



# Yukon Legislative Assembly

---

Number 133

2nd Session

34th Legislature

---

## HANSARD

Thursday, March 28, 2019 — 1:00 p.m.

Speaker: The Honourable Nils Clarke

# YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

## 2019 Spring Sitting

**SPEAKER — Hon. Nils Clarke, MLA, Riverdale North**  
**DEPUTY SPEAKER and CHAIR OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE — Don Hutton, MLA, Mayo-Tatchun**  
**DEPUTY CHAIR OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE — Ted Adel, MLA, Copperbelt North**

### CABINET MINISTERS

NAME	CONSTITUENCY	PORTFOLIO
<b>Hon. Sandy Silver</b>	Klondike	Premier Minister of the Executive Council Office; Finance
<b>Hon. Ranj Pillai</b>	Porter Creek South	Deputy Premier Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources; Economic Development; Minister responsible for the Yukon Development Corporation and the Yukon Energy Corporation
<b>Hon. Tracy-Anne McPhee</b>	Riverdale South	Government House Leader Minister of Education; Justice
<b>Hon. John Streicker</b>	Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes	Minister of Community Services; Minister responsible for the French Language Services Directorate; Yukon Liquor Corporation and the Yukon Lottery Commission
<b>Hon. Pauline Frost</b>	Vuntut Gwitchin	Minister of Health and Social Services; Environment; Minister responsible for the Yukon Housing Corporation
<b>Hon. Richard Mostyn</b>	Whitehorse West	Minister of Highways and Public Works; the Public Service Commission
<b>Hon. Jeanie Dendys</b>	Mountainview	Minister of Tourism and Culture; Minister responsible for the Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board; Women's Directorate

### GOVERNMENT PRIVATE MEMBERS

#### Yukon Liberal Party

<b>Ted Adel</b>	Copperbelt North
<b>Paolo Gallina</b>	Porter Creek Centre
<b>Don Hutton</b>	Mayo-Tatchun

### OFFICIAL OPPOSITION

#### Yukon Party

<b>Stacey Hassard</b>	Leader of the Official Opposition Pelly-Nisutlin	<b>Scott Kent</b>	Official Opposition House Leader Copperbelt South
<b>Brad Cathers</b>	Lake Laberge	<b>Patti McLeod</b>	Watson Lake
<b>Wade Istchenko</b>	Kluane	<b>Geraldine Van Bibber</b>	Porter Creek North

### THIRD PARTY

#### New Democratic Party

<b>Liz Hanson</b>	Leader of the Third Party Whitehorse Centre
<b>Kate White</b>	Third Party House Leader Takhini-Kopper King

### LEGISLATIVE STAFF

Clerk of the Assembly	Floyd McCormick
Deputy Clerk	Linda Kolody
Clerk of Committees	Allison Lloyd
Sergeant-at-Arms	Karina Watson
Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms	Harris Cox
Hansard Administrator	Deana Lemke

**Yukon Legislative Assembly  
Whitehorse, Yukon  
Thursday, March 28, 2019 — 1:00 p.m.**

**Speaker:** I will now call the House to order.  
We will proceed at this time with prayers.

*Prayers*

**Withdrawal of motions**

**Speaker:** The Chair wishes to inform the House of a change made to the Order Paper.

Motion No. 119, standing in the name of the Member for Lake Laberge, has been removed from the Order Paper as the action requested in the motion has been completed in whole or in part.

**DAILY ROUTINE**

**Speaker:** We will proceed at this time with the Order Paper.

Introduction of visitors.

**INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS**

**Hon. Mr. Silver:** I would like to ask all my colleagues in the Legislative Assembly to help me in welcoming Grand Chief of the Council of Yukon First Nations Peter Johnston.

*Applause*

**Hon. Ms. Frost:** Drin gwinzii, shilak kat, sheek'ait Doris Allen, Effie Njootli, my dear husband Roger Hanberg, Margaret Workman, Mary Battaja, Dinjii gaih cho Peter Johnston and hai'cho yeenji' Gwich'in nilii.

I would like to take this moment to recognize some pretty amazing language speakers in the House today and those who are up and coming, like me, learning their languages: Sean McDougall, Colleen Joe-Titus, Tina Jules, Sharon Shadow, Victoria Fred, Dan Shorty and Angela Code. I know there are others, and I apologize if I've missed you. Welcome.

*Applause*

**Ms. Hanson:** I ask my colleagues to join me in welcoming here today Randall Garrison. He is the Member of Parliament for Esquimalt-Saanich-Sooke. He is also the NDP LGBTQ spokesperson and the keynote speaker tonight at Yukon's federal NDP contested nomination meeting — as well as Dan Bader, resident of my old stomping grounds in Hillcrest.

*Applause*

**Hon. Ms. Dendys:** I will ask my colleagues to welcome to the Legislative Assembly this afternoon some distinguished representatives from the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Vancouver. Joining us today are Director General Mr. Andy Chen, Deputy Director Mr. Vidocq Chen, President of Taiwan Chamber of Commerce in BC Mr. Eric Yang and from the Canadian Inbound Tourism Association,

Ms. Yu-Shan Tseng. With them today is our Director of Tourism for Government of Yukon, Pierre Germain.

This delegation is visiting Yukon as part of their mandate to enhance Taiwan's cooperation with provinces and territories in western Canada for tourism opportunities as well as matters of economic and educational significance. To that end, in addition to the Department of Tourism and Culture, the delegation is also meeting with the Yukon government departments of Economic Development and Highways and Public Works.

On behalf of the Government of Yukon, I wish to extend a warm welcome and express our honour for your ability to be here with us today. Thank you very much for coming.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome Leonard Linklater and Paul Kennedy to the Legislative Assembly today. Thank you very much for being here today.

*Applause*

**Hon. Ms. McPhee:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome to the Legislative Assembly — and ask my colleagues to join me in welcoming — Victoria Fred, who has been mentioned. I would like to indicate our welcome to her. She happens to be the parent of Sabrina Fred, who is a dedicated member of our team upstairs — and in particular, mine. I could not do my job without her — and Mr. Sean Smith. Thank you for being here.

*Applause*

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** Mr. Speaker, today we are going to have a tribute to Swan Haven. I would just like us to welcome to the Legislature Deputy Minister of Environment John Bailey; a friend and colleague, Anne Middler; and also my mother-in-law, Freda Walton, who I will just give a little shout-out to in that she has been honoured as one of the nominees for Volunteer of the Year for her volunteerism around the Yukon and at Whitehorse General Hospital. If we could welcome them, please.

*Applause*

**Hon. Ms. Frost:** I would like to ask the Legislative Assembly to help me welcome my beautiful daughter Alice Frost.

*Applause*

**Speaker:** Are there any further introductions of visitors?

Tributes.

**TRIBUTES**

**In recognition of National Aboriginal Languages Day**

**Hon. Ms. Frost:** Mahsi' cho, Mr. Speaker.

Drin gwinzii, shilak kat, Giikhii. Shoorzi' Pauline Frost vaazhi. Old Crow gwits'at dihch'uu. Genjit mahsi' cho ga'oonahatan kat Ch'anjoo nakhweenjit gwitr'it t'iogoh'in kat. Gwintsal dinjii zhuh giniikhii, t'sat. Juk drin shoh ihlii.

I rise today to pay tribute to the people working across the Yukon to celebrate, learn and revitalize Yukon First Nation languages.

Ch'anjoo kat diits'o' gigiikhii hai'choo goovaa dinnuu ts'at tr'iinin yeen doo ji.

On Sunday, March 31, across Canada, we will recognize Dinjii Zhuh Gin'jik Drin. This year is also the United Nations International Year of Indigenous Languages, recognizing the urgent need to protect and strengthen indigenous languages around the world.

In Yukon, language revitalization takes place every day. Community-led language revitalization involves everyone, from toddlers to young leaders and elders. This work is personally important to me. My late mother, Alice Frost, served as a Dinjii zhuh Ga'oonahntan for many in our community of Old Crow.

Tomorrow, Friday, March 29, the Council of Yukon First Nations, the Yukon Native Language Centre and the Government of Yukon will be hosting an open house to celebrate National Aboriginal Languages Day.

There is a wealth of knowledge kept here as far back as 1970. Many of our elders across the Yukon have worked here to preserve the languages — people like Edith Josie, Annie Ned, the late Rev. Dr. Ellen Bruce and Percy Henry. There are many more, Mr. Speaker.

I encourage everyone to stop by the Yukon Native Language Centre at Yukon College tomorrow, on March 29, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to share in stories and discover the wealth of resources, including a 10,000-page digitized resource centre.

We also encourage Yukoners to learn more on Mapping the Way on their Facebook page. In April, it will feature posts on indigenous language revitalization and its connection to the final and self-government agreements.

It's important to remember why Yukon First Nations are working so hard to revitalize their languages. Colonial practices affected all of Yukon's eight languages and 14 nations.

Residential schools gwizhit tr'iinin kat duuyeh Dinjii Zhuh k'yuu gigiinkhii. Many of the following generations have lost the chance to learn their ancestral language in their homes and communities. Yukon First Nations have been clear: Revitalization of their languages is a critical priority. Yukon First Nations will decide how to restore and revitalize their languages in Yukon.

We're pleased to work with the Council of Yukon First Nations Yukon Native Language Centre to support these efforts through community and broad-based perspectives, including in Yukon schools. Students of all ages are learning Yukon First Nation languages. Schools and learning centres across Yukon are creating many learning tools and resources to revitalize local First Nation languages, from full-on adult immersion programs, aboriginal language nests, learning through song and dance, traditional practices and teachings.

Families in communities play an essential role in language learning. I am encouraged by the way in which communities are coming together.

Tth'aih hee gwitr'it goonlii.

The Government of Yukon is committed to working with Yukon First Nations to revitalize languages so that they can be heard in homes and communities across the Yukon for generations to come. To everyone who is working to revitalize Yukon First Nation languages, especially the learners and teachers: Gwik'atr'igwandaii, haii choo ts'at.

Shaw níhän. Gunalchish. Mahsi' cho. Sógá sénlá'. Tsin'jj choh. Nah dah vah goo zoo. K'agwaaddhat Nakhwah vi'lii

Mahsi' cho

*Applause*

**Ms. Van Bibber:** Well done, Minister Frost. That was lovely.

I rise today on behalf of the Yukon Party Official Opposition to pay tribute to National Aboriginal Languages Day.

Language: it expresses our emotions, feelings and mood. Language translates our thoughts. Language shows how we interact with our environment and language defines a person.

Seeking ways to sustain the survival of any part of a culture is precious and none more than the spoken word. By focusing on this subject, it is hoped that a continuation toward a goal of more fluent speakers is achieved.

2019 is also the International Year of Indigenous Languages, so it is doubly noted that we encourage and mentor aboriginal languages in all our learning environments. In Canada, we have 60 different aboriginal languages, with three being the most prominently spoken: Cree, Ojibwa and Inuktitut.

This past Sunday, history was made when Earl Wood used Plains Cree to announce play-by-play during the Carolina Hurricanes vs Montreal Canadiens game on APTN on Sportsnet.

During the February Arctic Inspiration Prize event, I spoke with Commissioner Nellie Kusugak of Nunavut, and I asked her how their young people became so fluent in Inuktitut. She said they speak the language to babies as soon as they enter the world — so total immersion at home before they even go to school. One can see that their young people are unafraid to speak and interact in their first language. Ms. Kusugak said English is easier and comes quickly once they are toddlers and exposed to the school system. Many go on to become multilingual.

In Hawaii, some 27 years ago, they only had 50 fluent indigenous speakers left on the islands. They realized the peril and began an intensive language program in their education system that supports total immersion from kindergarten to university/college. Today, they have 10,000 fluent speakers. So no magic bullets — just exposure and constant use of the words will ensure the continuity of a language.

We want to recognize the many languages across Canada as well as our eight in Yukon that are part of our landscape and our people. We honour and celebrate the champions and aboriginal language holders for seeking ways to revitalize their mother tongues across Canada.

Mahsi' cho.  
*Applause*

**Ms. Hanson:** First, I would like to say mahsi' cho to the minister. That was incredibly moving.

It's my pleasure to rise on behalf of the Yukon New Democratic Party to join in celebrating National Aboriginal Languages Day.

Language is memory. It holds the intricate knowledge and information that has been kept for thousands of years. Language is identity; it is the essence of who a people are; it is a worldview; it is how one speaks, how one associates with one's neighbours and raises children, and it is how one pays attention to the world around us.

We live in a place rich in the culture of First Peoples. The diversity of language is reflected in the stories, the arts and the history of the territory. We are lucky that, through the sheer persistence of a few dedicated elders and most inspiring younger First Nation individuals, lately there have been huge efforts to revitalize and re-establish Yukon First Nation aboriginal languages. It has taken a concerted effort to regain and re-establish the use of First Nation languages after the wholesale assault by residential schools as part of the federal government's policy to assimilate and eliminate First Nation languages.

It's no surprise that it has been the work and the persistence of First Nation elders who refused — refused — to give up. The early work by the Yukon Native Language Centre was established by the Council for Yukon Indians in 1977 to develop writing assistance for the languages and to train people to read, write and teach First Nation languages, through to the efforts of working with schools and First Nations to develop teaching curricula, along with dictionaries and compilations of stories and place names, has created an important base upon which new and innovative aboriginal language programs have been launched and which foster whole-of-family involvement, grounded in the knowledge that a language that is spoken in the home is key to not simply surviving, but thriving.

I would also like to salute Yukon's Northern Native Broadcasting which, over the last 35 years, has done so much to keep First Nation languages and culture alive. In addition to producing and broadcasting an audio adaptation of *HaáShagoon* — which was, for those of us who have been around a long time, a television program produced years ago by Northern Native Broadcasting Yukon, CHON-FM — along with the Yukon Native Language Centre, last spring recorded six First Nation language presentations by students and speakers fluent in their respective languages who gathered at the Native Language Centre at the Ayamdigut Campus. The language focused on lessons in Athabaskan, Tlingit, Kaska, Vuntut and Han Hwech'in and Tutchone. These video and audio recordings add to the treasure trove and ongoing efforts of documentation and revitalizing of Yukon native languages through media promotion, resource development and access.

These are exciting, challenging and hopeful times for Yukon First Nation language speakers and those aspiring to

regain this vital piece of the essence of a culture and of a people.

*Applause*

### In recognition of Celebration of Swans

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** Happy spring, Mr. Speaker — joyeux printemps. On behalf of the Yukon Liberal government and the NDP caucus, I rise today to celebrate swans. Some might say — and by "some" I am referring to media types, possibly commercial radio — that this tribute is for the birds. I would say they are right.

This tribute is for the birds and the bees and the bird lovers and the trees that are getting ready to honk and tweet and chirp and buzz and bud in the north of 60 boreal spring light. Isn't nature wonderful? Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

I promised my colleagues that I would not break into an interpretive dance, but like all Yukoners, my heart quickens to the rhythms of spring and the returning light. April is Yukon Biodiversity Awareness Month. For a northern territory, we have awesome diversity: 244 bird species, 78 mammal species, 38 fish species, four amphibians and over 6,500 insect species. I feel more aware already.

