

Arctic Peoples and Security

A Compendium of Resources

July 2013

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Introduction

About

This compendium presents sources of information relating to Arctic people's statements and views about security and sovereignty. These statements and views are scattered throughout an enormous national and international literature which includes newspapers, conference proceedings, popular media stories, organizational reports, political speeches, papers generated through think tanks, and academic publications. This compendium focuses on sources most likely to reveal northerners' perspectives, such as Inuit organizations' publications, northern government publications, Canadian parliamentary committee hearings, and select northern newspapers.

A preliminary bibliography is included in this document that points readers to the literature relating to Aboriginal Peoples' relations with the military in the north, both historically and contemporary. While many important opinions, statements and concepts are dealt within the cited literature, the compendium is intended to provide researchers, policy makers and other interested parties with a starting point for research.

Methodology

The focus of the research for this compendium was on recent (1995 to present) documents relating to sovereignty from governmental sources, popular media and northern organizations. Electronic keyword searches were conducted in various online databases, search engines and through downloaded pdfs.

Arctic Peoples' Statements on Sovereignty and Security

Inuit Organizations

About

Inuit organizations represent Inuit throughout Canada and are often found as the voice of Arctic peoples in blog entries, at presentations, through special studies, and publications. Inuit organizations' resources relating to the Arctic sovereignty and security offer important perspectives on how many northern policies and issues are impacted by events relating to sovereignty and security.

Key Resources

Source	About	URL
Inuit Circumpolar Council Archived Speeches	Contains several speeches where issues associated with sovereignty are raised, including speeches from Sheila Watt-Cloutier (1998-2006) and Duane Smith (2003, 2005, 2007)	http://inuitcircumpolar.com/index.php?auto_slide=&ID=30&Lang=En&Parent_ID=&current_slide_num=
Inuit Circumpolar Council A Circumpolar Inuit Declaration on Sovereignty in the Arctic	A declaration by Inuit across the circumpolar Arctic discussing the increased interest in the Arctic and Inuit's role in shifting geopolitical emphasis on the Arctic and its peoples.	http://inuitcircumpolar.com/files/uploads/icc-files/declaration12x18vicechairssigned.pdf
Inuit Circumpolar Press Releases	Provides a variety of press releases dealing with Arctic issues, including climate change and resource development. Focus is global, although there is ample content related to Canada	http://inuitcircumpolar.com/index.php?auto_slide=&ID=5&Lang=En&Parent_ID=&current_slide_num=
Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami Annual Reports	Annual Reports provide summaries of major activities carried out by the organization, including references to speeches, statements and other projects relating to human security, food security and Inuit governance.	https://www.itk.ca/publication
Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami Polar Lines	A series of entertaining and poignant editorial cartoons all with the theme of Arctic sovereignty.	https://www.itk.ca/polar-lines/polar-lines-asserting-arctic-sovereignty-introduction
Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami Blog Entries	ITK's website features numerous blog entries dealing with sovereignty and security related issues, including militarization of the Arctic, human security, and food security.	https://www.itk.ca/tags/arctic-sovereignty

<p>Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. Annual Reports on the State of Inuit Culture and Society 1995 to 2011</p>	<p>The annual reports provide important information about the lives of Inuit in Nunavut.</p>	<p>http://www.tunngavik.com/blog/category/nti-documents/annual-reports-on-the-state-of-inuit-culture-and-society/</p>
<p>Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. <i>Naniilqapita Magazine</i></p>	<p>A newsletter from Nunavut Tunngavik, <i>Naniilqapita Magazine</i> covers current events throughout Nunavut. While not specifically focused on issues of sovereignty and security the magazine does include references to related events such as the unveiling of the monument to the High Arctic Exiles.</p>	<p>http://www.tunngavik.com/blog/category/nti-documents/nti-magazines/</p>
<p>Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. Annual Reports</p>	<p>Nunavut Tunngavik’s annual reports provide overall organization information and information from the three regional Inuit associations. Although no lengthy commentary is contained within the report on security and sovereignty, the reports sometimes contain references to speeches and presentations delivered by NTI representatives.</p>	<p>http://www.tunngavik.com/blog/category/nti-documents/nti-annual-reports/</p>
<p>Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. Press Release</p>	<p>NTI’s press releases contain information about NTI leader statements on sovereignty and security as well as NTI reaction to other institution’s studies and statements (i.e., the June 29, 2010 press release regarding the recommendation of the Standing Committee on National Defence.)</p>	<p>http://www.tunngavik.com/media-centre/</p>

Northern Newspapers

About

Northern newspapers provide a regional perspective and superior coverage to southern media when it comes to Arctic people's commentary on sovereignty and security. The *Nunatsiaq News* and *Northern News Service Online* electronic resources make up two key sources for northern print media relating to Arctic sovereignty.

Further research into news sources could include national coverage (*The Globe and Mail*, the CBC) and more specialized and local perspectives, such as the *Quttiktuq Times* and *Northern Frontline Magazine*. Additionally, multimedia searches into CBC News North, APTN, and other broadcasters will facilitate access to additional information. For a sampling of newspaper articles on the Canadian Rangers, many of which touch on Inuit contributions to sovereignty and security, see P. Whitney Lackenbauer, ed. *Canada's Rangers: Selected Stories, 1942-2012* (Kingston: Canadian Defence Academy Press, 2013).

Sampling of Relevant Documents:

Source	About	URL
Legislative Assembly Briefs: Docks instead of Drones June 11, 2012	Quotes from Tagak Curley and Eva Aariak regarding the federal government's announcement to invest up to \$1 billion on drone aircraft.	http://www.nnsl.com/frames/newspapers/2012-06/jun11_12brf.html
<i>Resolute loses Simeonie Amagoalik</i> Emily Ridlington Northern News Services March 7, 2011	Quote from James Eetoolook on Simeonie Amagoalik's contribution to Canadian Sovereignty.	http://www.nnsl.com/frames/newspapers/2011-03/mar7_11dea.html
<i>Inuit involvement in development wanted</i> Jeanne Gagnon Northern News Services November 15, 2010	Quote from Okalik Egeesiak about the contributions that investment can add to Arctic sovereignty.	http://www.nnsl.com/frames/newspapers/2010-11/nov15_10ii.html

<p><i>Sovereignty goes to the dogs: Greenland's Sirius patrol joins Operation Nunaliut, melting Arctic ice of grave concern to both countries</i> Northern News Service May 1, 2010</p>	<p>Premier Eva Aariak told the assembled personnel and dignitaries that sovereignty would be best served by helping Nunavut's communities become sustainable by devolving jurisdiction over the land and seabed – and its resources – to the territory.</p>	<p>http://www.nnsl.com/frames/newspapers/2010-05/may3_10sv.html</p>
<p><i>Nunavut's big pitch: Arctic sovereignty is us</i> Chris Windeyer Nunatsiaq News March 13, 2009.</p>	<p>Quote regarding Canada's sovereignty relying on the continuous presence of Inuit.</p>	<p>http://www.nunatsiaqonline.ca/archives/2007/708/70831/opinionEditorial/opinions.html</p>
<p><i>Recount to be held in Cam Bay election</i> Kassina Ryder Northern News Services Dec. 21, 2009</p>	<p>Ludy Pudluk comments on the government "mess" that was left behind in Resolute Bay, a community developed for sovereignty purposes.</p>	<p>http://www.nnsl.com/frames/newspapers/2009-12/dec21_09cb.html</p>
<p><i>Akesuk links sovereignty, Nunavut fishery</i> Chris Windeyer Nunatsiaq News June 13, 2008</p>	<p>Quote from Akesuk regarding the relationship between the fisheries and the economic security of Nunavut.</p>	<p>http://www.nunatsiaqonline.ca/archives/2008/806/80613/news/nunavut/80613_1290.html</p>
<p><i>Canada needs more than new patrol ships</i> Mary Simon Nunatsiaq News Aug. 3, 2007</p>	<p>Mary Simon writes a lengthy article contrasting the significant investments by the federal government in the North with the severe human and community security problems.</p>	<p>http://www.nunatsiaqonline.ca/archives/2007/708/70831/opinionEditorial/opinions.html</p>

<p><i>Feds promise Arctic patrol ships by 2013</i> Stephanie McDonald Northern News Service July 16, 2007</p>	<p>Contains a quote from Nancy Karetak-Lindell about how sovereignty could be better promoted by improving the lives of Inuit.</p>	<p>http://www.nnsl.com/frames/newspapers/2007-07/jul16_07fds.html</p>
<p><i>Grise Fiord mayor patiently awaits help</i> Kent Driscoll Northern News Service Nov. 20, 2006</p>	<p>Contains a quote from Paul Okalik regarding the military presence in Arctic waters.</p>	<p>http://www.nnsl.com/frames/newspapers/2006-11/nov20_06gf.html</p>
<p><i>Nunavut fights for attention</i> Chris Windeyer Northern News Service Sept. 25, 2006</p>	<p>Nancy Karetak-Lindell states that despite Prime Minister Stephen Harper’s Arctic visits, sovereignty is only one issue and not the most important one facing Inuit people.</p>	<p>http://www.nnsl.com/frames/newspapers/2006-09/sep25_06nf.html</p>
<p><i>Canadians said guilty of hypocrisy</i> Chris Pudlat Northern News Service May 2, 2005</p>	<p>A guest commentary by Chris Pudlat who writes about the “slaughter of the sled dogs” as a means for the government to force Inuit into communities and act as “human flag poles” for sovereignty purposes.</p>	<p>http://www.nnsl.com/frames/newspapers/2005-05/may2_05pd.html</p>
<p><i>First on the scene Rangers keep the North safe</i> Christine Kay Northern News Service June 30, 2003</p>	<p>Comments about the contributions of the Canadian Rangers to sovereignty and the linkages between the Canadian Forces and the Rangers.</p>	<p>http://www.nnsl.com/frames/newspapers/2003-06/jun30_03ran.html</p>

Legislative Bodies

Parliamentary Committees

About

Northern leaders are invited to be witnesses in front of Parliamentary committees. The committees before which they appear are varied. In some cases Parliamentary committees produce extensive reports on northern issues.

House of Commons Committees

- **Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development:** The mandate of the Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development includes all areas covered by the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. The Committee can pursue self-initiated studies in any aspect of the Department's management and operation as well as any programs or policy areas administered by the Department.
- **Foreign Affairs and International Development (FAAE):** The subject area of the Committee includes Canada's foreign relations with other countries, international affairs and diplomacy, and international security.
- **National Defence:** The House of Commons Standing Committee on National Defence is mandated to review all matters pertaining to the Department of National Defence and the Canadian Forces. It may examine and report on matters referred to it by the House of Commons or it may undertake studies on its own initiative.

Senate Committees

- **Aboriginal Peoples:** The Standing Senate Committee on Aboriginal Peoples was first created in December 1989 and has a mandate to examine legislation and matters relating to the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada (Rule 86(1)(q)).
- **Foreign Affairs and International Trade:** The Standing Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade has a mandate to examine legislation and matters relating to foreign and Commonwealth relations, including treaties and international agreements, external trade, foreign aid, and territorial and offshore matters.
- **National Security and Defence:** The Standing Senate Committee on National Security and Defence has the mandate to examine legislation and study issues related to national defence, security and veterans affairs.
- **Fisheries and Oceans:** The Standing Senate Committee on Fisheries and Oceans deals in part with Canadian Arctic waters and the Coast Guard.

Select Standing Committee Witnesses

Committee	Speaker		Source
Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development	Mary Simon	May 3, 2012	http://www.parl.gc.ca/content/hoc/Committee/411/ENVI/Evidence/EV5554450/ENVIEV33-E.PDF
House of Commons Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development	Udloriak Hanson	Dec. 10, 2012	http://www.parl.gc.ca/content/hoc/Committee/411/AANO/Evidence/EV5932238/AANOEV54-E.PDF
Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development	Udloriak Hanson	Nov. 15, 2011	http://www.parl.gc.ca/content/hoc/Committee/411/AANO/Evidence/EV5246449/AANOEV12-E.PDF
Standing Committee on National Security and Defence	Charlie Lyall	Dec. 13, 2010	http://www.parl.gc.ca/Content/SEN/Committee/403/defe/10evb-e.htm?Language=E&Parl=40&Ses=3&comm_id=76 KIA report at http://www.nunavutrc.com/assets/Uploads/Senate-Defence-Committee-Dec-2010-Final.pdf
Standing Committee on National Defence	Mary Simon	Oct. 1, 2009	http://www.parl.gc.ca/content/hoc/Committee/402/NDDN/Evidence/EV4117356/NDDNEV30-E.PDF
Standing Committee on National Defence	Paul Kaludjak (NTI)	Oct. 22, 2009	http://www.parl.gc.ca/content/hoc/Committee/402/NDDN/Evidence/EV4163174/NDDNEV34-E.PDF
Standing Committee on National Defence	John Amagoalik (QIA)	Nov. 3, 2009	http://www.parl.gc.ca/content/hoc/Committee/402/NDDN/Evidence/EV4199141/NDDNEV37-E.PDF
Standing Committee on National Defence	Michael Gordon (Makivik)	Nov. 5, 2009	http://www.parl.gc.ca/content/hoc/Committee/402/NDDN/Evidence/EV4214442/NDDNEV38-E.PDF

