



**Nunatsiavut kavamanga
Nunatsiavut Government**

FIFTH ASSEMBLY

OF

NUNATSIAVUT

SPRING SESSION 9th Session 1st SITTING

**kAVAMALIGIJET
KAUJITITSIUTINGA
PARLIAMENTARY REPORT**

In Attendance:

Speaker and Ordinary Member for Canada, Honourable Bryan Winters

Deputy Speaker and Ordinary Member for Canada, Honourable Roland Saunders

President of Nunatsiavut, Honourable Johannes Lampe

First Minister and Ordinary Member for Rigolet Honourable Melva Williams

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

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

Minister of Language Cultural and Tourism, Ordinary Member for Nain David Dicker Jr

Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen

Ordinary Member for Postville, Mr. George Gear

Ordinary Member for Nain Roxanne Barbour

AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Mr. Barry Andersen

AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Mr. Chesley Sheppard

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

Director of Legal Services, Mr. Mark Gillette

Absent:

AngajukKâk for Postville, Ms. Diane Gear

AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Mrs .Marjorie Flowers

AngajukKâk for Nain, Mr. Julius Dicker

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

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

**The Nunatsiavut Assembly proceedings
were recorded in Inuktitut and English.
January 24, 2025
Assembly commenced at 11:55AM January 24, 2025**

MR. WINTERS: I would like to call to order the First Sitting of the 2025 Spring Session of the Fifth Nunatsiavut Assembly, and ask Melva Williams to say the opening prayer, whenever you're ready.

MS. WILLIAMS: [Recites prayer]

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Item Two is the, "Opening Address." I will now ask the President to provide his opening address. *Nakummek.*

PRESIDENT LAMPE: *Nakummek UKatti.* [Speaks in Inuktitut]

Mr. Speaker, I traveled to Ottawa this past November for an Inuit Crown Partnership Committee chaired by ITK President Natan Obed and Crown Indigenous Relations Minister, Gary Anandasangaree. Since the 2017 signing of the *Inuit Nunangat Declaration*, Inuit leadership and the Government of Canada have worked together through the ICPC to renew the Inuit Crown Relationship based on rights, respect and cooperation. During the meeting, we discussed a number of key issues including the progress being made on co-developing a Federal policy to support commitments in the *UN Declaration and Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* Action Plan. We also discussed Federal Support for creating an Inuit Nunangat University as well as ensuring Canada's new Arctic Foreign Policy reflects Inuit self-determination and positions Inuit as active

partners in international relations. We also raised the importance of developing a whole-of-government approach including transforming Nutrition North Canada into a more data-driven program. As well, Mr. Speaker, there was discussion on pursuing legislative and non-legislative measures to address racism in the health care system and developing Federal Indigenous health legislation. We discussed the importance of Federal departments applying an Inuit Nunangat lens to their work. And we reviewed ITK's Federal pre-budget submission to ensure high priority areas aligning with Government commitments. Leaders also celebrated progress towards a Federal acknowledgement and apology for the Government of Canada's role in a sled dog slaughter in Nunavik during the 1950's and 1960's. In light of Prime Minister Trudeau's resignation and the Federal elections on the horizon, Mr. Speaker, it is crucial that the next Government continues to prioritize and build upon these commitments. The Inuit Crown Partnership Committee's work must remain a central focus to ensure that the rights and needs of Inuit are upheld and advanced regardless of the political landscape.

[Speaks in Inuttitut]

Mr. Speaker, I joined Makivvik President Pita Aatami, and Federal Environment and Climate Change Minister Steven Guilbeault in Ottawa at the end of November to a memorandum of understanding to begin negotiations to create a new Inuit Protected Area, National Marine Conservation Area in Northern Labrador. This announcement follows the successful completion of a feasibility study announced in March of last

year. The proposed Inuit Protected Area, National Marine Conservation Area is located in the Labrador Sea adjacent to Tongait KakKasuangita National Park. If established, the area designated under the *Canada National Marine Conservation Areas Act*, will protect up to 17,000 square kilometers of the coastal and marine waters of Nunatsiavut, helping to ensure a healthy marine ecosystem that supports Inuit of Labrador and Nunavik in being prosperous now and for generations to come. The MOU highlights each party's commitment to advancing reconciliation and to implementing treaty rights and obligations through renewed nation-to-nation and government-to-government relationships. Inuit knowledge and scientific knowledge will continue to play a central role in the negotiations for the new Inuit Protected Area National Marine Conservation Area. The Nunatsiavut Government, Makivvik, and Parks Canada with support from Fisheries and Oceans Canada will now focus on refining the final boundary and co-management structure and continuing consultations with rightsholders, partners, stakeholders, industry and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. Speaking of MOU's, Mr. Speaker, I attended the signing of the memorandum of understanding last month between the Governments of Newfoundland and Labrador and Quebec at a new Churchill Falls Hydro Development Agreement. While this potential agreement could bring up to \$200 billion in badly needed revenue for the province, it is important to emphasize that safeguarding Labrador Inuit from the downstream impacts of hydro developments and addressing energy security for Inuit communities must

be priorities, just like with the Muskrat Falls project, we worry about the downstream health and environmental effects future hydro developments will have on our way of life. The risk of increased methylmercury contamination is serious, and could harm our traditional food sources, and the health of our people. We know methylmercury concentrations are biomagnifying and bioaccumulating through the ecosystem from the Muskrat Falls development. This must be accounted for in any considerations of future hydro development. Prior to the signing, I had a conversation with Premier Andrew Furey in which he committed to work in collaboratively with the Nunatsiavut Government to ensure Inuit rights and way of life are protected. We will hold him to that commitment, Mr. Speaker. It is important to note that as it stands now, these new developments will not provide energy to any of our communities. And yet we face energy insecurity to the point that we are unable to build housing or other critical infrastructure because Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro is not meeting our energy needs. We rely on high cost diesel generation to power our communities. We deserve a cleaner and more stable power source to support future growth and development. As well, Mr. Speaker, we fully expect the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador as well as Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro to only engage with legitimate Section 35 rightsholders when it comes to any future hydro developments out of Churchill River. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Mr. President. We're now on to Item Three, "Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery." I see that we have Isabella Pain and REXANNE CRAWFORD in the gallery currently. Beyond that I just, I wanna thank everyone for making it here. We were three days on weather hold after being weathered out three months ago. So I'm just glad that we can get back to work. It's great to see all of you. Saying, "See all of you," I do have to note that Minister Gerald ASIVAK, AngajukKâk Marjorie Flowers, AngajukKâk Joe Dicker, AngajukKâk Diane Gear and Chairperson Patricia Kemuksigak are all excused from this sitting. The pages for this sitting are Albert Tuglavina and Chad Nochasak. They'll be helping us today and tomorrow. And the interpreter translators are Katie Winters and Eva Obed. Chesley Evans is in the booth behind me as IT staff assisting this Assembly. As well, we would like to recognize the OKâlaKatiget Society staff, Silpa Suarak and Peter Dicker. If there are any questions around travel and logistics please see Assistant to the Clerk, Tabea Onalik. We'll now move on to Item Four, "Ministers Statements." Are there any Ministers Statements? Recognizing the First Minister whenever you're ready.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's good to be back in the Assembly. I missed the September sitting as I was away for medical myself at that time. So it's good to be back with everybody. I'll start my statement with Membership and Enrollment. As of January 15th, 2025 we have a total of 6,890 beneficiaries on the Register of Beneficiaries. As for the Membership Committees, this past year there have been a total of nine

new members that sit on the Membership Committees and Appeal Board. The Membership Committee for the Nain and North of Nain, new members on that committee are Simone Kohlmeister and Henry Lyall. In Hopedale, Shirley Broomfield. For the Makkovik and Postville Committee, Annie Evans, Kate Mitchell and Tyler Evans are members-, are new members, sorry. In relation to the Inuit Membership Appeal Board, we have Elizabeth Evans-Mitchell, Emma Rose Murphy and Trudy Flowers as new members. For past members on the Appeal Board Committee, William Andersen III, Patricia Dicker and Annie Evans finished up terms with us. We would like to thank them for their many years of dedication, their knowledge and commitment during their term on the Inuit Membership Appeal Board. As for the Makkovik and Postville Membership Committee, we'd like to thank Gail Flowers and Barbara Andersen as well for their dedication and commitment and hard work during their terms as members. The Registrar's Office would again like to stress that all beneficiaries to contact the Registrar's Office if you have changed your address or have any change in your contact information, as again, this can interfere with traveling for medical or any health benefits you may need. To all new parents who haven't applied for your child's beneficiary application, we recommend that you apply for your child as soon as possible to ensure that your child is covered as a beneficiary of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement*. Please note that your child can be covered under the beneficiary parent for up to two years. After they turn two, then it's the responsibility of the parent or guardian for

any health coverage. Beneficiaries reapplying when they reach the age of 19 years. It is important for you to reapply when you receive your notice from the Registrar's office to ensure no disruption of benefits. All those who must reapply and receive their application letter is given 120 days from the date of that letter, to reapply and they will also be given a reminder 60 days later before the removal date. If you have any issues when filling out the application please contact the Nain Admin Membership office, Sheila Angnatok, Registrar, or Pauline Angnatok, Membership Clerk, and they can assist you on completing the application, or you can go to your local NG office and speak to your Community Liaison Officer. Please remember that the membership process takes time so do not wait to apply for your children or those turning 19. NG is creating an Inuit Membership database as I've informed the House a number of times. The second phase of the database is now underway. Know History is undertaking this initiative. At the end of September, Know History conducted 2024 Family Line workshops in Nain as well as completing training on the database with the Nain Membership Committee. Know History will continue to work with the Nain and North of Nain Membership Committee to build historic family lines in a user-friendly searchable database. And after Nain and North of Nain is complete, then Know History will begin work in Rigolet. The goal of this work is to preserve the Membership Committee's knowledge for future generations. Archival documents and relevant quotes from knowledge holders will be included in the database and linked directly to the

relevant family lines. The final deliverables will be an online database of the family lines and a physical copy of key family lines. And also in relation to membership, Mr. Speaker, a membership workshop is scheduled for Nain for January 27th to January 31st. That is an annual event. Moving on to, "Housing," the 2024-2025 Affordable Warmth and Home Repair Program. Mr. Speaker, the 2024 Affordable Warmth and Home Repair Program was initially scheduled to be complete by December 31, 2024. It will now be complete by December 2025. Collier's Project Leaders has conducted visits to Rigolet, Makkovik, Hopedale and Nain, to validate the scopes of work for all approved applicants. Design for the program is now in the final stages and will be tendered in the coming weeks, construction starting in early summer of 2025.

Emergency furnace repairs under this program have been extracted to complete this work sooner, to ensure reliable heat sources are in place for applicants and will be completed by February 7th 2024 *[sic]*. (30:23)

Homeowners approved under this program will receive communication regarding the schedule by community in advance of the upcoming construction season. Critical Repair applications are still accepted for repairs. Please visit the NHC, the Nunatsiavut Housing Commission website or contact the NHC clerk in Nain, or your local NG office to get a Critical Repair application. Mr. Speaker, moving on to the Nunatsiavut Housing Commission, also known as NHC, the NHC is governed by and reports to a board of commissioners. The NEC, The Nunatsiavut Executive Council has recently appointed two new members to the

Board. Please join us in welcoming Margie Fox in Nain, and Melanie Gear of Postville as new Commissioners. There is currently one vacant seat on the Board. The Nunatsiavut Housing Commission is presently operating two of the three approved programs under the Nunatsiavut Housing Commission- the Emergency Housing Repair Program and the Affordable Rental Program. The Affordable Home Report Program remains with the Nunatsiavut Government, while we continue to build our organization. We will then aim to transition the program to the NHC as well as build and develop additional programs to best serve all Nunatsiavut community members. Presently we have our Director of Housing Brittany Elliott, who began in the role in June 2024, our Housing Inspector Todd Pottle. He works out of Rigolet-, Clerical Staff Amber Vincent in Nain and Cassie Vincent in Hopedale, as well as two maintenance staff, Damian Bolger who is out of Nain but is presently on administrative leave, and Jako Basto out of Hopedale. We have engaged Coastal Energy- , we, as the NHC has engaged Coastal Energy who traveled to the Land Claim Area for January 8th, 2025 to present to do furnace repairs. There's a two-option program to ensure all members have at least one source of heat, either a Furnace Repair Program or Heat Pump Program. And through that program there has been approximately 20 heat pumps installed in community members' homes, and some furnace repairs completed. The Affordable Rental Program remains operational as well. We have recently added a fourplex in Nain as well as a fourplex in Hopedale. And allocation for those units are now being finalized. There

are two Social Housing Units in Makkovik which will be commissioned on February 11th, 2025. These units will be allocated under the Rental Program. One unit must be allocated to woman and/or women and children. The Director of Housing has initiated routine meetings with the AngajukKât in efforts to establish community housing committees as per the *Housing Act*. Makkovik and Hopedale are working towards hosting their elections. Nain, Rigolet and Postville still need to start the process for the Community Housing Committee setup. Community Housing Committees are key to advising the NCH on Community Housing issues. Should be the second-, the next page. In October 2024, a strategic planning session was held. This document is currently under review by the commissioners and was approved and voted for adoption which will be sent for review to my office. The strategic plan will be used as a road map for NHC goals and visions. There is also engagement sessions scheduled for both the Housing and Infrastructure teams as well as a Housing Needs Assessment survey being worked upon and hopefully rolling out in the communities this coming spring. This piece of work is in partnership with the Provincial Government. Mr. Speaker, I will continue my report and pick up Infrastructure on Day Two. Thank you.

Nakummek.

MR. WINTERS:

We will now hear from the Minister of the Department of Health and Social Development whenever you're ready.

MS. BARBOUR:

Nakummek, Uhattik. I'll just be updating on the Family Services Division today, and the rest of the divisions tomorrow which are Social

Development, Mental Health and Health Services and Community Programs. Anyways, under the ICFI, NG beneficiaries may experience a delay in approval time for applications for services or supports under the ICFI. This is due to a backlog at Indigenous Services Canada. The NG can only administer the services and supports, as the funding is allocated to us. If beneficiaries have questions or concerns about the long wait times, please reach out directly to Indigenous Services Canada. They are working diligently in partnership with the Inuit regions and the ITK to get answers in a timely service of the ICFI. We understand this is an issue across the country, and we are lobbying together to get results. The contact information for Jordan's Principle and the ICFI First Nations and Inuit Health Branch Atlantic Region at Indigenous Services Canada. There's a toll-free number there for 1-833-652-0210. I have an email here and a fax number, and I'll provide it afterwards. Of notable mention, the DHSD are also in the last year of our five-year proposal to Indigenous Services Canada or ISC for the administration of the ICFI. This has an impact on all Inuit regions who are also in their last year of the ICFI. We are active in a co-development process with ISC and the Inuit regions to determine the long-term equivalent to Jordan's Principle. It is uncertain what ICFI will look like after March 31, 2025, until we can get a commitment from Canada. However, we are active in working toward a plan that is consistent with GATS, in services and supports and our unique determinants of health. The DHSD put in place a number of directives in May 2023. It appears that ISC are now at a place where they

are implementing a similar process across Canada. DHSD acknowledges the ICFI is meant to fill gaps and we know that there's a lot of analysis that has legal implications and is really slowing things down. Again, if beneficiaries are concerned or have questions regarding the status of their application, we urge them to reach out directly to Indigenous Services Canada for an update. The Indigenous Representative position is still vacant, and the Director of Family Services is currently acting in this role until the position is filled. Our all-new development for an apartment in Nain. The DHSD has recognized that accommodations are an issue in Nain for children in care who are placed outside of their communities. The Nain Hotel was closed for the Christmas season impacting cultural connection plans and access visits. The Family Services Division set up a unit for this purpose and it allowed some children to return to Nain to celebrate Christmas and Nalujuk Night. *Naku.*

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Are there other Ministers Statements? Recognizing the Minister of Education and Economic Development, when you're ready.