Of the 200-plus bird species, three of them are swans. April is Yukon Biodiversity Awareness Month and the Celebration of Swans. This past weekend, I went down to Swan Haven along the M'Clintock River. I walked along the icy shore and watched some of the first swans trumpeting across the open water. Over the next month, thousands of swans rest and feed in the shallow waters of M'Clintock Bay as a stopover on their long migration to their northern nesting grounds. Swans are the largest birds you can find here in the Yukon, and yet for all their size, they are graceful flyers and elegant swimmers. They woo and court and are high-fidelity in the mating department — that's hi-fi — and they are noisy.

Sometimes in the spring, my wife Susan and I will sleep out in our wall tent down by the lake, and we will inevitably be woken by the mad cacophony of the geese and swans, which makes us laugh in wonder. Later, we will catch our breath to the haunting call of the loons.

This year marks Swan Haven's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A shout-out to Ducks Unlimited and Girl Guides Canada, which built the centre in partnership back in 1994. Thanks as well to all of the volunteers and staff who provide such great programming during the Celebration of Swans. I understand that Scott Cameron, a wildlife viewing technician, and Carrie McClelland, a wildlife viewing biologist, are out getting Swan Haven ready today. I bet they are allowed to do interpretive dances, Mr. Speaker — just saying.

I encourage all Yukoners to check out the spring wonder at Swan Haven. By the way, the much-anticipated seniors tea is being held on Wednesday, April 17 this year, which is 25 years to the day of the opening of the centre. My lovely mother-in-law, Freda, who I introduced earlier, has volunteered for this event for many years now.

Happy spring. Joyeux printemps. It's a great time to get outdoors and connect to this land we love. After all, spring is ranked one of our top four annual seasons.

Now, Mr. Speaker, with deepest apologies to Percy Bysshe Shelley:

Hail to thee, blithe Spirit!  
Swan thou never wert,  
That from Heaven, or near it,  
Pourest thy full blurt  
In profuse strains of unpremeditated hurt.

Higher still and higher  
From the earth thou springest  
Like a cloud of white fire;  
The blue deep thou wingest,  
And winging still dost honk, and honking ever singest.  
*Applause*

**Mr. Istchenko:** I don't know how you top that. It's pretty good.

I rise today on behalf of the Yukon Party Official Opposition to recognize the annual Celebration of Swans — like the minister said, it is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary — and in particular, Swan Haven as they kick off their 2019 season on April 1. I believe that April 1 is when Air North flies the swans in.

The celebration begins this year with the opening of Swan Haven on April 1. The facility is open to the public Monday through Friday from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. and on weekends and holidays from noon to 7:00 p.m. until May 5. Every year, I think I have had the opportunity to tribute the swans. I thought that, this year, I should look up some interesting facts about swans.

So here you go: A male swan is called a “cob”; a female swan is called a “pen”; they mate for life; they have over 25,000 feathers on their bodies; they fly as fast as 60 miles per hour; they are highly intelligent; a group of swans is called a “herd”; and a group in captivity is called a “fleet” — and this just happens to be where the military term “air fleet” comes from. These are just a few things that you might learn about these incredible birds from the friendly and knowledgeable staff at Swan Haven.

This is an exciting year, as there are a number of great artistic activities and workshops planned. I guarantee that there is something going on for everyone. There is a family day, a seniors tea, a multi-faith celebration and guided walks. So I hope that everyone has a chance to check out the observatory, participate in activities or take a walk to view the swans from the shore. There are also a variety of other activities taking place across the Yukon through all of April and May. There is birding and biking at Schwatka Lake and bannock and stories at the day-use area at the Tagish bridge. There is a guided walk in Burwash. So if you haven't already, take a look at the event website. It's a great website to see if there is something that you would like to take part in.

Thank you to all involved for their hard work in celebrating these majestic birds throughout the territory. Your efforts each year are truly appreciated and make each spring an exciting time of year for Yukoners. I am not going to end

with swan sounds, but if the minister wants a competition, I can do duck sounds.

*Applause*

**Speaker:** Are there any further tributes?  
Are there any returns or documents for tabling?

## TABLING RETURNS AND DOCUMENTS

**Hon. Ms. Frost:** Pursuant to section 6 of the *Health Act*, I have for tabling the *2018 Health Status Report: Focus on Seniors*.

**Mr. Istchenko:** I have a letter to the Premier for tabling, and it stems from the public ORV meeting last night in Haines Junction.

**Speaker:** Are there any further returns or documents for tabling?

Are there any reports of committees?  
Are there any petitions?  
Are there any bills to be introduced?  
Are there any notices of motions?

## NOTICES OF MOTIONS

**Mr. Gallina:** I rise to give notice of the following motion:

THAT this House urges the Government of Yukon to provide consistent funding through the housing initiatives fund for the next four years for developers and housing providers to build new affordable housing projects for Yukoners.

**Mr. Kent:** I rise to give notice of the following motion:  
THAT this House urges the Minister of Education to table the 2018 Department of Education annual report prior to debate being called on Vote 3, Department of Education, in the 2019-20 main estimates.

**Mr. Cathers:** I rise to give notice of the following motion:

THAT this House urges the Yukon government to use its 2019-20 budget to improve highway safety near the entrance to the new Grizzly Valley subdivision by:

(1) adding a turning lane and a slip lane at both entrances to the subdivision; and

(2) reconsidering the request by some area residents for a reduced speed limit of 70 kilometres per hour on the Mayo Road near the subdivision.

**Speaker:** Are there any further notices of motions?  
Is there a statement by a minister?

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

### Old Crow Health Centre

**Hon. Ms. Frost:** Our Liberal government is committed to a people-centred approach to wellness that helps Yukoners thrive. We are also focused on making strategic investments

that contribute to healthy, vibrant and sustainable communities across the territory. Today, I am pleased to rise to announce that our government will be replacing the aging Old Crow Health Centre.

The new health and wellness centre will have increased capacity to support the community's health programming needs. This year, we budgeted \$750,000 for planning work for the new facility, and we anticipate construction to begin in the spring of 2020. In fact, the planning for this facility has already begun. Senior officials have travelled to Old Crow to meet with First Nation officials and tour the community so that they could gain a better understanding of the needs of the community.

The Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation has identified land that could be used for the new building, and we will continue to work with them to determine the exact land requirements for the new health and wellness centre. The new Old Crow health and wellness centre will be the first of its kind in Yukon, providing both health and social services with a collaborative care model. This is an opportunity to work with the community to better meet their needs by providing health and social services in one facility, allowing for more integrated collaborative care.

The best care and support that we can offer Yukoners comes from a system that is integrated — where care is collaborative and holistic and does not isolate each type of support but instead combines them. While this planning is underway, we remain committed to ensuring that high quality accessible services continue to be delivered in Old Crow.

To help facilitate this project, the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation will receive funding from the Government of Yukon to construct a winter road in 2021. The construction of a winter road will align with various Government of Yukon projects, including the health and wellness centre, and will also support the community in advancing other construction projects in Old Crow.

The Yukon Housing Corporation will also be planning for staff housing to support the new health and wellness centre. The availability of appropriate housing is crucial in attracting and retaining nurses and other support workers in the community of Old Crow and all of our rural and remote communities in Yukon.

Mr. Speaker, I have a clear mandate to improve front-line health and social services through a collaborative care model. This initiative reflects this priority and will help ensure that Old Crow remains a healthy, vibrant and sustainable community well into the future. Our government looks forward to continuing to work closely with the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation to advance this project and improve the quality of life for the residents of Old Crow.

**Ms. McLeod:** Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity today to speak to this ministerial statement. I would like to thank the minister for updating us on the replacement of the health centre in Old Crow. This is an important piece of infrastructure, and we support enhancing

the availability of health care in our communities. I do have a few questions for the minister.

The minister referenced that \$750,000 is budgeted for planning. In her response, can the minister tell us how much is budgeted for the construction over the coming years? The minister also referenced that money will be given to the Vuntut Gwitchin to construct a winter road to Old Crow in January 2021. In her response, can the minister tell us how much is budgeted for that project?

The minister, in her statement, said that the new Old Crow health and wellness centre will be the first of its kind in the Yukon, providing a collaborative care model. In her response, can the minister explain what this collaborative care model is and how it differs from the model at other health centres in our Yukon communities?

Thank you again, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity to speak in favour of this project today.

**Ms. White:** We thank the minister for her statement regarding the construction of the new health and wellness centre in Old Crow. Although this is not a new announcement but rather a re-announcement, we look forward to its opening and the beginning of a new way of addressing the health and wellness needs of the community.

We are especially interested in the collaborative care model she mentions. We have long advocated for the removal of government silos. The inability to easily share information between departments has caused harm and frustration in the past. We hope that this approach will be mirrored elsewhere — not only within the Department of Health and Social Services, but in other government departments as well.

The minister mentioned that construction will commence in the spring of 2020 and the construction of a winter road will commence in January of 2021. We are curious about how supplies will make their way to the community ahead of the winter road construction. We have questions as to whether or not the materials will need to be shipped by air and what the expected costs are of that shipping. If so, would those costs merit an earlier construction of the winter road — perhaps in January of 2020?

Mr. Speaker, although we have those questions, we still look forward to the opening of the new health and wellness centre in Old Crow.

**Hon. Ms. Frost:** To begin, I would like to thank the members opposite for their comments today.

The new project in Old Crow is part of our work to modernize our approach to health and social services to best serve our community.

In 2018, the Department of Health and Social Services reviewed all health centres, and the Old Crow centre was found to be in the top priority for many reasons, Mr. Speaker. It was built in the 1970s; it's sitting on a contaminated site; it's deteriorating — there are many reasons why it needs to be replaced imminently.

The space in the new facility will better fix existing services and include design for additional services, such as

visiting therapists and dentists, for example. Right now, we don't have that ability. We rely on the Vuntut Gwitchin government to provide supports to us so that we can bring in additional supports to the community. In fact, we are taking away from staff housing and we're using their safe house for service delivery, which I think takes away from better collaborative models in our community.

This will be the first project to incorporate the new health and wellness centre design, where both health and social services will be delivered in the same building.

At the moment, we have our social worker working out of the John Tizya Centre, which is a heritage facility, because we have nowhere else in the community to provide that service. We have mental wellness supports that come into the community, and they work out of our First Nation offices. So it's really not conducive to good practices.

Mr. Speaker, I have a mandate to provide quality accessible and appropriate health and social services in Yukon, and through initiatives such as this new health and wellness centre, we are meeting the commitments to the community of Old Crow.

I will note that the previous government, on the end of the last election, announced \$250,000. I want to say this is a continuation of the planning — we actually took that and proceeded with a solid engagement with the Vuntut Gwitchin Government to commit to seeing the project through.

Once planning progresses, I will return to the Legislative Assembly with more information on the costs. With respect to the budget and updating the priorities — I certainly would be happy to provide detailed information on that as we work through the project.

With respect to the reference of the \$750,000 for planning — for a project of this magnitude, we want to ensure that we get it right and that we work with the First Nation, as part of the planning involves a land exchange of sorts and that requires some technical detailed planning in collaboration with the First Nation. We don't have any sites in Old Crow, as the members opposite may know, with the exception of this contaminated site.

In collaboration with Highways and Public Works, we will better align supports, as needed, for the community through the winter road and on some other larger infrastructure projects. Really, it is about efficient services for rural Yukon communities. I hope this model bodes well for other communities in terms of collaborative care. The timelines and how we get supplies into the communities — right now, we have been working through the Vuntut Gwitchin Government using snowcats, which have been used very successfully over the course of this winter to bring in supplies. We will continue to do that, and we will continue to work with the First Nation on addressing the priorities in working on a longer term plan for a winter road.

**Speaker:** This then brings us to Question Period.

## QUESTION PERIOD

### Question re: Comprehensive departmental reviews

**Mr. Hassard:** Yesterday, we asked the Premier about his commitment to do comprehensive reviews of departments other than Health and Social Services, but as is so often the case, the Premier did not directly answer the question.

On October 4, 2018, the Premier was asked whether or not there will be more comprehensive reviews done beyond the one at Health and Social Services. In a response, he said — and I quote: “In a nutshell, yes, we are going to continue past Health and Social Services when we do comprehensive reviews.” He then went on to say — and again, I will quote: “We are not stopping at Health and Social Services.” Then yesterday, he said the government will — and I will quote again: “... use the model that we're going through with the comprehensive health review to expand past that one department...”

Can the Premier tell us when comprehensive reviews for other departments will be announced? What is the next department that will have a comprehensive review?

**Hon. Mr. Silver:** I believe that this is a repeat from yesterday's question. Again, we have nothing to report right now. That information will flow when we are ready to give that information.

**Mr. Hassard:** You may have heard off-mic someone saying “open and accountable”, and I would have to agree. This is hardly what this Premier ran his campaign on.

As mentioned, in October, the Premier told us that there will be comprehensive reviews at other departments in addition to Health and Social Services. Yesterday, he said this model for the health review will be used for other departments.

Can the Premier tell us if those comprehensive reviews will include independent panels as well? Again, to be clear for the Premier — because he seemed to have trouble with this question yesterday — I am talking about the comprehensive reviews that he committed to for other departments, not Health and Social Services.

**Hon. Mr. Silver:** I have no problem with this question. As far as being open and accountable — when information is ready from the whole-of-government approach that this government is taking, we will provide that information as soon as possible. Just because the Yukon Party is done asking questions about the comprehensive health review, doesn't mean that — we are going to do that process first, and then we will move from there.

The good news about having a comprehensive health review first is that this is a department that has a lot of spending. The department has done an awful lot already to find efficiencies to maximize the programs and services and to take a look at the administration therein. We will learn from this department — from the good work that this department is doing in cooperation with Finance, in cooperation with Executive Council and other departments.

This review is extremely important. We are going to work on this review right now. That is what we are committing to.



**Mr. Hassard:** Obviously the Premier wasn't listening because I made it very clear at the end of my last question that I was not talking about the health review, but that is what he continues to talk about.

Can the Premier tell us if the findings from the comprehensive reviews for other departments will be made public? If so, when will they be made public? Again, to be clear for the Premier — because, as I said, he seems to have trouble with this question — I'm talking about the comprehensive reviews he committed to for other departments, not for the Department of Health and Social Services.

**Hon. Mr. Silver:** With all due respect to the member opposite, I have no problem with this question. He has a problem with the answers.

We are working on a comprehensive health review right now. That process will help with further processes. The member opposite can hear "health review" and say, "I won't listen to the rest of this question because I don't believe that he answered my question." I am answering his question. I am saying that we strategically did the comprehensive health care review first and foremost. We did it first and foremost for many different reasons that have been discussed in this Legislative Assembly over and over again.

We are answering the question. There is nothing to report on another review right now. If there was, I would give that information because this is an open and transparent government.

#### **Question re: Health and social services program and services review**

**Ms. McLeod:** Yesterday, we highlighted how the deadline for the comprehensive health review has been delayed several times. Originally, it was due the fall of this year; then it was due by the end of October; then it was due late this year, and now the new deadline is for the end of this year. Yesterday, we asked the minister to explain the delays, but as is often the case, she did not answer the question.

What's more concerning is that CBC Radio reported this morning that the minister said that the timeline could actually be delayed even further. The minister seems to refuse to take action on improving medical travel because she has included it in the review. Whose decision was it to delay the review from the fall of 2019 to the end of 2019?

**Hon. Ms. Frost:** With respect to what the media is saying or what the public is saying — what I said — and I will qualify that today — is that the comprehensive health review is an independent process led by an independent expert panel. They are doing their good work. We're giving them the flexibility to do that.