Select Parliamentary Committee Reports

Source	About	URL
<p>Canada, 2011 <i>Sovereignty & security in Canada's Arctic interim report: special study on the national security and defence policies of Canada</i> [Ottawa, Ont.]: Canada Senate.</p>	<p>After a post-Cold War lull, the Arctic is making headlines again because the world's climate is changing. The shrinking of the Arctic Ocean's vast ice sheet promises a bonanza of oil, natural gas, minerals, fish and other marine life for a resource-hungry world. At the same time, shorter and less costly sea routes are being proposed for transportation of cargo between Asia, Europe and North America—possibly through Canada's fabled Northwest Passage. As the ice recedes, Arctic waters will also be open to other marine traffic, allowing resource development on and off shore, and clearing the way for more tourists to take Arctic cruises.</p>	<p>http://www.parl.gc.ca/Content/SEN/Committee/403/defe/rep/rep07mar11-e.pdf</p>
<p>Canada, and Maxime Bernier, 2010 <i>Canada's Arctic sovereignty: report of the Standing Committee on National Defence</i> [Ottawa]: Standing Committee on National Defence.</p>	<p>The Committee decided to undertake a study on Arctic Sovereignty and how changes in the region might impact the Canadian Forces (CF). Needless to say, the primary function of the CF is to protect Canada's territorial sovereignty. This entails the capability to survey and control Canadian territory, waters and airspace; the capability to deter attacks on Canadian territory, waters and airspace; and the capability to assist governments in Canada, when required in maintaining domestic peace and security.</p>	<p>http://www.parl.gc.ca/content/hoc/Committee/403/NDDN/Reports/RP4486644/nddnrp03/nddnrp03-e.pdf</p>
<p>Canada, 2010 <i>Controlling Canada's Arctic waters role of the Canadian Coast Guard</i> [Ottawa, Ont.]: Canada Senate.</p>		<p>http://www.parl.gc.ca/Content/SEN/Committee/402/fish/rep/rep07dec09-e.pdf</p>
<p>Carnaghan, Matthew and Allison Goody, 2006 <i>Canadian Arctic sovereignty</i> [Ottawa]: Parliamentary Information and Research Service.</p>		<p>http://www.parl.gc.ca/Content/LOP/ResearchPublications/prb0561-e.pdf</p>

Nunavut and Northwest Territories Legislature

Nunavut and the Northwest Territories Legislative Assemblies are two very rich sources for commentary about Security and Sovereignty from the elected officials of the territories. The following extracts represent a broad range of issues relating to security and sovereignty. The extracts below are taken from the electronically available Nunavut Hansards (1999-2013) and Northwest Territories Hansards (1998-2011)

Nunavut Hansard

Source	Speaker	Quote
Nunavut Hansard 3rd Assembly 3rd Session Nov. 5, 2012	Hezakiah Oshutapik	<p>Mr. Speaker, the formal role of the Canadian Rangers is to protect Canada's sovereignty by reporting unusual activities or sightings, collecting local data of significance to the Canadian Forces, conducting surveillance and sovereignty patrols, and participating in search and rescue operations.</p> <p>Mr. Speaker, I have been proud to serve in the Rangers for a number of years. At the community level, Rangers instruct, mentor and supervise the Junior Canadian Rangers. This excellent program teaches our youth a number of important skills, as well as building such qualities as personal discipline and commitment to community.</p> <p>Mr. Speaker, there are approximately 5,000 Canadian Rangers in 178 communities across the country.</p> <p>Mr. Speaker, Remembrance Day falls on Monday of next week. I ask all members to join me in saluting the Canadian Rangers for 65 years of courage and dedication. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.</p>
Nunavut Hansard 3rd Assembly 3rd Session June 4, 2012	Eva Aariak	<p><i>(Interpretation)</i> Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for speaking his mind on that issue. Mr. Speaker, as I stated, we just recently heard about the federal government's plans. This is indeed a very important aspect of sovereignty, especially when we are trying to prove to Canada and to the rest of the world that sovereignty is important. It is our position that Inuit have inhabited this part of the world for millennia. I believe it is very important that our positions be understood by the federal government in relation to this issue. We keep trying to focus their priorities on housing and other infrastructure that's important to Nunavut, such as small craft harbours, docks, and airstrips. We believe that these actions would strengthen Canadian sovereignty. If the federal government is serious about sovereignty, they should be investing in infrastructure that allows the residents to practice their sovereignty. Inuit have inhabited the Arctic for many years and we have never left the Arctic.</p>

Nunavut Hansard 3rd Assembly 3rd Session Oct. 26, 2011	Ron Elliot	<p>Mr. Speaker, before a problem can be solved, it must first be recognized and understood. Over the past three years, there has been significantly greater awareness of the challenges facing my constituents in Grise Fiord, Resolute Bay, and Arctic Bay. The annual sovereignty exercises in the High Arctic have brought national attention to the strategic importance of our communities and the contribution that they make to our nation. The federal government's recent apology for the High Arctic relocations has helped to reconcile the painful legacy of the past with the promise of the future.</p>
Nunavut Hansard 3rd Assembly 3rd Session Oct. 18, 2011	Peter Tuptuna	<p>Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are a lot of issues with the high cost of transportation and the high cost of freight into the High Arctic communities. One of the things that we're hoping to come up with is some sort of strategy where we can approach the Canadian government. We see this as an issue for the Canadian government. We talk about sovereignty. The High Arctic communities were put up there for the sole purpose of asserting sovereignty. With these in mind, Ottawa is still responsible for some of our communities up there that they created based on the assertion of sovereignty.</p> <p>We see that and we want input from our High Arctic communities to help us come up with some strategy to approach Ottawa because we do see this as a problem and an issue for Ottawa.</p> <p>The high cost of living up north, especially in the High Arctic communities, is unacceptable. We all know that some of these jars of juice that cost \$3 down south are \$65 in some of these communities. It's not just a Nunavut issue. It's not just a Nunavut government issue. It's a Canadian issue, and we intend to bring that forth to Ottawa. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.</p>
Nunavut Hansard 3rd Assembly 3rd Session March 10, 2011	Ron Elliot	<p>Again getting back to the idea of internal waters and international waters, I know there was a delegation from Greenland here and the Premier from Greenland was here as well. When the delegation came back in February from Greenland, I had a discussion with them. It was comforting to know that they, and they being the delegation from Greenland, said that they support Nunavut and Canada's claim that it is internal waters. I'm just wondering: is there some type of agreement between your department and Greenland with the talks that you have been having in terms of a shared directional statement on that fact, that we as the Government of Nunavut and them as Greenland recognized that this is internal waters?</p> <p>I think one of the things that the Government of Canada is doing, in the reading and research I have done, is trying in every way to show sovereignty and the fact that it's internal waters by the activity of DND and the military exercises that go on, and a lot of this stuff that we see happening in the High Arctic is part of that. It would be nice to see the Government of Nunavut working alongside with another</p>

country as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Nunavut Hansard
3rd Assembly
3rd Session
March 8, 2011**

Daniel
Shewchuck

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member brings up a very good point again. I can assure the member and the House that at every opportunity that I have to speak to the federal government, whether it's the Minister of the Environment or the Minister of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans or if it's with National Defence, that at all times, my highlight the North and their presence is needed much more. We do this in our fisheries research and our fisheries involvement. I lobby them all of the time to have more fisheries presence, more enforcement officers, more fisheries biologists, and more fisheries people to do fisheries work in the territory. We need more presence of the Coast Guard for any spills or incidents that may happen here, and I assure the member and the House that I will continue to lobby the federal government in this regard.

**Nunavut Hansard
3rd Assembly
3rd Session
Feb. 28, 2011**

Edna Elias

Nunavut is truly "our land" and our land is part of Canada. We are committed to the Canadian federation. It is important that Nunavummiut and this territorial government work side by side with the Canadian government on sovereignty issues to maintain our proud place as Canada's most northern territory.

**Nunavut Hansard
3rd Assembly
2nd Session
Nov. 3, 2010**

Daniel
Shewchuck

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll echo the words of my colleagues. Sovereignty, to me, in the Arctic and Canada is sovereignty needs investment and I think the federal government needs to invest in the Arctic to have their thoughts of a sovereign nation. If they respect Nunavut to be part of Canada, then they need to invest in Nunavut. I also think that sovereignty is, in a sense, the sovereignty of Nunavut through devolution.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear!

Devolution will, no doubt, provide economic benefits to all of Nunavut and Nunavutmiut and benefits to the people who deserve to have the benefits given to them from the resources they have. There is a balance in this too and as we all know, the environment, the wildlife, and the way of life of Inuit is very important, but development and economic benefits that are there through different exploration and mines is very important for the evolution of Nunavut and for progress to happen. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Nunavut Hansard 3rd Assembly 2nd Session Nov. 3, 2010	Peter Tuptuna	<p>Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the question from the member. Sovereignty is an ongoing issue that we all have up north here in Nunavut, not only in Nunavut but throughout Northern Canada and the other two territories, Yukon and NWT. For the most part, Mr. Chairman, in Nunavut, there is a lot of potential. There is potential for a lot of riches out here. There are a lot of mineral riches, oil and gas, and the potential to make our country rich because of its high potential of all of the minerals we have in Nunavut. For that matter, Mr. Chairman, Canada, with a small population of 33 million, is one of the richest countries in the world. Having said that, there is no need for poverty and homelessness, but for the most part, there is a lot of that within our nation. Nunavut is no exception. We do have the potential for resource development and benefiting from it through devolution, of course, but the sovereignty issues have always been twofold. There are several countries that have put in arguments that the Northwest Passage is international, more than several countries. Several countries that have shown interest: Korea, China, the Americans, and the Danish government. Having said that, they do understand that there are potential riches and we know for a fact that in some areas where we had geological surveys done, it indicates that and it shows that the potential is very high. I have always said that we do need help from Ottawa; we do need help from our federal government to get infrastructure into the North so that development could take place and bring the economy up north to alleviate poverty and sustain a good life for citizens of Nunavut up here. Ottawa built Canada from east to west, and the building is still incomplete; it still got to be built from the south to the north, and that is one of the things that I have been pushing every chance I get to meet with some federal officials. Sovereignty, for the most part, is something that's got to be dealt with. We do not have any Coast Guard services. We do not have any search and rescue centres up north here. The closest ones are four and five hours away by Hercules aircraft, and that's way too far. I think it's time to assert sovereignty in the North. Ottawa's got to pick up the pace and put in some search and rescue service centres for the North and start taking a good look at putting infrastructure up here to not only help Nunavut but to help the whole nation in economic development. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.</p>
Nunavut Hansard 3rd Assembly 2nd Session Nov. 3, 2010	John Ningark	<p>Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to say something about the sovereignty issue in the North. As we know, today, to many of us and to the Canadian government, it means more presence of the Canadian Coast Guard. For the world, it means a shortcut from east to west, like a superhighway. I would like to ask every minister of this government what it means to the ministers in terms of economic development and infrastructure building for this jurisdiction, Mr. Chairman. I would like to look at the big picture of the economic opportunity. If you don't feel that it is within your portfolio to answer that, it's the federal government, but once in a while, the minister of the Crown has to communicate with the Canadian</p>

government. What does it mean to you in terms of economic development opportunities and infrastructure building for the people of Nunavut, regardless of what background these people are coming from? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Nunavut Hansard
3rd Assembly
2nd Session
Oct. 21, 2010**

Ron Elliot

Mr. Speaker, as you know, I have been a tireless advocate for community involvement and engagement when it comes to ensuring that the human dimension of arctic sovereignty is not neglected. Initiatives such as the annual Nanook sovereignty exercise are extremely important, but we must not lose sight of the fact that the single most effective way for Canada to exert its sovereignty in the High Arctic is to ensure that the residents of our communities live in healthy and sustainable communities. Mr. Speaker, it will not come as a surprise to members when I say that Resolute Bay was, understandably, disappointed not to have been selected by the federal government as the location for the new Canadian High Arctic Research [Station.] However, I continue to believe that Nunavut is one territory and I want to take this opportunity today to congratulate Cambridge Bay on its selection. On behalf of the residents of Arctic Bay, Grise Fiord, and Resolute Bay, I say to Cambridge Bay, "Welcome to the High Arctic. We look forward to your joining us in our efforts to build stronger communities."

**Nunavut Hansard
3rd Assembly
2nd Session
June 8, 2010**

Ron Elliot

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to again address the issue of the proposed federal project to undertake seismic testing in Lancaster Sound. Mr. Speaker, yesterday in this House, the Member for Rankin Inlet North spoke passionately and eloquently on the history and legacy of the relocation of Inuit from Northern Québec to the High Arctic in the 1950s. He reminded us very clearly of how this program was intended to assert Canada's sovereignty in the Arctic and he reminded us of the fact that Inuit were not asked if that was what they wanted. Mr. Speaker, almost half a century later, communities in the High Arctic are feeling that nothing has really changed. They are feeling that although they participate in so-called consultations with federal representatives, their concerns are not genuinely being taken into account. Mr. Speaker, I again call on the federal government and the Government of Nunavut to take the concerns of High Arctic communities and residents into account on the issue of the proposed seismic testing in Lancaster Sound. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Nunavut Hansard
3rd Assembly
2nd Session
June 7, 2010**

Tagak Curley

MLA, who stated this morning that the National Film Board of Canada has set up film regarding Martha. Mr. Speaker, we have to make those statements and include it as part of the curriculum in the schools. Arctic sovereignty is not concluded to date. Grise Fiord and Resolute Bay have made huge contributions. Because of that, it is up to the federal government to put in the money so that they will be acknowledged.

