



JUL 19 2016

MR. FREDERICK BLAKE JR.
MLA, MACKENZIE DELTA

Oral Question 302-18(2): Summer Reduction to Nursing Services in Aklavik

This letter is in follow up to the Oral Question you raised on June 29th, 2016 regarding the summer reduction to nursing services in Aklavik.

As you are aware, a memo was distributed to impacted stakeholders that stated that between June 30th and July 9th there will be reduced nursing services in Aklavik. The reduction in services is attributed to staff holidays and turnover. According to the GNWT Community Health Nursing Administration Manual Policy 210, in a time of extreme shortages of Registered Nurses or an adverse community event it may be necessary to reduce or suspend the services normally provided by Registered Nursing staff. In this case, the responsible Health and Social Services Authority shall make and communicate alternate arrangements for health care to stakeholders.

The Beaufort Delta Health and Social Services Authority is exploring options to minimize the days of service reduction in staff in Aklavik. During the period of reduction, there will be no scheduled appointments but walk-ins will be permitted and will be triaged according to severity. Consequently, patients may experience wait times longer than normal. I hope that any inconvenience to residents during this time is minimal.

Thank you.

Glen Abernethy
Minister of Health and Social Services

c. Mr. Tim Mercer
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

Mr. David Hastings
Legislative Coordinator, Executive