



NOV 04 2016

MR. MICHAEL M. NADLI  
MLA, DEH CHO

**Oral Question 319-18(2): Promotion and Protection of Traditional Lifestyles**

This letter is in follow-up to the Oral Question you raised on October 14, 2016 regarding the promotion and protection of traditional lifestyles in the Northwest Territories (NWT).

The traditional economy is extremely important to all communities across the NWT, especially to those who rely on traditional foods for a large portion of their diet. Important aspects of traditional economy programming are positive health benefits and youth related activities. Programs teach youth traditional life skills, and give them the opportunity to connect with elders through a shared appreciation for traditional culture and heritage. Additionally, the trapping of fur-bearers is a key economic driver in many small communities.

The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) provides support to NWT community governments, Aboriginal organizations and community schools through programs such as:

- Take a Kid Trapping;
- Community Harvesters Assistance Program;
- Local Wildlife Committee Funding;
- Genuine Mackenzie Valley Fur Program; and,
- Workers Safety and Compensation Commission coverage to protect trappers from loss of income due to injury.

.../2

The GNWT invests over \$2.6 million to deliver these programs, which are coordinated by Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) with funding contributions from the Departments of Municipal and Community Affairs and Health and Social Services. Other GNWT departments contribute funding because they see benefits from traditional economy activities that support their mandates.

The programs listed above represent a portion of the assistance provided by the GNWT to small communities and their traditional economy. I will table a full report during the February-March 2017 sitting of the Legislative Assembly.

ENR understands how important traditional economy is to NWT residents and the department will continue to provide support to communities through the allocation of funds and program delivery.

Sincerely,



Robert C. McLeod  
Minister  
Environment and Natural Resources

- c. Clerk of the Legislative Assembly  
Legislative Coordinator, Executive



JAN 30 2017

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MLA, DEH CHO

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This letter is in follow-up to the Oral Question you raised on October 14, 2016 regarding the promotion and protection of traditional lifestyles in the Northwest Territories (NWT).

I am submitting the “**GNWT Financial Contributions to Traditional Lifestyles for 2015-2016**” report (attached) on behalf of the Departments of Environment and Natural Resources; Education, Culture and Employment; Municipal and Community Affairs; and Industry, Tourism and Investment.

This report lists programs delivered by the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) for the promotion and protection of traditional lifestyles in the NWT. The GNWT invested nearly \$2.9 million in assistance during the 2015 – 2016 season.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert C. McLeod'.

Robert C. McLeod  
Minister  
Environment and Natural Resources

Attachment

- c. Clerk of the Legislative Assembly  
Legislative Coordinator, Executive

## GNWT Financial Contributions to Traditional Lifestyles for 2015-2016

Program	GNWT Department	Amount (\$)
<b>Aboriginal Culture Projects</b>	Education, Culture and Employment <sup>1</sup>	\$36,000
<b>Community Harvester Assistance Program</b>	Environment and Natural Resources	\$1,074,000
<b>Genuine Mackenzie Valley Fur Program<sup>2</sup></b>	Environment and Natural Resources and Industry, Tourism and Investment <sup>3</sup>	\$625,000
<b>Local Wildlife Committee Funding</b>	Environment and Natural Resources	\$257,000
<b>On the Land Funders Collaborative</b>	Environment and Natural Resources	\$50,000 <sup>4</sup>
	Health and Social Services	\$300,000
<b>Support to Traditional Crafts</b>	Industry, Tourism and Investment	\$222,373
<b>Take a Kid Trapping</b>	Environment and Natural Resources	\$125,000
	Health and Social Services	\$100,000
	Municipal and Community Affairs	\$100,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$2,889,373</b>

<sup>1</sup> The Department of Education, Culture and Employment provides additional contributions to support traditional lifestyles through initiatives such as the Emerging Heritage Centres funding and the NWT Arts Council. Funding amounts vary depending on the number of applications received.

<sup>2</sup> A revolving fund of \$1.5 million is used to provide advances for the sale of fur and hides.

<sup>3</sup> Funding is shared between the Departments of Industry, Tourism and Investment and Environment and Natural Resources. The Fur Price Program Grant is included in this funding (\$205,000) and is used to conduct fur marketing activities and sales commissions paid out after every sale.

<sup>4</sup> Significant in-kind administrative support is provided in addition to this funding.