**Nunavut Hansard
3rd Assembly
2nd Session,
June 3, 2010**

Daniel
Shewchuk

Mr. Speaker. Again I would like to thank the member for those comments. Mr. Speaker, as part of establishing any marine mammal conservation area, any national park, or any park, the information and requirement is to do seismic testing whether it's on land or water, and that is to know the resources that you have and to delineate the boundaries of the area that you would like to protect. This information is standard procedure when these areas are formed. This information is also very important to Nunavut and Canada in acquiring and designating sovereignty areas too. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Nunavut Hansard
3rd Assembly
2nd Session
June 2, 2010**

Ron Elliot

Member's Statement 231 – 3(2): On Guard and On Patrol: Operation Nunaliut 2010

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to pay tribute to the participants in this year's Operation Nunaliut. As members will be aware, Operation Nunaliut is one of three major Arctic sovereignty operations conducted every year by the Canadian Forces. This year's operation took place in March and April. I had the honour of joining our Premier, Minister Shewchuk, and the Commander of Joint Task Force North, Brigadier-General David Millar, to welcome the return of National Defence Minister Peter MacKay, General Walt Natynczyk, Chief of the Defence Staff, the Danish military's Sirius Dog Sled patrol, and the Canadian Rangers from their operations on Ellesmere Island. Mr. Speaker, rangers participating in this exercise from the High Arctic were Ranger Jarlo Kiguktak, Ranger Eric Pijamini from Grise Fiord, and Rangers Samson Ejangiaq and Ranger Michael Qaunaq from Arctic Bay. Mr. Speaker, I support close cooperation between federal, territorial, and local governments on issues that impact the High Arctic. The Canadian Forces play a critical role in many areas: sovereignty assertion, search and rescue, and disaster relief. I had the pleasure of travelling with Joint Task Force North in May to the communities of Grise Fiord, Resolute Bay, Arctic Bay, Nanisivik, and Pond Inlet during their tactical recce for Operation Nanook. Mr. Speaker, as members will recall, it was in November of 2008 that I first asked the Minister of Environment to invite the Department of National Defence to conduct Operation Nanook in my riding of Quttiktuq in order to participate in a mock oil spill. I suggested this for two main reasons: firstly, I knew that we could use the economic stimulus of having such an exercise in our backyard. Secondly, I knew that it would prove to the rest of the world that which we already know and that is that we are not properly prepared to handle an oil spill in the High Arctic. Mr. Speaker, I will anxiously be awaiting the after action report from this exercise. I am sure we will find that we are not prepared to clean up an oil spill in arctic conditions. Some of the issues facing us include ice conditions, telecommunications capacity, and infrastructure deficits in the communities; deficits which range from the lack of proper docking facilities to the lack of modern health centres with the capability of responding to major incidents. Mr. Speaker, perhaps this exercise will be the catalyst that will wake up the federal

government and have them truly invest the dollars needed to properly protect our sovereignty and environment. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would like to ask for unanimous consent to complete my Member's Statement today. Thank you.

Speaker: *(interpretation)* Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Mr. Elliott is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. You may conclude your statement, Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleagues. Mr. Speaker, one only needs to look at one of the results from Operation Nunavut to recognize its value. The search and rescue operation that took place during the exercise is an excellent example of the importance of an increased presence in the North. The incident involving the Australian adventurer who fell through the ice while on his journey to the North Pole was described as a successful rescue mission, but everyone is painfully aware that if the rangers and the operation were not in the area participating in the exercise at the time, we would have been mourning the loss of life instead of celebrating a rescue. Mr. Speaker, our Canadian Rangers deserve our full support. At the same time, my constituents are proud of the arctic sovereignty that we exert daily in our communities. This is a pride that I expressed when I tabled materials in this House last June on the High Arctic Council's sovereignty campaign. I ask all members to join me in paying tribute to this year's participants in Operation Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Nunavut Hansard
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2nd Session
March 15, 2010

John Ningark

(Interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to Canadian sovereignty, the Conservative government, through the Canadian Coast Guard, is spearheading some initiatives to conduct more exercises that showcase our ownership of the Arctic. Can we expect any new search and rescue helicopter teams to be assigned yearround to Nunavut some time down the road? I believe that the Conservative government is working hard to demonstrate its sovereignty over the Canadian Arctic, judging from the recent announcements made about docks and small craft harbours that will be constructed in Nunavut. I wonder who to ask about these issues, Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. *(Interpretation)* I know what he's talking about is a capital item, but Minister Kusugak, if you would like to respond.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: *(Interpretation)* Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I cannot speak for the Conservative government in terms of their position on the construction of docks, but in terms of our position, we haven't even discussed building a site to accommodate new helicopters. For that matter, we have no idea what the Conservative government is thinking. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Nunavut Hansard

Peter

Iqaluit International Airport is coming under increasing pressure from the growing number of flights,

3rd Assembly 2nd Session Dec. 7, 2009	Taptuna	aircraft movement, and air carrier, escalating security requirements, increasing frequent federal inspection, the introduction and growth of international traffic, and accelerating national interest in arctic sovereignty. Mr. Speaker, in addition, as mining and mineral exploration and tourism recover from the global recession, increased activities in these sectors will put more stress on airport operations. The 2010 Iqaluit International Airport master plan addresses all these challenges. It considers the latest changes in airport and airline operating practices, regulatory and security requirements, and key safety improvements, the needs of modern airline fleets, revenue generation opportunities and other emerging needs.
Nunavut Hansard 3rd Assembly 2nd Session Dec. 3, 2009	Ron Elliot	When we think of our Canadian Rangers, we think of their skills on the land and their critical role in arctic sovereignty exercises. We often do not realize that many of them also share their skills as instructors for the Junior Canadian Ranger program. Although they are sponsored by the Canadian Forces and other organizations, the Junior Canadian Ranger Patrol can only exist with strong community support.
Nunavut Hansard 3rd Assembly 2nd Session Dec. 3, 2009	Peter Taptuna	Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I agree with the member. We have been lobbying hard using our MP and we have done a great job in educating some of the parliamentarians down in Ottawa. When we talk about the North, we talk about arctic sovereignty and we bring that to the forefront, indicating that there are people up here who live in the North and arctic sovereignty is an issue every day, it's in the news every day and we bring to the forefront. Yes, our government has the fiduciary duty to its citizens and you're absolutely right in that.
Nunavut Hansard 3rd Assembly 2nd Session Nov. 26, 2009.	News Release from NT, NWT and YK Ministers responsible for housing, reported by Mr. Komoartok	On September 18, 2009, a joint news release by the Nunavut, NWT and Yukon ministers responsible for housing indicated that "Ministers reiterated the need for long-term, predictable funding to build and operate housing in Canada's north. Territorial ministers will continue their dialogue with the federal government regarding the fundamental links between housing and the pillars of Canada's Integrated Northern Strategy. The territories are unanimous in calling for a new approach to Northern housing that recognizes and supports the essential role that housing plays in addressing issues such as economic development, health, education and education and Arctic sovereignty. The ministers are looking forward to presenting their position to the federal Housing Minister, the Hon. Diane Finley, before the end of this year.

Nunavut Hansard
3rd Assembly
2nd Session
Nov. 26, 2009

Peter
Taptuna

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to thank you for this opportunity to rise today before the Members of this House to inform them of a trip I took this past October to the Quttiktuq communities of Arctic Bay, Resolute Bay, and Grise Fiord.

As you are aware, the current government has made a commitment to visit every Nunavut community to find out firsthand what the issues facing our territory are. I was pleased to be able to take this trip into some of our most northern communities. I was accompanied on this trip by the Hon. Daniel Shewchuk and the Quttiktuq MLA, Mr. Ron Elliott. All of us took this opportunity to meet with councils, stakeholders, and interested people in each of the communities we visited.

As the members are aware, as we go north, the longer distances and lower volumes of people and goods moving raises the costs and reduces the options available for transportation.

This is even truer in the High Arctic, and because of this, my department is undertaking a study on solutions to the cost of living people in these communities face every day. While it was an honour to be able to visit this beautiful part of our territory, my prime purpose for this trip was to hear firsthand how these high costs impact people's lives up there. Mr. Speaker, the most basic demonstration of sovereignty is in the everyday treatment of people.

It was very apparent that the extremely high cost of transportation in the High Arctic would not be acceptable anywhere else in Canada. For the sake of those people, for the

sake of the economy of our territory, and for the sake of sovereignty, it is necessary that we develop a solution to offset those costs.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people who welcomed us to their communities and shared their stories and their thoughts on the changes that are needed to improve the lives of people in the High Arctic. I would also like to thank the member from Quttiktuq for his hard work both before and during our visit.

Mr. Speaker, thanks in part to this trip, the study is nearing completion and there will soon be a discussion on its findings and how to advance them into changes that can make a difference. I look forward to bringing that discussion before the Members of this House in the near future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Nunavut Hansard
3rd Assembly
2nd Session
June 16, 2009**

Peter
Taptuna

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the question from the member. Sovereignty is an ongoing issue that we all have up north here in Nunavut, not only in Nunavut but throughout Northern Canada and the other two territories, Yukon and NWT. For the most part, Mr. Chairman, in Nunavut, there is a lot of potential. There is potential for a lot of riches out here. There are a lot of mineral riches, oil and gas, and the potential to make our country rich because of its high potential of all of the minerals we have in Nunavut. For that matter, Mr. Chairman, Canada, with a small population of 33 million, is one of the richest countries in the world. Having said that, there is no need for poverty and homelessness, but for the most part, there is a lot of that within our nation. Nunavut is no exception. We do have the potential for resource development and benefiting from it through devolution, of course, but the sovereignty issues have always been twofold. There are several countries that have put in arguments that the Northwest Passage is international, more than several countries. Several countries that have shown interest: Korea, China, the Americans, and the Danish government. Having said that, they do understand that there are potential riches and we know for a fact that in some areas where we had geological surveys done, it indicates that and it shows that the potential is very high. I have always said that we do need help from Ottawa; we do need help from our federal government to get infrastructure into the North so that development could take place and bring the economy up north to alleviate poverty and sustain a good life for citizens of Nunavut up here. Ottawa built Canada from east to west, and the building is still incomplete; it still got to be built from the south to the north, and that is one of the things that I have been pushing every chance I get to meet with some federal officials. Sovereignty, for the most part, is something that's got to be dealt with. We do not have any Coast Guard services. We do not have any search and rescue centres up north here. The closest ones are four and five hours away by Hercules aircraft, and that's way too far. I think it's time to assert sovereignty in the North. Ottawa's got to pick up the pace and put in some search and rescue service centres for the North and start taking a good look at putting infrastructure up here to not only help Nunavut but to help the whole nation in economic development. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Nunavut Hansard
3rd Assembly
2nd Session
June 12, 2009**

Ron Elliot

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support productive, cooperative, and respectful linkages between communities and institutions. I recently had the opportunity to visit the Polar Continental Shelf Program with our Premier, Eva Aariak, during a recent visit to Resolute Bay and had the opportunity to speak with a number of people involved with its work. I would also like to pay tribute to the work that is undertaken by our own Nunavut Research Institute, which serves as a key linkage with the national and international scientific community. Mr. Speaker, it is important that our communities clearly benefit from scientific work that is undertaken in our territory. When scientists conduct research in Nunavut, it is important

that their findings be shared with the communities in which the work took place. Mr. Speaker, science is another important dimension of arctic sovereignty. I look forward to further progress in this area, including work on the proposed new High Arctic Research Station, which the Government of Canada is considering locating in Resolute Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Nunavut Hansard
3rd Assembly
2nd Session
June 5, 2009**

Ron Elliot

The High Arctic Council supports the idea of having a sovereignty campaign. Nunavut Youth Consulting, our non-profit youth group in Arctic Bay, developed the slogan “Sovereignty Includes Me.” They have branded a sovereignty logo which depicts an Inuk in traditional clothing holding a Kakivak. The campaign includes the design of a poster and three bookmarks. Mr. Speaker, when we hear references to arctic sovereignty, the focus of discussion is often on such things as satellite surveillance, unmanned patrol drones, military hardware, and sovereignty exercises. The discussions sometimes leave out the human dimension of this issue and ignore the fact that Inuit have lived in the territory for over 5,000 years. As members are aware, the communities of Grise Fiord and Resolute Bay were founded for the sole purpose of asserting Canadian arctic sovereignty. The materials in the High Arctic Council’s campaign depict three major themes when addressing the concept of sovereignty: a youth, who represents our present and our future; an elder, who represents our foundation and source of traditional knowledge; and a hunter, who represents a traditional way of life – all of these come together to show what sovereignty means to us. Following the High Arctic Council’s guidance, Nunavut Youth Consulting is currently distributing the posters and a set of three bookmarks. We are getting assistance with distribution through the office of our hard-working Member of Parliament, Leona Aglukkaq, Pauktuutit, and Senator Charlie Watt’s office. Senator Watt spoke about the campaign in the Senate last week. Mr. Speaker, again this shows the ability of the High Arctic Council to work together to help promote the many issues we face in the High Arctic. I am confident that all members will assist us in helping to promote and distribute these materials and I ask them to join me in paying tribute to the determination of the communities of Grise Fiord, Resolute Bay, and Arctic Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Nunavut Hansard
3rd Assembly
1st Session
March 17, 2009**

Eva Aariak

Mr. Speaker, members will remember from the November Leadership Forum that I view arctic sovereignty as one of three serious challenges we will be engaged in over the next decade. At that time, I committed to leading Nunavut and asserting the role of Inuit as guardians of the Arctic. Our focus is on the people who live here in the North and our communities. The visit of United States President Obama to Canada last month was an important signal that his administration recognizes that Canada is a close friend and ally for the United States. For Nunavut and for Canada, I believe that it also put a spotlight on the Arctic and the issue of the Northwest Passage. Nunavummiut support Canada’s position on the status of the passage as a key component of our exercise of Canadian sovereignty and security in the