My objective, as indicated to the independent panel, is to have a comprehensive submission by the end of 2019 and I will stick to that. Now, what I also said is that if the independent panel comes back and says that they require more time, given the complexities, then we will consider that at that time.

With respect to the process — we are working with the independent panel and I respect that process. I look forward to having the results of the recommendations, and I will look to them with respect to how much time or what types of supports they require. They have done an amazing job up to this point, and I will leave it in their good hands.

**Ms. McLeod:** It seems that CBC got it right: The Minister is laying the groundwork here for a much-delayed review.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, the comprehensive health care review stems out of the Financial Advisory Panel's final report. That final report suggests that copayments for pharmaceuticals should be considered in this report. They suggest that the government should look at whether Yukoners should pay more for their drugs to offset government costs of pharmaceuticals.

Can the minister confirm if the comprehensive health care review is going to look at raising the copay levels for pharmacare in Yukon?

**Hon. Ms. Frost:** No delays and no blaming of anyone — I think we are allowing an independent transparent process to evolve and we will do just that.

With respect to specific aspects — be it pharmacare or medical travel — we will assess that when we get it and we will make the determination on potential changes, if necessary. At this point, I will not prescribe as to what that will look like, but I will leave that up to the independent expert panel to advise me.

**Ms. McLeod:** I think I just heard the minister confirm that copayments for pharmaceuticals were on the table for her.

Mr. Speaker, currently, the fee for being a resident at a continuing care facility in Yukon is \$35 per day. We know the minister has said that the health care review is looking at ways to address costs in the health care system. The Premier also told us yesterday that the review will, in his words — quote: "... consider a principle-based approach to how much we have charged Yukoners for delivering those goods and services." It sounds like the health review will be looking at fees charged to seniors for staying at the community care facility. Can the minister confirm if the health review is going to consider raising these fees?

**Hon. Ms. Frost:** The member opposite clearly does not understand. The independent review is really just that — it's an opportunity for the independent expert panel to provide us some recommendations as a result of the Financial Advisory Panel's recommendations.

I have not committed to anything, nor will I prescribe as to what they should be doing. I will leave that in their good hands. Yukoners need to be informed of the facts.

Prescribing or saying something that I didn't say — I need to qualify that, and I did not say anything about delaying or blaming anyone. I will be as honest and transparent as I possibly can. If the media wants qualifications, I would be happy to provide that as well because it seems the member opposite is relying on bad information to provide her questions.

**Question re: Government website**

**Ms. Hanson:** This government announced the launch of a new government website shortly after being elected. The new website was to — and I quote: “... improve the delivery of online services and provide Yukoners with the information they need in a clear and accessible way.”

How I wish that was true. Instead, when searching for information, Yukoners — including Yukon government employees — are bounced around, then only shown error messages. This is especially worrisome when, for example, information on how to access the employee assistance program currently — as of noon — directs you to a “page not found” message.

Can the minister explain to this House what is going on with this new website long after his major announcement of a new-and-improved way to access government information?

**Hon. Mr. Silver:** I’m happy to talk about the yukon.ca website, which improves access to government information and services for Yukoners.

The mobile-enabled website focuses on the needs of the public, whereas the past website was more focused on public service needs. Since launching yukon.ca in February 2018, we have added over 2,750 pages, including a document repository, emergency and safety information, campground and recreation pages, government event listings and a directory of government buildings.

We have also committed to creating a new innovative way for the public to use yukon.ca, including the recent addition of filters to the search engine. Since launching yukon.ca, we have gathered more than 900 feedback forms and are continuing to adjust content to meet those needs.

I’m very pleased with the work that has resulted in an improvement in the public’s positive statements since the launch of the website. All departments are working to migrate the content to the website, focusing on pages that serve the needs of Yukon. I understand the frustration when you get a 404 message; I have looked into this and I am confident that the departments are working as expeditiously as possible on a website that is designed more for the needs of Yukoners as opposed to the public service.

**Ms. Hanson:** I would have hoped that employees seeking the employee assistance program would rank up high in a government that says they value public servants.

It’s important that the members of the public be able to easily access information on the government services they require. For example, if someone wants to know how to apply for a health care card — type it in the search bar, and it takes you to a list of 38 links, including: (1) tourism cooperative marketing guidelines; (2) guides to benefits for retirees; and (3) a guide to benefits for the judiciary. Nowhere does information on health care cards come up.

Another example: Enter “Women’s Directorate contact” — 30 results, ranging from 2018 employee engagement results to a Whitehorse cemetery walking tour. What does any of this have to do with finding a contact for the Women’s Directorate? There are countless other examples, but you get the picture.

When will the website actually provide meaningful information and meet the needs of citizens? What is the end date for the completion of this project?

**Hon. Mr. Silver:** I would like to thank the member opposite for bringing to our attention certain processes that aren’t working with this migration over to a new website. I don’t appreciate the Yukon Party laughing at the public servants who are working on this project. It’s not as if I or my team are the ones doing this. Again, they take great strides when we have members of the departments here to say, “Oh, our criticisms are for elected officials, not the departments”, yet they’re sitting here laughing as our public servants are doing the good work of transferring our website — over 2,750 pages — over to yukon.ca, already including six complete departments.

I want to say thank you for the work of each of those departments that have been working to make a website more accessible to the Yukon public. I believe that it’s a great website; I believe that there are going to be problems along the way. Thank you to the member opposite for bringing forth some of these concerns, and we will continue to work as we make sure that all departments get completely launched over into that new website.

**Ms. Hanson:** By now, I would have thought that we would have understood the concept of ministerial responsibility. This is not about public servants; this is about ministerial accountability.

In last year’s announcement, we were told that a quarter-million dollars had been spent in 2017-18 for planning, designing and developing the new website. Another \$75,000 would be spent on ongoing annual maintenance and support of the website and another \$33,000 for the development of content migration.

That doesn’t seem too bad for a project of this size, but it didn’t tell us what the cost was going to be in 2018-19, nor is there any information on projected costs for this year. Looking at the number of departments not yet migrated to the new site — 10 departments still to migrate and four corporations — there’s a lot more work that needs to happen to improve the current site.

What are the total costs of this project to date, and what are the anticipated costs for 2019-20?

**Hon. Mr. Silver:** Thank you to the member opposite for identifying a budgetary question for which we will definitely have the numbers for her in Committee of the Whole for the Executive Council Office. I do not have those numbers available at my fingertips right now, but I am endeavouring to get those numbers back as the Yukon Party continues to mock and laugh off-mic.

Mr. Speaker, we are very proud of the work that the departments are doing to make sure that we get all of the departments to move priority content over to yukon.ca throughout all of next year and of the work done to date. It is a herculean effort and I believe that it is good work. I believe that the new website and new visual identity, as well — again, the total cost of the visual identity, which I do have here, is \$123,935 for the total project.

Again, thank you for the work that the government has been doing in my office — the Executive Council Office — on this. Good work. We believe that this project is worth the money. We believe that a website that is designed for Yukoners is absolutely critical in this modern era when people get most of their information online.

**Question re: Solid-waste management**

**Ms. White:** Yesterday, in response to a question about waste management, the Minister of Community Services shared some new information with the House. Rather than implement a user-fee pilot project to test its implementation, the government is now planning to implement a Yukon-wide user-fee system. This comes as a surprise, since the ministerial report on solid waste states that, this year, the government would be piloting user fees at a peripheral transfer station. Implementing user fees Yukon-wide is a much bigger undertaking than simply implementing them at a single peripheral waste transfer station as a pilot project and will impact the implementation time frame.

Mr. Speaker, does the minister anticipate that a proposed Yukon-wide waste user fee will be implemented according to the timeline on the ministerial committee on solid waste, or will we face yet another delay when it comes to taking action on solid-waste management in the Yukon?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** I don't actually see this as a delay; I see it as an advancement.

The member has asked about solid waste. I think we both believe that we need a vision for sustainable solid-waste management that includes standardized services across the Yukon. We need to make sure that, however the service is provided, it is fair and serves all Yukoners.

The notion here is that waste costs money. If you don't deal with it up front in a polluter-pay model, it ends up costing more money to taxpayers at the back end. What we are trying to do is rightsize this for all the municipalities across the territory, and we are working in partnership with them.

It is the Solid Waste Advisory Committee that has made the recommendation to move this forward, not back. Do I have a timeline? No. What I've said in the Legislature is that we are working to achieve it this year. There is a lot of work to do. I think whenever that comes, what will happen is that we will have a period of time — say, six months to a year — where we give communities the opportunity to be informed about what's coming. I will answer further when I get further questions.

**Ms. White:** The reason we are asking about timelines related to user-fee implementation is that one of the largest inefficiencies in Yukon's waste management system is that alone.

The practice of Whitehorse residents driving waste out to peripheral transfer stations only for Yukon government to have to haul it back needs to stop. Take the Deep Creek transfer station, for example. The station serves a catchment area of 70 people — only 0.25 percent of the City of Whitehorse population — yet the operating budget is 10 percent of the cost of running the Whitehorse landfill. Deep

Creek's management per capita operating cost is 40 times higher than that of Whitehorse — a discrepancy that can only be explained by pressures from Whitehorse residents driving out of town.

Mr. Speaker, does this government know the yearly cost to Yukon's waste management system of Whitehorse residents driving to peripheral transfer stations to avoid paying tipping fees in Whitehorse?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** I couldn't agree with the member opposite more. It is wrong that without these tipping fees — what is happening is that people are driving their waste to another location and then we are paying twice for that. It is incorrect that this is the system. That is why we are working to change it. We are working to do that in concert with municipalities, to do it so that it is fair across the Yukon. It is completely correct. I have numbers on what it costs — as the member opposite has asked — for the various waste management facilities across the territory. What we don't have — because we are not identifying people at the door — is to say whether you're from Whitehorse or whether you are from that community. We haven't been gatekeeping that way. We do want to make sure that the landfills across the territory are gated, are staffed and that we all pay our fair price to take waste to the transfer stations.

By the way, it is not just that. We also need to make sure that we are diverting as much as possible because waste costs money. It is expensive. We want to make sure that we are creating a sustainable future for the territory.

**Ms. White:** I would like to thank the minister for his affirmation that I know what I am talking about. To our knowledge, no organized consultation on the implementation of tipping fees in Yukon's communities has occurred.

I appreciate that the minister has visited transfer stations around the Yukon — and so have I — but I don't believe that those visits rise to the level of consultation necessary to make territory-wide implementation decisions on such an important issue. Community and citizen consultation would help this government best understand how to structure a user-fee system. Conversations with waste management operators would ensure that its implementation goes as smoothly as possible.

Can the minister inform this House when, how and who community consultation will be conducted with when it comes to implementing a Yukon-wide user-fee system?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** Sure, Mr. Speaker, I would be happy to inform you and this House about how the game plan will work, but there seems to be some small misunderstanding here. In the municipalities, it will be the municipality that is charging the user fee. In those facilities around the territory where we are responsible, it will be us who are charging the user fee. We are working together with our communities.

In my last response, I just explained that once we design the system and figure out how it can work in its possibilities around the territory, then we will work to speak with the citizens of this territory about how to make this a fair system for everybody. We want to work together. That has been the plan all along. It is not about talking in landfills across the

territory; it is about talking with the mayors and councils across this territory.

**Question re: RCMP funding**

**Mr. Cathers:** While most of the positions in the RCMP M Division are jointly funded by the Yukon and the federal governments, the Yukon RCMP also receive part of their annual resources directly from Ottawa for positions that are 100-percent federally funded. We have learned that the federal policing budget for the RCMP M Division has been impacted by a reduction of resources. We understand that this budget was reduced by \$254,000, which effectively impacts two investigator positions.

When did the Minister of Justice learn of this reduction? What steps, if any, has she taken to raise this issue with her federal counterpart and push for this cut to be reversed?

**Hon. Ms. McPhee:** I will just note that it was difficult to hear all of what the member opposite said. I appreciate that he is asking about RCMP budgets. The Department of Justice works closely with the RCMP all of the time to ensure a professional, efficient and effective territorial police service that represents a worthwhile investment and promotes the principles of public trust, transparency and accountability.

I can also indicate that, in 2015-16, the Government of Yukon approved a four-year resource plan for the RCMP to ensure appropriate front-line policing capacity. Through significant, ongoing investments in police resources by the Government of Yukon since 2007, Yukon's complement of officers now reflects one of the highest ratios of police per capita in Canada, averaging one RCMP member for every 276 Yukoners.

**Mr. Cathers:** The minister mentioned that she hadn't heard part of my question. It was about the cuts that we learned have been made in the 100-percent federally funded portion of the RCMP budget.

At a time when the Yukon is dealing with an increase in drug-related crimes, including the opioid epidemic, we need increased resources for policing, not a reduction. We were disappointed to learn of this federal cut to the RCMP, which the Yukon RCMP have told us amounts to \$254,000 in their budget and effectively results in a loss of two investigator positions.

We know that the funding was a federal cut to the budget for the Yukon RCMP federal policing program. What we are asking is whether or not the Minister of Justice will stand up to her federal counterpart and impress on him the need to restore this funding. Will the minister agree to do that?

**Hon. Ms. McPhee:** I truly appreciate the question, because it does give me an opportunity to speak to Yukoners about how much this government does in fact stand up for Yukoners when we are having conversations, not only with our partners here in the territory, but with our partners across the country and with the federal government in turn, which has a significant role to play with respect to the RCMP function here in the territory. Through our partnership with the RCMP, a multi-year financial plan is updated on an annual basis. That work is done each and every year. The plan speaks

to resourcing and, of course, to capital planning over a five-year period for the RCMP.

The Yukon RCMP and the Department of Justice officials here in the territory have been speaking with our federal counterparts with respect to a budget plan of reduction to the federal investigations unit for 2018-19, which could lead — and I said it “could” lead — to a loss of up to four positions of that complement. That has not occurred. If it does occur — with respect to decisions made at the federal level — it will be carried out over a three-year period for implementation. I can indicate that I have had personal meetings with Minister Goodale, with Minister Blair and with — as she was then — Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould, and we have discussed the effect, if this happens, on the Yukon Territory.

**Mr. Cathers:** Mr. Speaker, according to the information we were provided with by the RCMP, locally they have already been impacted by a cut to the policing budget amounting to \$254,000.

Budgeting is about priorities, and the Yukon government has the option of providing more resources to the RCMP. This Liberal government has already been rightly criticized for freezing funding to NGOs and underfunding the hospital, while giving the Premier a raise and finding an extra \$255,000 for the Cabinet office budget.

When the Minister of Justice learned of the \$254,000 cut to the RCMP federal policing budget, did she consider options such as recommending cancelling the \$255,000 increase of Cabinet office budget and redirecting those resources to help the RCMP keep these two investigator positions?

**Hon. Ms. McPhee:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Again, I appreciate the question, although it is a long time to get there. The timing, with respect to the decisions or the suggestions made by the member opposite, is simply not realistic. By the way, \$254,000 is his figure, not mine. The conversations we are having with the RCMP began back in the fall of 2018. At that point, a joint territorial letter from the three Ministers of Justice across the top of Canada was written, along with a number of other outreach activities to the federal ministers so that we could describe, if this decision takes place, the impact that it would have on the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

The individuals making these decisions — which are Canada-wide, by the way — need to understand the unique circumstances of the north and the impact that it would have here. Those conversations are ongoing, and I'm very pleased to represent the Yukon there and continue to have those.