MR. EVANS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll just provide a short update on the Economic Development Division within Education and Economic Development. Tomorrow I'll do a brief update on the Education. Our department annual plan for the division focuses on business development, community development, policy, data collection, and offering supports. Under, "Business Development," since November, the Division has two businesses in cultural services and construction added to our Inuit Business Registry. Our registry is currently at 62 businesses. We have

received one package from Vale with our division submitting two Inuit Business nominations and one qualified Business Enterprise nomination. There are a total of 15 business clients, three in start-up, nine in growth, one in closure and two artists. Under, "Community Development," we have two funded programs. The CEDP, Community Economic Development Fund and FFA, the *Fiscal Financing Agreement*. These encourage community improvement initiatives, sustainable employment and local economic development projects. We have approved the following community investments: \$9,400 for the MICG Cemetery Expansion Project, \$81,000 for the Hopedale Inuit Community Government Cemetery Expansion Project-, \$27,000 was approved for the Rigolet Inuit Community Government Net Loft Restoration Project. Also, \$64,000 was approved for the Rigolet Inuit Community Government's Tourism Coordinator position, \$21,000 for the MICG Arena Assistant positions, \$150,000 for the Torngat Fish Producers Cooperative. This provides employment in Nain and provides \$13,000 pounds of char to the Community Freezer Program operated by the Environment Division. There's also \$50,000 that was approved for the RICG Grassroot Production Project. We are reviewing two FFA applications, floating dock replacements, and work on the boardwalk from the RICG. We have met with the Division of Tourism on January 16th, to explore a program to extend and expand the community development/tourism officer positions at the Inuit Community Governments. As we continue to draft this program, we'll provide updates. Under, "Policy and Data Collection,"

the Community Economic Profile Project in partnership with the Harris Centre is near completion. We anticipate releasing the profiles in early February through a social media and website campaign in January, we're hoping it's still. We attended a provincial workshop on rural and remote capacity as part of the overall NL Future's Project on Regional Development. And this was in St. John's on September 18th, 2024. Just for the Self-Employment Benefits Program, we have completed three clients in the program and one retail client approved for Employment Insurance-type benefits. And this is for six months to new business start-ups. This program has provided \$49,764 investment in business start-up support. And this program is still open for applications. And in terms of financial support, the Division offered two financial support programs from September to January. We supported five Inuit business to attend Expo Labrador 2024 in Goose Bay from September 10th to the 13th conference. This was a value of \$4,500. We are supporting three Inuit businesses to attend an Atlantic Indigenous Development initiative, AID procurement. It's a procurement event in Moncton New Brunswick from February 3rd to the 5th, 2025, and the value on this will be \$7,000. Also we continue to support procurement for our businesses and Federal contracts, and we have assisted in organizing this event in our bronze sponsor which-, with a value of \$3,000. Under, "Training," our Department launched our first Youth Box start-up program. This one's titled, "Tuttuk Natjuk." In July 2024 nineteen applications were received. Fifteen were approved. The reciprocate breakdown includes four in

Goose Bay, six in Makkovik, two in Nain and five in the Canadian Constituency. We have 84 percent female and 16 percent male participation with the ages of 15 to 29 dominant in applications. We had released, expressed enough interest for a second Youth Box Development in September. We didn't receive any interest. We will direct-source an artist to develop a second Youth Box for March. And just a short note on Small Business Week. To celebrate the impact local business have on job and our economy, small business events similar to other areas across Canada were held October 21st to the 25th in Nunatsiavut communities. The events include a social media contest, networking events and virtual panels. Engagement was high with community members, business owners and start-up. *Nakummek.*

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Considering the time, I'm looking for approval from the Assembly under Standing Order 29(3) that we extend past 35 minutes for Ministers Statements. All in favour? None opposed. It passes. When you're ready, the Director [*sic*] of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology.

MR. DICKER JR.:

Minister, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

What did I say?

MALE:

Director.

MR. WINTERS:

Minister, indeed. Apologies.

MR. DICKER JR.:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. I'll be reading Day One of my statement. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to stand here to deliver my first statement as

Treasurer of Nunatsiavut. It has been a busy couple of months learning about my department and its works. *Nakummek* to all the departmental officials for their briefings. As we all know, transportation costs have significantly increased. In fact, over the last 10 years transportation costs have escalated by 35 percent in total. This makes travel for our employees even more expensive. I am pleased to stand here today and announce that there will be a 35 percent increase in the travel benefit rate, effective April 1, 2025. Each employee in Nunatsiavut will receive \$1,210 as a travel benefit for themselves and each of their dependents. Employees located elsewhere in Labrador will receive \$605 for themselves and each of their departments. In response to a request from the Assembly, a review of the kilometric rate was also completed. There was no change for the rate at this time. Since the September sitting, Mr. Speaker, the Department has contracted Vision33 and Criterion, to upgrade the Financial and Human Resources Management systems. These upgrades will allow the Nunatsiavut Government to use electronic timekeeping and purchase orders. The projected timeframe for implementation is July 1 of 2025. Finally, Sharon Pevie is retiring after 41 years of service to the Nunatsiavut Government and its predecessor, the Labrador Inuit Association. Sharon has dedicated her career to the Labrador Inuit and the management of its financial resources. Words cannot appropriately express the gratitude that we have to her. Her last day is February 28th and Mr. Speaker I encourage everyone to reach out and thank her for all the years of her service. *Nakummek*.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Minister. I believe you have another Ministers statement to provide as well.

MR. DICKER JR.:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. I'll be providing the Language and Culture Ministers Statement. We have had some changes within the Department since our last Assembly sitting. Mark Andersen started his position on January 7th as Translation Filing Clerk. This is a term position for six months. Mark will be creating an electronic and paper filing system archiving all translated documents within the NG. This is a very important role, as no translations have been archived in the past. This will be extremely beneficial to the Nunatsiavut Government and to the translation staff. I would like to now 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 Visitors 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 frontline 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 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 the-, to the NEC for approval. The deadline for the 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 are working with other departments that are involved on this file. Staff involved in the base camp file participated in strategic planning meetings in the beginning of December. 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. We have five artists attending the Christmas Craft Fair in Torbay Newfoundland. Together we made \$15,975 in sales. We have five artists attend the, "Ripples: Making waves in Inuit Art," symposium in Montreal. Three of the five artists sold crafts, and together they made \$6,625 in sales, a total of \$19,028 of crafts were sold during the Online Nunatsiavut Christmas Craft Auction. For the second year we have partnered with Vale to have the craft sales in Voisey's Bay. This year there were two days of sales with \$28,229.50 worth of crafts sold. During the month of November and December, a total amount of \$69,857.50 worth of crafts have been sold. An expression of interest for artists to attend the Aqsarniut Trade Show and Conference was released and the deadline was January 16. I will now highlight some key areas that we are working on, Mr. Speaker in Language and Culture. The second Language Summit will take place in Nain from May 6th to 8th of 2025. Invitations have been sent out and planning is taking place. An RFP is being created for the facilitation of the summit and drafting of the 2027 to 2032 Language Strategy. A contract is being drafted for services through

Pirurvik in Iqaluit. This will be the second contract with Pirurvik within our department. This contract will be for one year to aid in training Inuttitut Immersion instructors through on-the-job training, creating Inuttitut immersion class material in supporting housing initiatives for Nunatsiavut students attending Inuttitut immersion programming in Iqaluit through Pirurvik Programming. We hope this contract will be finalized this month to begin in February. The terminology workshop is taking place in Nain from January 28th to the 30th. Ten to 15 expert Inuttitut speakers are gathering to discuss and document terminology. 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 Aulasimavet program preparations are taking place. We have launched the 2025 Winter Program. One family or group from each Nunatsiavut community will be selected. Training will be available to these families, and they can travel to their Aulasimavet one to six weeks. The 2025 winter programming will depend entirely on the ice conditions. The Nunatsiavut Kayak Book is close to completion. The manuscript was sent to Memorial University Press for review and now staff are working from the feedback given. Staff are planning for the book to be complete and sent to print this year. This book will be a collection of interviews from elders, stories from archives, kayak design, revival, et cetera, and will be shared with schools and available as a resource to anyone interested. This will be a very important book for the history of

Nunatsiavut kayaiet. Staff are continuing to take the lead from the Language Strategy. Year 4 activities are now occurring. These include IlinniaKatigennik program, Tupik program, Elders Socials, language resources, sewing programs, and flat-making, et cetera. I will now highlight some key areas that we are working on, Mr. Speaker for the Nanilavut Initiative. The Nunatsiavut Government Nanilavut Initiative is happy to report the Mitsuk Family was able to say a final farewell to their late aunt on October 19, 2025 [sic], who passed away in 1954 due to tuberculosis and is buried in North West River. There is a headstone placed in North West River Cemetery with the two Nanilavut plaques on top to honour Inuit who did not come home from Tuberculosis treatments. Two plaques will also be placed in the cemeteries of Cartwright, Happy Valley-Goose Bay, North West River, and St. Anthony as well, in the summer of 2025. There will be a request for proposals for artisans or artists, teams to design and create a monument in memory of Labrador Inuit who died of tuberculosis, which will be located in Hopedale. The deadline for RFP is February 15, 2025. The RFP also includes four smaller replicas of the monument that will be for each of the other four Nunatsiavut communities. There will be an unveiling event for the monument in Hopedale tentatively scheduled for October 2025. Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I will now highlight some key areas that we are working on in archaeology. Nunatsiavut Government Archaeology is still-, has two vacant positions which we hope to have filled within the coming months. The Nunatsiavut Government Archaeologist participated in the first round of training for

the Collections Management Software. This software will be the holding and inventory for all Nunatsiavut Heritage and Archaeology collections currently within our possession, with room to add items and 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 Nunatsiavut Government also has Inuit cultural material and artifact collections from archaeologists that are all currently being held externally. These items are linked to identity from our people and should be considered when we think about repatriation. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. The next Minister we will hear from is from the Department of Lands and Natural Resources. When you're ready, sir.

MR. VINCENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to table my quarterly report to the Assembly as Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. I'll provide a short update on several files in the department since my last report. "Renewable Resources." Since the last Assembly meeting, Renewable Resource Division has been engaged in the following files and endeavours: "Fisheries." Mr. Speaker, the 2024 commercial fishing season is now complete. Any leftover shrimp will be transferred and sold offshore as per policy. Our commercial cod fishery landed almost all of our 599.4-tonne cod quota inshore. The 2025 commercial fishery applications are now available at the NG offices. They are required to be filled out and returned by February 28th. This is standard under policy guidance.

"Wildlife." Mr. Speaker, the moose hunting season was opened on September 16th and will continue until March 21st. As Minister, I restrict the harvest to North of Zoar and south of Michael's River. The Kaipokok Moose Management Area is showing extremely low abundance. To date, four licenses have been filled, all in Nain. Mr. Speaker, from July 7th to 11th, the George River Caribou Herd survey was completed. The population is now estimated to be 8,600 animals with a seven percent growth in the adult population. Furthermore, the fall classification is now also complete with a current calf recruitment of 38 percent. While these demographics are positive, illegal harvesting is still impacting overall growth of the herd. Mr. Speaker, National Polar Bear Technical Committee is scheduled to meet in Nain in February. This will be the first time the PBTC has met in Nunatsiavut. Logistical details are being worked out by our Wildlife Manager who is also the co-chair of the PBTC. I am pleased to announce that the Caribou Distribution Project has a budget once again this year. Currently my staff are in talks with KAF on numbers and pricing. We hope to have this distribution from March onward. "Lands Division."

Mr. Speaker, 64 land-use applications were submitted in 2024. Thirty-one applications are for miner shore lights, related to shipping, 26 existing and 5 new. While the remainder are for cabins, mineral exploration, quarries, research and cruise ship visits. Mr. Speaker, a new application register app is currently being implemented to replace the existing Application Register Access Database. The purpose of the application register is to store information from land-use applications. Mr. Speaker, to date, we have

been unsuccessful in filling the vacant GIS specialist position, but we will re-advertise the job competition in the next few months. Lastly, Mr. Speaker, we are pleased that the Assembly passed legislation authorizing two new quarries in Nain for the Nain Inuit Community Government. "Impact Benefits Agreements." Mr. Speaker, the Voisey's Bay Mine Expansion is complete, and Vale is now into both surface and underground operations. Most contractors at site have completed their demobilization of workforce, with the exception of a few contractors that require additional workforce as per Vale's needs. Mr. Speaker, Vale has initiated a new reporting structure across base metal separations, including Newfoundland and Labrador. IBA coordinators, along with leadership, is working with Vale to ensure that this will not negatively impact the commitments set out in the Impact Benefits Agreement. Mr. Speaker, the Torngat Mountains Co-Management Board had a virtual meeting on December 12th. Discussions included updates from the CMB and Parks Canada as well as continued discussion on caribou. The next meeting will be an in-person meeting in Kujjuaq , in February. Mr. Speaker, the Mealy Mountain National Park Reserve Co-Management Board have not met this past quarter due to availability. The next meeting is virtual and scheduled for January 21st. Parks Canada is hiring a community liaison in Rigolet as part of the *Parks Impact and Benefits Agreement*. The job ad is now closed and the IBA coordinator is working with MMNPR Visitor Experience manager on hiring for this position. As of January 17th, Theresa Baikie has retired. We would like to thank Theresa for her service over the years and

the valued work in ensuring value and Parks Canada adhere to commitments set out in the *Impact Benefits Agreement* and *Parks Impact Benefits Agreement*. Moving forward, Trent Pottle will be the sole Impact Benefits Agreement Coordinator. "Non-renewable Resources." Since the last Assembly meeting, the Non-renewable Resource Division has been engaged in the following files pertaining to mineral exploration: Mr. Speaker, despite being approved for mineral exploration on LIL, Vale did not do any mineral exploration on Labrador Inuit lands this year. However, the Division has completed the final mineral exploration inspection on September 20th. The drill site from 2023 has been completely rehabbed. Mr. Speaker, Nunatsiavut beneficiary Ricky Edmunds has been approved to prospect his claims located on LIL in the Big Heads and West Turnaviks Area near Postville. Mr. Speaker, this fall, Aurora Energy has completed their Airborne Geophysical Survey over their claims. Also, Aurora has submitted a workplan to continue drilling at their Michelin property located on LIL. Aurora Energy anticipates they will have a winter program starting in February. The workplan is still under review. The Division has also completed a mineral exploration inspection on October 2nd. The inspection went well. Only a few minor infractions were identified. Mr. Speaker, Saga Metals has applied to the Province to drill their Double Mer property in LISA. They are proposing 40 drill holes totaling 6,000 litres. They have also acquired the old Silver Spruce camp to support their program. Mr. Speaker, Altius Resources Incorporated has been engaged in mineral exploration in

Labrador for most of its 28-year history. Over that time, they have forged many great relationships with the Nunatsiavut Government as well as the people from the communities where they work out of. This December, Altius and partner tech made donations amounting to \$7,500 to the five coastal Inuit communities. They also donated \$1,500 to the First Light - Friendship Centre in St. John's. Mr. Speaker, Non-Renewable and Lands Division." The DM of Lands and Natural Resources and I, attended the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum, Newfoundland and Labrador Branch annual conference, mineral resource review during the first week of November in St. John's, NL. We made a presence by attending technical talks, meetings, chatted with Provincial and Federal counterparts as well as company representatives and prospectors. Mr. Speaker, in November, the Division has completed inspections of the active quarries on Labrador Inuit lands leased to NICG, RICG and PICG. The inspections went well, and the reports have been shared with the ICG's. Mr. Speaker, the Geological Survey of Canada GEM-GeoNorth Program has completed their research for 2024. This year the GEM-GeoNorth researchers were based out of Makkovik. The summer's work included bedrock mapping and surficial geology. The Geological Survey of Canada also followed up on an anomaly detected by last year's airborne radiometric survey. The anomaly on Black Island in Kaipokok Bay was investigated and a new uranium occurrence was discovered. Also the airborne radiometric survey detected a thorium anomaly at Caravela Point near Rigolet. The source of the anomaly is unknown at this time. However,

this could potentially be an area of interest for future collaborative research. Both of these anomalies are located on Labrador Inuit Lands and are exempt mineral lands. Finally, Mr. Speaker the Division and Human Resources are still in the recruitment process for our Mining Analyst vacancy. "Environment Division." Mr. Speaker, the Environment Division with the support of the Nunatsiavut Government Climate Change Committee continues to make progress on the Nunatsiavut Climate Change Strategy. A draft strategy was presented to NEC in early December for review and approval, and a decision was made to create a tri-lateral climate change table with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Government of Canada to address ongoing and emergent issues. Final edits to the Nunatsiavut Climate Strategy are being received now with a goal of launching the strategy in March 2025. In December 2024, staff from Lands and Natural Resources attended the Arctic Change conference of ArcticNet. The conference was successful and research results of most of the Environment Division projects were presented and discussed. Additional funding opportunities were secured for existing research work and multiple meetings took place to develop and evaluate our ongoing part of the research projects. The Winter Research Program and the Environment Division are beginning to take place. They are research programs focused on sea ice, ocean dynamics, and a winter research program planned for the Torngat Mountains Base Camp and Research Station. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. We will now take a break. I would like everybody back at 10 to the hour. *Nakummek.*

[Recess]

MR. WINTERS:

...everyone. We are now on to Item Five, "Members Statements." Are there members statements at this time? Recognizing the Ordinary Member for Nain, Roxanne Barbour, whenever you're ready.