Arctic. Inuit use and occupancy of the waters, ice and shoreline of that passage over centuries continue to provide a basis for Canada's historic title over these waters. More than about sovereignty, the issue with the United States and other nations is whether the waters of the Northwest Passage constitute an international strait or internal Canadian waters. Nunavut is concerned that there is a real liability for us - for our internal waters, the ice over it and the seabed below it, and our shorelines - to have the Northwest Passage as an international transit with an unregulated right of passage through Canada's internal waters. Those waters are significant areas where Inuit have traditionally travelled and harvested, and Nunavummiut continue to do so today, and for the marine mammals that are so important to our culture. Nunavut is concerned that there is a real liability for us - for our internal waters... I'm just reiterating that. Mr. Speaker, I encourage Canada to collaborate with the United States and other members of the Arctic Council on environmental stewardship and governance in the Arctic region. I welcome federal Foreign Affairs Minister Cannon's address last week on Canada's Arctic Foreign Policy, and his diplomatic efforts next month in Washington and at the Arctic Council meeting in Tromso, Norway. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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3rd Assembly
1st Session
Jan. 26, 2009

Eva Aariak

(Interpretation) Thank you for asking that question. With regards to the issue he just raised, it was news to us as well when it was brought up. With regards to the High Arctic and the Northwest Passage, this issue may emerge as a very important one over the next few years and I am quite happy that our federal government appointed Bruce Rawson to work on the devolution file. They just hired this person and this is all part of the negotiating process towards devolution. The sovereignty of our waters in the High Arctic is a very important issue which we will work hard to address and I will commit to keeping this House informed on any developments with regards to the Northwest Passage. Many of our residents don't know how it would affect Nunavut and our position is that these are our inland waters. Inuit have lived in those lands and waters for many generations, our ancestors' bones lie all over those areas, and we believe it to be our land. The whole matter requires that we inform the rest of the world about these issues either through our federal government or via other agencies. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Nunavut Hansard
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1st Session
Jan. 26, 2009

Ron Elliot

The High Arctic communities which I represent are increasingly in the national spotlight as our country becomes increasingly aware of the importance of Arctic sovereignty. In December, I had the opportunity to welcome representatives from the Canadian Forces Joint Task Force North to Arctic Bay. As a long-time volunteer with Arctic Bay's cadet movement, I was very gratified at the level of support expressed by Brigadier General Miller's office for our local cadets, junior rangers, and the ranger patrol. Mr. Speaker, recent federal announcements on initiatives concerning the High Arctic are of tremendous importance to my constituents. I see a need for federal, territorial, and local leaders to work closely

together on such issues as infrastructure development and youth. I also urge appropriate parties to work together to address the need for access to affordable airline service. I believe that the legacy of the High Arctic relocation means that the federal government has a responsibility in this matter. Mr. Speaker, the upcoming visit of President Obama to Canada is an excellent opportunity for our federal government to vigorously pursue an Arctic sovereignty agenda that takes into account the aspirations and needs of the people who live in the North. I have personally written to the Prime Minister on this matter and I look forward to his reply. Before I conclude, I would like to take a moment to note for the record the accomplishments of two very well-known northerners. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would like to ask for unanimous consent to continue with my Member's Statement.

Speaker: *(Interpretation)* Thank you. At this time, the member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. You may conclude your statement, Mr. Elliott.

**Nunavut Hansard,
3rd Assembly
1st Session
Jan. 26, 2009**

Peter
Taptuna

Some of the things that we are going to be looking at are conducting research in subsidies provided by the federal government in other sectors, demonstrating sovereignty through economic use rather than military presence, and looking at what economic opportunities there might be to improve the outlook for the High Arctic that the honourable member from Tununig is concerned about. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Nunavut Hansard
3rd Assembly
1st Session
Jan. 26, 2009**

James
Arvaluk

(Interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That was way too quick *(interpretation ends)*. I recognize that the Government of Nunavut has very little flexibility to directly subsidize the commercial airlines. However, given the strategic importance of the High Arctic to our national sovereignty, I think you have mentioned that already, and in light of the historical legacy of the High Arctic relocations, I think it's called relocation but we used to call it exile of these people from elsewhere, I believe that we ought to make a case to the federal government that Ottawa has a responsibility to ensure that the people of the High Arctic have access to affordable air service. When will the minister be raising this issue with his federal counterpart and what timeframe does he have to discuss that with the federal government?
(Interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this moment, the department will develop a position paper on economic and transportation issues of High Arctic, including developing a lobbying strategy to ensure that the high costs of sovereignty are equitably shared by different levels of government. On January 22, 2009, the cost of demonstrating sovereignty through military patrols was identified at \$843 million per year. This may present an opportunity to outline a strategy to the federal government that

demonstrates sovereignty through economic use at a significantly lower cost to the High Arctic. At this time, we are still working on the scheduling and the timeframe. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Nunavut Hansard
3rd Assembly
1st Session
Jan. 26, 2009**

Ron Elliot

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When it comes to the issue of Arctic sovereignty and the Northern Strategy, I believe that close cooperation and coordination between the federal, territorial, and municipal levels of government is essential with respect to such issues as infrastructure development, local employment, and contracting opportunities. For example, while the Nanisivik Naval Facility project is of great importance to my constituents in Arctic Bay, people are concerned that the road between the community and the facility may be closed. Can the premier assure me that she fully supports the involvement of the community itself when it comes to making such decisions? Thank you.

**Nunavut Hansard
3rd Assembly
1st Session
Jan. 26, 2009**

Eva Aariak

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Government of Nunavut is in full support of that (*interpretation ends*). Inuit use and occupancy of the Arctic, both traditional and contemporary, comprise of a critical part of Canada's legal case for Arctic sovereignty. Devolution and full implementation of the NLCA are key steps Canada can take to equip Nunavut to play a strengthened role in the Arctic on behalf of Canada. Canada's sovereignty over the Arctic regions can only be asserted by building prosperous and sustainable communities in the North. The Government of Nunavut believes that Arctic sovereignty depends on cultural, economic, social, and human dimension, and obviously, this includes full participation from what we plan to hear from the people of Nunavut. (*Interpretation*) Thank you.

**Nunavut Hansard
2nd Assembly
4th Session
Sept. 18, 2008**

James
Arvaluk

(*Interpretation*) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank the people of Pond Inlet and the people of Nunavut. Because I represent Pond Inlet, I would like to say "thank you" to the people of Coral Harbour and Repulse Bay as well for assisting me and helping me when I was a Member of the Legislative Assembly. I would also like to thank the Sowdluapik family in Pangnirtung and all of Lisa's relatives. I would also like to send my regards to the people of Pond Inlet who are friends with Lisa because they have befriended her and helped her out. I would also like to talk a bit about docking facilities, which is my favourite subject, because we want to have docking facilities. The Prime Minister has to realize that those families of Panikpakutsuk, Qajaaq, Arnakallak, and Qiliqti, and a lot of people in Pond Inlet and the Kalluk family were moved from Pond Inlet to Grise Fiord and Resolute Bay. They were helping the families who were relocated up there from Northern Quebec so that the Canadian government can have sovereignty over the arctic. They were provided with very little when they were relocated. Why is it now that the Canadian government wants to have sovereignty over the High Arctic and they want to have people put up there? The federal government has a debt to pay to the people that they relocated and they have to provide us with docking facilities, airport facilities, and better airport facilities because the

Canadian government relocated people from Northern Quebec in order to have sovereignty over the arctic. I hope that the Prime Minister can hear what I'm saying.

**Nunavut Hansard
2nd Assembly
4th Session
Sept. 15, 2008**

Keith
Peterson

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleagues. Mr. Speaker, the federal candidates need to discuss how to increase funding levels to programs that help women's groups and improve literacy in Nunavut. We have considered these important issues in our Assembly on many occasions. A serious commitment to reducing federal red tape would allow us to attract investment capital to Nunavut. Ongoing efforts to enhance Canadian sovereignty in the Arctic must also take into account the needs and priorities of those of us who live in the region. Mr. Speaker, we have a \$600 million municipal infrastructure deficit in Nunavut. Our candidates should explain to us how their parties will commit to help Nunavut to deal with this huge burden so we can improve the quality and standard of living for Nunavummiut to levels that most Canadians already take for granted. Mr. Speaker, these are only a handful of issues and concerns that Cambridge Bay and the Nunavut will have for the candidates. Whoever we elect will be expected to work hard in Ottawa for all the people in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Nunavut Hansard
2nd Assembly
4th Session
Sept. 10, 2008**

Paul Okalik

I rise today to give you and all Nunavummiut good news of recent developments in devolution. On September 5, 2008, the Honourable Chuck Strahl, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Paul Kaludjak, President of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and I signed the Nunavut Devolution Negotiation Protocol. This protocol is a milestone. It sets the stage for Canada and Nunavut to move forward, providing a foundation upon which to secure a devolution agreement with the Government of Canada and NTI. Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister's recent visit to Canada's North, along with the military exercise, Operation Nanook, has once again focused the media's attention on the North. With the increased interest in the north, it is an opportune time to speak about sovereignty in the context of devolution. Devolution offers the Government of Canada an opportunity to exercise their sovereignty, signalling to the world its absolute confidence in Canada's claim over the Arctic waters. For millennia, Inuit have continuously lived in the areas claimed as sovereign by Canada. When the Prime Minister said that we need to use it or lose it, the transfer of authority to Nunavut can only strengthen Canada's claim to our sovereignty. Mr. Speaker, the Government of Canada has said they intend to improve and devolve governance so that northerners have greater control over their destinies. The protocol moves us in that direction. Minister Strahl has said that, "This Protocol is all about honouring this commitment and working with our partners in Nunavut to place decision-making in the hands of the people of the territory." Mr. Speaker, the signing of the protocol is a positive and powerful signal. I was honoured to be a part of this momentous occasion as Nunavut took one more step towards greater self-reliance and a

prosperous future. (*Interpretation*) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Nunavut Hansard
2nd Assembly
4th Session
Sept. 10, 2008**

Leona
Aglukkaq

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since 2004, when I was first elected to represent the people of Nattilik in this Assembly, we have accomplished much together. It has been a privilege and an honour to serve with so many dedicated people in this Assembly and in this government who have tried daily to serve the people of our great territory. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my constituents, my staff, and my family and friends for their support. I also want to thank my colleagues in this House for electing me to serve in the Executive Council and to thank Premier Paul Okalik for appointing me to serve first as Finance Minister and currently as your Minister of Health and Social Services. I have served with great dedication, honour, and humility. It is with mixed emotion today that I announce that I will be resigning from the Executive Council effective end of today. My desire to serve the people of Nunavut will continue as I embark on my campaign to become the Conservative Member of Parliament of Nunavut for Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, Prime Minister Harper and his Conservative government have made the Arctic and Northern Canada a priority. The Prime Minister's commitment to Canadian sovereignty in the Arctic, to economic development with northern input and control, and to protecting our arctic environment is a welcomed relief. I wish to be a contributing member of a Conservative federal government that recognizes the importance of Canada's north and its people who have been all but ignored by previous governments. While I will miss serving in this distinguished Assembly, I am looking forward to continuing to serve our people, Nunavummiut, as your Member of Parliament for Nunavut in Ottawa.

**Nunavut Hansard
2nd Assembly
4th Session
Sept. 9, 2008**

Ed Pico

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and welcome back to all of our colleagues. I guess, at this time, I would like to say our thoughts and prayers are with Mr. Kilabuk at home with his family. Mr. Speaker, Joint Task Force North held military exercises here in South Baffin again this summer. Not only do operations like these assert Canadian sovereignty, ready and prepare our armed forces for arctic engagement, and test our readiness and capability by providing economic spin-offs, Mr. Speaker, the logistic and administrative preparations brought the expenditure of large funds to local businesses and people. The Minister of Defence and the Chief of Defence staff were also here in Nunavut and we had an opportunity to meet with them. It is the second time in the past four years, Mr. Speaker, that we've had the top ranking military and civilian leadership here in Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, increased federal interest in Nunavut is well welcomed. We need to translate this interest by engaging all sectors of Nunavut's economy and people. My personal opinion, Mr. Speaker, is that the best sovereignty of northern Canada is having a self-governing, democratically elected, constitutionally recognized jurisdiction, consisting of a population, Mr. Speaker, of which 85 percent have been here for over a millennium. Mr. Speaker, it is this message, this signal, this Government of Nunavut, recognized nationally and internationally, that is

part of a sovereign Canada, that is enshrined in legislation, Nunavut, our people, our Canadians, this is the greatest asset, this is the greatest point and plus, Mr. Speaker, on the ongoing international sovereignty debate and control, that we see about in the national and international media in Arctic Canada. Mr. Speaker, having 85 percent of a population governed, democratically elected, recognized nationally and internationally, Nunavut, Mr. Speaker, is Canada's best asset as sovereignty for Canada in the arctic. *(Interpretation)* Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Nunavut Hansard
2nd Assembly
4th Session
May 28, 2008

