



JAN 14 2021

ROCKY SIMPSON
MLA, HAY RIVER SOUTH

**OQ 485-19(2):
Essential Service Workers to Remote Communities and Mines during COVID-19**

This letter is in follow up to the Oral Question you raised on November 5, 2020 regarding Essential Service Workers to Remote Communities and Mines during COVID-19.

The COVID-19 Coordinating Secretariat will maintain present levels of border monitoring and enforcement capacity during the winter road season. The requirements for self-isolation and social distancing required by supply chain workers were developed in consideration of winter road operations. It is anticipated that the current enforcement capacity will be able to maintain compliance, however we will continue to hire additional capacity as individuals with the right qualifications are identified.

Under the current Public Health Order, *COVID-19 Travel Restrictions and Self-Isolation Protocol* as amended on December 1, 2020, supply chain workers providing food and fuel delivery have 36 hours to travel within the Northwest Territories to complete their work, provided they abide by social distancing protocols while working and self-isolate while not working. If they are in the territory for more than 36 hours, supply chain workers must complete a Workers' Self-Isolation Plan (WSIP) and conform with self-isolation protocols established by the Chief Public Health Officer.

COVID Secretariat staff will continue to review WSIPs, monitor our borders and roads, and investigate non-compliance with WSIPs and public health orders.

Thank you.

Julie Green
Minister of Health and Social Services

c Honourable Caroline Cochrane
Premier

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

Legislative Coordinator
Department of Executive and Indigenous Affairs