MS. BARBOUR:

Nakummek. I have a lot to say so, just tell me when I'm out of time. So Happy New Year, everybody, and to all those listening. A lot's been going on since we were last here in Nain. I'd like to thank the Nain Moravian Church for yet again pulling off a successful Christmas season and the Nain CARE for pulling off another successful Nalujuit Night event, closing our Christmas season. So the Nain CARE was created over 35 years ago, and CARE stands for Community Assistance Relief Efforts, and they provide supports for those who are experience hardships after losing a member of their family, house fire-, those types of things. I'd like to take the time to acknowledge Joan Dicker, Sophie Ford-Gillette and Nancy Winters and Sarah Webb and other committee members for all those years of dedication and to supporting Nainimiut through that. *Nakummek.* It worries me that they're aging and experiencing health issues. I've been working with the Nain CARE lately to try and increase their volunteer capacity and to somehow secure funding to provide ongoing supports to Nainimiut. I would also like to pay my respects and acknowledge the Jararuse family in Nain. As you may be aware Elizabeth Jararuse has been missing in Nain since December 30th. The local Ground Search and Rescue

Team has conducted extensive searches by foot, skidoo, chopper and underwater drones with no success in locating Elizabeth. In stating that, Elizabeth's family is having a memorial on the 29th and I'd like to thank the collaborative efforts of the Nain Ground Search and Rescue Team, the RCMP and the family of Elizabeth, and extend my sincere condolences. It's greatly appreciated and I'd just like to thank the community of Nain too for being very active and participating in trying to locate Elizabeth. I can't imagine what their family is going through. To end on a positive note, I guess, you know, I've stated before that I worked closely with the NICG and submitted a funding proposal for a wooding program in Nain. And last year it wasn't as successful because of the timing of the Settlement Trust. We-, they were only able to run the program, like, six, seven weeks out of, like, 17. But this year I worked closely with them again and we submitted basically the same proposal but to the T-Trust just because of timing. And I'm so proud to say that, that funding proposal was approved and the NICG now has two people hired to go wooding and deliver wood to Inuit homes, with priority given to elders and seniors. Again, this is something I'm the most proud of, and hope to continue to foster a working relationship with the NICG. I'd like to congratulate Ian Dicker for making the Volleyball Team NL, for the upcoming Canada Games. And then lastly, you know, the winter sports meet is coming up and we see our youth training in our communities-, always good to see. Sports meet always brings excitement to our communities and excitement to our youth. Good luck to all those who are trying out and especially good luck to the JHMS Huskies. *Naku.*

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Are there other Members Statements? Recognizing Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency, Mr. Roland Saunders.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen, Members and staff and guests. It's been a pleasure being here at the Assembly again since we missed November, and I've got two reports, one for today and one for tomorrow. The Speaker and I held a Constituency meeting in St. John's on November 9th. We had a good meeting and a good turnout with many a members in attendance. And as usual, the main topics were membership, NIHB benefits, housing and the high cost of living all across Canada and it affects everyone. They also asked about forming our own community freezer. They also asked that the Executive Council would over-rule any Membership Committee. And then we also asked if we can make changes to the *Constitution* without having to have the complete membership vote on this. Of course, we gave the best answers that we could at the time, and we said, "No, no, no, no," basically. Then on November 11th, the Speaker and myself and Sophie Angnatok, we carried the wreath to lay at the War Memorial in St. John's on behalf of the Nunatsiavut Government. It's my fifth time doing this and it's an honour to do that. Then I traveled the island portion as far as Deer Lake visiting members along the way, hearing their concerns, just making connections as I've done in the past and keeping them informed of what we're doing, what they could expect in the future and who they can contact, because I get a lot of questions from the members as to who they need to contact for dental, medical, prescriptions, transportation, whatnot. So I keep-, and

I did have a really good update from Gerald Asivak, Minister Asivak with regards to who to contact from Health. And that's stayed in true form. No one's quit. And also, they also asked about all the other similar concerns, the NIHB, cost of living, financial assistance from NG. And then Mr. Speaker there was a men's mental health conference held here in Hopedale. And we had several men from the Canadian Constituency attending. But we also had several men from the Canadian Constituency that helped organize the meeting-, one in particular that stood out, and everyone here knows him, was Tyler Edmunds. Then I wish each and every person well and with all good hope from the outcome of this conference. Thank you, Nunatsiavut for including the Canadian Constituency in this forum. It was much appreciated by all the members that did attend. Mr. Speaker, there are the King Charles Coordination medals to be handed out coming soon to all worthy Nunatsiavut Members which we be an excellent award for 14 members. Good luck to all nominated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Short and sweet.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Member. Now recognizing the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen.

MR. W. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't know about short and I don't know about sweet, but-, Mr. Speaker, I wanna bring greetings to everyone in the Assembly and to the coastal communities from the beneficiaries in the Upper Lake Melville area. 2024 has taken its toll on a lot of families. And we lost a lot of members in the Upper Lake Melville area in the calendar year of 2024-, probably more this year than any other year in a long time.

And also, I listened to the OkâlaKatiget Society, hearing of losses on the North Coast of Labrador as well. And it's been difficult. And I mean, as we speak, we look around and we see five of our sitting Members who are out for health reasons. So, I wanna wish them all the best as well. Mr. Speaker, one of the things that hit us really hard was the Canada Post strike. And while it hit all of Labrador, it hit probably the North Coast harder than any other place in Canada. And I know the number of beneficiaries from the North Coast who is in Goose Bay that I had the opportunity to help them by giving them a ride to take their goods down to the dock or to the airport and to help them out, that it was certainly an honour to do so. Mr. Speaker, I attended the Christmas party in North West River. My colleague Gerald attended in Goose Bay. And we attended a lot of functions over the Christmas holidays. I wanna thank Patricia Kemuksigak of the Community Corporation in Happy Valley-Goose Bay for the extra work that they do for the seniors in the Happy Valley and in Mud Lake and to the Assisted Living by going in there and giving them a lunch and playing bingo games. I also wanna thank my colleague from the Community Corporation from North West River, Mr. Jeff Montague. I've attended many functions with him and the workers from DHSD who also on a weekly basis has a dinner or luncheon for seniors followed by a bingo game. It's an honour to be there. Finally, Mr. Speaker, I will say this, that I see far too many of our seniors from the Upper Lake Melville area and from the Coast who need to be in long-term care, and we don't have enough accommodations. And we see them going to Mary's Harbour, going to Labrador City and out

of the Province. And I honestly and truly believe that this is something that all of us in this Assembly should look at. They were the ones who founded our communities and our time is coming as well. And to see them have to move away from the Upper Lake Melville area is difficult-, even for those who have to move from the Coast to the Upper Lake Melville area. At least family comes out there on a fairly regular basis where they can visit them and go there and have some words of comfort with them. So, Mr. Speaker, I think if there's one thing that we need to take a serious look at is to looking at our seniors and in the twilight of their careers, giving them a safe place and close to home where they can enjoy the last days of their lives because certainly, they certainly deserve it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Member. Recognizing Chairperson of the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation, Mr. Jeff Montague, whenever you're ready.

MR. MONTAGUE:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a few updates since our last sitting. In October, Sivunivut held it's AGM with a good turnout of members from our two communities. During the AGM, the draft 2023 Financial Statement and draft 2025 Budget were presented and ratified by unanimous vote, both of which have been made into completed documents and have since been forward to the Deputy Minister of Finance and approved by the NEC. In the month of September, Sivunivut received funding from the International Grenfell Association for a Winter Supports for Seniors Program that will help seniors in North West River with breaking down barriers that can prevent our seniors from participating in healthy lifestyle practices during winter months. Late last year, Sivunivut provided-,

started providing ice melt and in January we began hosting crafting afternoons and bingos every-other Tuesday afternoon. There will also be supports for snow clearing during the worst of snowstorms, for the most in need of such support. I would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the IGA for this grant. It will go over very well. Our Community Freezer is doing well with country foods such as partridge, rabbit, char, salmon and codfish, with many thanks to the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, moose harvested by the DLNR officers and staff have been supplied to the freezer for our members. I would also like to thank the Department of Lands and Natural Resources again, and also to Carla Pamak for coordinating the shipment and distribution of the char donated to the freezer. Weekly fitness classes with Leanne Andersen held at the community centre have been going well and in support of our instructor Sivunivut sponsored her CPR recertification. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Chairperson. Are there other Members Statements? Yes, recognizing Melva Williams from the community of Rigolet.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to offer condolences to the family of the late Marion Shiwak. Marion was the oldest resident in our community. She was in the home in Goose Bay, but she passed away quite recently. And anyone who knew Marion knew that she was quite a character, and definitely missed by family as well as many others. Mr. Speaker, in our community school we've had another blow, I guess you would say, is that the principal left our community. And as there doesn't seem to be one coming back, unfortunately, Kevin Jacque has to take over again, take over

to be interim principal. It's a challenge for our community to be having very few people in our school supporting our children. But we'd like to thank Mr. Jacque for taking over and providing what-, the administration for the school in Rigolet. I'd also like to address and speak to some concerns around the cost of living in our community. Normally we speak about it at NEC or wherever we talk about the challenges we hear here at Assembly. I think that I'd also like to speak to it again. There was-, and I'd like to provide just as an example-, and I mentioned it to some people today at lunch. There was a senior lady had gone to the local northern store and bought some things, very excited 'cause there was marmalade. Marmalade isn't readily available in our community for a number of years, so she bought a bottle of marmalade and she went home. And when she got home, she looked at her receipt. The cost of that bottle of marmalade was \$26.59. So needless to say, she did go back to the store and get her money back, but that's an example of the cost of living in Rigolet. So very challenging for our people, for sure. I'd like to echo the Chairperson's comments in relation to thanks passed along to Lands and Natural Resources for the moose and the char as well as the caribou. These are items that are very well sought out when they come to our community. So thank you, for that. I-, usually, when I do a Members statement which isn't very often, but I like to pass along thanks and appreciation to those organizations in our community that are doing such great work. Today I'd like to speak about the Kirkina House staff. It's a resource that's in our community for women who may need shelter in times of strife in their life.

So they're doing a wonderful job at that organization. And I'd also like to end off with thanking the RCMP during the Christmas holidays who were very present and active and supportive and involved in every Christmas event that recreation and others had. So thank you, to those guys. Thank you. *Nakummek.*

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Are there any other first Members statements? Yes, recognizing the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Mr. Barry Andersen, whenever you're ready.

MR. B. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise this afternoon first of all, to wish everybody a happy new year. I hope you had a very Merry Christmas, this past season. But I'd like to acknowledge the passing of Robert D. Andersen, better known in Makkovik as Coon. He was a member of our-, the first band we had in town, "The Bandits," which Gary Mitchell had formed back in the day. Coon was a great musician, whether anybody knew it or not. He could-, whatever you threw at him he would play, pretty much. And he was a fixture in our community when we were growing up without internet and Facebook and all that stuff. They created the entertainment in our community that we enjoyed as young people growing up. But also, I'd like to acknowledge the passing of Solomon Semigak, resident of Makkovik, or he was raised and grew up in Makkovik. But unfortunately, passed away in St. John's this fall. And also on another note, I'd like to thank A&K Variety, the little corner store in Makkovik, just a one-room store that has kept us going in Makkovik ever since June 3rd of 2024. Franks Variety had their produce shipped into Makkovik last fall on the boat, on the ferry. But

over the Christmas season had a very unfortunate incident with their freezers and we lost every bit-, or A&K lost every bit of their frozen product that they had shipped in. It all had to be buried at the local dumpsite. So I guess we're waiting out for Frank's to reopen, but I guess they will not have any fridge cargo available at this time, unless it's probably flown in. So, I'd just like to acknowledge Perry and Rachel who owns the store, going above and beyond, I think. My colleague, Minister Evans who would support me in saying that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Are there any other first Members statements around the Table at this time? Yes, Mr. David Dicker from-, sorry, Ordinary Member for Nain, when you're ready.

MR. DICKER JR.:

Nakummek, UKattik. In recent months, Mr. Speaker, I have assisted 43 Nunatsiavut beneficiaries of the Constituency of Nain, to complete the following: 2024 Emergency Housing Repair applications, and the following up with beneficiaries about repair applications, and advising applicants of inspections on their homes. In partnership with the Department of Health and Social Development, the Nunatsiavut Government and Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro, I have helped several constituents resolve outstanding balances or disconnection notices on their hydro bills. Eligible individuals received a one-time payment from the Department of Health and Social Development setting up beneficiaries for an equal payment plan with Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro. In partnership with the Nain Inuit Community Government and the Nunatsiavut Government, I have supported constituents in Nain through the Community Enhancement

Employment Program. My work has centered on helping them obtain the required employment hours to qualify for Employment Insurance Benefits. The Nunatsiavut Housing Commission Affordable Rental Housing applications and provided the required documentation; aided beneficiaries in completing birth certificate and medical care plan card applications for their children, including gathering supporting documents; collaborated with the Department of Health and Social Development to secure a one-time payment for their children's birth certificate. Mr. Speaker, we held our Nain Fall Constituency meeting in Nain, Nunatsiavut on November 5, 2024 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Nunatsiavut Government Administration Board Room. We had a great turnout with a total number of 17 constituents in attendance; worked with the Nunatsiavut Government, the Department of Health and Social Development to figure out the cost a beneficiary had to pay and get reimbursed for dental work outside the Land Claim Area; helping beneficiaries in completing their income tax returns with the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program who are unable to do their taxes on their own and receive their Notice of Assessment; assistance to beneficiaries on obtaining new bank cards from the Bank of Montreal and providing appropriate documentation; help constituents in filling out the Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Care Plan replacement and information update application for renewal of new MCP cards. Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, I want to highlight that I have supported beneficiaries by addressing their questions, guiding them to their

appropriate departments and doing everything within my power to assist and benefit the constituents of Nain. I remain committed to continuing my efforts to serve to the best of my ability as Ordinary Member for Nain. I'd like to take a moment to recognize the Jens Haven Memorial School boys' volleyball team who attended the regional tournament that took place in Happy Valley-Goose Bay from November 14th to the 17th. I'd like to acknowledge Ian Dicker from Nain, Nunatsiavut, a 17-year-old who recently won the Tom Longboat Regional Award for Newfoundland and Labrador. Established in 1951, this award honours Indigenous athletes in Canada for their exceptional contributions to sports, continuing to celebrate their achievements each year. As a part of the Aboriginal Sports Circle, the award highlights top male and top female athletes at both regional and national levels. Ian has traveled to Ottawa, Canada to receive his award with his mother Christine Dicker at the National Indigenous Awards Gala on November 23, where he also has a chance to win the National level. If selected as the National recipient, he could receive a cash prize up to \$1,500. Ian Dicker was selected for the 2025 Newfoundland and Labrador Canada Games in St. John's Newfoundland this summer. Lastly, Mr. Speaker, eight athletes and four coaches from the Jens Haven Memorial school traveled to Conception Bay South, from December 5 to December 7, 2024 to compete in the school sport Newfoundland and Labrador Boys 4A Volleyball Tournament. The 4A category typically includes schools with larger student populations or smaller schools that choose to compete at a higher level. The Jens Haven Memorial is classified

as a school applied to move up and made history as the first North Coast school to participate in the 4A Volleyball division. The tournament featured 13 teams.

MR. WINTERS: Ordinary Member, that's your time for your first statement.

MR. DICKER JR.: Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: Are there any more first statements around the Table at this time? Seeing none, are there any second statements? Recognizing the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen, when you're ready.

MR. W. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say a special thank you, to the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources and to the Executive Council who in the calendar year of 2024 gave us a caribou allotment for the first time we provided every household-, not every person, but every household with a meal of caribou meat. In previous years, we never got a big enough allotment to give our seniors, all of them, a meal. Mr. Speaker, I wanna thank Deputy Minister Jim Goudie for all his help. I wanna thank Deputy Minister Tim McNeil, Joseph Townley, and the staff at Hillcrest for the way-, for helping with the distribution. With over 2000 members, we delivered to our seniors and then we set up a drive-thru in the parking lot of the trade school and we would advertise that for instance on a Monday, ages 63 and 65 and so on. And again, to see the expression on the people's face for a meal of caribou was unbelievable. And I could say this, that since then, many of them have asked a question, "Are we gonna do the same

again next year?" And again, on behalf of the residents in the Upper Lake Melville area, we're hoping that can happen. But Minister (inaudible) 1:52:13 the Executive Council for that decision that you made. God Bless you from the people in the Upper Lake Melville area.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. Are there any other second statements? Yes, recognizing Ordinary Member for the community of Nain, Mr. David Dicker, when you're ready.

MR. DICKER JR.:

Nakummek, Uhattik. Continuing on with my Member's statement. The tournament featured 13 teams and Jens Haven Memorial played a total of seven games, achieving four wins and three losses. The team placed an impressive third overall and earned the title of the most sportsmanlike team as voted by other teams and coaches. Victories were secured against Holy Heart High School, Mount Pearl Senior High, Clarenville High School and O'Donel High School. The team consisted of Captain Ian Dicker, with players Gilbert Obed, Aiden Kalleo, Michael Earle, Terrance Flowers, Sam Webb, Denzel Dicker, and Parker Harris contributing to the effort. Susan Onalik served as a chaperon and the coaching team included John Martin Bennett, Peyton Dicker, Isaiah Lewis, Garnet Nochasak, Curtis Dicker, Tristan Denniston, and Matthew Mercer. Special thanks to the Nunatsiavut Ulipitsait Committee and all the families and friends, teachers and supporters who helped the Jens Haven Memorial School achieve their best. Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to extend warm wishes to all elected officials, Nunatsiavut Government staff and Nunatsiavut Government beneficiaries across the five Inuit communities, Upper Lake

Melville and Canadian Constituency. I hope you all had a very warm Christmas season with family and friends and all the best wishes for the prosperous new year. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. Are there any more second statements around the Table at this time? Seeing none, that moves us to Item Six, "Returns to Oral Questions." All of the returns to oral questions are in your binders and will be added to the September 2024 Hansard. Under Standing Order-, sorry, my standing orders have been thieved. Under Standing Order 32(12) under, "Returns to Oral Questions," the President or the Ministers may read a return which has been filed in accordance with Standing Order 32(10). Would any of the Ministers or the President like to read your returns? Seeing none, that moves us on to-, I've got a lot of pages to leaf through. One second. *Nakummek.* We are now on to Item Seven, "Oral Questions." Are there any oral questions at this time? Recognizing the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen, when you're ready.

MR. W. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Lands and Resources. And I know I asked you that the last sitting, that's concerning the salmon fishery in the Upper Lake Melville area. And Minister, the salmon fishing is about to open in six months-time, roughly. And the way the weather is going, that could be three months. So Minister can you give us any further update as to if your officials have started negotiations with the DFO on the salmon fishery for the Upper Lake Melville area?

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. Whenever you're ready, Minister.

MR. VINCENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And thank you, Ordinary Member for your question. Yes, negotiations have started, and I had the opportunity to speak to a couple of DFO officers last week while we were in Nain for meetings. And they are saying that this is one of their top priorities. So it is underway.

MR. WINTERS: Does the Member have a follow-up question? Shaking his head, no, that moves us to the Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency, Mr. Roland Saunders, when you're ready, sir.

MR. SAUNDERS: *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Honourable Member, Mr. Vincent. Can you assist the Members living in Mary's Harbour, Harbourview Manor? We have seven members living there-, with a couple of meals of caribou, moose or muskox? If you have any to spare can you send it down to that Harborview Manor, please? Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: Whenever you're ready to respond, Minister.