Levi Barnabas

Member's Statement 450 – 2(4): Cost of Living (Barnabas) Hon. Levi Barnabas:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With the threat of global warming, the Arctic is a new hot spot of the world. There has been little interest from most Canadians in regard to the Arctic over the last 100 years or so. The issue surrounding the potential rich oil reserves under the Arctic ice have sparked a renewed interest regarding Arctic sovereignty and have put our homelands into a spotlight of the world. For many years, the federal government has promised Nunavummiut improvements to their standards of living. Within the communities of my constituents, there's a greater need for an injection of funds and programs to improve the living conditions of the residents who live there. With Arctic sovereignty on the minds of many throughout the world, we are now in a position where we can remind Canada that we have been the stewards of this land and the surrounding waterways for many years. The residents of the High Arctic, throughout their long term use of the land and waters, have allowed Canadians, including the Canadian many years by Inuit as their homeland. In fact, it was the Canadian government that brought Inuit up to the High Arctic and used their presence to prove that this land belongs to Canada. With this in mind, I would like to remind Canada that a favour has been done for them and that it is high time that favour be returned back to the residents of the High Arctic. My constituents need additional financial programs and support that will address the high cost of living endured there. The cost of living in Nunavut continues to rise. We see this especially in the communities of my constituents. Food, shelter, and other basic living expenses in the High Arctic are around 60 to 65 percent higher than those living in southern cities. Additional support is required to subsidize our travel and freight costs. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask for unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, colleagues, for allowing me to conclude my statement. *(interpretation ends)* Basic opportunities, such as travel, are enjoyed by many Canadians living to the south of us. For residents of Grise Fiord, it costs them over \$4,000, just to get to Iqaluit. Don't forget that is not even out of the territory. To fly out on an international flight from one of the southern cities, you can go across the Atlantic, over to Europe for less than \$700 on a seat sale. Imagine flying all the way across the great Atlantic for under \$700. We, in the High Arctic, don't have the luxuries of travelling on competitive airline services. This creates a monopoly

that the people in the High Arctic pay the price for. With these types of costs, most of my constituents cannot afford to travel out of their communities using their own funds. This affects such things as sporting, or training opportunities, or being able to visit family members living in other communities. The elders of my constituency have received a pension from the federal government, receiving the same amount of money for their pension as those living in southern Canada. The same amount of money, even though the cost of food is three times the price of those living in the far south of us. To ensure that all my constituents access affordable food, the federal government needs to monitor how the Food Mail Program is working and address the shortcomings of the program. Additional support is required for economic initiatives, such as providing our local fishing companies with proper fishing quotas needed to sustain the viable fishing requirements, and I list these as examples. As residents of Nunavut and as the government of a great territory, we need to involve the monitoring of potential oil reserve developments in our area that may rise due to the impact of global warming over the next 20 to 50 years. Damage to our environment and the impact of a great number of people using the land and waters of the High Arctic is a real threat to us, a threat towards the Inuit way of life and our culture. With that in mind, we need to ensure that our land, water, and way of life will be protected at all costs. We need to ensure that we include, in all the discussions regarding the protection of our land and in the ways our waters will be used, proper policies addressing these threats need to be well thought out and written with all the states, territories, and people at the table. In closing, Mr. Speaker, Arctic Bay, Resolute Bay, and Grise Fiord residents are proud to live in the area of Canada that is unique to the rest of the world, but we and all Canadians need to support these High Arctic communities to obtain the same standards of living as other Canadians enjoy. Prime Minister Harper has stated, and I quote, "If we don't use it, we'll lose it." While the people of the High Arctic use it and endure the harsh climate, high cost of living, and little support, they're the ones that Canada has relied on to prove that we, as Canadians, have sovereignty over this land. Mr. Speaker, now it's time for Canada to step up to the podium and show the same level of support to these great people. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Nunavut Hansard 2nd Assembly 4th Session May 26, 2008	James Arvaluk	<p>... which once again went to southern companies. Mr. Speaker, Canada needs to get its act together. While Ottawa bases its legal case for Arctic sovereignty on Inuit use and occupancy, DFO is actively undermining our development of an economic sector that could help sustain that occupancy. And while Ottawa constantly reminds us how much federal funding we already get, DFO repeatedly denies us the means to become more self-reliant using our own resources. This pattern is hypocritical and it is discriminatory. Mr. Speaker, DFO has encouraged us to be patient and to recognize that gradually our quota has been increasing. Well so far, Nunavut has been patient, it has been civil, and it has been peaceful. But now, through these recent allocations and through the new draft Fisheries Act – Bill C-32 – DFO is trying to lock in southern control of our adjacent fishery. Over the coming weeks, we will review our options for responding to this situation and decide on a course of action. But we cannot and will not stand by and watch Canada set southern control of our fishery in stone. Mr. Speaker, let me finish by paraphrasing an old proverb that says: “Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Give him the tools to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.” That is what we are seeking, Mr. Speaker, no more but no less than other Canadians. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.</p>
Nunavut Hansard 2nd Assembly 4th Session March 3, 2008	James Arvaluk	<p>Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Baffin Fisheries Coalition had generally warned that Nunavummiut should not accept just one. We are happy for Pangnirtung, but what are the minister’s plans now to force the federal government, especially the Prime Minister, who has been saying that we will defend the arctic sovereignty. What will the minister do now, to assert that we want to participate in economic development, for the federal government to have a sign that they have sovereignty on these arctic islands? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.</p>
Nunavut Hansard, 2nd Assembly, 4 th Session, Thursday, February 28, 2008	James Arvaluk	<p><i>(Interpretation)</i> Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I begin, I would like to say that I am wearing a jacket that was made by my sister Rhoda and my fiancée Lisa. Thank you to both of you <i>(interpretation ends)</i>. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the issue of sovereignty in the High Arctic. As all Members of the House are aware, the history of the High Arctic is complex. In many ways, it is tragic. Mr. Speaker, today Inuit are well aware of the experience of the High Arctic exiles in the 20th century. The legacy of relocation lingers with us today, especially in the communities that I and a number of my colleagues represent. However, I do not believe that this part of Canadian history is generally well-known in the rest of the country. Mr. Speaker, I suspect that if you were to ask 100 people in Toronto about the history of the High Arctic, you would be lucky if even one or two of them knew where to begin or to even find us on the map. Mr. Speaker, the process of nation-building continues. This week’s federal budget reflects a growing awareness of the importance of the North for the future of our nation. However, at a time when our national claim over such territory as the Northwest Passage is being questioned by other countries,</p>

much more must be done to strengthen the human dimension of sovereignty. Mr. Speaker, satellite surveillance and unmanned aerial drones are not enough. We also need federal infrastructure investments that will help to create the economic growth that will support the human presence in the High Arctic. Mr. Speaker, the construction of modern small craft harbours and the expansion of community infrastructure will benefit not only Pond Inlet, but Canada as a whole. Mr. Speaker, I am personally ready to meet with representatives of the federal government at any time and in any place to address the needs of Pond Inlet and the High Arctic.

Speaker: *(Interpretation)* Mr. Arvaluk, your time has run out. You may ask for unanimous consent to conclude your statement.

Mr. Arvaluk: *(Interpretation)* Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you.

Speaker: *(Interpretation)* Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: *(Interpretation)* Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My two minutes ran out as I was thanking my sister *(interpretation ends)*. Mr. Speaker, our communities are ready to help meet the challenges of Arctic sovereignty in the 21st century, this means including the people of the High Arctic in building the infrastructure, self independence, and planning for their own future. It is my hope that Ottawa will join us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Nunavut Hansard
2nd Assembly
4th Session
Feb. 28, 2008**

Hunter
Tootoo

While the standing committee welcomes federal infrastructure investments in the arctic and supports the vigorous assertion of Canadian sovereignty, it is important that the human dimension of sovereignty not be neglected. The Government of Nunavut should work to act as a bridge between the federal government and local communities that will be most impacted by new federal initiatives in order to open lines of dialogue and help maximize local awareness of employment and training opportunities.

**Nunavut Hansard
2nd Assembly
4th Session
Feb. 27, 2008**

Tagak Curley

Mr. Speaker, I wanted to make a comment on Canadian sovereignty. We hear that they're going to be building a new icebreaker and I don't think it has anything to do with sovereignty. It helps to have Grise Fiord up there; that's part of sovereignty; there is Resolute Bay and other communities. Those communities are the ones that make up sovereignty and it has nothing to do with icebreakers. They said the St-Laurent is too old, so they're going to be building a new one but it's not going to make any major impact on Canadian sovereignty. In the federal budget, we didn't any devolution or resource development which would boost the Nunavut economy. We have one dock and one ship, so I would like

to tell all of the Members in this House that we're being put on the backburner by the federal government. Of course, I would like to see more money for public housing. So, as ministers, I would like you to work over the summer to make sure that you lobby the federal government on those issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

<p>Nunavut Hansard 2nd Assembly 4th Session Feb. 20, 2008</p>	<p>Keith Peterson</p>	<p>It is also wrong for the federal government to continue to view the Northern Residents Deduction as a tool simply to attract skilled labour to move north. I believe that it should be looked at as a component of a broader strategy to assist our constituents whose lifelong residency in the north helps the nation as a whole to exert and maintain its sovereignty.</p>
<p>Nunavut Hansard 2nd Assembly 4th Session Nov. 8, 2007</p>	<p>Keith Peterson</p>	<p>I hope that the intent of this motion is seen and recognized by the Government of Canada, and they undertake an immediate review to improve the Northern Residents Deduction, make it fair to all northerners, and help us to afford to continue to live up here. After all, as we're living up here, there's the issue of northern sovereignty. We're here. Help us out. It's necessary. It's an urgent matter. We can't delay any longer on it.</p>
<p>Nunavut Hansard 2nd Assembly 4th Session Nov. 1, 2007</p>	<p>Tagak Curley</p>	<p><i>(Interpretation)</i> Yes, I do have opening comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I would like to thank the minister for his comments. Welcome to the Assembly, Deputy Minister Keenainak and your director. As Chair of the Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Housing and Economic Development, I am pleased to provide opening comments as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation's 2008-09 Capital Estimates. Mr. Chairman, the standing committee had the opportunity to meet with the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation in September of this year to scrutinize the department's draft 2008-09 capital estimates. Mr. Chairman, the department's 2007-08 capital estimates included \$1.0 million in funding for the GN's contribution towards the construction of small craft harbours in seven Nunavut communities: Pangnirtung, Pond Inlet, Qikiqtarjuaq, Kugaaruk, Clyde River, Chesterfield Inlet and Repulse Bay. The department's 2008-09 capital estimates also include \$1.0 million in funding. The GN's total budgeted contribution of \$6.0 million over the next several fiscal years represents approximately 10 percent of the total expected cost for these important projects. The standing committee remains disappointed at the lack of federal support for the development of Nunavut's small craft harbours, given their potential to enhance the territory's economic development and self-sufficiency. Members support the minister's ongoing lobbying efforts in this area, including his appearance earlier this year before a Senate Committee. While the standing committee recognizes that the department's annual appropriation in this area represents our share of overall funding, it is disappointing to see the amounts lapse as a</p>

consequence of federal inaction. Members are hopeful that the infrastructure investment plans announced in the federal government's 2007 budget will help enable Nunavut to achieve progress in a number of strategic transportation and economic development sectors, including harbour and airport developments. However, in the event that federal support does not materialize, the department will need to examine what it can achieve with its own resources (*interpretation ends*). Mr. Chairman, the standing committee notes with approval that the department continues to include funding in its annual capital estimates for community access roads. The planned amount in 2008-09 is \$500,000.

Nunavut Hansard
2nd Assembly
4th Session
Oct. 25, 2007

Hunter
Tootoo

Member's Statement 193 – 2(4): Unmanned Drones: The Wrong Solution for Sovereignty

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my shock and disbelief of the news that the Federal Department of National Defense is considering the purchase of a fleet of unmanned drones to patrol the Canadian Arctic. Mr. Speaker, this reminds me that another ill-conceived federal scheme, of which I am sure my colleague from Iqaluit East will agree, and that's to provide Nunavut's weather forecasts from station located thousands of kilometres away from where the snow actually falls on the ground. Mr. Speaker, Nunavummiut want to be assured that our sovereignty is well protected. However, this plan makes absolutely no sense; its nonsense. Mr. Speaker, the independent project on government oversight released a study on the Predator unmanned drone. That does not give us, or me, any cause for comfort. Let me share some of their findings with the House. The study concluded and I quote, "Although Pentagon officials say that the Predator has been a very valuable asset during the War in Afghanistan, it has proven to be a fair weather aircraft. It cannot be launched in adverse weather, including any visible moisture such as rain, snow, ice, fog, or frost, nor can it take off in cross winds greater than 17 knots. Mr. Speaker, it's not a national secret that rain, snow, ice, frost, fog, and high winds are exactly the kind of weather conditions that define the arctic for most of the year. The study also reported that, and I'll quote again, "Although it carries the camera for night surveillance, testing at 30,000 feet showed that the Predator could only recognize potential targets during daylight hours and clear weather. Mr. Speaker, again, I hate to break the news to our friends in the DND headquarters in Ottawa, but significant portions of the arctic experience 24 hours of darkness for months at a time; something called winter. Mr. Speaker, we had better hope that any intruder decides to be polite and hold off an attack until the middle of July.

Speaker: (*Interpretation*) Mr. Tootoo, Mr. Tootoo, Mr. Tootoo, Mr. Tootoo. Thank you. You ran out of time. If you would like to seek unanimous consent you can do so. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If we're going to be serious about Arctic Sovereignty –

Speaker: Mr. Tootoo, Mr. Tootoo, I will allow you to seek unanimous consent to finish your statement.

