

Thank you, Mr. Speaker,

**I would now like to highlight some key areas that we are working on
Mr. Speaker, in tourism:**

- The Division of Tourism is continuing to work on many projects within our tourism strategy, a few including finalizing the 2025 Nunatsiavut Visitor's Guide, drafting job descriptions for tourism staff for each of the Inuit Community Governments, and ongoing tourism development support to communities.
- We are working on offering Storytelling and Inuit Games workshops within our communities. Our hope is to also offer hospitality training for front line staff at the same time, to help community members who offer storytelling and Inuit Game demonstrations to visitors become more comfortable with the experience that they offer. The first Storytelling workshop is scheduled for April in Rigolet in partnership with the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador.

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- The Division has been working on a long-term plan for Hebron for a few years. Now that we have extra Human Resource capacity, we are finalizing the plan to bring to the NEC for approval.
 - The deadline for Request for Proposals for an Operator for the Torngat Mountains Base Camp / Research Station and Hebron National Historic Site has passed. Staff are reviewing proposals and working with other Departments that are involved on the file.
 - We are working with the IBA Coordinator, Parks Canada and Innu Nation on a design concept for structures at Beaver Brook within the Mealy Mountains National Park Reserve to help support community programming and tourism development.
 - Staff attended the Aqsarniit Trade Show and Conference. Due to weather a few of our staff and craft producers didn't make it. We had 11 of our 15 crafter producers attend, and all of our 4 performers attend. It was a success we are still waiting on the final total of sales. Staff attending the International Indigenous Tourism

Conference in Montreal last week. The conference provides a great opportunity to connect with other Indigenous tourism operators across Canada as well as Media.

I will now highlight some key areas that we are working on Mr. Speaker, in Language & Culture:

- The Second Language Summit will take place in Nain from May 6-9, 2025. Invitations have been sent out and planning is taking place. There will be approximately 50 people in attendance (not including staff), from Elders, Inuttitut activists, linguists, and youth.
- The annual Terminology Workshop happened last week in Nain from: Feb.25th -28th. The workshop was originally planned for Jan. 28-30th, but due to poor weather conditions it had to be postponed until February. The workshop had 15 expert Inuttitut speakers gathering to discuss and document terminology and the focus this year will be on Assembly Terminology. Once the

Terminology workshop is complete, staff will gather all terms and create a booklet. This will be helpful in translating Assembly terminology and will be helpful for the interpreters at the Assembly as well.

- The Aullâsimapvet Program preparations are taking place. We have launched the 2025 winter program and the deadline for applications was Jan. 25, 2025. There are 6 families chosen for the Winter Program. Training programs have also been organized for a Chainsaw Safety Course, Bear Guard Course and First Aid, which were held in Hopedale Feb. 12-14, 2025. The families are working with the Aullâsimapvet Coordinator – Brandon Lane, on their safety plans and routes to ensure a safe and successful program. The spring Aullâsimapvet program for 2025 is open for applications with the deadline to apply by Feb. 28th, 2025. The spring program will be for the months of April – June. The 2025

Aullâsimapvet Spring/Winter Program will depend entirely on the safety of travel and ice conditions.

- This week we are launching the Indigenous Languages

Component – Nunatsiavut Government (ILC NG) funding.

Historically, the ILC funds have been administered directly by the Department of Canadian Heritage to indigenous groups. This funding is for external organization to apply for up to \$150,000 annually for language and culture programming and it is now being distributed directly to the four Inuit Land Claims Regions for implementation. Applications will be accepted twice a year – March 31 and September 30.

- Funds have been approved for the Indigenous Languages

Component funding to include more staff under our division from 2025-2028. We will be working with HR to advertise the positions of additional Language Program Community workers in Makkovik, Rigolet and Postville; two language Nest Trainees (one

in Nain, one in Hopedale), and one Interpreter Translator Trainee (Nain).

- Staff are continuing to take lead from the Language Strategy. Year four activities are now occurring, these include the Ilin-nia-Ka-ti-gen-nik program, Tupik program, Elders socials, Language resources, sewing programs, flat making, etc

I will now highlight some key areas that we are working on Mr. Speaker, for the Nanilavut Initiative:

- There is currently a Request for Proposals for Artisans/Artists teams to design and create a Monument in memory of Labrador Inuit who died of Tuberculosis. The Monument will be permanently located in the Assembly Building in Hopedale. The deadline for RFP is Mar. 17th, 2025. The RFP also includes 4 smaller replicas of the Monument that will be for each of the other four Nunatsiavut communities.

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- There will be an Unveiling Event for the Monument in Hopedale tentatively scheduled for Oct. 2025.

Lastly Mr. Speaker, I will highlight some key areas that we are working on in Archaeology:

- NG Archaeology is still two vacant positions, which we hope to have filled within the coming months.
- The NG Archaeologist participated in the first round of training for the collections management software. This software will be the holding and inventory for all of Nunatsiavut heritage and archaeology collections currently within our possession with room to add items that are vested in the Nunatsiavut Government since the effective date.
- Repatriation requests are increasing, highlighting a potential need for dedicated staff for this important part of Inuit heritage management. The policy remains a priority to complete. The NG also has Inuit cultural material and artifact collections from archaeologists that are all currently being held externally. These

items are linked to the identity of our people and should be considered when we think about repatriation.

- Thank you, Mr. Speaker.