**Speaker:** The time for Question Period has now elapsed.

We will now proceed to Orders of the Day.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

**Hon. Ms. McPhee:** Mr. Speaker, I move that the Speaker do now leave the Chair and that the House resolve into Committee of the Whole.

**Speaker:** It has been moved by the Government House Leader that the Speaker do now leave the Chair and that the House resolve into Committee of the Whole.

*Motion agreed to*

*Speaker leaves the Chair*

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

**Chair (Mr. Hutton):** Committee of the Whole will now come to order.

The matter now before the Committee is Vote 27, *French Language Services Directorate*, in Bill No. 210, entitled *First Appropriation Act 2019-20*.

Do members wish to take a 10-minute recess?

**All Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Chair:** Committee of the Whole will recess for 10 minutes.

*Recess*

**Chair:** Committee of the Whole will now come to order.

### Bill No. 210: *First Appropriation Act 2019-20* — continued

**Chair:** The matter before the Committee is Vote 27, French Language Services Directorate, in Bill No. 210, entitled *First Appropriation Act 2019-20*.

Is there any general debate?

#### French Language Services Directorate

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** Firstly, I would like to say welcome — bienvenue — to Director Patrice Tremblay, and the Public Service Commissioner of the Yukon, who is responsible for the French Language Services Directorate.

Monsieur le Président, je présente le budget 2019-2020 de la Direction des services en français. Ce budget appuie les activités de la DSF et l'offre des services en français au gouvernement.

La DSF prévoit 6 302 000 \$ en dépenses de fonctionnement : une hausse de 9 % par rapport à l'an dernier. L'Entente Canada-Yukon signée en 2017 explique cette augmentation. Nous remercions le Canada pour les 5 247 000 \$ accordés pour 2019-2020. La contribution du gouvernement fédéral n'a jamais été aussi élevée : une augmentation de 491 000 \$. Elle garantira l'implantation de la *Loi sur les langues* du Yukon. La contribution du gouvernement du Yukon reste stable à 1 000 000 \$.

La DSF et la Commission de la fonction publique continuent d'implanter l'offre active gouvernementale. Les postes désignés bilingues permettront d'améliorer la prestation des services en français. Les budgets en personnel s'élèvent à 4 369 000 \$. Plus de 45 % du budget salarial financera les nouveaux postes désignés bilingues des ministères et des sociétés d'État. Nous avons 73 postes désignés bilingues dont un intervenant aux Services aux victimes et un conseiller en santé mentale : deux postes prioritaires pour les francophones.

De plus, 1 784 000 \$ supplémentaires seront affectés : aux demandes de traduction des ministères, aux contenus Web et aux informations urgentes sur les médias sociaux en français, à l'enseignement du français, aux contrats de traduction et aux autres programmes. Cette année, nous prévoyons traduire plus de 2 000 000 de mots. Plus de 45 % de la somme de 1 784 000 \$ sera investie dans les ministères et les sociétés d'État pour : implanter l'offre active dans le gouvernement, avoir une clinique bilingue (un investissement de 250 000 \$), aider la Régie des hôpitaux à améliorer l'accès aux services de santé en français (un investissement de 350 000 \$), organiser des consultations publiques bilingues, traduire des publications et des annonces, donner des cours de français. Nous investirons, cette année encore, 25 000 \$ dans des projets locaux selon notre accord avec le Québec. Nous poursuivrons l'implantation du cadre stratégique pour les services en français.

Nous avons menés des consultations publiques qui reflètent les priorités des francophones, comme les services de santé et les services sociaux : des points de services à forte fréquentation. Ce cadre renouvelle l'engagement de notre gouvernement à améliorer les communications et les services en français.

Monsieur le Président, c'est commentaires résumant les principaux éléments du budget et du plan d'activités 2019-2020 de la DSF. Je me tiens à la disposition des députés pour répondre à leurs questions à ce sujet.

Merci Monsieur le Président.

**Mr. Hassard:** I would like to thank the minister for his opening remarks and thank him for providing those of us who are a little less bilingual the English version to follow along. I would also like to thank the officials for being here today.

I don't think there are a lot of questions on my behalf for the French Language Services Directorate. I would certainly like to thank the officials for the very well-presented briefing, which probably is part of the reason that I don't have as many questions today. I think I just have three or four, so we will work our way through them.

First off, I am just curious: Are there any NGOs funded through the French Language Services Directorate?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** We do fund l'AFY — Association franco-yukonnaise.

We put out a call for funding through those funds that I mentioned that come from Quebec to support — it's more programming or project funding. There's an intake each year, and once those projects are selected, then I send a letter of thanks to the Province of Quebec for their support.

There are other non-governmental organizations that we support as a government, but through FLSD — the French Language Services Directorate — it is dominantly l'AFY that we are funding. For example, the Commission scolaire francophone du Yukon — CSFY — is funded through the Department of Education. It's not funded through FLSD.

**Mr. Hassard:** I thank the minister for that.

Could he possibly tell us what the funding arrangement is or what the funding amount is for l'AFY this year, Mr. Chair,

and what it was last year so we can see the difference — if there is any difference?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** I wish it could be a simple answer, but I'll try to give it as clearly as I can. It is \$120,000 this year. We did not fund them last year, but I don't want to mislead in any way. It's the same dollars they got last year. It just happens that last year was through the Department of Education.

The funds came over and are distributed from us this year, so there's no change from the government's perspective in how much l'AFY is getting. I would have to work to get some information to see back in time how that might have changed previously. I know we very often work with Association franco-yukonnaise — AFY — and we do lots of back and forth with them. In terms of funding, as it was explained to me, it was \$120,000 this year.

**Mr. Hassard:** I thank the minister for that. A question regarding the minister's — I know that he has talked in this Legislature about his travel out to rural Yukon. Has the minister been out to visit schools throughout the territory in his position as the minister responsible for the FLSD?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** To clarify, the main mandate of the French Language Services Directorate is to ensure the provision of services in French within the government and also to support translation, as I was saying in the opening remarks, to make sure that francophones can access information in French — things like that.

I have done some things in the community — community engagements, for example. I have gone with the Minister of Education to do some work with Commission scolaire francophone du Yukon. There have been a few things I have done there, but I was just doing them to support the French community. I wasn't really acting in the capacity of Minister responsible for the French Language Services Directorate; I didn't have that specific role.

I'll see if there are other questions and whether I have answered them or not.

**Mr. Hassard:** I think that's fine. That will keep anyone happy who was interested, for sure.

The next question is: Could the minister give us an update on the current status of the active offer?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** Again, just generally, it is progressing and doing well, in part because of the increase in the federal transfer payments. We have now trained 300 front-line staff in active offer. We now have 73 designated bilingual positions across government, including a bilingual victim services worker and a bilingual mental health counsellor. I hope it goes without saying that whenever those positions are on the front line, then they are using active offer, so it is in support of active offer.

We are not just expecting that it is in person. We are doing things like trying to get more information out. The way that the public seeks information these days is changing. For example, they are looking for online information and information on their mobile devices. So we have, for example, a French social media, @LeYukonfr. But we are also prioritizing those notices that are public safety notices to make

sure that there is as quick a turnaround as possible to get that information out.

I will also say that we are about to sign a memorandum of understanding with the Yukon Hospital Corporation to improve access to health services in French, and that is all under that umbrella of active offer.

**Mr. Hassard:** I would just like to let the minister know that most of that information was provided during the briefing. I just thought it was important to have it on the record.

I have a question regarding funding that was provided by the federal government. In February 2018, they committed to a five-year action plan on funding for recruitment and retention for French immersion teachers. I am just curious as to if the minister could update us on how much money the territory got from the federal government for that program.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** Unfortunately, Mr. Chair, I will have to turn to my colleague, the Minister of Education, to get that information because it is not through us that it is happening. Either the Leader of the Official Opposition or I can get that question to the Minister of Education. We can get at that.

What I can say is that, through the federal-provincial-territorial table — I had the opportunity to co-chair that table for the past year, and my role will be ending as of June this year — we did raise that as an important question over the past couple of years.

We did work collegially across the country on how to try to support more opportunities for French language teachers for immersion.

We were trying to work with the departments of education across our respective jurisdictions to improve it. So we have had some activity on the file, but unfortunately I am not able to get a direct answer for the member opposite at this point.

**Mr. Hassard:** I would like to thank the minister for that. Because the announcement was made by Minister Joly, I thought that it possibly would have fallen under French Language Services.

With that, Mr. Chair, I believe I am ready to turn the floor over to the NDP.

**Ms. White:** Merci Monsieur. Pour commencer, j'aimerais offrir mes félicitations, car ce qu'on vient d'entendre de la part du ministre c'est une amélioration que c'est difficile à comprendre parce que depuis 2016 à maintenant c'est bien différent. Alors félicitations. Je veux offrir mes bienvenues au sous-ministre de la Direction des services en français puis la sous-ministre de la Commission de la fonction publique.

I have to say that I was absolutely flabbergasted by the minister's introduction today and congratulate him on the improvement since 2016. He must be very proud, and so must his teachers, because that was fantastic. That is really exciting, and I think it is really exciting because we represent a territory where the percentage increases on a yearly basis of people who identify as being francophone. Although we don't have a francophone in the Legislative Assembly, it's so important that, as francophiles, we show the importance of language by

learning — and especially not having the benefit of having gone through French immersion — it is absolutely spectacular.

I would like to start with that because that says a whole bunch of things to the community without even having to do it in dollars, although the dollars — I have to say, Mr. Chair — have definitely increased since the first time I called them for debate in 2012. I just wanted to start with that.

Like my colleague has said, the briefing was so thorough that there are not very many questions.

The minister did mention — and I am going to see if I can find it again. I am going to have to find it first before I ask about it.

Here is a question: How come the funding for l'AFY has moved from the Department of Education to the French Language Services Directorate?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** I think the reason is — and I am sure that there is always a range of reasons about why we fund from one group or another, but it was really about French language training. FLSD has French language training and works in a very close partnership with l'AFY. That is why it was felt that it was a better fit for the funding to come from. We basically, on our side, transferred the transfer payment agreement from Education over to the FLSD, but it didn't change that we had been working closely with l'AFY already at that point.

**Ms. White:** That segues beautifully into the French language training. I thank the deputy minister for getting those numbers to us. The numbers that have been shared with us — so we have 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19. One of the questions that I just want to talk about and maybe jump into is about the numbers for 2018-19. There were a total of 370 people who accessed those services, but the number is down from 402 in 2016-17. One of the questions I have is: Is that a concern to the department? Are we trying to engage more people to take the French classes? Are we happy with the numbers as they are? What kind of changes do we expect?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** I think I'm looking at the same numbers as the member opposite. Generally, no, we don't have a concern. Back in 2016-17, there was an attempt by the department to reach more people. They tried different avenues to reach more people, but they weren't necessarily having as much contact with those people through the training. It was more folks but not as intensive as it is right now. The numbers talk about the number of people who are there, but they don't talk about, say, the learning outcomes.

Overall, though, we have been very pleased with the ability of the departments to introduce more French language into the public service. We're quite happy with that.

We're also, I think, getting to that point, as the member opposite talked about — I don't know if you want to call it "acceptance" or "normalization", but it is the notion that there are other languages out there and not just English — of course, not even just English and French. Today was quite a day when we heard Gwich'in as a language in one of our tributes.

As well, I will just say for this House that, in our work around trying to advocate for the French language and its promotion here in the territory as one of the two official languages, we've also acknowledged that supporting indigenous languages supports French, and supporting French supports indigenous languages. All of them are sitting in a minority situation here in the Yukon, and thus there are ways to help all of them.

What I want to say is that we feel good about the French language training that is going on, generally. I look at other things to try to give me a sense of whether French is moving ahead in the territory and in the government. This is one indicator, but not the only one that we use.

**Ms. White:** Just as far as information collection — in 2018-19, it said that there were 219 Yukon government employees that had accessed French language classes, and I was wondering if there was a metric or a matrix that the French Language Services Directorate used to see, for example, progress within departments. The reason why I ask that is that you may have someone who, in their first class, is a bit shy to say "hello" in French but by the second class will start to be a little more confident even just to say "hello" and get someone else.

I just want to know with what kind of effect did the department follow those numbers — and to see what that looked like within the public service. I am not expecting that they are going to do the Bonjour Yukon or the active offer — but that they are more comfortable. Because, like anyone can tell you as they learn something new, you are a little bit shy when you start; you are a little bit hesitant to talk.

I just want to know how those numbers reflected within the public service and if there was a way that the department tracked it or paid attention.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** The answer is yes. It is tracked several ways by departments; it is tracked by individuals to watch progress over time.

To be clear for everyone here — and I'm guessing that the member opposite already knows this — this is not about active offer itself; this is just about individuals within government who are seeking to upgrade, improve and gain some proficiency with the French language. So we do have numbers.

One of the things that I will say about the department is that about a year or so ago — because we were watching, and we would always talk when we go to these meetings in other provinces and territories about what is going on here — they started to provide me with a dashboard, talking about things that are changing over time so that we could track what is happening a little bit.

To answer specifically — yes, it is broken out. The department is happy to try to provide more detailed information for members of the Legislature if it is wanted, or just as a point of interest if they are just curious to know.

**Ms. White:** There wasn't the confusion as to whether or not that was active offer — people taking the classes — because it was already highlighted that there were 73. I just think it broadcasts the importance of inclusion. Even if you

can't go much past saying "hello", but "hello" in the language of your choice is a great way to start the conversation, even if you can't go past that.

That is why I think the number of 219 within the public service — even though there may be repeat numbers, they are really important numbers because I understand that it's not that.

That leads us into the 73 for active offer. That number is drastically different from what it was a number of years ago, which is definitely a feather in the cap of the French Language Services Directorate — congratulations.

The minister mentioned the two positions — victim services and the other — which I think are important. Maybe he can give us an idea — I don't need all the departments itemized, but if we can just have an idea of where they are spread out, then how they're identified, how we make sure that there is a French language speaker who remains in those departments and how someone could find the information about where they are.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** I can give a little bit of an indication today, but I can also say that the department is preparing a report overall, which I will table next week, that will give the breakdown. What we did is work with the Public Service Commission and met with the departments to identify whether they are they an outward-facing department or an inward-facing department? Are they an area the French language community has identified as a priority — for example, health?

So we balanced those two things out and then we distributed them across government. It's a pretty big range. The simplest answer to it all is that the dominant factor was health and social services and the hospital. Together they will make up the biggest part. After that it would be Justice. It was based on the priorities of the francophone community.

When I met with the francophone community, the sorts of things they tell me are that they are looking for that service when they're in a stressful situation, when they are rushing — or maybe, for example — like what happens if you have a parent who has arrived who isn't proficient in English and they have a child and they need to focus on that child's health — those types of situations are the ones where I think the francophone community has identified to us that we should try to prioritize this area.

I'm happy to get that information. I can say to you, Mr. Chair, that we will be tabling it, I believe, in the next week or so.

**Ms. White:** I look forward to the report — that's great.

The minister mentioned the funding for projects. It just says "Appel de projets 2019". It's an application to Quebec and I guess the closing date is relevant because it closes on March 18. Is there any idea of how many people or groups applied for that project funding? I realize it's through the Government of Quebec, so there might not be an answer because it's not coming directly from the department, but just more of an idea of the interest in applying for that kind of funding.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** What's typical is a half-dozen or a dozen projects that come in. We work by sitting down with the francophone community ahead of time to identify priorities in effect, so if projects come in, where we should try to focus the funding. It's usually spent out.