Mr. Tootoo: Mr. Speaker, if we're going to be serious about arctic sovereignty, let's get serious. Let's ensure that manned search and rescue aircraft are permanently stationed in Nunavut. At the moment, search and rescue operations lose valuable hours while waiting for aircrafts to arrive from bases in the south. Let's ensure that manned aurora sovereignty controls take place. As a former commander of the Canadian forces presence in the North has been quoted as saying, and I'll quote, "Human beings give you a better understanding of what is taking place and a better capacity to react for it." Mr. Speaker, like I said, let's get serious. I urge all members to join me in rejecting the drones and calling on Ottawa to rediscover the virtues of human beings. Mr. Speaker, I'll be forwarding on a copy of my statement to the Minister of Defence and also the individual in charge of military operations in the North in Yellowknife. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Nunavut Hansard
2nd Assembly
4th Session
Oct. 23, 2007**

Paul Okalik

To date, I am not aware of any discussions that have taken place with the federal government. I've always expressed the willingness to try and do our part as a government to try and help assert our sovereignty, and to date, there have not been a lot of cooperation. I am hoping that that would change with this current government. It has been, at times, difficult and I am hoping that this trend will not continue. *(Interpretation)* Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Nunavut Hansard
2nd Assembly
4th Session
May 30, 2007**

Paul Okalik

(Interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As they said before that it would help with the sovereignty patrol, and if we keep telling the federal government that if we're going to have sovereignty they have to provide more authority to the Government of Nunavut. It's not just patrol ships - the deep sea ports and training facilities are going to be very important to us; it will help the Canadian sovereignty of the north and that's what we keep talking about. I will include that in our discussions and we will not stop dealing with this. I will look into exactly what their position is and discuss the promises. Thank you.

**Nunavut Hansard
2nd Assembly
4th Session
March 28, 2007**

Tagak Curley
and
David
Simailak

(Interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister. I feel that the federal government should be urged, and to be aggressive about wanting funding for those. I think the minister deals with the strategies. What I would like to say is that Arctic sovereignty will not go away; they're not going to forget about it. So it has to continue. I don't want your department to stop being aggressive to the federal government in regard to those facilities that we need in Nunavut communities because of Arctic sovereignty. So if you could keep on urging or being aggressive with the federal government in trying to get some funding, especially for the High Arctic. We're not really worried here in the Hudson Bay area, it's mostly the High Arctic areas. Can you continue with this, Mr. Minister?

Chairman: *(Interpretation)* Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak: *(Interpretation)* Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Whenever we talk about economic development and transportation in Ottawa I always talk about that with the federal departments. I know about the Arctic sovereignty and our Government Leader is also very aggressive about Arctic sovereignty. We will continue to voice our needs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Nunavut Hansard
2nd Assembly
4th Session
March 12, 2007**

Paul Okalik

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. From our preliminary discussion with our officials and the federal officials, it became clearer that the federal position was different from our position. But, I must say Mr. Mayer has been very open to our suggestions. I do not know what the final outcome will be but I want to make our position very clear to the federal government that our position is that we have to be treated like any part of the country and that is internal waters rest with the provinces. And we want the same powers and benefits that flow to any part of this country and make it clear that with that position the federal government would have a much stronger case in asserting sovereignty in our waters. That will continue to be our position. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Nunavut Hansard
2nd Assembly
4th Session
March 7, 2007**

David
Simailak

Mr. Speaker, Nunavut is increasingly a part of Canadian consciousness. Whether because of last week's launch of the International Polar Year; growing recognition of our territory's important role in asserting Canada's sovereignty in the Arctic; or because of the excitement over burgeoning economic opportunities in mining, tourism, and the commercial fishery, Nunavut is experiencing unprecedented economic activity and is attracting savvy investors and creating new opportunities and well-paying jobs for Nunavummiut.

**Nunavut Hansard
2nd Assembly
3rd Session
Nov. 30, 2006**

Keith
Peterson

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to alert the House about an issue of great concern to my constituents in Cambridge Bay. Mr. Speaker, during his national 'Stand Up for Canada' election campaign, Prime Minister Stephen Harper delivered a speech on December 22, 2005 in which he promised that, "We will establish a new arctic army training centre with around of 100 regular force personnel in the area of Cambridge Bay on the Northwest Passage." Mr. Speaker, Cambridge Bay was very proud that a national leader recognizes the strategic value that the West Kitikmeot could make to Canada's arctic sovereignty claims and to Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, we since learned that the federal government is having second thoughts about Cambridge Bay in the location of the armed forces training centre. Mr. Speaker, the federal government apparently believes that we are not a suitable choice as part of a strategic location on the Northwest Passage, despite our 60-year association with the Canadian and U.S. military since the second World War, despite our existing north warning system infrastructure, despite our

north/south/east/west transportation infrastructure, despite our community infrastructure, and despite our Canadian Rangers annual training exercise with the military. Mr. Speaker, this does not make any sense at all. The mayor and I have written a number of letters to the Minister of National Defence and the Prime Minister of Canada and expressed our deep concern over their apparent change of mind. As you can appreciate, when a national leader makes a promise to do something and then becomes the Prime Minister of Canada, we should be forgiven for believing that it's important that he deliver on that promise. Mr. Speaker, I understand that the Premier has spoken to the National Defence Minister O'Connor about this situation and reminded him about the promise he made to Cambridge Bay. I urge him to also take up this issue with the Prime Minister of Canada as well. Mr. Speaker, I call upon the House to support Cambridge Bay to be selected by the federal government as its location for the armed forces training centre in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Nunavut Hansard
2nd Assembly
3rd Session
Nov. 23, 2006

Levi Barnabas

Member's Statement 302 – 2(3): The Important Role of Grise Fiord in Canada (Barnabas) Mr. Barnabas: Good afternoon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the important role that the community of Grise Fiord plays in Canada. Mr. Speaker, a few nights ago, CBC's "The National" aired a short documentary on life in the small community of Grise Fiord, Canada's most northern community and one of the three communities in my constituency. Mr. Speaker, this documentary reveals a glimpse of life in the far north and some of the unique challenges faced by my constituents who live there. The program was filmed during the sealift season and provided some insight into the preparations we take for the long and dark winter ahead. By showing the open water in front of the community leading to the Davis Strait and to the Northwest Passage, the role that this community can and does play in defending Canada's sovereignty was also highlighted. Mr. Speaker, the issue of sovereignty was also highlighted in the historical sense through interviews with the local residents, some of whom were relocated to this area as children when the federal government moved their families in order to establish a formal presence in the High Arctic. Mr. Speaker, I, too, have been active with respect to how the High Arctic communities can continue to play an important role for sovereignty. There has been much discussion on how Canada can train and prepare its military to have an active presence in the Arctic and in a region where international marine traffic will steadily be increasing. Later today I will be tabling correspondence between the Minister of National Defense and myself on this issue. Mr. Speaker, I am very proud that Grise Fiord had the opportunity to showcase the community and to raise national attention to the unique experiences of its residents. I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this achievement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Nunavut Hansard
2nd Assembly
3rd Session
Nov. 23, 2006**

Levi Barnabas
and
Paul Okalik

Mr. Barnabas: *(Interpretation)* Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Premier *(interpretation ends)*. Earlier today I spoke of the unique role that Grise Fiord plays as Canada's most northerly community in the country and a living example of protecting Canadian sovereignty in the High Arctic. Just as an example, earlier this summer an unexpected and illegal visitor arrived in this community by the way of a small boat traveling across Baffin Bay from Greenland. I am happy to say that this criminal was quickly detained by Grise Fiord residents and was recently sent to jail for violating Canada's Immigration Act. Even though there are military bases in Eureka and Alert and Thule in Greenland, Grise Fiord played a critical role in this man's capture. I would like to ask the Premier what recent discussions he has held with the federal government on the topic of sovereignty and the plans for protecting the High Arctic from intruders. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have tied in the sovereignty issue with the Prime Minister on devolution and assuming control of all the resources in the High Arctic to support sovereignty in those waters. That is something that we'll continue on to try to deal with, devolution, on a government to government basis. At the same time I had a recent meeting with my northern colleagues here in Iqaluit and we affirmed that sovereignty should not just be about military installations and hardware. There are people and there are Inuit that live in the High Arctic that require a standard of living just like the rest of the country. So that is the position that we have taken with our federal government and that is the position that we will continue to assert to support sovereignty in the High Arctic and in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Your first supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand that the federal government will not make a final decision on establishing an Arctic army training centre until a National Defense Capability Plan is finalized and approved. Can the Premier tell this House what input the Government of Nunavut has had into this plan? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: *(Interpretation)* Thank you, Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have been lobbying for the commitments to be fulfilled and the election of their government and that they be honoured and they are implemented in Nunavut during their mandate and that decisions be made as soon as possible. The Federal Minister of Defense has committed to making decisions on the port, for example, before the end of the year. On the training

centre, I don't know where that is at the moment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: *(Interpretation)* Thank you, Mr. Premier. Your second supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The issues of sovereignty and the protection of Northwest Passage in the High Arctic becoming increasingly important especially as more and more international travelers are seeking passage through these waters. Will the Premier commit to supporting efforts to establish a stronger military presence in the Canada's High Arctic? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Nunavut Hansard,
2nd Assembly, 3rd
Session, Monday,
June 12, 2006**

Levi Barnabas

(Interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon. I recently received a copy of a letter to our Premier Mr. Paul Okalik from Mr. Larry Audlaluk, one of my constituents in Grise Fiord. The letter clearly outlines the historical and ongoing challenges faced by people of Grise Fiord. I rise today to share the contents of the letter with my colleagues. r. Speaker, as many members know, the people from Inukjuag and Pond Inlet were relocated to Grise Fiord. Many reasons for these relocations have been identified. To this day, the relocation continues to support the federal government's claim to sovereignty in the High Arctic *(interpretation ends)*. Mr. Speaker, the letter from my constituents speaks of decline in providing services and promises that were made and then broken by the federal government. The letter is full of frustration in the lack of breakwater, cost and level of services offered by airline companies, and inadequate community infrastructure. I think this letter describes that many of my constituents feel they are frustrated by seeming neglected of people of Grise Fiord by both the territorial and the federal government. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Audlaluk for taking time to write such a comprehensive letter. At the appropriate time, I will be tabling the letter in its entirety, and I urge all Members of Cabinet to take time and read this letter and work and address the issues that were raised in this letter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Nunavut Hansard
2nd Assembly
3rd Session
March 14, 2006**

Levi Barnabas

(Interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize Simeonie Amarualik. Simeonie was one of the people who were relocated to Resolute Bay in 1953, and he was only a baby. Now, he is one of the last survivors from the people that were relocated. He has grandchildren in Resolute Bay. Mr. Speaker, as I've stated quite a few times in the House, it's really expensive to live up there. He always says the federal government moved them, and that they should be recognized that we took part in establishing sovereignty in the arctic. Simeonie always says that even though our population is not that high in Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord, we are responsible for a vast land up there, and this is one of the strengths that he uses. For those who were relocated up to Resolute Bay from Pond Inlet, Arctic Bay, and from Cape Dorset; I recognize those people. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

<p>Nunavut Hansard 2nd Assembly 3rd Session March 10, 2006</p>	<p>Levi Barnabas</p>	<p>Mr. Chairman, non-decentralized communities are the backbone of Nunavut. For example, my High Arctic constituency is essential to supporting Canada's arctic sovereignty. Many of my constituents' ancestors were forcibly relocated there for that very purpose. More than half of our communities are non-decentralized. However, less than 23 percent of the capital budget for 2006-07 is allocated specifically to projects in those communities.</p>
<p>Nunavut Hansard 2nd Assembly 3rd Session Feb. 22, 2006</p>	<p>David Simailak</p>	<p>In today's environment, the federal government is the prime beneficiary of resource development in Nunavut. That has to change. Inuit have used this land for centuries and will continue to use the land and assert Arctic Sovereignty. Nunavummiut should be the principal beneficiaries of Nunavut's natural resources. That's the position we start from. The next step is to begin negotiations with the new federal government on devolution agreements that will make that principle a reality.</p>
<p>Nunavut Hansard 2nd Assembly 3rd Session Nov. 17, 2005</p>	<p>Levi Barnabas</p>	<p>Member's Statement 028 – 2(3): Transportation Issues – High Arctic</p> <p><i>(Interpretation)</i> Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, and I send my regards to the people in my riding. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the issue of transportation in the High Arctic. Mr. Speaker, you may have noticed that the political cartoon in this week's edition of News North is about the problems that my constituents in Grise Fiord face when they travel out of their community and what the cartoon depicted were clients being kicked out of the plane with their suitcases <i>(interpretation ends)</i>. Mr. Speaker, all of the three communities that I represent have brought transportation-related issues to my attention. The high cost of air travel is getting higher as fuel prices are increasing. The lack of competition in the small market does not create pressure to keep fares down. Changes in the schedules and services cause concern to my constituents. I talked yesterday about the federal food mail program and the need for us here in Nunavut to lobby actively for improvements to the program. Mr. Speaker, constituents have talked to me about how they would like to have more options when it comes to sealift. I have written to companies like NEAS on this matter. Mr. Speaker, I recognize that it will not be cheap to live in the High Arctic, however, we need to do what we can to help to support our residents who help assert sovereignty in the High Arctic. I think that we need to lobby for an increase in the northern residence deduction for our taxpayers. Many people in the South forget that Inuit pay taxes like all Canadians. My constituency in the High Arctic is in a unique location and the amount of deduction should be reflected. Mr. Speaker, I ask for unanimous consent to conclude my statement.</p> <p>Speaker: <i>(Interpretation)</i> The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays, please proceed Mr. Barnabas.</p>

Mr. Barnabas: *(Interpretation)* Thank you, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues *(interpretation ends)*. Beneficiaries are entitled to certain benefits through their enrolment status. I think that we should consider having these benefits reflect the higher costs for people in the most remote communities. Mr. Speaker, when we begin the review of the capital estimates of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation, I will have questions on transportation specific to the needs of the High Arctic. Later today, I will have questions for the minister on our transportation strategies. Qujannamiik Uqaqti.