MR. VINCENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, Ordinary Member for your question. As you know, it is outside of the Settlement Area, but we will make every effort possible if there is anything that we have leftover once I guess our allotments go out to Nunatsiavut and Upper Lake Melville. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: Does the Ordinary Member have a follow-up question? No, he does not. Are there any other first questions around the table at this time? Yes, recognizing Jeff Montague from the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation, when you're ready.

MR. MONTAGUE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources. It's been some years since people in the Upper Lake Melville have been able to have a migratory spring bird hunt. I was wondering will there ever be any efforts to be able to resume the spring bird hunt? It is something that's been asked about quite often. Thank you.

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

MR. VINCENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, for your question. This one I will have to take under advisement.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, Minister. Does the Chairperson have a follow-up question? No, he does not.

MR. W. ANDERSEN: Point of order, Mr. Speaker. I do believe when, umm, previously, that the Minister, was directed to the First Minister? (audio cuts out). 2:00:23

MR. WINTERS: That's not a point of order. Are there any other questions around the Table at this time? Recognizing none-, sorry, Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen.

MR. W. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the First Minister. With the change in our climate and the lack of snow and lack of ice, many people on the North Coast and in the Upper Lake Melville area are asking the question, what about a road? Minister, there was a feasibility study that was carried out. Can you update us on the status as to where it is and what the next negotiations, when are they gonna take place?

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

MS. WILLIAMS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Ordinary Member Andersen for the question. This is a file that I follow quite regularly as you would know. The community of Rigolet, my community, my constituency, is interested in seeing a road. The pre-feasibility study report has been drafted by the Province. The Province hasn't released the pre-feasibility study. I have attempted to reach back to the Province to get an update to see where they are and with pre-feasibility and if they are gonna move on to a feasibility study. And we've also indicated-, I'm gonna answer all the questions that are coming out-, that we are willing to work with them in any way we can to ensure that this feasibility study proceeds. Thank you for the question.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Does the Ordinary Member have a follow-up question? Seeing no. At this time I will ask the Deputy Speaker to take over and I will ask a question.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Thank you, Mr. Winters. Do you have a question?

MR. WINTERS:

I do. Thank you. This question is for the First Minister, and it's not catching you off guard. We've spoken about it. The discount rate for beneficiaries to use with Provincial airlines can only be applied to the highest tier of tickets, meaning that a standard ticket purchase for anyone flying with the airline is actually cheaper than the discounted ticket option for beneficiaries. Can the First Minister commit to working with PAL and for a contemporary in the Newfoundland and Labrador Government to ensure that the beneficiary discount actually results in a discount for our beneficiaries?

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

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Deputy Speaker and thank you, Ordinary Member for your question. And I appreciate that you gave me the question in advance so that I could attempt to get the information for you today. I did reach out to see if I could get clear information. The information that's provided back to me is not clear to me, to be able to provide you a good, concise answer, so I will take the question under advisement. Thank you.

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

MR. WINTERS: I do not. *Nakummek.*

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: Are there any further oral questions around the Table at this time? Seeing none, that brings us to Item Eight, "Written Questions." Are there any written questions today? Recognizing two. Please send them to the clerk. The two written questions submitted are in order. So they will be provided to the Ministers they are asked of, and then a response will be expected. That moves us to Item Nine, "Returns to Written Questions." Under Standing Order 34(3) the President or Minister may read a return which has been filed in accordance with Standing Order 34(1). Everyone around the Table should know that the written questions and their answers are all included on your binder. At this time I'll ask the President and his Ministers if any of you would like to read your written questions. Seeing a lot of heads shaking. *Nakummek.* It is getting late. That moves us on to Item

10. Item 10 is, "Petitions." Are there any petitions today? Seeing none, we'll move on to Item 11, "Responses to Petitions." There are no responses to petitions today. We will move on to Item 12. Item 12 is, "Reports of Standing in Special Committees." There are no reports of standing in special committees today. That brings us to Item 13, "The Tabling of Documents." At this time I will call upon Minister Dicker, when you're ready, sir.

MR. DICKER JR.:

Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I give notice that on Friday, January-, this one here, Table-, that one-, this one here. Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to Table the following documents. *Tasiujatsoak Trust* Presentation 2023, *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust* (LILCIT) Presentation 2023 Financial Statements of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust* December 31, 2023, Department of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology Annual Report 2021-2022, Department of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology Annual Report 2022-2023, Department of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology 2023-2024. *Nakummek*.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Honourable Minister. The documents are tabled and numbered as follows: *Tasiujatsoak Trust* Presentation 2023 is Tabled Document 01-59. *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust* or LILCIT Presentation 2023 Tabled Document 02-59. Financial Statements of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust* December 31, 2023 Tabled Document 03-59. Department of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology Annual Report 2021 and 2022, Tabled Document

05-59. Department of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology Annual Report 2022-2023, Tabled Document 05-59. Department of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology Annual Report 2023-2024 is Tabled Document 06-59. At this time I would like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Canada, Mr. Roland Saunders.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table a brief report of a Special Committee on Voting Alternatives for the Canadian Constituency.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Mr. Saunders. The report of the Special Committee on Voting Alternatives for the Canadian Constituency will be numbered as Tabled Document 07-59. I would like to again recognize the Ordinary Member for Canada, Mr. Roland Saunders.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to table a brief report of the Member Services Committee.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Mr. Saunders. The report of the Member Services Committee will be numbered as Tabled Document 08-59. I will now call upon the Chairperson of the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation, Mr. Jeffrey Montague.

MR. MONTAGUE:

Mr. Speaker, I rise to table the report of an ad hoc Disciplinary Committee of the Nunatsiavut Assembly dated 16 October 2024.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Member. The document is tabled and numbered as Tabled Document 09-59. There are no more documents to be tabled today. So we'll move on to Item-, actually, no we won't. There are no more documents to be tabled today. As under Standing Order 5(1) the Assembly

is normally to adjourn at 5:00 p.m. All remaining materials will be dealt with on Day Two. *Nakummek*. We are adjourned.

Day two January 25, 2025

MR. WINTERS:

Ullâkut. I would like to call to order the Second Day of this First Sitting of the 2025 Spring Session of the Fifth Nunatsiavut Assembly. Before we get started, I want to acknowledge that there's a funeral happening, that a lot of the Members of the Assembly are interested in attending. It's happening today at 2:00 p.m. at the Moravian Church. We're going to get through everything that we can between now and then, and we might break a little bit late for lunch in order to accommodate spending that time at the church this afternoon. If we get through it, we get through it. If we don't, we come back afterwards. We'll operate with the same expediency we normally do, but it's important that we attend. *Nakummek*. We're on to Item Two, "Ministers Statements." Recognizing the First Minister, whenever you're ready.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and good morning, everyone. I'm gonna continue with my statement from yesterday. I'd like to go back to Housing for just a minute. As I've advised the House there was allocations for four units in Nain and four units in Hopedale recently. We're working on those now. During that process, there were 43 applications were the four units in Nain and 27 applications for the units

here in Hopedale. That's a significant need in our region for housing. Once we became aware that there was such a need, we wanted to try to assess the communities to see if there were other options we could provide for-, potential units for people in need in those communities. So we became aware that the Department of Health and Social Development had a unit in Nain that was built for another purpose, but they had decided that, that wasn't suitable for their needs. So we reached out to Department of Health and Social Development to see if we could access that unit for a social housing unit and luckily-, thank you to the Department of Health and Social Development-, that they did agree that we could do that. We could take that unit for that purpose. So we'll be having one more unit in Nain which will be another option for that community. So I thank you to Roxanne-, Minister Barbour and your department. Back to my statement, I wanted to speak now in relation to infrastructure. The Nunatsiavut Government's Public Property and Infrastructure Team is intensively preparing for the 2025 construction season. Prioritizing key projects and refining processes to ensure efficient delivery. This includes developing several large capital project tender packages with plans to issue them by late winter. This strategic timing will provide contractors ample opportunities to prepare detailed bids and make necessary preparations for a successful construction season. The Maintenance Team has undertaken a comprehensive series of building inspections focusing on fire safety and other critical structural concerns across the Nunatsiavut Government facilities. These

investigations have identified several high-priority issues that require immediate attention. As a result, Public Property is planning a range of targeted projects to address these issues and enhance the overall safety of public infrastructure. Additionally, a long-term building inspection program is being developed to maintain ongoing safety standards and protect the well-being of both the public and Nunatsiavut Government employees. The Nunatsiavut Government is actively working to develop an internal policy and a set of guidelines for infrastructure development and project tracking. This initiative will involve collaboration with experts to create a comprehensive handbook that clearly outlines policy, procedures, example case studies, decision-making orders, financial approval processes and other key steps. The goal is to ensure that all stakeholders have a clear understanding of the policies and procedures involved in infrastructure development within Nunatsiavut. In conjunction with this, the Capital Project Team is focused on building both internal and external capacity by working with professional experts. This effort aims to support the effective delivery of Nunatsiavut Government Capital Projects while minimizing risks to the Nunatsiavut Government, allowing resources and attention to remain focused on critical areas of need. Infrastructure, Growth and Planning Projects. Nunatsiavut Growth Land Development and Housing Strategy. The Project Team has completed extensive community consultations and collected critical data including LIDAR Resources for all communities. This data forms the foundation for drafting comprehensive growth and

housing strategies. Upcoming activities include strategic interviews, concept design development and updates to key stakeholders. A training and engagement session for the Nunatsiavut Assembly is scheduled for the Thursday following the March sitting, to be held in the community of Hopedale. The second strategy, the Economic Development Strategy for the Construction Sector. The Economic Development Strategy for the Construction Sector is nearing completion with an Implementation Strategy being finalized to ensure minimal economic leakage from Nunatsiavut. This initiative aims to strengthen local resources and employment opportunities for beneficiaries, supporting the regions infrastructure growth and long-term wealth. The third strategy, the Waste Management Strategy and Operations Plan. This initiative aims to provide both immediate solutions and a long-term framework for sustainable waste management in Nunatsiavut communities. The plan includes relocating facilities, exploring incinerator options, and adopting a phased implantation approach over the next 5 to 10 years. Community consultations and data collection are complete. And the final report along with the Implementation Plan is in progress. Finally, in relation to the Nain Airport Feasibility Study, the Nain Airport Feasibility Study has been completed with findings compiled into a comprehensive final report. This report will guide the next steps for this critical infrastructure project. The associated environmental assessment is progressing on schedule, and will continue through 2026. The Nunatsiavut Government plans to use the final report as a foundation for lobbying effort to secure

funding for the airport's construction, pending all necessary approvals.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Are there other Ministers with statements this morning?

Recognizing the Minister of Health and Social Development, when you're ready.

MS. BARBOUR:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. I'll first update on Health Services. So there are number of files in here. Under, "Public Health, Nursing," Hopedale, Makkovik, Postville and Upper Lake Melville, continues to operate as per usual. There's a-, we have a vacancy in the public-, TB public health nursing position, and it's open until filled. And the public health nurse in Rigolet is on medical leave until February 2025. Under Homecare and Home Support programs, in Nain, Makkovik, Postville, in all other communities besides here, the Homecare nurse is on medical leave until February 2025. And operations continue as per normal-, per usual, sorry. So on Wednesday, December 4, we piloted an X-ray place here in Hopedale using an ultraportable chest X-ray unit and this was a collaborative partnership between NG, NLHS and Provincial partners, along with the Canadian Association of Radiation Technologist. It was a successful clinic with positive feedback from clients and exceptional quality of the images. This event geared a lot of interest. The TB Elimination Regional Action Plan Manager completed an interview with Labrador Morning along with CBC. Discussions are now in place regarding the purchase of the unit, and the MOU to support implementation. World TB Day is on March 24th, and events are being

planned for each community in Nunatsiavut. Under NIHB, the Interpreter Translator position is still vacant. There was no applicants on the job ad that was posted in November but our NIHB managers is working with HR to try and get resolve. Under, "Vision", Dr. McIntosh is scheduled for here in Hopedale for January 26th to February 1st. Under, "Pharmacy," the PLA Drug Rebate for fiscal year '24-'25 in quarter three is \$452,610.95. These rebates are scheduled to be transferred to Nunatsiavut on March 1st. The NG Hygienist visits. Jennifer Johnson. She's scheduled-, she should be currently here in Hopedale until the 27th. She's scheduled for Nain for the 27th to February 7th. Autumn Penney who is a second dental hygienist, is scheduled for Postville for the 17th to the 24th, Makkovik 24th to the 30th, Rigolet January 30th to February 3rd. Dental visits, Dr Power is scheduled for Hopedale for January 28th to February 10th and Nain February 10th to the 24th. Dr Toor is scheduled for Makkovik-, was in Makkovik earlier this month as well as Postville and Rigolet. A contract is currently under development for a denturist to travel to Nunatsiavut communities. Electronic software and digital X-rays are purchased for all five dental suites. Six desktops and three laptops purchased for all five dental suites, and equipment is sent into communities for set-up. RFP for audiology services to travel to Nunatsiavut communities has been re-released because there were no applicants in the last RFP. Under, "Public Health," the Sexual Health Outreach and Program Enhancement, a proposal submission from Spring 2024 was successful to hire a three-year position to expand the scope of

public health nursing services within Nunatsiavut. And in Sexual Health, similar to TB, and the position was recently classified and soon to be posted. Under, "Health Promotion," the Health Promotion and Wellness Manager resigned December 7th. An interview was scheduled for this month and hopefully we'll get that position filled. The Child Oral Health Initiative. Jennifer Johnson will be completing the COHI screenings with the COHI aides in Nain at the end of this month, and screenings will take place at the daycare in the school. Training is placed for the two new COHI aides in Hopedale, and once positions are in place and orientation is completed. Health Promotion page on Share Point is on hold pending new Health Promotion and Wellness manager. Under, "Data Management," we continue to participate on the monthly NG Information Management Committee meetings and provide feedback on key documents. Okay, under the Inuit Health Survey, the Qanuippitaa? National Inuit Health Survey coordinator has been providing leadership on file because the manager position was vacant. And a high-level summary of the return of results to communities is nearing completion. Once the manager is hired and completed orientation, dissemination of the results to the communities will take place in person, and there will be a community open house along with additional youth-specific engagement. A high-level analysis of the food security is nearing draft for team review. And Lynn Blackwood is sitting on the sub-team for this priority data theme. And that's it under, "Health Services." I just have an additional update from yesterday around the ICFI Program under Family

Services. So as I mentioned, operational changes to the administration of ICFI is started in the fall. And we've been raising concerns. Many decisions that were previously made at the regional level had to be escalated to Headquarters or Ottawa. And this led to increased delays and denials which are impacting Inuit families. Our staff at DHSD have been bearing the brunt of upset clients. But their hands are tied, as Indigenous Services Canada has tightened up the process. And it is beyond their control. I really want to put emphasis on the fact that funding for the Inuit Child First Initiative is only confirmed until March 31st. While ISC assures that work is under way at the political and officials levels, a source of funds has not been confirmed for '25-'26 fiscal year or beyond. Their efforts have been complicated by the prorogation of Parliament or this political situation in Ottawa, in addition to a Government funding decision. Decisions on funding are subject to Parliamentary appropriations and Parliament itself must be sitting to vote on the supply of funding. As money builds our confidence motions the risk of triggering an election exists. ISC recognizes the gravity and while they will not speculate on hypothetical situations, they continue to seek direction internally, to Government on how to navigate this unusual situation. The reality is that there may be no new funding for '25-'26 fiscal year, or the funding will come late in the year, which will greatly affect families. We have been told that we are able to carry forward any funds we have remaining this fiscal year, and we will use that to cover the salaries of our staff until new funding is received. Lastly, Mr. Speaker,

under, "Community Programs," regular programming is continuing and all communities have successfully hosted their Christmas events. We were here last week for the Community Health Planning for Hopedale with input from all staff of DHSD located here in Hopedale, and support from regional staff. Food security initiatives include the expansion of the Food Voucher Program that's happening here in Hopedale. Work has begun on distributing meal kits to all beneficiary households in Nunatsiavut. Lastly, Mr. Speaker, we would like to extend our sincere condolences to the family of Sukie Aggek. Sukie was our team leader here in Hopedale for a number of years. Our condolences go out to her family, friends and community. She'll be greatly missed and, you know, as Minister too, as well, I'd like to extend my condolences. I've been coming to Hopedale for a number of years, since I was a young girl, and I've known Sukie. Sukie always made it feel like home here. She's so hilarious. She's so hilarious. She's-, her humor will always live on. She was so kind and caring.

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Are there other Ministers that would like to-, yes, recognizing the Minister of the Department of Education and Economic Development, whenever you're ready, sir.

