



Many detainees choose to finish their sentences in detention. But the Makitautik residential centre in Kangirsuk is an option; we should have a similar centre on the Hudson coast too.

Many of us are just able to pay for our rent and food. We have no money left over for anything else, not even new clothing.

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## Our Region

*(Tourism • Mining • Energy • Transportation • Telecommunications)*

The royalties paid to the communities fluctuate according to the price of minerals on the world market, production risks and costs, and of course company profits.

Our share of the royalties should be increased. Mining companies should contribute to infrastructure development in those communities next to their mines, like Salluit and Aupaluk.

Forestry should have been considered under Parnasimautik.

Uranium mining is a sensitive issue. We need more information about how this mining affects the environment and how the mineral is used.

It is not acceptable that Kuujjuarapik is not connected to the electricity network, while electricity can be transported all the way to the United States.

Given the high cost of goods, a road is necessary to the south. But we have to think about how the road will change our lives, and not necessarily for the better when thinking about alcohol and drugs. Wildlife conservation monitoring will also be needed for hunters from the south.

Taqramiut Nipingat Inc. radio and television broadcasting is vital to protect our language.

Our telecommunications are not developing at the same pace as in other parts of Canada and Québec, and they are very expensive to use. Internet could be used to improve health and education delivery.




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## Our Vision of Development

In 2002, Inuit regained certain rights with the signing of the Sanarrutik Agreement, our partnership agreement with Québec. It is for us to decide how we want to improve our lives with all this development going on.

We have to think about the kind of development that we want and not let Québec dictate what will happen.

Even though we pay taxes, we still face a high cost of living. Nunavimmiut should have the same privileges as every other Canadian who pays taxes.

A lot of plans are being made for development in the future. It will be very important that the social impacts of this development be assessed properly. There should be hope and optimism for the future.

A lot of things have to change in the north, especially when it concerns our children and what they have to go through. We should not wait for someone to come to our community to fix these things. We should work at it in the community first.

Thinking up our own solutions and working together as one is self-government.

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*This issue of What Was Said is a summary account of remarks made during discussions on regional development held in Kuujjuarapik in April. Participants included the mayor, representatives of the landholding corporation and cultural, education, elders, youth, justice, church and recreation community committees, as well as local representatives of the Makivik Corporation, the KRG, the NRBHSS and the KSB.*