We usually are over-subscribed so we can't typically fund everything that is there. That's the typical process.

We usually advertise — we put out the call through *L'Aurore boréale* and through the community itself.

I think it's well-used. I had to say goodbye to a long-standing colleague from Quebec — I guess it is now last year when we met — Mr. Jean-Marc Fournier, who I think had been elected for several decades. It was quite something. He had chosen not to put his name forward in the fall election. I think as a table of ministers from across the country, we were really taken with his generosity to all of us as other jurisdictions. This was an example of that.

**Ms. White:** I do appreciate the answer. At this point in time — I explain this to the deputy minister on a regular basis when he comes for the briefing — but the French Language Services Directorate is substantially less contentious than it was back when it was buried in Highways and Public Works. We have seen great changes. We have seen the funding of pilot projects in the health field and we have seen them adapted into permanent projects within health, which is astronomical.

Unlike in many years previous, the debate used to last a lot longer and it was a lot less complimentary, mostly because we were working at trying to change things.

At this point in time, I don't have any more questions, but if the minister has any highlights that he would like to share with the House, we would be happy to hear them. I thank the officials for being in the Chamber today.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** I want to thank the members opposite for their questions and for their support of the work that the department is doing.

I would also like to give a shout-out because this is the first time that the department is here in this Legislature under the Public Service Commission. We strategically chose that position in order to integrate more broadly with the public service. I think it's a good fit. I am very happy that she has been able to be here.

I won't have too much more in the way of announcements from things that I said at the beginning, but I will just reiterate a couple of points. The first one is that our annual report will be out, I think, within a week. There are some highlights that are in there. I won't steal the thunder of that, but I will at least get that out here. We're happy about that work.

The second one is that when I landed an acknowledgement to the previous government, they had a four-year strategic framework in place. We have just gone through all the process of working with the community to establish the new one. It's now there.

Finally, I just found out — I spoke incorrectly earlier when I said we were about to sign a memorandum of understanding with the Hospital Corporation. We have now



signed a memorandum of understanding with the Hospital Corporation.

Thanks as well to the public officials. I appreciate them being here to support our conversation today.

**Chair:** Is there any further debate on the French Language Services Directorate?

Seeing none, we will proceed to line-by-line debate.

**Ms. White:** Pursuant to Standing Order 14.3, I request the unanimous consent of Committee of the Whole to deem all lines in Vote 27, French Language Services Directorate, cleared or carried, as required.

**Unanimous consent re deeming all lines in Vote 27, French Language Services Directorate, cleared or carried**

**Chair:** Ms. White has, pursuant to Standing Order 14.3, requested the unanimous consent of Committee of the Whole to deem all lines in Vote 27, French Languages Services Directorate, cleared or carried, as required.

Is unanimous consent granted?

**All Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Chair:** Unanimous consent has been granted.

*On Operation and Maintenance Expenditures*

*Total Operation and Maintenance Expenditures in the amount of \$6,302,000*

*On Capital Expenditures*

*Total Capital Expenditures in the amount of nil agreed to*

*Total Expenditures in the amount of \$6,302,000 agreed to*

*French Language Services Directorate agreed to*

**Chair:** The matter now before the Committee is Vote 51, Department of Community Services, in Bill No. 210, entitled *First Appropriation Act 2019-20*.

Do members wish to recess?

**All Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Chair:** Committee of the Whole will recess for 10 minutes.

*Recess*

**Chair:** Order, please. Committee of the Whole will now come to order.

The matter before the Committee is Vote 51, Department of Community Services, in Bill No. 210, entitled *First Appropriation Act 2019-20*.

Is there any general debate?

**Department of Community Services**

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** I am rising mostly to welcome Deputy Minister Matt King and Assistant Deputy Minister Andrea Buckley. I would like to thank them for joining us here today to discuss Community Services. I gave a fairly detailed speech at second reading, so I won't go back through that. I am happy to get into conversation about Community

Services and the work that we are doing, and I look forward to the discussion today.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** I also welcome the officials from the department.

In the budget highlights under the capital plan, in the small document that we were first given, it stated that there was \$277 million over five years for community and First Nation infrastructure. Under that were listed clean water, the Carmacks arena and the Whitehorse air tanker, and it also states new fire halls, yet in the five-year capital plan, there were no fire halls listed.

Can the minister tell us if there are plans for new fire halls? Will any of this \$277 million, or a portion thereof, go to any of these fire hall projects?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** We do have in the budget for this year the Mayo fire hall being replaced. In the scoping phases over the next five to six years, we have identified the Klondike Valley fire hall and the Marsh Lake fire hall, but those are in scoping phases. There is no decision yet, and we haven't started to place them into the queue as of yet, but there is ongoing conversation with those communities and also work by the infrastructure branch to start to identify potential funds.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** Under the community development solid-waste landfill agreements, there was a significant drop in the funding allocation — about \$100,000. Could the minister explain the reason for this? Is it due to privatizing more landfills?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** The story around this is what I was speaking about in Question Period today. It's the overall regionalization of the solid-waste facilities across the territory. What will happen is that, rather than us spending money on some of the smaller landfill facilities around the territory — the smallest in size anyway, not in terms of per capita cost. As I said, waste costs money, and it is good to watch those numbers. Instead, that money will go to the municipalities that take on the regional landfills in their areas.

As well, some money will go into capital to do upgrades to those landfills to get them ready and make them more able to take on that work. It's part of this whole regionalization.

I don't want to suggest at this point that costs are going down, because there's still all this work to do and there are still numbers to sort through. Overall, the amount of money that we have been contemplating is still pretty much the same, but we're trying to gain efficiencies out of the system by regionalizing. We will watch to try to see how it changes over time. We do think that there are some efficiencies overall by going through the regionalization process.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** The regionalization or the downsizing of the rural landfills — I know there has been the suggestion of user fees, as we spoke about earlier, and also attendants in these particular areas. Who covers the cost of the attendants? Will these attendants be there year-round?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** That's the whole idea of user fees.

I said this in Question Period earlier today. We are not downsizing our rural community landfills; we're upsizing them. What we are doing is closing the smallest, most

inefficient landfills and moving to make sure that regional landfills — like Watson Lake, Dawson, Mayo, Carmacks and Haines Junction — will handle the broader areas around them. We will concentrate resources into those landfills. The way they will generally pay for themselves over time is twofold. One is that the department, which doesn't take on the cost of, for example, the Silver City landfill — that money is diverted to Haines Junction. We invest in Haines Junction to upgrade it and put in some capital dollars — let's say, to put in a scale in Haines Junction. At the same time, there will be slightly higher costs for Haines Junction, which will be offset by the user fees themselves.

That's the overall model, but we're still in that dialogue with the municipalities to come up with those regional agreements. We are treating it as a whole-of-territory approach to move toward a polluter-pay model for our landfills so that we can get rid of these inadvertent costs.

We have the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, which I have often spoken about here. We take guidance from it, and sitting on that committee are four representatives chosen by the Association of Yukon Communities and also the Association of Yukon Communities itself.

We are still in the middle of developing those models and operating agreements. Once those agreements are there as a framework, that is when we go back out to the public and start talking with them more broadly.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** Specific to the Marsh Lake landfill, I have a question on the budget for this year's operation and also as to why they are no longer composting at that particular landfill.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** The Marsh Lake solid-waste transfer station — I can't help but now and then, as a community member, call it "the dump", although I'm sure I hear some of the folks from operations crying out in agony when I use that term.

The composting there was done as a community initiative. It was led by the community, and it was trialed for a while. It had some challenges. It was under the society that was running the landfill, and they decided that they couldn't continue with it at that point.

I want to give a little bit of acknowledgment to one of our local innovators in the territory. He has been making some amazing machines that can do composting on a range of scales — Mr. Garrett Gillespie. I think he calls his devices the "compost liberators". He is working next on a smaller scale one, which would better for our smaller landfill facilities here.

The initiative, as far as I understand it, was never part of the agreement that we had with the society. I want to note that around the territory it is my general understanding that there were two communities that had societies running their landfills — Marsh Lake and Mount Lorne — both in my riding. We let them know late last year, or sometime in the past several months, that we were unable to just directly award contribution agreements to the societies because we knew that there were private sector folks around that also were willing to run those facilities, so what we asked was that they

compete on requests for proposals, and we encouraged them to apply.

In Marsh Lake, the society decided not to apply for the RFP. I believe that in Mount Lorne, they have decided to apply. Again, those initiatives might be taken up by the society. For example, I know that Mount Lorne was trying to do composting. It's not easy. I just want to acknowledge that. In our facilities, it's not easy to do composting because you get a range of stuff coming in. Mr. Gillespie, who I referenced earlier, could come in here and talk to us about those little labels that appear on pieces of fruit like apples and individual oranges. Those labels sometimes make it so that he is unable — you have to get them out of there somehow and you can't pick them out by hand, so his machine needs to try to do that in order for him to end up with organic compost at the end. It's really quite challenging. Then you think about the ranges of stuff that we bring into our landfills and the importance of making sure that we're not creating an attractant for bears — and all landfills are, so how to protect against bears?

What I want to say is that if we get to solutions around composting, we're going to have to be working in partnership with all of our communities over time. We don't have good solutions yet. We have some great entrepreneurial ideas going on.

The other thing that I just want to note is that when those two contracts that I spoke about both in Marsh Lake and Mount Lorne were put forward — the request for proposals — we met with the communities ahead of time and spoke to them about what they would like to see. We moved to the value-driven contracts that the Minister of Highways and Public Works has been discussing rather than a purely price-driven contract. Again, that was in response to talking with the communities themselves.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** There was an amount allocated for Hamilton Boulevard for \$250,000. Could the minister describe the scope of work that this entails?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** We have \$250,000 in the budget as an ongoing piece to address the effects to Hamilton Boulevard.

This is one of those instances where, when the road went in, we uncovered ice lenses in the road itself. No doubt the warming climate has caused some challenges for that road. In answer to the member opposite's question, it is \$250,000 through our O&M budget.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** Swinging to another road, there was mention of helping with Range Road improvements. I was wondering if there is anything in this year's budget and also if any money will be transferred to the city to help with their O&M.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** Generally, Mr. Chair — and I know I just rose to speak about Hamilton Boulevard, but I think of it as an exception. Community Services is not typically responsible for roads. The way we get involved is when our municipal or First Nation partners come to us and name certain things as their priority. We do get road requests from our municipalities or First Nation governments, and then we work through the infrastructure process. If they say, "This

is our priority”, we make it their priority and we work that way. There is nothing that I know of from the City of Whitehorse regarding asking for dollars around Range Road improvements.

I would have to turn to the Minister of Highways and Public Works to understand how, when the work happens — you know, they do intersections. I just don’t know quite how far they go and what all that entails and where the trade-off happens between the municipality — or not. For example, we have approval for funding this year within the community of Teslin — again, based on the priority that they had identified — for us to do BST — bituminous treatment — and drainage for a road there. We have had conversations with several municipalities about roads when they are their priorities, and I look forward to some of those announcements.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** With respect to several other projects — the Burwash water treatment plant, the Rock Creek water treatment plant and another road, the Dawson City Turner Street upgrades — could the minister tell me where these projects are funded?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** We are just working to try to get the very specific information across. I think I have dropped one of the ones that the member opposite asked me for. I will answer two of them and then if I could just get her to repeat the third one, I can find it.

Front and Turner Street — if it is the waste-water upgrades that we are discussing, that one is under the clean water and waste-water fund. I believe that the Burwash project is under the small communities fund. I apologize; I missed the third one.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** Rock Creek water treatment plant — I imagine it would be small communities fund as well.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** The clean water and waste-water fund — CWWF.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** I have a question from our Kluane MLA. He was wondering what monies from the federal community infrastructure fund are allocated to the Village of Haines Junction and CAFN, and what are the cost-sharing arrangements? Is there a formula used for each community?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** There are several funds out there, and I will do my best to try to speak about each of them. As we go through them, they are slightly different — each one. The clean water and waste-water fund, the small communities fund and the Investing in Canada infrastructure plan — we have been working on a 75/25 model. So far, all of the projects that we have done have been the 25 percent from us as Yukon government and the 75 percent is from the federal government.

The Infrastructure Development branch has gone to each community, spoken with each municipality and spoken with each First Nation and asked them to identify their priorities. Then we start to allocate them under those various funds. The clean water and waste-water fund is nearly spent.

I think we have a year, or a year and change, that’s left on that fund. We are now shifting more to the small communities fund. Starting this year, the Investing in Canada infrastructure plan dollars will start to flow.

With respect to Haines Junction, there are several projects there. For this past year — the year we’re finishing up, for example — there are water, sewer and road upgrades and a waste-water lift station replacement. We have some projects coming up — solid-waste site improvements — that are over and above the regionalization that I was discussing earlier: sewage lagoon upgrades and buried infrastructure upgrades, which is a phased project, and there are several phases. That will be work that is coming up.

On top of that, we have the gas tax fund, and within the gas tax fund there is a formula. That one is more a fund where the dollars are allocated to each municipality and First Nation as part of a formula, and then that money can accrue and be spent out once the community identifies — whether that’s the municipality or First Nation — the project that they wish to put it toward. Then we work with them to administer those funds.

For the Village of Haines Junction, the percentage each year is 2.9 percent, which results in \$482,000. For Champagne and Aishihik First Nations, it is 2.84 percent, which results in \$468,000. However, this year through the federal budget, those dollars are doubled for the upcoming year as a one-time influx, so that will make \$936,000 for Champagne and Aishihik First Nations, and for the Village of Haines Junction, it will be \$965,000 or thereabouts into their gas tax fund.

I would have to go back to the department and dig out some numbers to know how much money is remaining, because sometimes those funds have been accruing while the municipality or the First Nation plans for a project and saves up their funds for a period of time. I’m not talking about — so those are dollars that will flow into the fund this year, not what dollars are in the fund in total.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** For a few years now, the minister has been speaking about reviewing fees and fines to increase the revenue to support better programs and services. I was wondering if this has been ongoing, what they’re looking at and when they will be implemented if the minister decides to increase fines and fees for increased revenue.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** I’m going to have to go back to check where I said this before. I don’t recall saying that, but we always are looking at the fees — at least somewhat. The main one that we have been focused on has been around solid waste and how to get that model correct for paying for the solid waste. We know that it costs money. Currently, it uses a tax-based model, and what we’re trying to get it to is more of a user-pay model.

For example, we’re in an engagement process right now on the designated materials regulations to look at fees for single-use bags. That would then work to do a couple of things. The main one is to try to reduce the number of single-use bags. We have cloth bags. We have the technology here. We don’t need that type of system. So we say to users that if they want to do it, we’ll just put a fee on it. That fee then turns around and helps to pay for the recycling of those bags. That’s a user-fee model.

We have talked about our landfills and items like that. We have a range of things that we’re trying to work on here

around solid waste to make it more sustainable over the long term. While we are always trying to watch what is happening with fees and how the services are provided against those fees, generally those are the places we're working on right now.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** Has the minister met with all the local advisory councils in the Yukon? If he has, which one has he yet to touch base with and when will he be doing this?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** We have five local advisory councils in the territory, and four of them are within my own riding. I try to sit down with them every month or two — the ones in my own riding.

Annually, we have a local advisory council group meeting. Community Affairs puts that meeting on and deals with issues that are common to all of the local advisory council districts. The department always works with the LACs to set their agenda and provides resources and materials for them. At the same time, I always attend those meetings to answer questions.

