presentation, Mary. I was thinking. I think Gary kind of said what I was going to say about looking at

graduation rates. If we say graduation rates for Labrador Inuit we're even going to skew it for Nunatsiavut because there's a lot of Inuit that live in, you know, the bigger communities, and I think more people probably graduate from those communities. So if we kind of look at the five Inuit communities in Nunatsiavut to try and find out what the graduation rates are there, they'll be certainly different from, say, Labrador Inuit who graduate. It'll be lower, I think.

MS LANE: I recognize the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque.

MR. JACQUE: Thank you. I lost my train of thought and, but part of my question was answered, but I'm having another issue here. In regards to we just heard of the importance of keeping kids in school. But we lack. I mean, just, for example, like, in the past year or so our school lost its music teacher. I guess some of you heard Joan expressed the fact last week in the summit, but like the kids lose interest and, like, you know part of maybe the best part of their schooling could be music, which is educational, and I'd just like to make our education department aware of that as well. And like how would you approach this and, like, how could we bring it back? Thank you.

MS SIMON: I'm sorry, I'm hard of hearing so sometimes I don't always hear everything but, yes, well, I don't have an immediate answer to that, but music is one of the fundamental aspects of life that is enjoyable, and it's very important to teach music in school. We

didn't have music in school, but fortunately we had an accordion at home so we played the accordion all the time, but it's really important to have music. How do you bring it back? It's really about what we've been talking about today, like, working together and engaging people in the community. Maybe there's somebody in the community that plays music that could go to the school and teach music at the school. I mean, I don't know. It depends on the community. Like, we have a piano teacher in Kuujuaq now because she happens to play piano, and she agreed to teach kids to play piano. So it all depends on how you approach a teacher, whether it's a teacher within the school at all, you know, all during school hours, or it's a teacher that comes in from time to time to teach music. There can be different approaches to it, but it depends on, you know, the situation in your region. I don't have an immediate answer to your question. I'm sorry.

MS LANE: Minister of Finance and Information Technology, Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE: I don't have a question, but I always like to end on a positive note. I mean, so many times when we hear of issues affecting our communities, always from the negative. I think I heard you say, Mary, and some very positive things that the strategy is looking at and engaging those who succeed. I mean, and Gary will get you the statistics, I guess, and as skewed as they may be from some perspective, as Charlotte had mentioned, I mean, I think, you know, we start off very well with our students in school, but as they

move through the school system, by the time they reach the last year of high school, I mean, the retention rate is something that needs to be looked at. And one of the things that I would recommend is if it's not being considered or thought about is to engage those successful students with those who are at risk. Children, obviously, identify more with their peers so, I mean, you know, if we can use that resource and that tool to look at retaining and enhancing the graduate rate for students in secondary school. One of the things, I think, that Labrador Inuit, in particular, should be very proud of as well is our success rate with the number of students that we've graduated at the post-secondary level. Obviously something must have worked. I mean, we've been commended year after year after year by the federal government when they were providing and we were administering, you know, the program on their behalf, and now we're administering from our own perspective. I mean, just this year as Minister Mitchell had pointed out this morning in his update to the Assembly, I mean, you know, we had approximately 200 students who were engaged in post-secondary student studies this year and over the length of the 25 or 30 years that we have been implementing the Post-Secondary Student Support Program. I mean, I think the recent statistics that came out and I stand to be corrected on this, I think we had 800 plus graduates from the Post-Secondary Student Support Program across all streams. You know, at the undergraduate, graduate, PhD level. So I think some of those success

stories should be highlighted as well and shared with our people to encourage children to continue to stay in school, and if little old Danny Pottle or anybody else could do it, I'm sure any other student who are struggling and considering it and supported can achieve the same and more. Nakummek.

MS SIMON: Thank you very much and, Charlotte, I was going to respond to you and then I let it go, but yes, it would be good to find out, especially after what you've said is that, you know, how does it compare, even just in Nunatsiavut versus the rest of Newfoundland, you know? Like, it would be good to have those figures just so we know what we're working with. Like, we've been trying to get that from all the regions. But you are right, your success rate has been very good and we need to recognize that. We need to remember that and never forget that we do have success stories, and those success stories have to be role models as well and talked about in our communities because they do encourage children. I mean, whether the child is doing well or not, if you hear how well children have done, or young people have done by sheer determination sometimes, like you did, it does encourage a lot of kids to do what they thought they couldn't do. I mean, I can use myself as an example. I come from a little village, Kangiqsualujjuaq, where there was no school, and the *Indian Act* wasn't supposed to apply to Inuit, but they applied it to our family and after grade six we weren't allowed to go to school because we had a white father, and

my mother happened to marry him. If you weren't married, it was okay, but if you married somebody, it wasn't okay. So we had to be educated by my dad. My father educated us through correspondence courses. So it all depends on, you know, how you view your opportunity and lack of opportunity and try and make the most of what you can do and, you know, I thank my parents for where I am at today. But if I hadn't had that I probably would have had a grade six education. So it's really important to remember young people that have achieved, they have, you know, they have achieved against all odds when you think about it. The system wasn't very favourable to our students a lot of times, and there are a lot of young people that have achieved and we need to get them to be more visible, I think, in our communities.

MS LANE: Thank you. Honourable President Sarah Leo.

PRESIDENT LEO: Thank you. I'm just going to sort of, I think, wrap up now. Mary, I want to thank you very much for coming in and taking the time to give the presentation to the Assembly, as well as taking time to go into two of our communities. I think both communities are certainly looking forward to that, I know. From a Nain perspective, I'm really looking forward to you coming in and, more importantly, starting the work within the communities on especially the mobilizing parents. I think if we look at our graduation rates, our graduation rates are low, but our retention rates, Danny mentioned it a little bit, are even lower. If we were able to keep all the kids in school from

beginning to end, we would have an amazing graduation rate, I think, because our successes, we're building on our successes and I think our graduation rates are rising, but our retention rate still isn't. And I think the mobilizing parent portion of this whole strategy will make a big impact on Nunatsiavut, especially, from what I understand, Hopedale and Nain, particularly, and I'm really looking forward to that. Again thank you for coming in and addressing our Assembly. It was an honour to have you here and safe travels. Thank you.

[Applause]

MS LANE:

On behalf of the Assembly I'd like to thank Mary Simon on her presentation on the National Inuit Education Strategy. Okay, we are now back into the Assembly, and we are on item number 15, the "First Reading of Bills," there are no first reading of Bills. Item 16, the "Second Reading of Bills," there are no second reading of Bills. Item 17, "Assent to Bills," there are no assent to Bills. Item 18 is the, "Adjournment of the Assembly," and the next Assembly sitting is January 20th to the 24th, 2014.