MR. EVANS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll just provide a brief summarize update from the Department of Education. For current students enrolled in post secondary, the winter semester 2025 is underway, has begun. And we currently have 260 students enrolled in post secondary studies and being supported by the Nunatsiavut Government Education Division Funding

Program. Two hundred and four are being supported fulltime. And 56 are receiving part-time benefits. In addition to these numbers, we are supporting six adult basic education students at our learning centres in Nain and Hopedale with two additional applications being processed. We have an additional three people enrolled in short-term programs. And have also approved support under our work experience program for seven beneficiaries. And finally, we've also provided funds for 35 people to complete the safety training. We are currently accepting applications for the Fall 2025 semester. The deadline for applications is March 31st. I'll speak to the teacher shortage. Our Departmental senior staff have been meeting with the Director of Schools for Labrador, Lorina Spurrell, as well as teachers from schools most critically impacted by this current teachers shortage. Our Department is well aware of the issue and we'll continue to be an active participant in communications with the Province administration staff to ensure that work continues, and we address this serious need of our communities. For career trips, the call has gone out for interested Grade 11 students from Nunatsiavut and Upper Lake Melville who are interested in participating in the Grade 11 career trip. This year the group will be traveling to Halifax with plans to visit post-secondary institutions in that area, as well as to get a taste of city life. Applications will be accepted until the end of January, January 31st. And tentative travel dates have been scheduled for March 17-21, 2025 under Inuit Nunangat University a recommendation from the 2011 National Strategy on Inuit Education called for the creation of a Inuit University to

be located in the Arctic. Over the past several years, much progress has been made in the foundational work needed to be able to move forward with this historical initiative. In late November the Inuit Nunangat University was official launched informing the public of the work completed to date. Currently, a draft chapter has been developed along with a draft academic plan which highlights program areas that will become the faculties of the university. The location of the university will see, like, a main campus in one of the four Inuit regions with smaller satellite campuses in each of the remaining regions. Work is underway to gather all of the information that will be required for leaders to make the decisions regarding locations of all four sites. Work is continuing, and the goal for the first intake to happen is 2030. Just a brief update of the regional Nunatsiavut Education Division Building. Construction on the new Regional Education Division Building is well underway. The building is now closed in. The work crew is back in Makkovik and work is continuing throughout the winter months. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Are there other Ministers with statements today?

Recognizing the Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology, whenever you're ready.

MR. DICKER JR.:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Since 2022, the Nunatsiavut Civil Service has grown by nine percent to 491 employees. The Nunatsiavut Civil Service is 78 percent composed of Labrador Inuit, an increase of two percent since 2022. The Nunatsiavut Government has a significant number of employees working in the Supportive Living Program at the Emergency

Shelter in Happy Valley, Goose Bay. Mr. Speaker, my department analyzes the statistics with this program removed. The result is that Nunatsiavut Government has 85 percent of its workforce composed of Labrador Inuit. Recruitment and Retention is a top priority of the Nunatsiavut Government. There are significant number of job competitions on an annual basis. There are many initiatives underway to increase the number of beneficiaries employed by the Nunatsiavut Government and to increase the number of employees who are living and working in Nunatsiavut. One such initiative was to promote Nunatsiavut performance of Nunatsiavut Government, ensuring that there are manageable workloads for employees, ensuring that there are appropriate structures to fulfill the responsibilities in and providing Labrador Inuit with programs and services. *Nakummek Uhattik.*

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Seeing that there are no further Ministers statements to be delivered, we will move on to Item Three. This is, "Members Statements." Are there Members statements around the Table at this time? Recognizing the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen, whenever you're ready.

MR. W. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And Mr. Speaker, there's no doubt that the times are changing. when we look at the weather that we've experienced over the last three, four months. And during the last three or four months, I've heard from a large number of people in coastal Labrador and a large number in the Upper Lake Melville area, on the need for a road. And Mr. Speaker, I saw firsthand what the road means to the South

Coast and to Labrador City. And many people are saying to us, "I would like to go back and visit my parents or my grandparents, or my siblings on the North Coast but it's too expensive to fly." Mr. Speaker, if we're gonna keep our young people, then I think that a road should be a necessity provided by the Provincial and the Federal Government. Mr. Speaker, with the coming of the road, we could also push for a transmission line. Our five Inuit communities pay probably the highest cost for electricity, diesel, and yet every one of our communities falls within the 300-mile radius of the mighty Churchill Falls project of the Muskrat Falls project and talks now of Gull Island. And Mr. Speaker, with a road it will come a transmission line which is badly needed for our communities on the Coast. And someone might say, "Well, you know, you live in the Upper Lake Melville area. But Mr. Speaker we took an oath to speak for all beneficiaries. And my heart and my soul is still with the people on the North Coast. And I think the time has come that the powers-to-be of the Federal and Provincial Governments live up to a commitment that they too provide a better way of life for our people that live in the Land Claims Area. And again, Mr. Speaker, with the road coming, hopefully and a transmission line that will enhance the lives of the people on the North Coast of Labrador because certainly, Mr. Speaker, I can say this beyond a shadow of a doubt, if there's anyone needs attention paid to, and duties fulfilled by the Federal and Provincial Government it's the people who live on the North Coast of Labrador. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. I will now recognize the AngajukKâk for the community of Rigolet, when you're ready.

MR. SHEPPARD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First I'd like to send my condolences out to the family of the late Marion Shiwak. RICG is shortage of staff as always. It's hard to get recruitments. We never had no-, no one applied for HEO spot all summer, and it was hard on our one operator. We currently have no CAO which is a lot of load on our office staff. So I'd like to thank all my employees who stepped up and took the extra load on to keep our community running. I appreciate it, very much. We currently are going to have a grass-work project going on next week as our craft shop, we had-, we've been told by tourists and travelers that grasswork was number-one selling. So we've got some-, few jobs that that opened so we can get some grasswork on the go. And it is beautiful work. It's a nice tradition for our town. And in the next couple of weeks we'll be re-cutting our trail to Narrows which has never been done for a good many years. As of last year with the lack of snow, we couldn't use our groomed trail and this is our, like, beginning of winter, late spring travel area and it's growed up with willows and tuckamores and there's only pretty much like a one-lane trail. So we'll get that re-cut soon. And I'd like to send my luck out to our sports meet team. And as my colleague says, our principle gave up before Christmas. And our school, we had no physical education teacher at all this year. So I'd like to thank everyone that's stepped in for our students to go to the sports meet 'cause sports is big for our community and our youth and they love it. And to end it off we are

having a grand opening for our rink. It was long waiting with our enclosure over it. And it's today at five o'clock, and we'll have pizza and juice and family skating and fireworks to follow. And I know with our community had been waiting a long time we never used it at all last year due to-, well, we had a building over it, but we didn't have no power to it for its lights. So I just hope that our community has fun this evening and has lots of skating. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. We will now hear from the Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency, when you're ready.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Good day Assembly Members, guests and staff. November month was very busy for many groups as they planned for the upcoming winter gatherings, Christmas plays, choir groups and activities. Atelihai had their gathering in early December and they had a great number of Inuit from across Canada. They all gather in Halifax. They come in from different areas of the Maritimes and they have a great gathering. They have throat singing, drum dancing-, many different types of foods and games and gifts for children of all ages. And in St. John's the First Light group had their gathering similar to Atelihai where they had just a smaller gathering and lots of people participated. But then again, St. John's is blessed as they have an Urban Inuit Choir led by the Order of Canada recipient, Inuit throat singer, *[sic]*, Inuit soprano singer, Deantha Edmunds-Ramey *[sic]* 38:17 (Deantha Edmunds-Ramsay) and she had help from Mason Dickers *[sic]* (Mason Dicker), Isabella Ramey *[sic]*, (Annabelle Edmunds-Ramsay) and then there's a great choir of all the

Inuit that live in St. John's and area. They had a wonderful, blessed night of Inuit music and Moravian music in the church there. And in Edmonton, Inuit Edmonton Group and two other groups combined to hold their winter gathering. I did supply a good amount of food, refreshment and dessert and help from our members as they staffed the kitchen; they helped with the games, they organized the kids and they gave out gifts. And we had a good gathering as well. There was probably about a hundred people from all over the North, mainly Iqaluit, Inuvik-, and then we had about 25 from our own constituency. And they had good times. They really had good-, then we had caribou, char, muskox that was supplied to them. On a sad note, Mr. Speaker, we lost several community members over the last few months. Juliana Nathanael in Ontario, was originally from here in Hopedale, Mark Saunders originally from Happy Valley-Goose Bay passed away in St. John's, Solomon Semigak from Makkovik, a most wonderful member, drum maker, drum dancer a patient navigator at the Health Services Science Centre, keeper and teacher of the Inuttitut language, a stalwart human with a smile always on his face whenever you met him. He will be sadly missed and always remembered. I know St. John's lost a valuable member of their community. Rest in peace, all that we have lost. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. We will now hear from the Ordinary Member for the community of Postville, when you're ready.

MR. GEAR:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wasn't gonna say much this time but there's, like, we didn't have our regular meeting for-, Assembly meeting for November which was called off. So I'd like to wish everybody a prosperous New Year and I hope you had a joyous Merry Christmas together with all your friends and family. I was in Halifax for Christmas, but my heart was always home with-, while I was gone. And I'd like to thank Betty Edmunds for reading my Ordinary Member's message that I had written up for the community supper that's big in our area on Christmas Eve. So with that, Mr. Andersen, Wally Andersen, Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, got I think we have the same thoughts about a lot of the stuff that's going on here and same with you would be with all of us. Anyway, the lack of snow and mild weather this year is making travel between communities by snowmobile impossible for things as gathering wood, hunting and going off on the land with family to the cabins. All this is hard on the mental health and culture well-being. Lots of times people are stuck in places waiting for the weather to clear where the temperatures are above normal with lots of freezing rain and fog. The planes are grounded. Only now the temperatures are the normal for late November and December when the ice starts to make. With very little snow covering the grounds, we're not used to this. Mr. Speaker, if this is becoming the norm because of Global Warming, now is the time to get a road to Nunatsiavut from North West River. Who knows, in 5, 10, 15 years, we may not be able to travel with snowmobile on sea ice, which connects all Nunatsiavut Communities in the winter when the ferry is not

operational. Mr. Speaker, I will echo this again same as I heard many times since sitting in the Assembly, this is the time now as elected officials, to lobby the Governments of today to get the funds to start this project. Like everyone knows the worst is yet to come. Hotter summers, warmer winters is not good for us. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. Are there further Members statements around the Table? Recognizing the Ordinary Member from Nain, when you're ready.

MS. BARBOUR:

Naku. I wasn't planning on saying anything, but I just wanted to say this before we finish today I guess. It's good to see everybody again. I wish you well. I wish you well after today. You know, spring hunting, winter hunting, you know the topic of climate change has come up and it made me think that, you know, our ice is finally forming in Nain, and I was so happy yesterday. And I'm so happy today because of it. I just wanted to say to everybody listening in, to everybody here, you know, it's different and it's-, it might be the new normal. The-, it's so unpredictable what to expect as Inuit who rely on the ice for a way of life and to sustain ourselves. But again good days are coming, and I just wanted to say that good days are coming, longer days are coming, and I wish everybody good hunting, abundant hunting or gathering and good luck. *Naku*.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. We will now hear from the Chairperson of the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation, whenever you're ready.

MR. MONTAGUE:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to extend condolences to the family and friends of the late Emily Obed. She was originally from Hopedale. Emily had a very big heart and she had a very good sense of humour. My family had the benefit of having Emily come into our household in a time of great need. And I'd just like to say that she'll be greatly missed. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Are there any further Members statements around the Table? Seeing none, this brings us to Item Four, "Returns to Oral Questions." Are there any returns to oral questions at this time? Seeing none, we'll take a 15-minute break until five after the hour. *Nakummek.*

[Recess]

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. We are on to Item Five, "Oral Questions." Are there any oral questions at this time? Recognizing the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, when you're ready, sir.

MR. W. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. Minister, when the 2024 shrimp allocation was given out, many of our beneficiaries lost their allocation, and for some of them it was their only source of income they had. In your report yesterday, you stated that the shrimp fishery is closed and the remaining quota that's left over was sold offshore. Minister, can you tell us how much of the quota was sold offshore?

MR. WINTERS:

Whenever you're ready, Minister.

MR. VINCENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Ordinary Member for the question. I don't have the actual numbers on me right now, but I can get them for you. So I will take this under advisement.

MR. WINTERS: Ordinary Member?

MR. W. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Minister, where the allocation was not caught this year, is there any chance that some of the beneficiaries who lost their quota in 2024, is there any possibility that they may get it back in 2025?

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

MR. VINCENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, Ordinary Member for the question. As of right now, designations are gone out and this will be-, I'm not sure how to put it but this will be discussed between department and we will try to assist everyone any way we can. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: Ordinary Member. Seeing no second supplemental question, are there any other questions around the Table at this time? Recognizing the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, whenever you're ready.

MR. B. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the First Minister. In October, there was a meeting held with the concerned citizens group for airfares. And it was between the Federal Government, Provincial Government. Was the Nunatsiavut Government involved in this meeting? Thank you.

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

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, AngajukKâk for the question. No, we were not involved in this meeting. Thank you.

MR. WINTER: AngajukKâk, do you have a follow-up?

MR. B. ANDERSEN: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Are there any other first questions around the Table at this time? Seeing none, are there any second questions around the Table at this time? Yes, recognizing the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, when you're ready, sir.

MR. B. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. Has your Department been made aware of a helicopter accident at the Aurora Michelin's exploration camp on 14th of September 2024? Thank you.

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

MR. VINCENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you AngajukKâk for your question. Yes, we are aware.

MR. WINTERS: Does the AngajukKâk have a follow-up question?

MR. B. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is it correct that the Michelin's exploration site had a safety violation shut-down? Was that related to the helicopter accident and how many beneficiaries might've been affected by this shutdown, employment-wise? Thank you.

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

MR. VINCENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you AngajukKâk for the question. No, that's not correct. They did not have a safety violation. They did shut down just to review their safety after the incident happened. Thank you.

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

MR. B. ANDERSEN: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*. Are there further-, yes, recognizing the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, when you're ready, sir.

MR.W. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and again, my question is for the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. I'm not picking on you. Minister, in 2022 I raised the issue of the annual spring goose hunt in the Upper Lake Melville Area. And as everyone knows, we are the only aboriginal group that are not allowed to have a spring goose hunt in the Upper Lake Melville area. I've asked this question since 2022. Minister, when do you think we could get a firm answer, either yes or no?

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

MR. VINCENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And thank you, Ordinary Member. This question should be directed to Affairs.

MR. WINTERS: Would another Member of the NEC like to respond to this question?
Recognizing the First Minister.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I can provide a partial answer. As I informed the House when this question was raised to me previously, we have made our comments to the Implementation Committee which is comprised of Canada, Newfoundland and Nunatsiavut. It's a tripart committee. We-, I haven't been informed if the committee has had an opportunity to look at the issue. We do know that the 12E issue is a

bigger issue. There are concerns in relation to the area itself because it is an Innu territory and we would-, further conversation would need to be held with Innu to negotiate that process. And I do not have the information on where that statues of that is. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
Thank you, Ordinary Member.

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

MR. W. ANDERSEN: Minister, when do you think that meeting with the appropriate people will take place?

MR. WINTERS: First Minister.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, for the supplemental question. I do not have a date or any sense of timeline in relation to this issue at this time.

MR. WINTERS: Ordinary Member, anything further? Seeing no. Are there other questions around the Table at this time? Seeing none, I will step aside and let my deputy take over as speaker for now.

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

MR. WINTERS: I do, *Nakummek*. My question is for the First Minister. It has come to my attention that the Registrar of Nunatsiavut has the contact info as in emails and phone numbers of all constituents. My question is whether that information can be shared with the two representatives of the Canadian Constituency for our constituents? *Nakummek*.

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Ordinary Member Winters. First Minister Williams, would you like to respond?

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Deputy Speaker, and thank you, Ordinary Member for your question. We-, the Registrar's office does provide information to elected officials in relation to their constituencies. In relation to the emails, I'm not sure that everybody has emails or if there is an easy access to those emails. But I will take that back to explore to see what the options are in relation to providing that information to you. Thank you, for your question and thank you, Deputy Speaker.

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

MR. WINTERS: I do not, but I would like to thank the First Minister for committing to getting back to us on this and I look forward to her correspondence.
Nakummek.

MR. SAUNDERS: [Deleted] Thank you, and I turn the Chair back.

MR. WINTERS: Are there any other oral questions at this time? Seeing none, that concludes oral questions for today. We'll move on to Item Six. Item Six is, "Written Questions." Are there written questions around the Table? Yes, recognizing three. Pages, could you deliver those to the Clerk please?

MS. WILLIAMS: Point of order.

MR. WINTERS: Go ahead.

MS. WILLIAMS: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to call a point of order for the previous Deputy Speaker asking a question while sitting on the Speaker's Chair.

MR. WINTERS: What's the Standing Order you're referring to?

MS. WILLIAMS:

I don't have the Standing Order in my head. I have the list of Standing Orders here, but...

MR. WINTERS:

I will have a look and if it is in violation, then it will be stricken from the Hansard. *Nakummek*. We will continue on at this time and I'll come back with a ruling. All three submitted written questions are in order and will be provided to the Ministers and President for their response in the allotted timeframe. We will now move on to Item Seven, "Returns to Written Questions." Are there any returns to written questions today? Seeing none, we are on to Item Eight, "Petitions." Recognizing that there is a petition today, the Ordinary Member from the Upper Lake Melville can proceed when ready.