There is one local advisory council that is not in my riding but is in the Member for Lake Laberge's riding, and I had the pleasure of attending a meeting with them just last month, I think — it might have been earlier this month. The member was also there. That was my first time sitting down with them directly, although I have met with their chair at the forums when all the LACs are present. That's me as minister.

What I will say is that the department meets with those folks all the time. We have community advisors who generally work with each municipality, but also work with LACs — and even in meetings with unincorporated communities that are maybe even too small for a local advisory council — for example, Keno.

I have said in this House before, and I will say it again, that I think of the Department of Community Services as a kitchen sink. We try to fill in where there might not be other groups that would be filling in, so we meet with a lot of communities around the territory on a fairly regular basis.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** Apparently, it was unincorporated communities that I was looking for. The Member for Kluane would like to know if you have had meetings in Beaver Creek, Destruction Bay and the Alaska Highway.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** Yes, Mr. Chair, I have met in Beaver Creek; I think I have been there twice, if memory serves. When White River First Nation came to Whitehorse, I met with them as well. I unfortunately did not make it down the Alaska Highway in my most recent round of community tours; we were not able to line up the meetings well for our community partners. I think I have been to Burwash three times — at least once with the Minister of Education — and I have been to Destruction Bay twice for meetings.

I will say that I have been on the phone with Destruction Bay several times in the last month, just trying to deal with a very specific concern for the community — to get their marina back up and running.

I will say that I haven't met with anyone in Silver City. If there are folks who want to meet and I'm heading down the road, I will do my best to stop in and have a conversation with them.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** Other than the Carmacks arena, are there plans for any new recreational infrastructure in rural Yukon communities during the next few years?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** I'm going to start with an answer. If I don't get it all here, I'll try to finish it off when I next pop up. The straight answer is yes — there is actually quite a bit.

I know, for example, that we have all sorts of funding that we do through the Yukon Recreation Advisory Council where we identify support for sport governing bodies around the territory and community groups around the territory to get them funding.

We do the community recreation advisory group — I often call it "CRAG funding" — which often is for recreation funding.

Then, on the capital side, there are some projects that might be here, but we think of as serving the territory. For example, the artificial track and field, which is going in now — I walked by late last night just to have a peek and got my feet muddy looking at the work that's going on.

We are working on the Old Crow recreation centre. We are working on some other recreation centres. I know that the Tagish recreation centre — we have been doing some upgrades there. I know that we have other communities that have identified recreation as important. For example, Dawson has identified work that they believe they need to see. We have several pools around the territory that are in scoping work right now for repairs and/or upgrades or replacement — we have to wait and see.

We have other groups that are coming to us, and they are just asking for support for their facilities. Some of those groups, again, deal with more than just Whitehorse — although they might be located in Whitehorse — for example, gymnastics Yukon. Another group is looking to try to develop some climbing resources. Again, it's not critical that it be in Whitehorse, but it may end up being in Whitehorse.

Then overall, we are investing quite a bit of money. We have partnered with the City of Whitehorse to host the 2020 Arctic Winter Games. We are investing pretty heavily in that. I think we all know as Yukoners that those games — it's really important that we support our communities and their involvement around that. There will be lots of work where we reach out to the communities to engage our youth.

One more tiny little thing — I hope I get her name right, but I believe it is Jasmin Stange. She was our first Dawson athlete at the national Special Olympics games this past summer. It was a treat to see her kicking the ball to earn the silver medal at the games.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** Those are a lot of projects that aren't listed. There's \$1.854 million under Community Recreation/Active Living. There's another \$3.755 million under Sport. Is it possible for us to get a breakdown of where all the money is going? Because we cannot see it in the budget. It's just a block of big numbers — if that is doable, please.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** I will give an answer right now, but I will also be happy to share information across because I

am going to throw out a lot of numbers right away. I will do it to respond, but then I'm happy to get it back across as well.

The other thing I want to say is that all those projects that I just listed are not coming out of the sport and recreation capital side. They are coming from working with our municipal, First Nation and community partners as they identify priorities, and then we go back to the infrastructure funds and we try to say to them: "Don't worry about which fund we are going to, we will make that work." We just want to try to deal with their priorities as they name them, but specifically, I think the question was around the \$1.854 million for recreation groups. It is \$800,000 for the CRAG — community recreation assistance grants that I spoke about earlier. It is \$145,000 for the Yukon Recreation Advisory Council — that is the group YRAC that funds sport and sport-governing bodies. It is \$375,000 for a new northern wellness program. It is \$145,000 with the Yukon active living strategy that is delivered by Recreation and Parks Association of the Yukon — everyone I think knows them as RPAY. There is another \$371,000 for operating funding for groups like RPAY, ElderActive and Special Olympics Yukon.

In terms of the \$3.75 million for sport groups, that is \$1.58 million for the Yukon Sport for Life program — this is application-based funding that supports enhanced sport development initiatives; \$453,000 for the Yukon Recreation Advisory Council for application-based funding — it is not for the committee itself, Mr. Chair; the council sits and allocates the funds out — \$200,000 for the Aboriginal Sport Circle, and \$240,000 for games participation.

We had the Canada Winter Games this year, and we have the Arctic Winter Games coming up — \$950,000 for games hosting — that is in partnership with the City of Whitehorse; \$110,000 goes for high performance athletes; \$160,000 is for an aboriginal bilateral agreement — by the way, that agreement is 100-percent recoverable — and \$60,000 in funding for the Yukon Avalanche Association to provide support for them. Just a small comment on that group — they are a non-governmental organization. They did not get their financials in, and we asked them to please get them in. We sat down with them and they asked us if they could move to a three-year agreement, and we said absolutely, just so long as they get us their financials. But we also worked with them to leverage double that amount of money through the Canadian Avalanche Association. We sat down with them as well. I think I spoke about that the other day in the House.

There is another \$67,000 going to the Yukon Volunteer Bureau.

Again, I will provide this information for the members opposite so that they get a detailed list and don't have to rely on just my comments.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** Yes, I would appreciate the list of where all of the money is allocated. It is wonderful seeing big numbers, but we really don't see where and who is being helped.

The funding from the federal government for the clean water and waste-water fund — is it in its final year, or is this

an ongoing allocation? Can the minister provide an outline of which projects are taking place this year with this funding?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** Originally, this was to be the last year of the clean water and waste-water fund. I think I have said previously that the federal government extended it for one more year to the year 2020-21 — the fiscal year — so the year after the fiscal year that we are debating today. However, we are working to try to spend the lion's share of the remaining clean water and waste-water fund this year, and then we will just be doing little bits — we are hopeful — in the following year if we need to. The funding allocation — how the money was planned to be spent — has been done for some time now. The projects that we have coming up this year in Dawson are: water and waste-water line upgrades, York Street waste-water lift station, and in Faro, buried infrastructure upgrades, phase 1 — that is water and waste water. We also have the water pumphouse and reservoir upgrades. I mentioned the projects in Haines Junction already for the sewage lagoon upgrades. In Mayo — waste-water lift station and buried infrastructure upgrades, their third phase of water and waste-water lines. In Watson Lake, there's sewage lagoon upgrades and in Whitehorse, downtown water and waste-water line upgrades. That is the list, as I have it, for the clean water and waste-water fund for this upcoming fiscal year.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** The minimum wage that is coming into effect shortly — has an economic analysis been done on the proposed changes to the minimum wage, outside of the review done by the Employment Standards Board?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** Not as of yet, Mr. Chair. The Employment Standards Board — again, I would like to give a bit of a shout-out to them. They did a lot of work. I would like to give a little bit of acknowledgement that the chair, just at the tail end after the board submitted their recommendations back to us, got snapped up and appointed to the Yukon Supreme Court — Ms. Suzanne Duncan.

We are in the process of finding a new chair for the board right now. When I wrote to the board after they provided us with their recommendations, I asked them whether or not they would give us an order to increase the minimum wage for April 1 — just coming up on Monday. Then I said to them that if that is what they give us as an order, we will work to get them an economic impact analysis so they could consider it. I have turned to my colleague the Minister of Economic Development for that work, and I think he will also discuss with the Minister of Finance how that economic impact analysis can be carried out. We will get that work done, and we will share it with the Employment Standards Board.

I will answer more questions as they come up, but I think that's the one that was being asked.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** The review did not include consultations with the Canadian Federation of Independent Business. What reason was provided by the board for excluding an organization that has approximately 200 members in the Yukon?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** If there was some sort of exclusion, I don't know of it. I asked the board, and I think

they were diligent about it — to be open to all who sought to provide information to them. I know, from speaking with the chambers, that the board did meet with them or did get feedback from them. I don't know of an example of the board refusing to talk to the group that the member opposite asked about. I'm at a little bit of a loss to know how to respond here.

I will take the question and pose it back to the board if the member opposite wishes. I did get a written question from the Leader of the Official Opposition about this. When I asked the department to look into it, what I heard was that there had been a call that went out wide. I hope this was heard by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business. Maybe it was, maybe it wasn't — I'm not sure. However, no submission was received, as far as I know, from that group.

If there's something amiss, all I can tell you is that, in working with the board, I asked them to be as open as possible. From what I understand, they were. I will just have to leave it there, because I'm being asked questions that are beyond me knowing an answer in my role.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** Has the government given consideration to creating a tiered minimum wage for the hospitality sector? Some of the hospitality might get a lot of gratuities on top of their wages; however, a tiered minimum wage as their entry level would perhaps be something to consider.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** In the recommendations that were given to me by the Employment Standards Board — and I will check the record. I certainly published those as soon as I saw them. I didn't sit on them in any way. I'll have to check whether or not I tabled it, but I would be happy to table that report here. I think I did.

You will see in there that the Employment Standards Board did consider a tiered system, and they rejected it.

When I sat down with them and asked them — short of the chair, because the chair had moved on — about their work, they discussed that. As far as I know, they didn't consider a tiered system based on a service sector that is earning other income through gratuities. However, when we looked at the act, we didn't see that it even allows for that at this point. If it is something that we want to consider, we'll have to look back.

I also just want to be careful here to emphasize that it is the Employment Standards Board that has the authority to set the minimum wage. They provide the orders to us. Our job as government is to accept or reject, but it is not our authority to modify those orders.

I have heard from the Third Party their support for the minimum wage and to go further. I am hoping that, at some point, the Yukon Party will let Yukoners know where they stand on the increase that will happen this Monday and the potential future considerations to minimum wage but I just want to be clear that it's not us as government that sets the minimum wage. It is the Employment Standards Board.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** Also, I would like to ask: What was the justification for maintaining the cost-of-living increases through the three-year wage increase period? That is how I have it written.

Also, will there be increases to the social assistance rates to reflect the increases in the minimum wage?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** The question feels like it's asking me about what the Employment Standards Board was thinking. I'm not able to answer that.

What I am able to do is to share their recommendations and the order that they gave to us. The recommendations that they gave to us suggested increases and an inflationary amount over three adjustment periods and then maintaining the inflationary amount going forward — CPI, the consumer price index.

In the order that they issued to us, it had the CPI in there and then asked that the CPI remain on an ongoing basis. Again, it is the board that made those recommendations.

What I will do is make sure to share those documents that they have given to me — which I have tried to make public — in case the member opposite wants to look and see the same things that I am seeing.

I have one more comment on the consumer price index. I will have to check the history, but I think the Yukon was the first jurisdiction to introduce the consumer price index many years ago. When I was first appointed to this role, it was the Yukon and the Province of Saskatchewan that had the consumer price index on an annual basis. Now there are three provinces and us, and another province is considering it, so more jurisdictions have been moving in this type of direction.

I think the member asked about other social assistance programs. What I would say is that the issue of poverty and poverty reduction is a very important issue. I think that the Minister of Health and Social Services is the best person to talk to about those social assistance programs. If the question is if we acknowledge that there is more than one way to address the issue of low-income earners in the territory — absolutely, we believe in that. I will let the Minister of Health and Social Services speak about the various programs that we are working on to try to support low-income Yukoners.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** The Employment Standards Board has the following criteria for membership: The minister appoints five members; there is a chair, two members representative of employers and two members representative of employees.

What process is used to choose the members? What business and labour associations are consulted when choosing these members?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** This is one of several boards in the territory with a quasi-judicial role.

We advertise widely anytime that there is a position that opens up on the board. Labour organizations and employer organizations, such as chambers, are welcome to submit or share among their membership when there is a position that is open on this board or others. The selection of people when they come forward — we try to strike a balance on the board with both employer and employee positions. We try to keep the chair in a very neutral role.

I have mentioned — and I think it's worth saying again — that our past chair was put on the Yukon Supreme Court, which is certainly a feather in her cap, but I thought it was a

good acknowledgement of the quality of persons that we seem to be attracting to this board.

Those people who come from the employee or employer side, the labour side or the business side don't represent those organizations. My understanding of this is that they're on a quasi-judicial board. My understanding is that, once they arrive in that position, their job is to act with impartiality and to represent all Yukoners in their decision-making. It is not unique to this board. I think we have several of these boards around the territory, and that is the job. That's what we task them with.

I will say that I thought the board put a lot of work in this analysis. I looked back at the previous work — that was done in 2012 — just as a comparator to see to what depth the board took it in this analysis. I thought they did quite a bit of work.

Could it have been more? Absolutely. But I thought it was a significant amount of work, and I would just like to acknowledge that work for all Yukoners.

**Chair:** Do members wish to take a 10-minute recess?

**All Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Chair:** Committee of the Whole will recess for 10 minutes.

*Recess*

**Chair:** Committee of the Whole will now come to order.

The matter before the Committee is Vote 51, Community Services. Is there any further general debate?

**Ms. Van Bibber:** Just before the break, the minister was talking a bit about the Employment Standards Board and its role as a quasi-judicial board and its relationship with the minister.

I am wondering if the minister could explain a bit more about the decisions of a quasi-judicial board and whether a minister can give direction to them or overrule them.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** The answer to that question probably lies in the act itself, and I suspect that each act will have different rules within it.

In looking at the *Employment Standards Act* — which is what governs the Employment Standards Board and my relationship with them — the board, for example, does a lot of work looking at disputes between employees and employers. I never see those disputes. I don't even know when they are ongoing.

When it comes to a minimum wage, I am able to request a review. They are also able to initiate a review, should they wish. They are able to provide a report or recommendations to me. I wrote back to them, requesting that they give us an order. They can give us orders for the minimum wage, and then the authority of Cabinet, at that point, is to accept or reject those orders.

If the member wants a fuller response, I can ask the department to do a legislative return to sort of outline it and talk about that role and relationship.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** Once the quasi-judicial board gives you a recommendation or an order, does the minister or Cabinet have their hands tied, or can they decide something different?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** We are just trying to pull up the act and get the specific language within the act. This is a very technical question. I want to make sure to get it right. I think I will just ask for the time to get the specific response.

I will give a general notion here. It's very different. A recommendation is not an order; a recommendation is just a description of their findings. So they are very different things under the act.

Once an order is given to us, we have the ability to accept it or reject it. Those are our two choices.

I will say again for the member opposite that I would be happy to get more information. I will encourage the members opposite to let us all know where they stand on the choices around minimum wage, because I think it's important for Yukoners to hear from all of us as parties here in this Legislature about our positions.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** I think that once we get the economic analysis that is not yet done, we will have a better stance.

