



MR. CORY VANTHUYNE
MLA, YELLOWKNIFE NORTH

JUL 27 2017

Oral Question 773-18(2) Road Safety on the Ingraham Trail

This letter is in follow-up to the Oral Question you raised on May 29, 2017 about how the Department of Infrastructure (INF) collaborates with Municipal Enforcement and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) to ensure safety on public highways. You also asked for an update on investigations around recent accidents on the Ingraham Trail and Tibbitt to Contwoyto Winter Road.

INF communicates with Municipal Enforcement and the RCMP on an ongoing basis. Collaboration initiatives between parties include the following:

- **Joint Training** – Municipal Enforcement and INF conduct joint training exercises together, such as Emergency Vehicle Operations Courses, Traffic Stop Tactics courses, Pressure Point Control Tactics, and Radar/Ladar certification. These four courses are offered to new recruits and as refresher training.
- **Traffic Control** – INF assists Municipal Enforcement and the RCMP in conducting joint blitzes and to control traffic at accident scenes. INF invites Municipal Enforcement and the RCMP to assist when we conduct commercial vehicle blitzes on the Ingraham Trail and throughout the territory.
- **Commercial Vehicle Inspections** – INF is sometimes asked by the RCMP to inspect large commercial vehicles that have been involved in serious accidents to aid in their investigation.
- **Law Enforcement Meetings** – INF meets every three to four months with the RCMP and Municipal Enforcement from all regions to discuss emerging issues, proposed blitzes, new reporting forms, and amendments to legislation affecting the law enforcement.

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All accident investigations in the Northwest Territories, including those related to the Ingraham Trail, are conducted by the RCMP. The RCMP has a mandate to investigate all accidents with an associated cost greater than two thousand dollars in damages. Per section 264 of the *Motor Vehicles Act*, INF receives a copy of the report for all accidents that are investigated; the department can also request information from the investigation if required. At this time, INF has not received any accident reports from the RCMP on any accident (commercially involved and reported to INF) on Highway #4.

The Tibbitt to Contwoyto Winter Road Joint Venture, with their insurance providers, also complete internal investigations of incidents that occur on the Tibbitt to Contwoyto Winter Road. INF meets with the Joint Venture to discuss accidents, review their findings, and use the information to support enforcement planning.

INF does not have accident investigators and does not determine cause. Typically, INF's involvement in accident investigations is limited to checking the log books of drivers for their hours of services, cargo securement, any dangerous goods the driver may have been carrying, and pre-trip inspections. INF has completed the extent of its involvement in investigations into recent accidents on the Ingraham Trail by inspecting the hours-of-service of the drivers involved. As more information becomes available, INF will determine whether the incidents require further action.

Thank you.



Wally Schumann
Minister
Infrastructure

- c. Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
Legislative Coordinator, Executive and Indigenous Affairs