MR. W. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The petition is to petition the Nunatsiavut Assembly and the Nunatsiavut Executive Council to increase the operating budget for NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation. "Whereas the aims and objectives of the Inuit Community Corporation are a) to provide liaison and contact between the Nunatsiavut Government and Inuit ordinary resident in the Lake Melville Region of Labrador, and whereas b) to inform the Nunatsiavut Government about views of Inuit ordinarily resident in the Upper Lake Melville region of Labrador on all matters affecting Inuit and whereas c) to provide a vehicle through which Nunatsiavut Government programs and services for Inuit in Happy Valley, Goose Bay, Mud Lake, may be delivered to Inuit ordinarily resident in the two communities in Labrador, by delivering or providing for delivery of any and all such programs and services. We

request that the Nunatsiavut Government increase the operating funds to the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation for the following reasons: In Happy Valley, Goose Bay, and Mud Lake, there are 1,844 Nunatsiavut beneficiaries. In Happy Valley, Goose Bay and Mud Lake there are 471 Nunatsiavut beneficiaries 60 years and over. Despite NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation's relentless efforts it has become increasingly difficult to operate effectively without an increase in funds from the Nunatsiavut Government. We require double the amount of funding to operate effectively. Presently, we receive \$101,500 per year. For the 2025 budget submission, we submitted a budget to the Nunatsiavut Government requesting \$201,660 in funding. NunaKatiget's aims and objectives has always been clear. We are dedicated to preserving our Inuit heritage, promoting our traditional way of life, delivering programs and services and communicating with the Nunatsiavut beneficiaries in our two communities. To fulfill these objectives, we need a reliable funding source. Our largest expenditure is the Max Winters Memorial Community Freezer which in 2023, 1,925 elderly families received traditional food items from the freezer. It cost \$65,000 to \$75,000 to provide food for the Community Freezer. Regrettably, the current funding we receive from the Nunatsiavut Government is not keeping up with the escalating operating costs. This impacts our services. The disefficiency of the funding has put a strain on our capacity to delivery Inuit cultural programs, thereby hindering our critical aims and objectives. The petition aims to convince the

Nunatsiavut Government to recognize the needs for increased funding to the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation. Our plea is straightforward, substantial financial assistance to ensure our organization's vital work in keeping our Inuit culture and traditions thriving, and to provide traditional food through our community freezer for the Inuit elders and people with disabilities. NunaKatiget submits proposals to try and find funds to help with our operations, however, this is not always a given. Many times we are ineligible for funding through various sources. " That's the petition, Mr. Speaker, signed by roughly over 150 names. And I think the process is-, I, I'm not-, normally is that the person who presents it can speak to the petition. And I can only say that with the increase of everything, that the people who run the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation spent countless, countless hours in trying to find funds and fundraising to provide services to our people. Many times. People in the Upper Lake Melville area feel sometimes a bit left out and...

MR. WINTERS:

You're reaching the end of your time, Member.

MR. W. ANDERSEN:

Yes, I'll be very brief, Mr. Speaker, thank you. But Mr. Speaker in the last couple of years I do believe that we've closed the gaps and we made good strides to bring the residents of the Upper Lake Melville area and the North Coast together. And I honestly and truly support this petition, and I trust that the Executive Council and the Nunatsiavut Government will take this very seriously. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Member, it doesn't appear as though your signature is on this. Besides that, it is in order. One moment. While this is in review, I would like to rule on the previous point of order. As per Standing Order 19(1), "Every Member recognized to speak shall stand in his or her place and address the Speaker." It's not really possible when you're acting as the Speaker. So the ruling is correct. The point of order is accepted, and this will be stricken from the Hansard. *Nakummek*. Are there any further petitions at this time? Recognizing none, Item Nine is, "Responses to Petitions." There are no responses to petitions today. Item 10 is, "Reports of Standing in Special Committees." I would like to recognize the Ordinary Member from Canada, Mr. Roland Saunders to present the report of the Special Committee on Voting Alternatives for the Canadian Constituency.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members. The voting for the Alternative Committee was unfortunately late beginning its work due to competing time-sensitive responsibilities required by all Members of the Committee. And there has been a meeting of the Committee since in 2025 where vendors of voting alternatives were discussed, and the next steps were determined. There will be a much more detailed report in-, during the March Sitting of the Assembly with exceptions-, with expectations of the work of the committee will be completed by the spring. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. Oh, apologies, there is another part for you to announce.

MR. SAUNDERS: My apologies, Mr. Speaker. After Member-, Mr. Speaker, in accordance with Standing Order 72(2), I move, seconded by the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation Chairperson, The Honourable Mr. Jeff Montague, that the Assembly receive this report and refer it back to the Committee to continue the work as indicated.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, Mr. Saunders. The motion is in order. Would you like to speak to the motion?

MR. SAUNDERS: No, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. SAUNDERS: I would just like to close debate, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: That concludes debate. All those in favour of the motion to receive this report and refer it back to the Committee? It is unanimous. The motion is carried. I will again recognize the Ordinary Member from Canada to present a report of the Members Services Committee.

MR. SAUNDERS: *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker. At this time, this report is going to be from the Members Services Committee. They've been busy working with staff support to identify how to implement recommendations provided in reports of salaries and benefits, expanding constituency allowance to have more value for elected officials and clarifying the bereavement policy. Both of these reports will be found in your binders. The final recommendations to the Assembly will be delivered during the March

sitting of the Assembly. If Members have any items that you would like to be considered by the Members Services Committee, please contact the Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in accordance with the Standing Order 72(2), I move, seconded by the Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Wilson Andersen, that the Assembly receiving this report and refer it back to the Committee to continue the work as indicated.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, Ordinary Member. The motion is in order. Would you like to speak to the motion?

MR. SAUNDERS: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: Would anyone else like to speak to the motion? Yes, recognizing the Ordinary Member from Nain.

MS. BARBOUR: *Naku*. You mentioned-, it was mentioned that the report is in our binders, but I don't see it.

MR. WINTERS: One moment, and we will identify it. We will take a five-minute break until the top of the hour-, I ask Members to please not leave the room-, sorry, not the top of the hour, quarter to, as we sort out these papers.
Nakummek.

[Recess]

MR. WINTERS: I will apologize that the two reports from the successful proponents on the constituency allowance and salaries and benefits were not included in the binder. They were supposed to be. They will be circulated shortly, and you will all receive them. They do not pertain to receiving this specific report from the MSC. So we will continue on. Does anyone else

want to speak to the motion? If no other Member wishes to speak, does the Member wish to make final comments and close debate? That concludes debate. All those in favour of the motion to receive this report and refer it back to the Committee? It's unanimous. The motion is carried. We are moving on to Item 11. Item 11 is the, "Tabling of Documents." There are no documents to be tabled today. We will move on to Item 12, "Notices of Motion." At this time I will call upon Minister Dicker.

MR. DICKER JR.:

Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I give notice that on Monday, January 27, 2025, I will move, seconded by Minister Vincent that the Assembly convene as Committee of the Whole to receive the presentations of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust*, the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust* and the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*, with Ms. Rexanne Crawford as witness. And Mr. Speaker, I am seeking unanimous consent of the Assembly under Standing Order 16(1) to waive Standing Order 37(1) to proceed with this motion today.

MR. WINTERS:

The Minister is asking for unanimous consent to proceed with the motion today. All those in favour? It's unanimous. Minister, you have consent from the Assembly to bring your motion forward at the appropriate time. I will now recognize Mr. Roland Saunders the Ordinary Member for Canada.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Monday, January 27th, 2025, I will move as follows: Whereas the Labrador Inuit Constitution establishes the Nunatsiavut Assembly and whereas the

Nunatsiavut Assembly Act provides appointment of staff to serve in the Nunatsiavut Assembly, and whereas it is a desirable to name an individual to fill the new position of Deputy Clerk, and whereas the Assembly struck a committee to conduct a competition for candidates for the position of Deputy Clerk with assistance by the Human Resources Department Division of the Nunatsiavut Government, and whereas as a result of the complete process, the committee has identified a preferred candidate for the position of Deputy Clerk. Now, therefore, I move, seconded by the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation Chairperson, Mr. Jeff Montague, that the Assembly appoint Ms. Darlene Winters as Deputy Clerk for the Nunatsiavut Assembly. And that the appointee will hold office during good behaviour and at the pleasure of the Nunatsiavut Assembly in accordance with the *Nunatsiavut Assembly Act*, and that the Speaker be authorized to establish the effective date of the appointment. And Mr. Speaker, I am seeking unanimous consent of the Assembly under Standing Order 16(1) to waive Standing Order 37(1) to proceed with this motion today.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. The Member is asking for unanimous consent to proceed with the motion today. All those in favour? It is unanimous. The motion carries. You may bring you motion forward at the appropriate time. We will now move on to Item 13, "Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills." There are no notices for first reading of bills today. We will move on to Item 14. Item 14 is, "Motions." And I will call upon Minister Dicker.

MR. D. DICKER JR.:

Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I move as follows: Whereas the Nunatsiavut Assembly is required to receive reports from the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust*, the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust*, and the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*, and whereas the Assembly should consider the presentations of these Trusts as tabled in the Committee of the Whole, with witnesses, now, therefore, I move, seconded by the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, the Honourable Terry Vincent, that the Assembly convene as Committee of the Whole to receive the presentations of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust*, the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust*, and the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* with Ms. Rexanne Crawford as witness.

MR. WINTERS:

Thank you, Minister. Do you wish to speak to the motion? Do any other Members wish to speak to the motion? Seeing none, does the Minister wish to make final remarks and close debate?

MR. D. DICKER JR.:

I wish to close debate, Mr. Speaker. *Nakummek*.

MR. WINTERS:

At this time the motion is to move into the Committee of the Whole to receive the presentation of the Trusts. All those in favour? We will now wait five minutes for the witness to make it into the Chamber. And I invite the witness to begin.

MS. CRAWFORD:

Nakummek. I'm gonna start with the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust* presentation. It's dated June 2024 as that's when the Annual Report was prepared. I recognize the date should've been changed to November-, or January.

UNKNOWN: (1:23:05)

MS. CRAWFORD: No, there should be a report that has an Ulu on the bottom right-hand corner. It was emailed out a couple of days ago.

MS. BARBOUR: I only have the *T. Trust* and the *Settlement Trust Fund*.

MS. CRAWFORD: All right. Well, while we're waiting-, while we get the pages to print a copy of the Settlement Trust Presentation, I can begin with the *Implementation Trust*. If you wanna use your mics just for record too. So you have the *T. Trust*. There should be three presentations in your binder.

UNKNOWN: Okay. (1:24:03)

MR. WINTERS: I will ask the witness to move to one of the other two to begin with as we print and circulate the missing documents. *Nakummek*.

MS. CRAWFORD: Illali We'll start with the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust*. The cover of this presentation has the water with the rocks on the front cover. I am presenting on behalf of the Implementation Trustees. Unfortunately, Isabella Pain had to return home on the flight this morning. If there are questions that I am unable to answer, I will take them back to the Trustees and a response will be provided to the Assembly. So on the, "Background and Objectives," this indenture was settled on May 7th, 2007. The objectives of this trust is to receive and invest the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement*, Chapter 23 payments, to create a capital reserve of 75 percent of all capital transfers received from the Nunatsiavut Government and at least 15 percent of the income

of the fund. All payments were received from the Government of Canada and this was completed in Year Nine of us being a Government. There is only one eligible beneficiary, the Nunatsiavut Government. The current Trustees are Isabella Pain, Michael Flatters, and Patty Dicker.

Qualifications of the Trustees: To carry out the powers and authorities found in the Trust Indenture, the Trustees should have the following characteristics: Ability and desire to learn advanced investment theory, skills to develop, revise and implement an investment policy, ability to review and assess the performance of investment managers, and ability to make difficult funding decisions. The Trustees undergo continuing education to stay abreast of investment theories, policies and practices. So under, "Investments," we have an asset mix policy. The Investment Policy was amended in 2022 to comprise generally of-, I will note that it should say, "Equity 65 percent," not 60. This was an error that was in last year's presentation and didn't get corrected as it was rolled over. So there is 65 percent in equities. And this is split between Global Equities, Canadian Equities, Emerging Markets and Global Small Cap. We have five percent in fixed income, 10 percent in real estate split between Canadian and Global real estate, infrastructure equity alternatives, private debt, infrastructure debt and farmland and timberland. I'm not going to read all the details on this page. It is there if you have questions on any of the fund managers we're invested in or what any of these mean, I'll just take a pause here for any questions.

MR. WINTERS:

Yes, recognizing Ms. Melva Williams, when you're ready.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Chair. As you mentioned, there has been this information came to us last year and we reviewed it in Committee of the Whole as well. Has there been changes in the different investments that we are in and what is-, has these funds all proven to be good investments for the Nunatsiavut Government?

MR. WINTERS: Witness, when you're ready.

MS. CRAWFORD: So there have been no changes in the 2023 year. This is the Annual Report for the 2023 year. No changes since then. We'll get into the performance later on. I think as we'll talk about is that we do have a monitoring policy for investments. So if we find that an investment is not doing what we hired them to do or not performing in the manner that we have them to perform at, we'll put them into close monitoring and then closer monitoring. And if there is still no improvement, they will be terminated, and we'll start going through a search for a new fund manager. That's the process under the Monitoring Policy. But this-, I noted that it was the same as last year and I meant mostly because of the error-, it was I think First Minister you pointed out that we had 60 and it was supposed to be 65 percent and that didn't get corrected there, but everything else is the same.

MR. WINTERS: Are there further questions at this time? Yes, Melva Williams.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you. In relation to some of the categories, for instance, Private Debt, what does that entail and as a fund that we invest in?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford?

MS. CRAWFORD:

So this particular trust invests with a global fund manager called UBS O'Connor and O'Connor's fund is to invest in companies, high net worth, individuals who require debt. They may be riskier so that a conventional bank loan is not available to them. But in those types of cases a private debt company will take the risk. But it applies-, you pay more for a higher risk. So if you go to a bank, you're not a risky person, the bank might charge you five percent interest. If you have some riskier debt or there's some reason why a conventional bank wouldn't look at what type of loan you're looking at, there are different funds of which UBS O'Connor is one, where they may take a chance. But there are lots of parameters in terms of how they take their chances. They take more collaterals, they charge higher interest rates among other things. Sometimes in case if you're investing in a company, these type of fund managers will help you as management on the company to help turn your company around. So that's kind of explaining exactly what Private Debt category is, not necessarily specific to UBS O'Connor. *Naku.*

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Williams.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Thank you. Having heard that information and still maybe not really clear in my head, but is this a fund that's risky for the Nunatsiavut Government to be investing in?

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD:

No, it's not.

MR. WINTERS:

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

MS. CRAWFORD:

Nakummek. So the Asset Mixed Policy is monitored quarterly to ensure that all investments are made in terms of the approved policy. The next few slides go over the monitoring of fund manager which I alluded to in my answer just previously. So on an annual basis, the trustees meet with each and every one of the fund managers. Presentations are provided by those fund managers in person. And give us the opportunity to ask questions on their funds, to understand their performance, their investment philosophy and how they do their operations. We are provided quarterly reports. We have a quarterly monitoring report that is prepared on all our fund managers which is sent to us and also reviews in person by our investment advisor. During the monitoring, if there are some events that could be relevant, like I mentioned, I think it goes onto the third page, closer monitoring can occur. Some of the monitoring report statistics look at things like-, and I do apologize to the interpreter, 'cause I know these are not normal terms-, we look at Beta, R-Squared, tracking error, volatility, the Sharpe ratio, Up and Down-mark capture, et cetera. We look at annualized performance over one year, two years, three years, four years, and five years. We look at portfolio characteristics. In 2023 there were two funds that were not performing in the manner that we felt was appropriate for what they were hired to do. One was J.P. Morgan and the other one was Manulife/Hancock Farmland Timberland. The reason there's so many different slashes is

because Hancock has been acquired by Manulife and so now the title of their fund is a little bit different. Based on the closer monitoring of the-, so far there's no reason to terminate either of these managers. And actually, as of today's date, we've been monitoring J.P. Morgan, but Hancock, we are no longer doing closer monitoring of. The next slide is, "Annualized Performance."

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR:

Naku. In the second slide of the, "Monitoring of fund managers," it says, "The Trustees have a qualified investment advisor who prepares quarterly and monitoring reports which covers the data." Who or what company is the qualified investment advisor?

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD:

Since 2022, we've been using an investment advisor. His name is Pierre Caron. He has a company-, I know I'm going to say this wrong-, Phialex;. He's a retired professor from a university in the Montreal area, Laval. He is very well respected in the investment area. Every fund manager that we have who has either one, had students in his classes or worked with him in various capacities speaks very highly of him. He's also on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Pensions and Benefits Institute, a National organization. So that's who assists us with all this work.

MR. WINTERS:

Are there any further questions? Ms. Crawford, you may continue.

MS. CRAWFORD:

So, last year-, I think it was last year, maybe the year before, we started putting in a new chart that talked about the annualized performance. So

in a one-year the total fund earned 10 percent. Our benchmark was 13.6 percent. The median was 12.11 percent. And this put us at the higher level of the fourth quartile break. For previous years, you can see that we were in the first quartile, two years prior, three years prior and for Year's four and five we were in the second quartile. Over the last year, in 2023, the emerging markets, J.P Morgan is-, as you can see we were-, had them in closer monitoring, was not performing as well as we had expected it to nor also in relation to the benchmarks. We've had multiple conversations with them. One of the things that did not occur was they didn't change their investment style. And that's usually a really strong indicator that there's something wonky going on in the organization. You know, we hire them to do an investment in a particular way. And if you see that fund manager start to deviate from their investment style it means they're trying to compensate-, trying to do something different than what you hired them to do. And it could be a reflection of why they're-, they may not be performing. So we-, that is one of the areas as to why we didn't perform as well as we wanted to and against the benchmark. I'll stop here in case there are any questions.

MR. WINTERS:

Yes, Ms. Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR:

I thought-, I might've been misunderstanding just from in previous sittings or when we had previous presentations, but I thought the lower the quartile ranking, the better we were doing or something, or is it higher? Like I'm just curious about the quartile ranking. What does that mean?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD: So if you take all the investors, similar to us, the first quartile is your top 25 percent. So those are your top 25 percent performers. Your fourth quartile is the bottom 25 percent. So like you, then you just kinda break it up into four quarters. So your first quartile is your best.

MR. WINTERS: Are there further questions? Ms. Crawford, you may continue.