Nunavut Hansard Ed Pico
2nd Assembly
3rd Session
Nov. 16, 2005

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I recently wrote the Minister of National Defense, the Honourable Bill Green and the Minister for National Transportation, the Honourable Jean Laverre in regards to federal support for the Iqaluit Port Project. Mr. Speaker, as Member of the Legislative Assembly for Iqaluit East, I also spoke to the city officials and the Mayor, Her Worship, Elisapee Sheutiapik on this project. Mr. Speaker, it's the only jurisdiction in Canada not on a national transportation link and as the trans-shipment point for almost 60 percent of Nunavut's population the proposed deep water freighting, marshalling, and dockage area would be a benefit to the entire territory. It is an embarrassment Mr. Speaker, an embarrassment that among circumpolar countries, Canada, Canada alone, has no facilities, infrastructure, or logistic supports for our coast guard and navy. Issues of national defence Mr. Speaker, and sovereignty have been raised and I believe this project would not only help facilitate and strengthen Canada's circumpolar role but position us for the changes and challenges we are seeing with increased naval shipping Mr. Speaker, naval and civilian shipping North of 60. Mr. Speaker, the Iqaluit Port Project represents economic as well as political and sovereignty opportunities for Iqaluit, Nunavut, and Canada. Depending on what happens in the next few weeks on the political scene in Ottawa, Mr. Speaker, I will be seeking meetings with Minister Green, Mr. Laverre, and city representatives. The Mayor would also be attending those meetings with me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Nunavut Hansard 2nd Assembly 2nd Session March 2, 2005	Ed Pico	<p>Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are always raising the issues on a regular basis, with the federal government, of the unique nature of Nunavut. Indeed, in the last several months, issues around sovereignty, especially with the island between Greenland and North Ellesmere Island. Canadians have to cross the border and realize that post 9-11, it is a different world. Many of the members here have traveled internationally and laws and rules and regulations, even in our domestic airports, have changed. Those rules are Canadian in nature and that is why we believe there has to be some type of recognition of the unique factors, when it comes to passport issues and photos, with our federal partners. So, I agree with the member. I will be in communications with our federal friends to ensure that these issues are taken care of in the strongest possible way for Nunavumiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.</p>
Nunavut Hansard 2nd Assembly 2nd Session March 2, 2005	Levi Barnabas	<p><i>(Interpretation)</i> Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Even though we are from different countries, we are related as Inuit, especially since Qillaqsuaq came from Canada and moved to Greenland <i>(interpretation ends)</i>. People living in the High Arctic maintain Canadian sovereignty every single day of their lives, but they are one group of Canadians who having the most difficulty in getting Canadian passports. Will the minister commit to presenting their case to the federal government? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.</p>
Nunavut Hansard 2nd Assembly 2nd Session Feb. 28, 2005	Tagak Curley	<p>So that was the interview that I did in Nunatsiaq News and we're talking about hopefully under the climate change initiatives, the Federal Government would see the merit, that if you're going to study something, why don't you study it where you are and that's in Nunavut and then have that information available to Nunavummiut for Canada. Let's act on our government policies to the federal programs on issues around global warming and sovereignty and those things with the jurisdiction. Nunavut and this Minister, we were really the first jurisdiction in Canada to sign the Kyoto Accord. We did it right here at Minister Anderson's a year ago. We were the first jurisdiction to sign on and later on this week, Mr. Chairman I would be making announcement measures by the Qulliq Energy Corporation where we're going to be eliminating thousands and thousands of tons of greenhouse gas emissions in Nunavut. That would coincide with some of the work that the member has asked about.</p>
Nunavut Hansard 2nd Assembly 2nd Session Nov. 19, 2004	James Arreak	<p><i>(Interpretation)</i> Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I start talking about my issue, I am very pleased to announce that the Qikiqtarjuaq hunters that were lost have now been found, and I am glad that they are okay. I rise today to acknowledge an individual from my community, in my constituency, who has performed a very important service to this country for over fifty years: Peter Kunilieusie. He joined the northern rangers right after World War II. The federal government started looking for Canadian Rangers after World War II to protect the sovereignty of northern Canada. This individual has been a member of the Rangers ever since. The Rangers fulfill an important role within the military and its operations in the</p>

North. Mr. Kunilieusie is quite aware of traditional ways, and he is very professional in his work. He is very knowledgeable about the northern climate, and he has been supporting and giving assistance to the military. We heard, after the Canadian military's Operation Narwhal that took place in Pangnirtung last summer, how essential these types of skills are. We have also heard that these skills are being lost from generation to generation. Mr. Kunilieusie is going to resign from the Rangers, but he will not stop contributing his knowledge and skills. The Rangers, in turn, play an active role in passing their skills on to the next generation. I am out of time. I would like to ask for unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

Speaker: *(Interpretation)* The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays; please proceed, Mr. Arreak.

Mr. Arreak: *(Interpretation)* Thank you, my colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very proud that both of my constituencies have Junior Ranger programs. Rangers and other members of the community are involved in instructing and running the programs. These programs provide a structured environment for youth which promotes discipline and provides instruction in Ranger skills, traditional skills, and life skills. There are over 550 young people who have joined the Junior Rangers in 14 Junior Ranger Patrols in communities across Nunavut. This is the largest number of Junior Rangers across Canada. Some of these youth have even been active in community service, such as supporting the community of Sanikiluaq after their power plant burnt down. Lucassie Meeko is the only Junior Ranger in Canada to have been awarded the Medal of Bravery for saving a youth from drowning. From Mr. Peter Kunilieusie who is 74 years old to the youngest Junior Rangers is 12 years old, I am confident that Ranger skills such as first aid, navigation, the safe handling of weapons and preparing for land exercises are being maintained and passed on. I am proud that the Junior Ranger program also supports traditional skills such as those needed for surviving on the land as well as arts and culture. Mr. Kunilieusie has been a leader in training and assisting the younger Canadian Rangers for a long time, and I believe that Mr. Kunilieusie's work is very important. I would like to urge the members of the Legislative Assembly to congratulate Peter Kunilieusie. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Nunavut Hansard
1st Assembly
6th Session
June 5, 2003**

Rebekah
Williams

(Interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to pay tribute to two of my constituents from Resolute Bay and Grise Fjord *(interpretation ends)*. They are Mr. Speaker, Pat Aqiattusuk from Resolute Bay and Manasie Noah from Grise Fiord are proud members of Arctic Rangers, the Canadian Rangers. Mr. Speaker, many of my colleagues in this house have served with the Rangers and they know very well, the important mission that the Rangers play in safe-guarding Canadian sovereignty. *(Interpretation)* Mr. Speaker, Pat and Manasie recently undertook a historic sovereignty patrol by skidoo from Eureka to

Alert, the mostly northerly outpost in our country. Accompanying them were two officers from the Canadian Armed Forces (*interpretation ends*). This journey, which took seven days, covered hundreds of kilometres of the harshest terrain in Canada. It could not have been accomplished without the participation of Inuit from our communities. Mr. Speaker, I ask all the members to join me in congratulating my constituents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Nunavut Hansard,
1st Assembly, 6th
Session, Tuesday
December 3, 2002**

Rebekah
Williams

(Interpretation) Good morning. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to pay tribute along with the House, to a group of High Arctic Inuit who were relocated north. As my esteemed colleague from Nanulik had indicated last week, Inuit are generally not the focus of history books or are largely ignored and their contributions belittled or downplayed in the modern history books that speak about the High Arctic. Mr. Speaker, here I am referring to a group of Inuit pioneers and the Inuit heirs of those Inuit families within our modern history that played an extremely important role in establishing Canadian sovereignty in the High Arctic. Mr. Speaker, between 1953 and 1955, a number of Inuit families were relocated to the community of Resolute Bay in the High Arctic. I know that as I state the names that some of you will recognise these family names; Amagoalik, Alakariallak, Idlout, Kadluk, Nungaq, Sudlovenik, Ikaluk, Patsauq. With the establishment of the community of Grise Fiord, some of these families were joined by others from the Flahertys, Aqiatusuks, Pijaminis, Akeeagoks, Kigutaks, Ningoeks, Akpaliapiks, Novalingas, and Audlaluk families. Mr. Speaker, these families came together originally from the communities of Inukjuak and Pond Inlet. Although the story has not been often told from the Inuit perspective, what we do know is that certain government officials, the RCMP, and the welfare officers were very instrumental in selecting the families and organising their transportation on the ship CD Howe. Mr. Speaker, I would like unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude her statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed.

Ms. Williams: *(Interpretation)* Mr. Speaker, I want to recognise the many achievements of these families. To our present day in history the second and third generation members continue to play important roles as leaders and role models for all of Nunavut and Canada. I am very honoured to have Rynee Flaherty present here today, the Elder, her children and her grandchildren who can't be here today with us. Although some family members are not here I also would like to talk about her daughter Martha Flaherty, who tackled many important issues such as family violence and sexual abuse during her terms as the President of Pauktuutit, the National Inuit Women's organization. Her brothers, Harry, Jamie, William and Johnny Flaherty, and her younger sisters Leesee and Mary and their brother Peter hold important positions both with government and nongovernmental organizations alike. I would also like to

talk about John Amagoalik. I'm sure he doesn't need any introductions. During the land claims negotiations, he was very instrumental and he took the lead role in the Nunavut Implementation Commission. I would also like to talk about the contributions of the Alakariallak family. Minnie Alakariallak is also in the gallery. Her husband and she have made many important contributions to the community of Resolute Bay starting in the 60's and the 70's. Minnie's house was the primary boarding home for transient medical patients travelling in and out of the High Arctic. They have made important contributions to the community of Resolute Bay over the years. Joannie and Minnie ran a Boarding Home for transient patients who had to travel through Resolute Bay to get home or to the hospital down south either from Arctic Bay or from Pond Inlet. Everyone is aware of and knows about Minnie and her husband and how they always helped other people. Joannie ran the Anglican Church. Also Elizabeth Allakarialak who is also well known, she was a long time Social Worker and she is now currently working with Qikiqtani Inuit Association. Of course, Madeleine Allakarialak, Minnie's granddaughter needs very little introduction as she was also identified as a very good role model from Nunavut and many of us listen to her most mornings on CB.

Nunavut Hansard
1st Assembly
6th Session
Dec. 2, 2002

Peter Kattuk

Member's Statement 326 - 1(6): Inuit Relocated in Belcher Island

(Interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to talk of a situation that happened in Sanikiluaq in the past which has been discussed this week. I don't recall making a Members' Statement on it, but we were relocated by the government to our present location; I'm not blaming the government for relocating us to that particular area. But it's wrong to relocate Inuit for sovereignty. I think it was in the 1960's that there were two camps at the Belcher Islands. The government stated that we had to make one permanent camp and they had to decide which camp was going to be moving to the other. At that time there was a family who had to decide which camp they were going to be moving to. It was something that was extremely stressful to the family; it was our permanent camp. It was our home and then we had to get relocated and move somewhere else; it was very hard on the family, and the residents of the island made a decision to decide to locate to one place. The government said that if we didn't relocate it would be too expensive to maintain both camps, so we had to move to a community where they established schools and government offices. Mr. Speaker, I would like to seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed. Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk: *(Interpretation)* Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At that time we had to relocate we were told by the government that they would build houses for us to live in and because of that the people who

were relocating left everything behind. When the houses arrived they had to be constructed, but they never returned to their original camp. It was extremely hard going through that relocation, because the government never provided travel expenses, a mode of transportation, canoes or anything. We had to do all the moving ourselves, without the financial assistance of the government, we used our own equipment, the skidoos, and the canoes. The thing that hurt me was my father and my uncle had to shoot their own dogs because they were requested to do so. They had nothing to transport their equipment and because you can't leave dogs alone or you can't abandon your dogs, my father and my uncle had to shoot the dogs. While the houses were getting constructed they had to use their own material and wait till late fall to move in. It was extremely hard and I think it was wrong for the government to relocate those people. It is something I've always wanted to say under Members' Statements. They are many, many Sanikiluaq residents who experienced that relocation and who are still alive. At that time I was in Churchill, Manitoba, for vocational training and I wasn't there. But that was a sad event that the people of Sanikiluaq had to experience. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Nunavut Hansard
1st Assembly
5th Session
Feb. 27, 2002**

Glenn
McLean

Member's Statement 445 - 1(5): Support for Canadian Rangers

Ma'na Uqaqti. Uqaqti, today I would like to raise the issue of northern security in an uncertain world. Uqaqti, the events of September 11th have shaken us to our core and have refocused our attention on the needs to safeguard our sovereignty. In Nunavut we all depend on air travel.

Uqaqti, I was pleased to see Canada's Minister of National Defence indicate this week that there will be a review of northern security needs. There is a tremendous shortfall of resources and financial support for defence in the north.

This is long overdue, in today's uncertain world we need to ensure that unique northern issues and needs are adequately addressed. Uqaqti, security means more than just military preparedness, we also need to push the Federal Government into dealing with the issues of environmental security. We need to ensure the health of our residents and protect them from pollution. We need to safeguard our natural resources so that we can control their use.

Uqaqti, some members of this House are decorated veterans of the Canadian Rangers and I applaud them. We need to work with the Department of Defence and provide adequate resources for our Rangers. In my community of Baker Lake, we have a sizable Ranger contingent of 28 and they deserve the best possible support for the important roles that they play. I ask all members to join me in pushing the Federal Government for more training and financial support for our Canadian Rangers. Thank you,

Mr. Speaker.