A quasi-judicial board like the Employment Standards Board — while it is doing its work to make a recommendation or an order, is it okay for a minister to say what they want the outcome to be or what decision a board should reach? Does the minister think this structure is a good one?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** When I looked at other jurisdictions, I thought this was somewhat unique. I was surprised when I discovered that we as a government didn't have a role in setting the minimum wage. I suppose I haven't done the analysis yet to say which way I think it should be, but I am happy to do some of that work. Having not done that work, I don't want to provide an opinion about what I think about it at the moment. What I will say is that at all times I believe I respected the authority of the board in their role to make an order. I can say, for example, that once the board provided their report — their recommendation — I made it public virtually immediately. We just made the decision to share it publicly. Later on, when I started looking back and comparing this report to the previous time because I wanted to try to do some comparative analysis on it, I looked up in Hansard on how that had happened last time, and that is not what happened last time.

When the report was given by the Employment Standards Board in 2012, it was not shared with the public at first. In fact, there was a period of time when the minister stood up in the Legislature and said that the minister had not heard about it. Then the board stood up and publicly said, "Well, actually, we gave you that report some time ago." It made a bit of a kerfuffle. I was very happy that we had chosen to make that report public right away.

I will say, that after reviewing the act and looking at the recommendations, I chose to write to the board and invite an order from them. They made that order and we accepted it. I want to be careful just to say that, at all times, I did what I

believed to be appropriate under the act and be respectful of the work of the board and the role that I play as minister.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** The community development fund has been a popular go-to fund for many years for many organizations, and now they can receive applications from First Nation development corporations for community-level initiatives. First Nation development corporations are set up to be for-profit organizations, so can the minister give Yukoners the justification for allowing some for-profit organizations to vie for funding that was originally designed for NGOs and non-profits to enhance their communities?

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** I'm going to give only somewhat of an answer here because I think the community development fund — even though I'm involved with it — it is more directly under the Minister of Economic Development. I will just invite the member opposite — I think it's better if that minister leads the response. I'll leave it there for now, and I'll see if there are other questions the member opposite wants to ask me with respect to my role in communities and municipalities, but I think the Minister of Economic Development would be happy to answer that question here in the Legislature.

**Ms. Van Bibber:** I do apologize for my mistake, minister. I will thank the officials and hand it over to my colleague in the NDP.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** I will just add, first of all, thank you to the member opposite for her questions today and for acknowledging the work of the department. I have been in conversation with municipalities and talked to them about questions they have around the community development fund. The fund is designed to enhance communities overall, which includes First Nations and municipalities. Generally, its purpose is about the betterment of our communities, and that's what it is trying to achieve.

I'll just give that much around the community development fund, and I look forward to the questions for the Minister of Economic Development.

**Ms. White:** I welcome the officials back. In October of 2018, it looks like I had seven and a half minutes on the floor before we ended for the day, and then we didn't come back to Community Services. I highlighted to the minister that I really wanted to talk about tiny houses and Canada's regulatory context issues and recommendations. I had shared the link with the minister, and in all fairness, if he is not prepared to talk about this report, he can let me know and I'll just mention a couple of highlights I would like to discuss again, but I'll just give the minister the opportunity.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** I would like to thank the member opposite for her generosity. I apologize for not having read back to last time. I don't have a note with me on tiny houses. The role I tend to play around this is around buildings and lot development, but I will work with the member opposite and again thank her for the opportunity to turn back to the department and do a little bit of work to get some responses.

**Ms. White:** The one thing I mentioned in the fall of 2018 that I will mention again is that Yukon participated, so I would imagine — from my understanding, there was someone

from the City of Whitehorse as well as from the Yukon government. I would imagine they would have been from the Department of Community Services. I will share a link again for that report.

The one reason I wanted to talk about tiny houses — and I believe also in the building inspection context — with the minister is that this would be possibly what he's responsible for.

Previously when I went on the old Yukon government website and I would go under the Department of Community Services, there was this lovely little picture on the lower left-hand corner that said, "Tiny houses — all you need to know." When you clicked on that link, it talked about building permits, inspections, and it gave a what's-what list. I'm stuck in this time where half of the Department of Community Services has been moved over to [engageyukon.ca](http://engageyukon.ca), so I did follow a link. I clicked on "Buildings" and "Inspections" and it brought me to "Housing and property" on the [yukon.ca](http://yukon.ca) website.

So I can't find the tiny house thing anymore. The reason why I wanted to bring that up is that there was a commitment a number of years ago, not by this iteration of the Yukon government, but by the previous one — but still the Yukon government — and the City of Whitehorse to talk together about tiny houses. Whether we talk about tiny houses like the small houses that are in the Blood Ties Four Directions Steve Cardiff Tiny House Community, which are plumbed directly into the ground on permanent foundations, there are also tiny houses on wheels, which I think that is something that is worthy of discussion in the future. The Department of Community Services used to have this picture where you could click on it and it would give you information.

One of the reasons that I'm bringing this up right now is that, in recent times, I have known people who would like to build tiny houses and they have gone to the department to ask about building permits. What I would like to ask the minister is — so this link told people that they could go and they could get building permits. I want to know how that would work. We don't have to discuss the report, but I want to know because there used to be that picture that would take people toward what they needed to do in the Department of Community Services, and it included pulling building permits.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** Mr. Chair, I thank the member opposite for her suggestion to get that information back up. I will try to get it tracked down and see if we can get it up there.

I think there are a couple of things that I want to say regarding tiny homes. First of all, they are a great avenue for affordable housing just because they are more modest, right? They are more modest to keep up and they are more modest to build. But no matter what home we are talking about, from a building standards perspective, we need to make sure that they are safe and okay and that they are working within the — if it is a municipality — municipality infrastructure that is there. It has been one of the challenges for the City of Whitehorse that you still need the same water and sewer connections. That is why the Steve Cardiff Tiny House Community project grouped several tiny homes together to allow them to take



advantage of combining that water and sewer connection to the city.

I know that the Yukon Housing Corporation has invested there. I was in Haines Junction when they were doing some work with Champagne and Aishihik First Nations around a tiny homes project. I think there are several more. I will have to defer to the Minister responsible for the Yukon Housing Corporation for those.

That said, it is our role around building standards — building inspections and safety — and in some ways around lot development. The only piece around lot development, again, is where we do the work and the municipality does the planning. In Whistle Bend, for example, they have created lots that are supposed to be density with dignity, so not designed specifically for tiny houses, but to create several homes or units on a lot — whether they are tiny homes or not, they certainly would be smaller homes.

I thank the member for the suggestion. I will work with the department to try to get that back up.

**Ms. White:** The reason why I brought up the infographic is that when people would go to the department to ask about pulling permits to build a tiny home, that is when the problems arose. I was just trying to look through the Canadian building standards, which is what Yukon follows, about the minimum square feet available for a house. The problem is that it would say that you could go have a conversation with a building inspector and pull a permit, but then when you would go to have a conversation to pull a permit, you would be told that what you were trying to build didn't meet the requirements, although it was under the length online that you could go to for the tiny house.

We talk about the affordability and the economy of a smaller house — and I appreciate that the minister is referring to the Whistle Bend lots, but that is not necessarily going to work for everyone. I mentioned, in response to the budget, about the challenge of a family in Grizzly Valley wanting to build something that was smaller than 600 square feet, but the minimum building size on that lot was set for 600 square feet. I guess what I am highlighting is that there is going to be a different size — one size does not fit all — in this case, in houses. Not everybody needs many bedrooms and many bathrooms. Some people are looking for something smaller.

I joke all the time that I would have a tiny house, but I would need a really big garage because of my bicycles. So I could live in a small space, but I would need a garage because of all the gear that I have, right? It is about trying to find that fit. It is just about trying to figure out how to best work that.

We can talk about climate change and our responsibility to climate and home heating and all those things. They all fit into how you could build something that is more economically feasible and how you could have less debt load as a person in the territory — all these things. With that link that used to be on the website — I don't know where it is now, but that is okay — it talked about pulling permits, but there was a challenge because people would get stuck in the cycle of being sent to one office, asking for a permit and then they would get sent to a different office to have a different

conversation. It was a cycle where someone really wanted to pull a permit and they wanted to do it right and they wanted to have it inspected, but they ran into the challenge where it just did not appear to be possible.

It is just to point out that, as we look at the future and we look at the different requirements for housing, I think it is something that we, as people who make decisions, need to have a look at. Because there is value in understanding that one size does not fit all, including the fact that alternative housing might be optional, like we have seen with the Steve Cardiff project.

I know that the minister is onside because we share environmental views about how to make those things different. I just wanted to highlight that people got stuck in a cycle of trying to pull permits and not actually ever being able to get there because it just seemed that we — the Yukon government and the City of Whitehorse, et cetera — aren't quite ready to look at tiny houses, whether they're foundational or whether they're on wheels — just to highlight that as an issue.

I have a question. In June 2017, the Minister of Community Services released the mobile home survey results that had been generated by the previous Yukon government. I just want to revisit some of the quick facts in that press release. The press release — just for anyone who is trying to follow along — was released on June 1, 2017. The title is: "Yukon government releases results of mobile home survey".

The first quote says, "This government has committed to Yukoners to remain accountable, inclusive and transparent in its work. While we consider how to proceed with the results of this survey, we determined it was important that Yukoners be able to see the results and feedback received." That's a quote from the minister.

Then it talks about the quick facts. It says, "Yukon's *Residential Landlord and Tenant Act* came into effect on January 1, 2016. It governs the relationship between a mobile home owner and mobile home park owner in a manner similar to other tenancies, with the exception of certain extended notice periods."

The next point is: "Several other jurisdictions in Canada further distinguish between these types of tenancies, and in some cases have specific standalone legislation."

These are the points that I think are important. It says, "81.6 per cent of the 262 respondents to the survey were mobile home owners. 47.9 per cent of mobile homes owned by survey respondents are 31 years or older and over half of respondents are low-income earners. 65 per cent of mobile home owners said they would not be able to relocate, either because of the age or condition of the home, lack of other locations or because of cost. 57.8 per cent of responding mobile home owners felt that at least a 12-month advance notice would be appropriate..." — which we have, to be fair, as it is in the *Residential Landlord and Tenant Act*. It also says, "47.3 per cent of all respondents felt that different rental rules for rent increase are required for mobile home pad renters."

The first thing that I'm going to bring up is — and I'm sure that the minister looked at what that survey was — that it was really complicated. I do appreciate that on the [engageyukon.ca](http://engageyukon.ca) website now — and when Yukon government is doing surveys, they are doing them in plain language. I really appreciate that.

This survey that was done initially was not in plain language. I think it's a testament to mobile-homeowners that they participated and they completed it because it was not written in plain language. It was quite complicated, including some of the questions.

The reason why I bring this up now is that, when I tabled the petition in the fall of 2018 — and when I say the "petition", the wording was different from the first petition that I tabled that triggered this survey. There were different questions at that point, to be perfectly honest. The questions that I had asked initially were different questions than I asked the second time.

The reason why I'm bringing up that petition is — and then there was the complication. There was the petition where I had collected almost 400 signatures. To be perfectly frank, I made a mistake, although it was just about the same wording, and then I tabled the petition with the three required signatures. In the end, I think that might have been for the best because people felt quite vulnerable at times signing it because of the relationship between landlords at tenants at times.

I can only imagine the work that previous MLAs had to do in this House without access to the Internet and Hansard searches, but we're there now. I'm actually using a hardcopy book right now.

On page 3729 in the Hansard from November 22, 2018, in response to Petition No. 3, the minister said — and I quote: "In the Yukon, many mobile home parks are located on property which has become increasingly scarce and more valuable. Some owners have indicated that should rent controls be instituted or the cost of owning and operating a park become too much to recover, they would be more likely to close their business and/or convert the park to another use."

I have a question about that. When the minister made that statement — to be honest, it's a pretty scary statement. I would just like to ask him for some background information on that statement or some clarification of what that statement means.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** For me, the previous questions, the line of conversation around tiny homes and this question are rather related because they are about entry-level housing and affordability of housing. I see them at least related in that important theme.

Just to follow up with the Member for Takhini-Kopper King, I am told by the department that the pamphlet is still available. We will try to make those things accessible.

We always want to try to find ways to reduce red tape. I noted the questions that came from the Leader of the Third Party earlier today in Question Period about the website. I really think it is important that the website migrate to something that is going to work for mobile devices because

they are so used nowadays — but how to marry that simplification while still harnessing the power of searches to get at stuff? If there are ways in which members of this Legislature see challenges — the member opposite was talking about red tape or a lot of process — in navigating the system, I want to try to work with people to see what they are seeing in order to try to improve the system as much as we can.

It's never possible to get it all sorted, but it is important. The Premier has asked, or mandated, that I work to reduce red tape, and that's a good thing to support. I'm supposed to work with the Minister of Economic Development to do that. Those are important issues.

With respect to mobile homes and the response to the petition from November 22 of last fall — I thank the member opposite, as she quoted the response — mobile home parks are not typically what municipalities are asking us to develop. That's not to say that we won't do them — we will — but we are looking for the municipalities and/or the First Nations on their land to tell us what they want to see developed, and then we work to develop that.

I have had conversations, for example, with the Mayor of Whitehorse about mobile homes and the certainty of them remaining as mobile home parks over time. I think that there is risk. I don't know how to measure that risk. I just think that there is risk that mobile home park owners may choose not to maintain those parks. The things that give me that sense are anecdotal in nature. I don't have a piece of paper that I can submit or share, but there is a sense that I have, through conversations, that it is a choice for mobile home park owners to maintain those parks or not. We saw, with a small park closing, how challenging that was to address. We recognize that it is a challenge.

I will continue to work with municipalities and First Nations to see if this is an opportunity for them. I was excited when Kwanlin Dün First Nation was able to register its first title. I thought that was quite something. I thought it was a watershed moment, actually. We will see if that leads to something.

One of the things that we often see with First Nations is that they are looking to lease land or give long-term occupation and that kind of certainty rather than to sell land. There may be an opportunity here. I don't know. We will continue to work on it.

I read the results of the survey as well, and they are clear that most respondents would like to see controls on the increases to mobile home pad rentals. Of course, it's also true that most respondents were mobile-homeowners. I think that just says that there is a common theme among pad renters — that they would like to see it be affordable. I would like to see it both affordable and sustainable.

I looked into British Columbia recently, and I think they just changed their rules in 2019. Up until January, I think the rule was that you could put in an increase of two percent plus the cost of living. Then I ran the numbers for what that would look like in our own mobile home parks, and it was pretty significant. It wasn't a modest increase.

I think that is the balance that we are trying to strike with this piece of legislation. First of all, I think we want the mechanisms by which, if there is a dispute, both the landlord and tenant can try to find a way to resolve those disputes. Again, like the Employment Standards Board that we were talking about earlier here, the residential tenancies office has the ability to adjudicate on those disputes. We also were looking at how to support affordable housing ownership options, and mobile homes are an important part of that spectrum.

I'll leave it there for now. I know that the member opposite is a strong advocate on this front, and I'll do my best to see where she wants to go with the questions.

**Ms. White:** My specific question right now is in relation to a quote from November 22, 2018, where the minister said, "Some owners have indicated that should rent controls be instituted or the cost of owning and operating a park become too much to recover, they would be more likely to close their business and/or convert the park to another use."

So I am asking what conversations or consultation or — because he said there are indications, I want to know what was said and how that indication was received.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** I will have to turn back to — oh, my gosh, I'm going to get it wrong — the Corporate Affairs and consumer policy branches and what conversations they have.