MS. CRAWFORD: The last page of the Implementation presentation gives the financial update. For the sake of the interpreters I'm not gonna run through all the numbers. But what I will say is that the fund has increased in value by 58, 513,284. On the chart you'll notice that there's a line called Contribution/Transfers and a line called Disbursements. Those are-, disbursements relate to cash that we have re-invested in fund managers. So if a fund manager has issued a dividend or in terms of some of our closed-end funds, they've issued a capital back to you, then we'll re-invest it back into that fund. And so the way it's reflected on our reports, are Disbursements and Contributions. So if you-, the Contributions Investment Income and Realized Gains and the Disbursements fairly balance each other out. So all the money that we've received or it's done through-, it's not necessarily money received, but it's just been re-invested back into those funds.

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Barbour, did you have a question?

MS. BARBOUR: Yeah, and it's just a question of clarification. So the contributions, is what was contributed to the fund managers? Is it? And then the disbursements as well? Are they the same thing?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD: So as an example if Axiom as our infrastructure fund, if they gave us money, that would be the contribution into kind of the fund, into here. And the disbursements is when we reinvest it back into Axiom. So the money they sent to the Implementation Trust is shown as a contribution. The disbursement out of this chart is what we put back into as an example. Yeah, it's the opposite.

MR. WINTERS: Are there any more questions at this time? Yes, recognizing Ms. Williams.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you. At the bottom you said the fund has increased in the value of 58 million. Is that over the 2023 year or is that the term of the investment itself?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD: So that's based on book value to market value. So for that initial-, over the term-, for that initial dollar that has gone into the fund, at its book value, it's market value now is \$58 million higher.

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Williams. Are there any further questions at this time? Ms. Crawford, you may continue.

MS. CRAWFORD: That concludes the presentation for the *Implementation Trust*. We'll move to the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*.

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR: *Naku.* I know we're on the presentation, but I also took the time to look at the Financial Statement, and I have a quick question. And I'm not trying to assume anything or anything like that. But when you look at the financial update in the presentation, the investment income in the darker blue area from January 1st to December 31st of the 2023 year, is just over \$10 million. But in the statement-, sorry, where was it? I made a note.

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford, I can tell you want to answer right away.

MS. BARBOUR: Yeah, in the statement it says, "Investment income is \$5 million." So...

MS. CRAWFORD: ...Financial Statements are for the Settlement Trust and I just covered the Implementation Trust.

MS. BARBOUR: Oh.

MS. CRAWFORD: *Nakummek.*

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford, you may continue.

MS. CRAWFORD: Again, I'm presenting the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*, the Annual Report for 2023. I am not a trustee on this Trust so again, there may be some questions I may not be able to answer. In particular, in terms of disbursements made to various organizations, I don't sit as a Trustee. I'm not involved in any of those items. However, I will take whatever questions back to the Trustees and an answer will be provided to you. Investment questions are simpler for me to answer as all the Trusts are invested in very similar fund managers. So on the Background and Objectives, this Trust was

created in 2022 as a result of the signing of the *Voisey's Bay Impact and Benefits Agreement*. The objectives are to receive and invest payments under the 2002 *Impacts and Benefits Agreement*, commonly referred to as the IBA. Another objective is to disburse funds to enable Nunatsiavut Government to meet its obligations under the IBA. In particular, it assists seven community volunteer centres to meet community needs, to reduce negative impacts of Voisey Bay Project, to promote social, cultural, educational, language and business initiatives. Eligible beneficiaries are, 1) Nunatsiavut Government, 2) charitable organizations with specific criteria, or a community or class of Inuit. The next slide covers the, "Objectives for Funding." Rather than read through the seven objectives, I'll just pause here. If anyone has a question on any of these objectives.

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR:

It's not on the objectives, but it's on the eligible beneficiaries. It says, "A community or class of Inuit." So as I mentioned in my Members Statement yesterday, I've been trying to help a volunteer group but they're not a registered charity or a non-profit organization, NPO, so it's been difficult trying to secure funding for them. And they support Nainimiut on a community scale, right? It's not just for one person or one particular person or something. So I was wondering if, like, a volunteer group like Nain Care can be classified or identified as a class of Inuit? Like is that what that means? Like, you know what...

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD: I will take that back to the Trustees. I do know in particular, the *Settlement Trust*, which also disburse money, one of the things that we had gotten feedback from the *T. Trust* is about sometimes having a bank account, management of money, who does those particular pieces to-, for the accountability side. I'm not sure if that's applicable in terms of the Nain Cares question. So I've got it written down and I'll take it back to the Trustees. *Naku*.

MR. WINTERS: Are there further questions at this time?

MS. BARBOUR: Yeah, I guess, just for additional information. Like remember when the banks used to be able to create accounts for volunteer organizations as such, and they don't do that anymore. So they do have-, it's not a business account. It's like a-, oh, what did she call-, I can't remember what it was called, but it is for that purpose. And they do have books. But again, they're a non-registered charity and not a NPO, so just, like, would they be-, I guess what I'm trying to ask is would they be eligible under a Class of Inuit, I guess?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD: I'll take your question back to the *T. Trust*. I'm not as close to this trust deed to know what all the various criteria are under that.

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Williams.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you. The question I have is probably-, I don't know how it can relate to it and you may end up having to take it back because it's in relation to the objectives for the funding. In relation to the sixth bullet-,

"The Delivery of Social Health and Recreational Facility Services and Programs for Inuit." Does that tie to employees at the Vale mine site?

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD:

I will have to take it back to get full clarity-, to provide a response. I don't recall Vale ever-, would be eligible to apply for funding or has ever applied for funding in listening to the reports over the last number of years. So, you know, as this goes on further, I think there are a couple-, the way they break down their funding is, you know, the first call on the money is for the-, I can't remember if it's the volunteer centres first, then it's for the Implementation Budget under the IBA, and then it's through this proposal process. So I will take that question back so I can make sure you get the correct information.

MR. WINTERS:

Are there further questions at this time? You may continue, Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD:

Naku. The current Trustees are Michael Flatters, Sharon Peevie, Isabella Pain, Tiffany Flowers, and Darryl Shiwak. The next slide covers the, "Qualifications of Trustees," which are identical to the previous presentation. The asset mix policy is identical to the presentation with the *Implementation Trust* as is the next two slides on, "Monitoring of fund managers." So I'll just take a pause in case there are any questions on those couple of pieces.

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR: *Naku.* You mentioned that the asset mix policy's identical to the *Implementation Trust*. So I'm assuming we might've had the same issues with the monitoring of fund managers. And then the other question around that was, is this Pierre buddy, ah, what was it called, investment advisor on this Trust too?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD: Yes, the same two fund managers were under closer monitoring during the 2023 year. And Pierre Caron is the Investment Advisor for all three Trusts on the investment side.

MR. WINTERS: Are there further questions? Seeing none, Ms. Crawford you can continue.

MS. CRAWFORD: So we turn to the slide on Annualized Performance. Again, it covers the quarter from October 1st to December 31st. And the year January 1st to December 31st. The value at the end of the year is \$435,845,215. The Financial Update for 2024 at the end of June 2024 the fund was at \$468,200,918. There's been an increase in value of \$68,910,000 which is net of distributions. Pause for questions.

MR. WINTERS: Yes, Ms. Williams.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you. I'm just a little confused. We have a Financial Update for 2024 in addition to the Annualized Performance 2023 in this report?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD: I would then believe that the Trustees wanted to just give you a financial update up to partway through 2024. Our year-end financial report for

2024 hasn't been finalized yet. We're still waiting on reports from some fund managers. So I know in the *Implementation* and in the *Settlement*, there is no update for partway through '24. So I can't speak as to why the Trustees decided to include it in this particular presentation.

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Barbour, did you also have a question?

MS. BARBOUR:

Yeah. And it's more so to understand what goes into the fund and things like that. So the investment income, the year-end 2023 was \$7 million-, just-, almost \$8 million. And I know that there's certain percentages that are set aside and then I'm just wondering does the certain percentages come from this all together or what's re-invested? Like, you know what I'm trying to-, okay, let me try and word it properly. So 30 percent is covered for the Heritage Fund, right? An then 10 percent is covered for-, to be of all net income to be set aside for the Heritage Fund. And then there's the IBA priority commitments and things like that. What I'm trying to ask is do those dollars come from the investment income alone, or does it come from the contributions and transfers?

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Crawford?

MS. CRAWFORD:

So 30 percent of all capital receipts refer to the money that's received under the IBA from Vale. So if Vale were to give \$10 million this year and it got flowed into the Trust, 30 percent of that 10 million is set aside in the Heritage Fund. That's called a capital payment. Ten percent of your net income would be not entirely just the investment income 'cause you have your investment income. You have your realized gains or losses but

you also have expenses for a Trust. So we have to pay the fund managers. We have to pay for an audit so that your net income is your bottom line. And 10 percent of that bottom line is then set aside into the Heritage Fund.

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Barbour?

MS. BARBOUR: So it's not the value at end but the net income, is that?

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford.

MS. BARBOUR: I was-, but I was curious about if it just simply come from only the investment income or all of it.

MR. WINTERS: Ms. Crawford, go ahead.

MS. CRAWFORD: I think you need to go back to what net income means. So when you look at a financial statement you have all your revenue. You have all your expenses. And your net income is revenue less expenses. So one source of revenue from the Trust is investment income. Another source of revenue from the Trust is realized gains on the sale of investments. So that would be your revenue. Then you'd have to look at all the expenses that are related to operating or running having a Trust. You deduct all those off and that will give you your net income. So whatever that bottom line is, 10 percent of that bottom line and that income is set aside into the Heritage Fund.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Are there more questions at this time? Seeing none, you may continue.

MS. CRAWFORD:

So as we were just speaking about, the Trust Deed lists priority areas. 1) They cover the IBA Implementation Budget. 2) Thirty percent of all capital receipts and 10 percent of all net income is to be set aside to a Heritage Fund. And then \$100,000 to each of the seven volunteer centres is disbursed annually. And each of those volunteer centres makes their decisions on how those funds are used, subject to their bylaws which I think were approved or were set up many years ago. The next slide talks about disbursements. So the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* makes available funding on a proposal basis. Funding applications are reviewed two times a year. The deadlines are September 30th and March 31st of each year. The total cumulative distributions that have been made since the Trust started making them in 2004 up to the end of 2023 has been over \$137,397,244. In 2023 the Trust disbursed \$2,417,261.55. And the breakdown is listed on this particular slide. The Regional Women's Association, Nain, Postville and Makkovik Inuit Community Governments. Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation. There was a lump payment to the Inuit Community Governments. And again, I'm not-, if there's a question on the breakdown, I will have to go and get that answer. And under the Nunatsiavut Government it was the funding of the Implementation Budget. *Nakummek*. Are there questions at this time? Yes, recognizing Mr. Tom Evans, our first male question. Go ahead, when you're ready.

MR. EVANS:

It's not really a question, but it is like a question, 'cause we can see all the breakdown or whatever. But I'm not if someone might wanna fill in a

little more with the ICG amount of 652, 820? I don't know, like, what that is but the other ones say, like, Postville Inuit Community Government get a hundred thousand. Again, so I don't know if somebody might wanna ask or have information on that?

MR. WINTERS: Is Mr. Evans asking for more detail on the breakdown?

MR. EVANS: Yes, it might be valuable just to, just, like, speak to what it involves.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*. When you're ready, Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD: I will have to take that and get back to you, all of you about that breakdown because, again, I'm not a Trustee and I wasn't involved in the decision making, but *Naku*, I will...

MR. WINTERS: Are there any more questions at this time? Seeing none, Ms. Crawford, you may continue.

MS. CRAWFORD: That concludes the presentation on the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*. The next presentation is on the *Settlement Trust*. And I am a Trustee of the *Settlement Trust*, so I hopefully can answer your questions on these ones. The *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust* indenture was settled on March 1st, 2010. The Trust was created for the purpose of acquiring and holding the capital transfer payments as noted under Chapter 19 of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement*:. The Trust shall qualify as an Inuit Settlement Trust as defined in the *Tax Treatment Agreement*. Capital Transfer Payments. The Capital Transfer is the fund that the Nunatsiavut Government received from the Government of Canada for the settlement of the land claim. This was a one-time settlement and it was paid out

over 15 installments. Details of the payment schedule is in Schedule 19-A of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement*. And all payments had been received as of December 1st, 2020. The next slide covers the, "Objectives of the Settlement Trust." It's to maintain, administer and invest the Chapter 19 payments and to distribute for the benefit of beneficiaries in accordance with the following five principles. These are outlined on this page. There are other objectives which are outlined in the Trust Indenture. Most of those are related to investment principles. *Nakummek*. Eligible beneficiaries of the *Settlement Trust* include the Nunatsiavut Government, the Inuit Community Government, another *Inuit Settlement Trust*, any Inuk and Inuit, any registered charity or non-profit organization within the meaning of the *Income Tax Act* that directly and indirectly benefits at least one or more Inuit. These eligible beneficiaries agree to the terms under the *Tax Treatment Agreement* that the Nunatsiavut Government has with the Government of Canada.

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR:

I guess I have the same question that I had in terms of eligible beneficiaries for the *T. Trust*. Again, pertaining to Nain Care, like, they're, again, they're not a NPO or a registered charity, but they are volunteer group with their own banking procedures and how they manage their money, et cetera. Like is-, would they be considered an eligible group of beneficiaries under this, or?

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD:

So I think they could be maybe considered under, "Any Inuit." They would not be considered under a registered charity or a not profit organization because it has a meaning under the *income Tax Act*. I think when you look at the Settlement Trust Application, there are some different criteria in terms of which organizations and how they may be about the eligible. So it's on the back page and there's certain reporting requirements et cetera.

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Barbour?

MS. BARBOUR:

And then the other one-, other question I wanted to ask. You talk about this *Tax Treatment Agreement* and the terms in that NG uses. I'm not familiar with those terms. I wonder if you can-, like, is there certain-, I know there's always, like, certain practices that a group or organization needs to have. But can we see this or not? Like...

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Crawford?

MS. CRAWFORD:

The *Tax Treatment Agreement* is a public document. It's been signed by the Government of Canada, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Nunatsiavut Government. I believe there is a link to it on our webpage. There is definitely a link to it on the Land Claims page of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. What this refers to is in particular to what eligible beneficiaries can be. So there is a section of the *Tax Treatment Agreement*, which speaks to an Inuit Settlement Fund. And so, in terms of the purposes and use of that fund, it restricts who the eligible beneficiaries are. And the Settlement Trust eligible beneficiaries

mirrors what's in the *Tax Treatment Agreement* for those beneficiaries. The other parameters under the *Tax Treatment Agreement* include GST; it talks about the GST for the Government, for Inuit Community Governments. It talks about the Settlement Trust Fund. It talks to the personal income tax and other tax matters, and other-, there's other-, some other matters in that but all pertaining to different pieces.

MR. WINTERS:

Are there any other questions? You may continue, Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD:

Thank you. We're on the, "Distributable Cash Flow," slide. During the first 11 years of the fund, no distributable cash flow was to be made to any eligible beneficiary, other than the Nunatsiavut Government. The distributable cash flow is defined in the Trust Indenture with a very specific calculation and it is very technical. It covers about a full page of the Trust Indenture. I know I had a question on it last year as I look over to Minister Barbour. There are also restrictions to distributable cash as defined in the Trust Indenture. So year 12 of which we could disburse funds to other eligible beneficiaries was in 2021. And there were delays in the Trustees being ready and able to accept funding requests that occurred due to the global pandemic. So the application and procedures are now completed. And as the presentation will reflect, disbursements were made in 2024. So the application process-, the key details of the process is one application deadline per year. It has been staggered so that it's not at the same times as the *T Trust*. So organizations now have three different times that they can apply for funding: March and September to the *T Trust* and then the end of November for the

Settlement Trust. There was a Statement of Principals and Purpose developed consistent with the Trust Indenture. We've got distributable cash flow calculations and restrictions are done on an annual basis. And then the first disbursements occurred. The cash was remitted in the first quarter of 2021. Applications were received in December 2023, assessed early in '24 and cash was remitted. The first four organizations that had been supported were NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation, two requests to the Nain Inuit Community Government and one to the Nunatsiavut Government, for a total of \$430,500. And the different initiatives that had been supported were Cultural Programming, Community Freezer, Language Programming, the Nain Inuit Community Government's Wood Initiative and their Seniors Van and Snowmobile initiatives and the Hebron and Nutak reunions. I'll pause for any questions here.

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Williams.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Thank you. My question is around the application process or the evaluation process for the funds. Are all the trustees, do they act as receivers and decision makers on the funds as well?

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Crawford?

MS. CRAWFORD:

Yes, we have a separate email set up to receive all the proposals. They're all taken to a meeting of the trustees and all the trustees are involved in making decisions. This is consistent with the *T. Trust* process as well.

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Barbour, do you still have a question?

MS. BARBOUR:

It's not a question, but more so a statement of appreciation to the trustees and I just wanted you to take that back to them. I'm kinda doing it on behalf of the NICG but also me as well, while we work closely together and again like it's something just I'm so proud of and we were able to see some community-wide impacts last year. It wasn't as, like, had a deep impact as we wanted it to just because of the length of time. But there was some impacts and I know there was lots of good feedback in our community. So just wanted to extend my appreciation and gratitude and thanks.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Ms. Crawford, you may continue.

MS. CRAWFORD:

Nakummek, and I will take that back to the remaining trustees. The rest of this presentation will get back into the investment side of the trust. So rather than I read in detail, the qualifications of the trustees are consistent as we went through with the last two presentations. The current trustees are Isabella Pain, Michael Flatters, myself, Daniel Bennett, Sarah Leo. And the composition of the trustees is outlined in the trust indenture. There are parameters around the number of trustees who are employees, the minimum number who are Inuk, minimum number who lives in LISA and gender, to name a few of the parameters.