**Nunavut Hansard
1st Assembly
5th Session
Nov. 19, 2001**

Hunter
Tootoo

Member's Statement 273 - 1(5): Lobbying Efforts by Nunavut Association of Municipalities to Federal Government

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw the attention of this House to strong and praiseworthy efforts that are being made by Nunavut organizations and individuals to make our case to the Government of Canada for the need for genuine investment in infrastructure in our territory. Next month, Mr. Speaker, the Federal Government will bring down a budget for the first time in quite a while. Last month, the Vice-President of the Nunavut Association of Municipalities and Mayor of Cambridge Bay, Mr. Keith Peterson, appeared before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance as part of the committee's pre-budget hearings. The Association made a strong case for Nunavut in its presentation, speaking to the inadequacy of current funding arrangements and formulas. Mr. Speaker, I believe that we as a territory are making some good progress in making it clear that per capita do not address the needs of the citizens and communities who live in Canada's most challenging geography. This is an issue that faces all three northern jurisdictions but is especially acute here in Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, I wrote to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs earlier this month in support of representations made by the Mayor of Iqaluit, Mr. John Matthews, with respect to solving the long festering waste management crisis here in Iqaluit. I reminded the minister of the throne speech in January of this year, which committed our national government to, and I will quote, "bring the benefits of our prosperity to all communities, whether urban, rural, northern or remote and to work to ensure that basic needs are met for jobs, health, education, housing and infrastructure in jurisdictions such as ours." Mr. Speaker in reviewing the transcripts of Nunavut Association of Municipalities appearance before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance, I was pleased that those Members of Parliament had the opportunity to travel to Nunavut to express an understanding and awareness of our unique Northern situation. They know that the investments will pay dividends for all Canadians later. Mr. Speaker, we all know that the current international situation will undoubtedly mean that the budget will focus on security initiatives. However part of our national security and sovereignty depends on having a north that is truly strong and free. Free from dependency and free from poverty. Mr. Speaker, in these critical weeks before the federal budget, I urge our ministers to make personal contact with their counterparts in Ottawa to ensure that our needs are not forgotten. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

NWT Hansards

Source	Author/Speaker	Quote
NWT Hansard 15th Assembly 6th Session Aug. 17, 2007	Jane Groenewegen	I had the opportunity and thank the Minister of ITI for inviting me to attend a roundtable on the economy with our Prime Minister last week. The Prime Minister shared that sovereignty is a very big priority of the Conservative government. I took the opportunity to tell the Prime Minister that one step towards addressing the issue of sovereignty is to ensure that we have people living in the North. If we want people living in the North, we need something for them to do to support themselves. We need jobs and we need strong communities. That will create the presence that we need in the North to say that this is Canada and we have sovereignty.
NWT Hansard 15th Assembly 5th Session Feb. 21, 2007	Calvin Pokiak	The federal government is talking right now about Canadian sovereignty and I think we should really press the federal government for infrastructure, and again, I'll bring it up, I think Tuk has good infrastructure for that. It's right in the Beaufort Sea. I guess the Canadian Army can utilize one of the camps and I always talk about the camps in Tuk, utilize that as a base. The infrastructure is there. That port is deep enough for their vessels to come in there and I think that it would be a good investment. It will not only help the residents in the Beaufort Sea, but you'd have access right from the west coast all the way down to the east coast. So I think that's a good investment that should be considered.

<p>NWT Hansard 15th Assembly 5th Session Oct. 24, 2006</p>	<p>Bill Braden</p>	<p>Member's Statement On Role Of The Armed Forces In Canada's North</p> <p>Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I, too, would like to welcome and reflect on the presence of so many people of the Armed Forces of various countries in the world who are touring the North on an extended training mission. Mr. Speaker, the military has had a long and very valued tradition of involvement and contribution and participation in this community, not only for the duty they have in Canada's Arctic protecting the nation but with the very life and fabric of Yellowknife. I remember the establishment of what some might fondly recall as the "Yellow Submarine;" the first base here for the Armed Forces in Canada. Now we have a very modern, new building and facilities at the airport. This is a presence that I understand, Mr. Speaker, that is over time going to grow and I welcome that very much. Mr. Speaker, the people who are here with us today are, of course, representative of the role of the Armed Forces in Canada and in our North.</p> <p>They also represent the service and the sacrifice of Canadians and many other of our allies in various places of the world that aren't as peaceful and as free as the land that we live in, Mr. Speaker. I want to say that I am one Canadian who is very grateful for these people, for the sacrifice that they make when they put themselves in harm's way because what they are doing, Mr. Speaker, is defending the very things that we are here doing. They are defending our freedom, speech, representation, democracy, sovereignty and those are things worth fighting for, Mr. Speaker.</p>
<p>NWT Hansard 15th Assembly 4th Session Feb. 2, 2006</p>	<p>Calvin Pokiak</p>	<p>Mr. Speaker, what are we doing as a government? Are we going to study the issue and make no decisions until there is a tragedy? Would the people of Yellowknife, Hay River, Fort Smith or Inuvik feel comfortable or safe without RCMP presence? I don't think so, Mr. Speaker. Prime Minister-designate Stephen Harper has promoted sovereignty in the Arctic. It will take years to mobilize the armed forces and build ice breakers. One option is to immediately send three RCMP officers to the community of Sachs Harbour to police the community and to guard the western approach of the Northwest Passage.</p>

NWT Hansard 15th Assembly 4th Session Oct. 13, 2005	Calvin Pokiak	Canadian sovereignty is of interest to all Canadians, and connecting the Arctic Ocean to our national highway system would show the world that we are serious. An added benefit would be the increased economic development opportunities that would obviously follow the construction of an all-weather road, all-weather highway to Tuktoyaktuk. I could see many tourists waiting, wanting to drive the extra distance just to see Tuktoyaktuk and the Arctic Ocean. Prices should also go down for residents of Tuktoyaktuk.
NWT Hansard 15th Assembly 3rd Session March 7, 2005	Charles Dent	For instance, in Sachs, as I said this afternoon, I think there's a strong argument to be made for sovereignty as well, making sure that Canada has some way of flying the flag. I think it's important to have RCMP in communities, not only for community safety but for a range of reasons. We would certainly like to be able to do it, but I don't think that we would be liable in a situation where we know that there isn't an RCMP and we are doing what we can to provide the coverage that we can. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
NWT Hansard 15th Assembly 3rd Session March 2, 2005	Jane Groenewegen	Under the goal of reinforcing sovereignty, national security and circumpolar cooperation, we are looking to engage the federal government on issues such as security and surveillance in the North, reinforcing Canada's sovereignty in the North, effective northern-based search and rescue capacity and leadership in matters of circumpolar cooperation.
NWT Hansard 15th Assembly 3rd Session March 2, 2005	Joe Handley	Sovereignty issues are important and we need to look at that. That's a pan-territory one, as is environment, in my view, because both of them go beyond any borders. None of us want to see somebody else having the right to just go in and occupy a piece of land because they want to get the resources off it, nor should they have the right to have missiles whizzing down the valley or going over our territory, nor should we be having ships travelling through the Northwest Passage without ever asking or having regulations. Those are things that are important to us too, on environment and sovereignty.

<p>NWT Hansard 15th Assembly 3rd Session March 2, 2005</p>	<p>Dave Ramsay</p>	<p>One of the things, and I know it comes up in the Northern Strategy, that I think needs to have some attention brought to it is the fact that Canada has long sovereignty in the Arctic and in the North and we have to try to find ways of attracting people here to the Northwest Territories and to the Yukon and Nunavut, as well, but specifically the Northwest Territories. Ways in which we can do that have to be fully explored. I talked the other day about perhaps looking at making interest you pay on your mortgage as a tax credit, some things like that. We have to start thinking about these things and we have to start putting it back.</p>
<p>NWT Hansard 15th Assembly 3rd Session Feb. 22, 2005</p>	<p>Robert Hawkins</p>	<p>Mr. Speaker, yes. The Prime Minister has confirmed that he will engage us in discussions on missile defence. As the Members know, Arctic sovereignty is one of the issues being considered as part of the Northern Strategy. I will make certain that in our negotiations with the federal government and other jurisdictions that we not only deal with sovereignty in the other respects, but also as part of its relationship to the Missile Defence Program, as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.</p>
<p>NWT Hansard 15th Assembly 3rd Session Feb. 22, 2005</p>	<p>Joe Handley</p>	<p>Mr. Speaker, yes. The Prime Minister has confirmed that he will engage us in discussions on missile defence. As the Members know, Arctic sovereignty is one of the issues being considered as part of the Northern Strategy. I will make certain that in our negotiations with the federal government and other jurisdictions that we not only deal with sovereignty in the other respects, but also as part of its relationship to the Missile Defence Program, as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.</p>

**NWT Hansard
15th Assembly
3rd Session
Feb. 10, 2005**

Floyd Roland

Strong Northern Voice And Identity

Mr. Speaker, this Assembly has identified “a strong northern voice and identity” as one of our goals. We continue to work hard to ensure that northern issues remain high on the national agenda. Last December, our Premier, the Honourable Joe Handley, along with Prime Minister Martin and the Premiers of Yukon and Nunavut, launched the development of a comprehensive Northern Strategy framework. This work will build on initiatives and goals set out in the strategic plan and will address joint actions in these areas such as economic growth and jobs, health and education, culture, the environment and Arctic sovereignty and security.

Participation by the GNWT in the announcement and development of the Northern Strategy is based on the principle that any effective, sustainable strategic plan for the North will include an agreement on the transfer of responsibility for northern lands and resources from the federal government to northern governments. Equally important, this transfer must be accompanied by an agreement that makes northern governments the primary beneficiaries of the revenues generated by these northern resources. To this end the Prime Minister has agreed that all parties target this spring for the conclusion of an agreement-in-principle, and 2006 for the conclusion of a final agreement on devolution and revenue sharing.

---Applause

During the negotiation of the Northern Strategy framework, we were also able to negotiate an additional \$40 million in funding for the NWT. It is our view that this funding must be used to address urgent community needs. The timing of this funding is dependent on the passage of the 2005-06 federal budget so we intend to take the next several months to discuss, with Members of this Legislative Assembly, aboriginal governments and other stakeholders, how these funds should be expended.

This budget includes \$355,000 to support initiatives such as the development of the Northern Strategy and \$1.8 million for the continuation of devolution and resource revenue sharing negotiations. This funding includes a \$500,000 contribution to the Aboriginal Summit for their continued participation in this process. The negotiation of a fair deal on devolution and resource revenue

**NWT Hansard
14th Assembly
6th Session
June 4, 2003**

Brendan Bell

Member's Statement On Canadian Forces Day

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we heard a number of good events recognized here today: Seniors' Week, Clean Air Day. I'd like to add another, Mr. Speaker, and I have a lapel pin commemorating that the first Sunday in June has now been proclaimed Canadian Forces Day, and it recognizes contributions of our navy, army, air force in Canada and the good work they do around the world, Mr. Speaker. These folks are involved in defense of Canada, NATO, humanitarian and disaster assistance, search and rescue and peacekeeping. On June 1st Canadians recognize members for their service, and these folks are present in every province and territory across Canada. Here in the North, Canadian Forces Northern Area 440 Squadron took part in an open house at the YK Airport as part of National Transportation Week. There are over 100,000 members who form the National Defense family across the country, Mr. Speaker, made up of a regular force of about 60,000 men and women, 19,000 civilians, 400 rangers, 2000 junior rangers, 60,000 Cadets, and 130,000 military families. Canadian Forces Northern Area personnel have the task of protecting our northern sovereignty. The CFNA headquarters is located in Yellowknife and it does conduct operations for the entire Arctic, including Nunavut and the Yukon. In town there are 150 northern personnel who manage an area of almost four million square kilometres, Mr. Speaker. In the North, we have 23 Cadet Corps involving 400 youth, and I was fortunate enough, Mr. Speaker, last May 10th to attend the 30th annual inspection of the Royal Canadian Air Cadets at the 440 hangar here in Yellowknife. There were a lot of proud families and parents there. It was a very nice event. The Northern Canadian Rangers, Mr. Speaker, also do patrols of remote and isolated areas, and the Junior Canadian Rangers promote traditional cultures and lifestyles through youth activities. Something probably not very well known, Mr. Speaker, this northern presence that we have in the Northwest Territories puts more than \$29 million into the northern economy. So I'd like to ask my fellow Members, Mr. Speaker, to join me in acknowledging the contributions of the Canadian Forces in the North, in Canada and, indeed, internationally. Thank you.

**NWT Hansard
14th Assembly
3rd Session
Feb. 21, 2001**

Jake Ootes

Member's Statement on Positive Impact of Canadian Forces Northern Region

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I would like to extend my thanks to the Canadian Forces for their contribution to northern life, and my congratulations to the northern members for the recognition they recently received. Earlier this month, 23 Canadian decoration and Canadian peacekeeping service medals were presented to members of the Canadian Forces serving in the North. One of the people being honoured is Major Bob Knight, who was recognized for 32 years of service. Among other duties, he has served overseas in eight peacekeeping missions. The sacrifices of the families of serving Canadian Forces personnel who serve long periods of time away from home and families were also recognized. Mr. Speaker, the Armed Forces play a very significant role in the Northwest Territories. They provide supports to reach, to serve and to rescue operations and maintain a sovereign presence in the North. The Armed Forces and their members contribute to the development of our youth through the Cadet and Canadian Ranger Programs. There are two cadet organizations operating in Yellowknife involving nearly 100 young people. These young people aged 13 to 18 years old, develop their self-esteem, physical fitness and leadership and instructional abilities through their involvement with the cadets. They can participate in marksmanship and biathlon competitions, map and compass exercises and many other activities. They become better citizens and contributing members of society. There are many other benefits to Northerners from having members of the Armed Forces in our midst. The Armed Forces, including their members and families, pump more than \$25 million a year into the northern economy. They participate in events like the Midnight Sun Float Plane Fly-In, the Yellowknife International Air Show and Caribou Carnival, forming an integral part of our community. These are just examples in our community, Mr. Speaker. There are many more. I want to thank those members who serve in the North. Thank you.

-- Applause

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