As I stated in my last response, I have had a few anecdotal conversations. That is where I think that statement came from. As I said, I don't have anything substantial to put in front, but I will check back with the residential tenancies office because I think some of that response was generated — they will have drafted the original response — and we had a conversation back in November of last year about that response before I stood up to give the response to the petition. So I will have to turn back to them and ask them for their source.

I can tell you that mine are anecdotal, so I've had conversations that have indicated that there is that type of risk.

**Ms. White:** I'm hopeful that when the minister gets that information, he will share it with me directly. It doesn't have to be here.

When the minister said that an overwhelming amount of the people who responded to that survey were mobile-homeowners, I would like to point out that there are seven parks and, to the best of my knowledge, six owners. It seems to me that the numbers alone would say that the overwhelming amount would be people who live in parks.

The reason why I bring this up on probably a yearly basis is that I have not only knocked on the doors of the four parks in my riding, but I have knocked on the doors of the other parks in the other two ridings in the Legislative Assembly, because I fundamentally believe in the importance of making sure that mobile-homeowners are safe and secure.

The reason I say this is that since 2011, in my riding alone, the rent per month has gone up by more than \$150 in some of those parks, so what was once really affordable housing becomes less affordable. For example, the average

cost in my riding — the top is \$500 if you pay within the first three days for pad rental, and then it's less if you don't. The lowest now is \$425 per month.

My hope in tabling that petition last fall was that this Minister of Community Services, who is responsible for the *Residential Landlord and Tenant Act*, would consider — and I would say that I would urge him to do another survey to engage mobile-homeowners again, because they're very engaged; they're a very engaged bunch. They weren't very engaged in 2011 when I first met them, but at this point in time, I pretty much see everybody every year, so they are well-tuned in.

I would encourage another survey to see what that reality is like. Again, I'll reference Nova Scotia as an example, which is tied to inflation and inflation changes. If a park owner wanted to do any additional increases, they could go in front of the residential tenancies board, they can make the approval and it can change. The issue is that, right now for a mobile-homeowner, you can't anticipate if, in 12 months, your owner is going to say it's a \$25 increase or a \$50 increase. My fear is that, at some point in time, you can price people out without evicting them. Then what happens — especially if we look in terms of some of the bigger parks where you have more than 280 units?

I bring this up because this doesn't — these are the phone calls I get, right? "Oh, we have just gotten another rent increase; what are we going to do?" I don't disagree that a business owner should be able to increase, but when we look at the numbers of parks to the number of people who live within them and what that means, that's why I bring it up and that's why I think it's an issue. It was an issue previously, and it took me a long time to get the previous government to agree that someone who owned a mobile home was different from someone who rented an apartment, but they're both viewed the same under the act. There are a couple of differences, and I admit that there are, but a renter is a renter, except for the eviction notice for a mobile home and over the winter months and then if there's a change of purpose — but there are.

So I would just encourage the minister to think about engaging mobile-homeowners and learning more about that experience. To be perfectly honest, Mr. Chair, it's an issue that I will bring up again just because of its importance.

If the minister wants to respond, I'll give him that chance.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** First of all, I'll respond by saying that when I go back and talk with the residential tenancies office, if I get any background information about what led to that statement, I will certainly share it. I'll come down and share it with the member opposite — there is no problem in doing that.

I will say that I support — I believe that what I am trying to achieve is similar to what I think the member opposite was trying to achieve, which is affordable home ownership in our mobile homes. I agree that the act treats renters as renters, landlords as landlords, and there are those differences for mobile homes. They're not broad and sweeping; they are significant details, though.

The thing that I have said here today and what causes me pause is if we took a choice, for example, to cap increases to mobile home pad rents, it might have the undesired outcome that it pushes landlords to decide to get out of the business, and that would also be a real challenge.

I will continue to work with, for example, the City of Whitehorse to talk to them about whether they have ideas in the works around planning for this. I know that they have suggested that one of the things they should be doing is to try to make sure that they don't allow mobile home parks to morph and grow to the point where it is hard to move a mobile home on or off a property, because it just starts to become very complicated.

I will also, as the member opposite suggested, continue to work to be open and engage with mobile-homeowners as well as park owners. I thank her for bringing the concerns that she has to me, and I am happy to try to work with her. I do not know that we are always going to agree on the right approach, but do I want to engage with mobile-homeowners? Yes, I do.

**Ms. White:** I do appreciate that answer. I was just checking with my colleague before I said this out loud on the floor, but I said it during the 2016 election, and my dream for mobile home parks is actually that when an owner is ready to be done with it, that the Yukon government purchases them and turns them into condo corporations and does long-term loan repayment. The reason I say this is that, right now with the park fees as they are, there is quite a bit of room for loan repayment in there and then it would be attached to the lot and it would go on.

I understand his concern and his fear and I do not disagree, but I mean, I have been thinking about the issue for a long time. The Deputy Minister of Community Services used to be in the Yukon Housing Corporation, so it was he who I turned to when the Casa Loma shut down. I am well familiar with the issue, so it is not without thinking that I bring this issue forward.

I would just like to move toward the residential tenancies office and to thank them for the work that they do, because it is not easy. Having now been involved in a couple of dispute resolution processes, I know that the work they do is hard and it is valuable. We often send people there — whether it is a landlord who has issues with a tenant or whether it is a tenant who has questions about their landlord — because they are that neutral party.

The *Residential Landlord and Tenant Act* came into force on January 1, 2016, and I wanted to know, at this point in time, if the residential tenancies office has recognized any shortcomings in the legislation, because they are the ones who deal with it a lot. If they have highlighted or raised concerns about any legislation, I just wanted to know if that had been brought to the minister's attention.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** I don't have anything in front of me right now regarding review of the act. I would be happy to turn back to the office and ask them for an update. I am happy to share it back with the members of this Legislature or the member opposite — both.

**Ms. White:** Thanks for that answer, Mr. Chair, to the minister. I had written to the minister — I am going to guess, in 2018 — and it was a question around orders that were made by the residential tenancies office and how they were enforced. That was a specific issue, but what I think it highlighted is that at times orders are made from the residential tenancies office and that, unless the person the order was between said, "Well, this hasn't happened yet" — it was pointing holes.

The specific situation I was dealing with the minister on was an order made against a landlord in a multi-unit situation, and I don't think I need to say more than that. What I would like to know now is how the residential tenancies office is making sure that, when it makes orders — and I am not just talking about between one tenant and one landlord; I am talking about whether it is a bigger situation — for example, let's say a multi-unit situation — how those orders are being tracked, followed up on and made sure that they are enforced.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** I'm going to give what I suspect is only a partial answer, and then we will again offer to try to get more information from the residential tenancies office.

There is a dispute resolution process, as the member opposite noted. It is, in its first instance, complaint driven so that complaints are received and then there can be orders issued. Then what happens if those orders are not followed up? It is pretty typical for government and our offices — we use sort of an escalating level of "stick" in order to try to ensure that the respondents are acting appropriately as per those orders. At this point, what I don't know is when it is a multi-tenant issue, how that follow-up is done.

I know that when the issue arose — the one that the Member for Takhini-Kopper King is referring to — it came about, and we tracked it back and forth. I did ask that there be some consideration to how the process had unfolded and whether we could find ways to be more proactive in future processes. I don't have that report back in front of me at this point, but I'm happy to look at it and get back.

The one thing I will say is, because the office is another one of those quasi-judicial groups, that an order is like a court order. The whole point of having the office is that — and I appreciate that there was a comment that the member made earlier in talking about how people feel exposed when they bring complaints forward or comments forward, that they don't want to be singled out in their relationship with their landlord or their tenant — whichever way that concern is being raised — but the process used to be to head to court, which is more expensive, more onerous, more long-winded. At least, I would say, it is better now, and I think, as it is still evolving, or the processes around how we respond are still evolving through the new act, I think that there is always room for continuous improvement to try to see how to best support both tenants and landlords.

**Ms. White:** I do appreciate the answer, but the order had been for April of last year and it happened recently, like in recent time. It's just about following that up, and I just do think that's an important thing.

I would like to move over to emergency measures and wildfire, specifically. I use the example right now of — it doesn't feel like we're two weeks ahead in spring; it feels we're about six weeks ahead in spring. It kind of feels like we're in May, and really, next week it's April, and so we've had the quickest snow melt that I can remember in recent time. My backyard didn't flood, which is fascinating because I'm kind of downhill from the alley and typically it floods, but it melted so quickly this year that there was no water in my backyard, which leads me to questions about wildfire.

We know there is FireSmart Whitehorse — I think the group is called — but they had a meeting up at Mount McIntyre Recreation Centre and there was a presentation by Yukon government and there was a bigger discussion. I just wanted to ask the minister if we could talk about wildfire and pressures this year and kind of what the department is getting ready for.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** I'll speak in general terms about this year, and then I'm sure we'll get into more conversation and specific questions as we go.

We have all watched the snow go so quickly, and that is of course a concern. As a department, we have both emergency response and wildland fire response within the department. We also have to watch for the spring flooding during breakup, and we're nearly past that now — again, as the member opposite noted, early.

I will give a few things in terms of dollars first, then I will give some things in terms of dates, and then we'll get into more specific questions.

Within the budget, over \$1.5 million is for the Fire Marshal's Office, which isn't wildland fire, but they deal with interface fires; over \$1.5 million is for the emergency measures operations; and \$16 million is for wildland fire, and there is just under \$1 million within that for FireSmart. As part of that, it also has the 13 First Nation initial attack crews across all of our communities.

We have put into the capital budget this year the start of work to rebuild the Whitehorse air tanker base. I have already spoken in this House about lining up Operation Nanook, which is with the Canadian Armed Forces. Normally that happens later in the summer — typically in August. This year, it will be happening at the end of May through the first week of June. It wasn't the military's preference. We had to ask them to please do it in partnership with us because we recognized that we really wanted to have our wildland fire crews as part of Operation Nanook and to work closely in partnership with the City of Whitehorse. That was great. I want to thank them for doing that, because it now allows us to run the operation, hopefully, before our wildland fire crews are out and heavily engaged so they can be an active part of that process.

I will just say that we have been working in pretty strong partnership with community groups, but I would like to particularly acknowledge working more closely with the City of Whitehorse. We have been working back and forth on several fronts. All are important in order to make sure that

how we respond when emergencies hit will be more coordinated and more effective.

In terms of some of the timing of things, there is concern. We can have some fires — even, say, beginning next week — that come from burning winter materials if they are not properly extinguished. We had warmer temperatures earlier than expected and low snow loads. You can actually get some burn piles that ignite early, so we're preparing for those. Our crews, crew leaders and seasonal officers begin this Monday, so we will be able to respond to fires starting on Monday, if required.

The First Nation crew leaders have an optional start date of Monday, but we don't know that they'll all be on, but we expect the majority of them to be on as of Monday.

Wildland fire crew members and the remaining First Nation contract firefighters return to work by the third week of April. There is training going on later in April and early in May for all crew members. You will have seen the advertisements possibly, Mr. Chair, for Beat the Heat, which is the First Nation training program. That is starting in about a week's time.

The first group of air tankers arrives May 11; the second group arrives the week after on May 18. I have already mentioned about Operation Nanook starting at the end of May, running through the first week of June. There will be a media briefing in a couple of weeks' time about the state of readiness of all of this.

I'm expecting the deputy minister and myself to get a briefing shortly from our fire science officer, who has been tracking all of the trends — that is ongoing. We will be getting a briefing shortly on the state of the fire risk.

**Ms. White:** I thank the minister for those answers, and I appreciate that Operation Nanook has been changed; it actually addresses a possible scenario here, which I really appreciate.

I wanted to know if audits have been done in rural communities — keeping in mind, of course, that I am not an emergency preparedness expert, so my terminology might not be on. What I am looking for — it has been suggested to me that one of the concerns that has been highlighted by people who do disaster planning is that it would be something, kind of a critical thing to do, to do audits in communities. By that I mean: What is the available equipment? What exists in the community? What people power would be available to help? What kinds of things are there?

The reason for that is that you might have in the back of your mind that this truck, for example, lives in Ross River, but if it is not confirmed that this truck is actually running and up and usable, just the knowledge that it is there doesn't mean that it would be helpful in an emergency situation. Then it was suggested that there be the understanding of what the response time for outside assistance would be to each community. I am not picking on Ross River — Ross River is beautiful. I like to visit there and I look forward to being able to drive without shaking out my teeth. I'm using that as an example, because it is not easy to get to. Have audits been done in rural communities about equipment and people power and then

what, for example, the response time from outside assistance would be? For example, how long would it take to mobilize a tactical team from Whitehorse to get to each community — Ross River or Beaver Creek or Destruction Bay or Keno or Mayo?

I am just looking for whether we have done those kinds of audits.

**Hon. Mr. Streicker:** There are several fronts on which I want to try to provide an answer, and then I will try to talk about how they are coordinated overall.

First of all, with respect to fire, there is an inventory management program that is continuous and ongoing. There is always this work to be aware of — assess the readiness and availability of our assets across. When it comes to how we get to an emergency — a fire that is somewhere in one of the communities — the air tanker groups are deployed in strategic locations so that they can respond quickly. We also have those 13 initial attack crews. Overall, Wildland Fire Management has a kind of hum going on so, at any point in time — they have an incident command centre. They have all these maps up showing where all the pressure points are, and they are allocating resources all the time to make sure they are best managing those fire pressures while not leaving themselves exposed in other potential risk areas.

I have gone out each summer. I go out at least once to do some of the reconnaissance trips to see how things are shaping up and just to familiarize myself with the processes of the crews as it's ongoing.

There's a whole other level where we deal with our emergency measures operations and how that is coordinated at the same time. While I think there's always work to do in our communities, I want to say that the group that works on emergency measures is working to coordinate and support all of that in our communities.

Mr. Chair, I will save further conversation for another time with the members opposite. Noting the time, I move that you report progress.

**Chair:** It has been moved by Mr. Streicker that the Chair report progress.

*Motion agreed to*

**Hon. Ms. McPhee:** I move that the Speaker do now resume the Chair.

**Chair:** It has been moved by Ms. McPhee that the Speaker do now resume the Chair.

*Motion agreed to*

*Speaker resumes the Chair*

**Speaker:** I will now call the House to order.

May the House have a report from the Chair of Committee of the Whole?

#### **Chair's report**

**Mr. Hutton:** Mr. Speaker, Committee of the Whole has considered Bill No. 210, entitled *First Appropriation Act 2019-20*, and directed me to report progress.

**Speaker:** You have heard the report from the Chair of Committee of the Whole.

Are you agreed?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Speaker:** I declare the report carried.

**Hon. Ms. McPhee:** I move that the House do now adjourn.

**Speaker:** It has been moved by the Government House Leader that the House do now adjourn.

*Motion agreed to*

**Speaker:** This House now stands adjourned until 1:00 p.m. Monday. I wish everyone a good weekend.

*The House adjourned at 5:28 p.m.*

#### **The following sessional paper was tabled March 28, 2019:**

34-2-89

*2018 Yukon Health Status Report: Focus on Seniors*  
(Frost)

#### **The following document was filed March 28, 2019:**

34-2-64

Proposed regulations for off-road vehicle use, letter re (dated March 28, 2019) from Wade Istchenko, Member for Kluane, to Hon. Sandy Silver, Premier (Istchenko)