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Barbour, did you have a question?

MS. BARBOUR:

I'm just curious who Daniel Bennett is and where he's from?

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD: Daniel Bennett is a Labrador Inuit who lives in St. John's and runs his own law practice.

MR. WINTERS: Are there any further questions at this time? Seeing none, Ms. Crawford, you can continue.

MS. CRAWFORD: Thank you. The next slide covers the asset mix policy. It's consistent with the other presentations with two difference. There are limitations on what the Settlement Trust can invest in, which are set out in the tax treatment agreement. And so at the end of 2023, and actually up to today's date, we have not invested in a global real estate company. The fund manager that the implementation trust and the *T. Trust* is an ineligible fund for the Settlement Trust. The Settlement Trust has to invest in funds that are RRSP eligible funds. So it's a quite a-, it's a very tangle, legalistic, taxation-based parameter. And we are working with the Government of Canada on an amendment to the *Tax Treatment Agreement* to broaden it because it does (audio cuts out) 2:15:01 significant limitations and goes against-, let me get the word-, it's like the fundamentals of what you're trying to do (inaudible) a diverse asset mix policy. The officials at the Government of Canada that we deal with understand the position of the settlement trustees and the trust we're taking. And so we're working collaboratively to try to determine how we can broaden it so that we can invest in some other funds that are very safe funds to invest in. it's not allowing us to be riskier, but it just allows different types of funds to be invested in. The other one is private debt. In the other two trusts, private debt is UBS O'Connor and in our trust in

the *Settlement Trust* it's Third Eye Capital is the fund manager. And again it was due to the parameters under the Settlement Fund.

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR:

You kinda alluded to what I was going to ask. You mentioned about the *Tax Treatment Agreement* sets out where we can invest. And I automatically thought that was going to-, might be a potential barrier or thing because thinking about, like, having diverse investments and things like that. But again, now, after you've mentioned it-, after you kinda answered what I was going to ask, I'm curious now if the status of Canada's political situation might impact coming to a final agreement for that. And do you have a timeline so that we're not always limited to what we can invest in?

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Crawford?

MS. CRAWFORD:

I do not believe that even if there is a change in the political party that this would be impacted as to where we are. We're currently engaging with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador as they are-, this is a tripartite agreement. This particular section of the *Tax Treatment Agreement* doesn't apply to the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, but as they are a signatory, we need to advise them and make sure they're okay with it. A timeframe I'm hoping honestly within the next-, like, by the end of this year when we come back with the 2024 Annual Report, we'll be able to update you and say it's all been finalized. But it's Government.

MS. BARBOUR:

Yes.

MR. WINTERS:

At this time I'll ask the Deputy to take over as Chair for a little while. I have a few questions myself.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Okay, Mr. Winters, you have questions?

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. My question is around the ethical considerations of where Nunatsiavimiut money is being spent and who is determining such a thing? I know that Mr. Pierre Caron has been mentioned a few times and I have to assume, although we haven't gotten there, that he is also the fund manager on this third trust. Sorry, Investment Advisor. Is that accurate?

MS. CRAWFORD:

Yes. I believe I said that during the Implementation Trust presentation that Pierre Caron does provide advice.

MR. SAUNDERS:

More questions, Mr. Winters?

MR. WINTERS:

Yes, so, I know that ethical banking has become a big thing and a big consideration for how a lot of people spend their money. So I guess the question is, is Pierre Caron the one that is determining what is and isn't an ethical investment?

MS. CRAWFORD:

No, he does not. The trustees make all decisions in terms of the investments that we go into. I guess I'll back up in terms of explaining how we select fund managers. So we will get a list with some basic information-, and I say basic but it's not as extensive information as when you start short-listing. So we'll probably get 20 to 30 in different fund managers if we're trying to fill a global real estate. The trustees will

meet. Our investment advisor helps gather this information and tabulate into it, put it into charts, different pieces. The trustees will meet, will review over all the information, will then have a short list. There are two ways from that short list that we had done different things. One is you either take that short list and maybe you're gonna go to 10. And you're gonna get a much more extensive report on each of those fund managers. Again then the trustees will meet, will review over all that information and then we can make a further short list of which we'll then invite fund managers into-, and we'll interview them. And so they'll come, and they'll make their presentation to us. There has been times we've even gone a further step where you're kinda down between two and you're not quite-, there's some things you need more clarity on. And we've gone and done site visits to these particular fund managers-, gone into their offices, viewed their operations, had much more extensive discussions with them, It was probably two or three hours we spend with them to understand and make sure that we were gonna make our decision and where the Labrador Inuit money is going is where, is the best place for that Labrador Inuit money. Pierre Caron's role is only to help us gather information. He is not a decision maker.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Mr. Winters, any more questions?

MR. WINTERS:

Yes, Mr. Chair, thank you. I guess ultimately, I'm wondering if we can be-, we and the Inuit public can be provided the guidelines by which these decisions are made? Namely, I've been asked by a number of constituents if Nunatsiavimiut money is being used to fund pipelines

moving through Indigenous lands, for weapons manufacturing, for the funding of genocide on foreign soil. So I guess the question is are these guidelines available or can they be made available? Personally, I'm surprised that private debt is something that we're investing in. Thank you.

MS. CRAWFORD:

I'm going to take part of that under notice but what I will speak to is that we are not invested in companies for sure that are in weapons manufacturing or that would have genocide on foreign soil. ESG, Environmental Social and Governance is a very key consideration when you're determining what fund manager you're gonna invest in. And also, after you've selected a fund manager, how you evaluate them and monitor them. So ESG is a very important topic to the trustees. It's in, I would think, all of the-, I'm going through my head of all our fund managers-, of all the presentations that we receive from every single fund manager that comes to our table, we get at least annual ESG stand-alone reports from many of our fund managers. I think in terms of a fund manager-, so a fund manager is a company. So let's take Canadian Equity. We're invested in Canadian Equity with Desjardins as our fund manager. Desjardins is the company that will go out, develop a fund with certain-, we're very conservative in this file. So you know what they do. You can start at the top and go from a macro level and say we're gonna invest in these type of sectors or you can also invest from a bottom-up approach where a fund will say, "Okay, we're gonna take the best companies that are out there. What are your best and most stable

companies?" And they go through and they start taking out all the, you know, making the check boxes. ESG is one of those considerations. And so they then take the money, along with many other money and invest and buy stocks in let's say, Colgate, which is an American company. So it doesn't fit my Canadian ones. RBC, TD Bank, Scotia Bank, Railway company. All those that are public companies that are based in Canada that are listed on the TSX. Not all of them, but the ones that fit into their portfolio. So that's how a fund manager-, say, in a Canadian Equity that's doing a bottom-up approach. They're selecting solid, stable companies and then when they provide a report back to the trustees, they'll report on the top contributors, the top detractors, what ones did they sell during a quarter, what ones they bought. They'll talk about, you know, what they're doing on ESG and in particular, like, and look at those things. Many of the companies are not-, there's one in particular I'm trying to think which fund manager. It's not in any energy companies. Energy companies are very cyclical. So it's not a solid, stable, consistent base of income. It goes up and down. It's very much based on a market. So there are companies that won't invest in cyclicals. They're not in commodities, they're not in energy. There are others that do, but they might be invested in 3,000 different companies in their funds. So I know your question is being provided the guidelines. In terms-, so I'll just take that back. I don't have anything here anyway to be able to provide. But in none of the funds that I am aware of are we invested in pipelines, weapon manufacturing or genocide.

MR. SAUNDERS: Any other questions, Mr. Winters.

MR. WINTERS: No, Mr. Chair. That's all my questions for now. *Nakummek.*

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: Are there any other questions around the Table at this time? Seeing none, Ms. Crawford, you may continue.

MS. CRAWFORD: So we've spoken about the Asset Mix Policy and as I noted earlier, investments in the *Settlement Trust* must generally be eligible for investments in RRSP's, in order to enjoy the Settlement Trust status. And this is a tax exemption under Investment Income under the *Tax Treatment Agreement* with Canada and the Province. And this requires careful monitoring to make sure that we do not violate this particular term. Again, the next three slides are on the monitoring of the fund managers and are consistent with the slides provided and discussed in the previous two presentations. As of December 31st, 2023, on a one-year annualized basis, the total fund earned, 11.39 percent, the benchmark was 13.6 percent, and we had a third quartile ranking. As you will see for the four years prior, the settlement trust was in a first quartile ranking. The first quartile break means that it was basically at that-, between the first and second quartile but it was just there but it was on the first quartile. We thought it would be important to show you that since the Settlement Trust became effective, this trust has spent 47 percent of its time in the first quartile ranking. We spent 28 percent on the second quartile, 13 percent on the third quartile, 12 percent on the

fourth quartile. And the Trust has spent 75 percent of its time above the median which is at the 50 percent break. Are there any questions on the annualized performance? *Nakummek*. The Financial Update-, again, it's a similar table as you've seen in the past two presentations. The value at the end of the year is \$329,093,000. And this fund has increased by approximately 72.9 million over its book value since inception.

Nakummek.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Thankyou, Ms. Crawford, are there any other questions? I recognize Ms. Williams.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Thank you, Mr. Chair. I think-, and I'm surprised that I'm even saying this or even considering this, in relation to all three Trust Funds and in relation to the landscape in the world right now and with Trust-, with Trump's tariffs that he's going to be applying to Canada, are any of our Trust Fund manager-, our trustees considering or having conversation about whether or not we'll continue to invest in company funds that are based in the United States?

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD:

It's a really interesting question. I would say, no. In the global updates and the economic updates that I've been reading, especially in the leadup and after the election for Trump-, I know he's just been inaugurated-, the markets have been really positive on his election. It's-, actually, the global markets went up after he was elected because his business policies that he had campaigned on, I think were very solid business campaigns.

So I know in terms of a Canadian approach and the potential, the threat of tariff's on Canadian equity, like, on Canadian products, I don't know that at this point it's had an economic impact in terms of your equities, your bonds, and those type of markets that are based on the markets. We have Trust meetings coming up in February, early February for-, and it's the first one since the election. So it'll be interesting to hear what the fund managers are saying. But again, based on the economic updates I've read since then, it's been positive in the markets.

MR. WINTERS:

Are there any further questions around the Table? Yes, Ms. Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR:

It's more so a question to refresh my memory and I-, just I remember asking this last year. So last year the economic forecast wasn't really favourable, you know, in terms of investing and things like that. Like the housing market-, it was-, we were at risk of going into a recession. Anyways, I wondered, is there, like, the markets are always-, it's always up and down, right? And we always lose some and we gain some all the time. But what types of protection measures are in place for those types of situations?

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD:

So to-, when the Trusts were first established, it was 60 percent equities and 40 percent income. So we were 100 percent ties to the markets. So if there was a change in the markets, the Trusts were 100 percent affected. The Asset Mix Policy now is very diversified. So there are things

that are not tied to the markets. So real estate, you get a consistent set of income from rental income.

MS. BARBOUR: Right.

MS. CRAWFORD: That-, it's limited in its impact to global markets or markets. We're invested in agriculture, timberland, private debt, infrastructure et cetera. Those are things that are not tied to the markets. And so it provides a level of stability to your Trust.

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

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, and this is I guess more of a question looking for some advise. I know in travels as elected Members, we hear things from our membership or constituents in wherever they are. I know that a number of years ago there was a Trust that had taken on a big loss. And I think that was reported to the Assembly and I don't know if it was \$12 million or whatever it was. I think that some of our Members may still feel as though that we are down this amount of money and the Nunatsiavut Government lost this amount of money. Based on the information provided in the funds today, you have indicated that almost-, all three funds have shown an increase. Is there any suggestion on how we can respond to members who have those concerns so that we can ensure that these funds and these investments while one year may have been-, we have taken a loss, but since, you know, that was just a one-piece, one place in time. And since that, funds have actually grown and increased in

value. What should we-, how should we present that to anyone who have questions about those kind of things?

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Crawford, when you're ready.

MS. CRAWFORD:

I think there are a couple of points. One is at that time what was being reported was an unrealized loss. So the money was never taken out of those funds. A realized loss is when you put money in-, you put a dollar in and you sell it and you only get 50 cents. You've lost 50 cents. During the time that it was being discussed and it was just before my time coming on as comptroller, there was a dip in the markets in the 2008-2009 year. So there was an unrealized loss at that time. However, I am not sure that we actually went down below book value. So I'd have to go back and look because it's before my time. So that original dollar that was put in was-, might've still been that original dollar, but you wouldn't have had any increases on that dollar. If I were to report to the beneficiaries in each of your constituents now, I think it's important to give the messages that the market value of our Trust is significantly higher than the original dollar that went in. The-, each of the trustees of each of the Trusts have reviewed the Asset Mix Policy and made changes as we just talked about so that the monies are invested in a diversified portfolio that allows protection against those market drops. And I think those are probably the two, like, the two things that I would communicate back. And I know people still do talk about NG lost \$25 million. And at no time did \$25 million go lost. We might have the market value at that time might've come down but now it's grown and

grown way above that. So I think that the trusts are doing well, and the trustees are doing everything to make sure that those Trusts are monitored, diversified and protected against market loss.

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR:

Sorry, it was just an additional one to your one. I wondered, like, while you were explaining it, I wondered, was it because during that time we didn't have a diversified Asset Mix Policy too? And then so if that was the case we were kinda tied to the market then, right, in 2008, like you're speaking about, we were in-, Canada was in a recession then. No? Or entering into a recession if I remember correctly.

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD:

Globally, there was-, it was actually called a, "Financial Crisis," in 2008-2009. So all the markets dropped. At that time, the Trusts were in a 60 percent equities, 40 percent income which was 100 percent tied to how the markets-, to the markets. And now the Trusts are not in a portfolio that is as tied to the markets. Obviously, we're still in equities and we still have some tie to the markets, but we've diversified to help protect those dollars.

MR. WINTERS:

Are there further questions? Ms. Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR:

Yeah, sorry. So I was just, like, wondering if this is correct when we provide that answer, right? If that question ever comes up again. Like, what you were talking about a-, and was it-, I wondered (audio muted).

MR. WINTERS:

Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD: So to answer your question, that loss, as everyone spoke about, was during the financial crisis in 2008-2009, 'cause I was still-, I started in September of 2010, and there was still a lot of discussion about NG losing \$25 million. So, if a beneficiary raises that question to you, I would say 1) It was an unrealized loss. There was no money ever taken out of an account so that it was a realized loss. 2) the trustees have diversified their asset mix policy to better protect money and not have it 100 percent tied to the market fluctuations.

MR. WINTERS: Are there further questions? Ms. Crawford, have you reached the end or are you still going?

MS. CRAWFORD: *Nakummek.* Unless there's any other questions, thank you, very much for allowing me to present the Annual Reports for all three Trusts.

MR. WINTERS: Last call for questions. I'll thank the witness and you can leave the room, *Nakummek. Nakummek.* We are now back in the Assembly. I'll now call upon Roland Saunders, the Ordinary Member for Canada. Sir, whenever you're ready.

MR. SAUNDERS: *Nakummek,* Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I move as follows. Whereas the Labrador Inuit Constitution establishes the Nunatsiavut Assembly and whereas the *Nunatsiavut Assembly Act* provides for the appointment of staff to serve the Nunatsiavut Assembly, and whereas it is desirable to make it an individual-, to name an individual to fill the new position of Deputy Clerk, and whereas the Assembly struck a committee to conduct a competition for candidates for

the position of Deputy Clerk, with assistance from the Human Resources Division of the Nunatsiavut Government. And whereas, as a result of the completed process the committee has identified a candidate for the position of Deputy Clerk. Now, therefore, I move, seconded by Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation Chairperson, Mr. Jeffrey Montague, that the Assembly appoint Ms. Darlene Winters as Deputy Clerk of the Nunatsiavut Assembly. And that the appointee will hold office during good behaviour and at the pleasure of the Nunatsiavut Assembly in accordance with the *Nunatsiavut Assembly Act*, and that the Speaker be authorized to establish the effective date of the appointment-, two pages-, thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: Thank you, Ordinary Member. Do you wish to speak to the motion?

MR. SAUNDERS: No, Mr. Speaker, I do not.

MR. WINTERS: Do any other Members wish to speak to the motion? Recognizing Ordinary Member for Nain, Ms. Roxanne Barbour, yes.

MS. BARBOUR: *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker. I just wondered, just curious, it says the Speaker be authorized to establish the effective date. I was just wondering if you might've had a date in mind?

MR. WINTERS: This is fairly common language that we use when passing laws and actually the same question was asked of the President the last time that a law was being passed. The room is there to establish a date, but generally when we do this, it means immediately. Would any other Member like to speak to the motion? Yes, uh, First Minister Williams.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question of curiosity as well. Is the proposed candidate a resident of Hopedale?

MR. WINTERS: Yes, she is. Would any other Member like to speak to the motion? If no other Member wishes to speak to the motion, does the Ordinary Member wish to make final remarks and close debate?

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just wish to close debate.

MR. WINTERS: All those in favour? Seeing no, "Nays," it has passed. We're on to Item 15, "The First Reading of Bills." There are no bills for first reading today. Item 16 is, "The Second Reading of Bills." There are no bills for second reading today. Item 17 is, "The Assent to Bills." There are no bills for assent today. Item 18 is, "Adjournment." The sitting of the Assembly is now adjourned. And this was a bit of a wild week with as many weather delays as we had, so happy to say that-, actually, I'm not gonna say anything because I don't wanna have to knock on wood afterwards. *Nakummek*, for your patience. *Nakummek* for your engagement and we will see you all again in March. Take care, folks.