



MR. KIERON TESART
MLA, KAM LAKE

JUL 24 2018

Oral Question 318-18(3): Addictions Aftercare and Detox Programs

This letter is in follow up to the Oral Question you raised on May 29, 2018 regarding addictions aftercare and detox programs.

As part of the Mind and Spirit: Mental Health and Addictions Strategic Framework, the Department of Health and Social Services is developing the Mental Health and Addictions Recovery Action Plan. The recommendations from the Standing Committee on Social Development's report are being incorporated into the draft action plan. When the final draft is available, we will share it with Standing Committee on Social Development for feedback.

The Department of Health and Social Services has developed a draft Mental Health and Addictions Recovery Action Plan and is beginning work to gather feedback on the draft from key stakeholders. It is anticipated that the Action Plan will be ready for release in fall 2018.

Providing aftercare and appropriate follow up is an important step in the recovery process. There are a number of options for aftercare support for clients returning from addictions treatment, including through the Community Counselling Program, On the Land programming and through non-governmental organizations. I have heard that we need to do more to support Northwest Territories residents following addictions treatment and I look forward to continued discussions with the Standing Committee on Social Development on this as we move forward with the action plan.

We recognize there is no single solution that will fit the needs of all residents with addiction issues in the territory. The Northwest Territories is diverse, and we will continue our work to ensure that our residents have access to a range of options that fit their unique needs and situations.

Thank you.

Glen Abernethy
Minister of Health and Social Services

c Mr. Tim Mercer
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

Mr. David Hastings
Legislative Coordinator
Department of Executive and Indigenous Affairs