



MAR 21 2018

MR. R.J. SIMPSON  
MLA, HAY RIVER NORTH

**Oral Question 263-18(3) Dredging of the Port of Hay River**

This letter is in follow-up to the Oral Question you raised on March 14, 2018 regarding the dredging of the Hay River Harbour.

The Hay River Harbour is the point of departure for the shipment of essential goods to remote marine-accessible communities of the Northwest Territories (NWT), and its restoration and preservation is essential to maintain the security and safety of the Mackenzie River marine transportation corridor.

Dredging the Hay River Harbour to restore full draft access is estimated to cost \$8 to \$10 million. This cost may fluctuate depending on factors such as the cost of fuel, oil and gas as well as construction materials, and the timelines required to meet environmental permitting requirements. The disposal location for the dredged materials and the total volume of silt to be removed from the navigable channels may also impact this estimation. It is important to note that the Harbour will require annual maintenance dredging going forward to preserve safe operating depths.

The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) remains committed to working with the federal government to improve and maintain marine infrastructure assets to ensure safe and efficient marine operations in the Hay River Harbour and across the NWT marine system.

Wally Schumann  
Minister  
Infrastructure

c. Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

Legislative Coordinator  
Executive and Indigenous Affairs

100