



October 07, 2020

MR. JACKSON LAFFERTY  
MLA, MONFWI**Oral Question 298-19(2) Edzo Highway Maintenance Camp**

This letter is in follow-up to the Oral Question raised on June 4, 2020 regarding the Edzo Highway Maintenance Camp. The Member asked about the status of new hires, new equipment for the camp, and if Department of Infrastructure (INF) senior management could visit and meet with the staff of the Edzo highway crew.

I am pleased to report that INF has hired two casual laborers and is in the final stages of hiring two Heavy Equipment Operators to work at the camp.

With respect to new equipment, a wheel loader was delivered to the camp and a plough dump truck is expected to be delivered in February 2021. This is in addition to a new vibratory packer that was delivered to the camp in 2019. The total value of new heavy equipment for the Edzo Highway Maintenance Camp over this two-year period is over \$800,000.

My predecessor as Minister of Infrastructure joined the Member and a group of INF senior management on a visit to the Edzo Highway Maintenance Camp on June 23, 2020. They met with the employees to discuss matters relating to management, aging equipment, site conditions, materials, and human resources concerns. INF senior management has taken stock of these concerns, and will continue to visit the camp regularly and work towards resolutions.

A commitment has been made to improve the working environment at the camp. I hope that this increased staffing contingent, new equipment and commitment to increased senior management presence will contribute to improved morale at the facility.

Diane Archie  
Minister, Infrastructure

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