



MAR 30 2016

MLA, TU NEDHE-WIILIDEH

ORAL QUESTION 61-18(2): Alcohol Addiction and Mental Health_Treatment Options

This letter is in follow up to the Oral Question you raised on February 25, 2016 regarding alcohol addiction and mental health treatment options.

Addictions is a crucial issue for the NWT and we are committed to ensuring that the limited resources available are efficiently allocated to ensure the broadest range of treatment services possible.

The Department is working to ensure a broad continuum of services is available for NWT residents. There are a number of options for aftercare support for clients returning from addictions treatment:

- The Community Counselling Program provides individualized aftercare;
- Many Health and Social Services Authorities offer the community-based Matrix Outpatient Addictions Program;
- The Department supports Aboriginal Governments to deliver On-the-Land Healing Programs for addictions; and,
- Non-governmental organizations, such as the Tree of Peace Friendship Centre, also offer aftercare supports.

While there are excellent services currently in place, there is also a great deal of work underway to improve addictions programs in the NWT. As I indicated in the House, we are trying to provide lots of options and are open to exploring new opportunities to provide aftercare support for clients returning from addictions treatment.

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