



March 30, 2021

ROCKY SIMPSON
MLA, HAY RIVER SOUTH

Oral Question 677-19(2): Independent Living for Seniors

This letter is in follow up to the Oral Question you raised on March 12, 2021 regarding Independent Living for Seniors.

An individual's ethnicity or length of residency in the Northwest Territories (NWT) are not considered when determining their eligibility or when offering placement in vacant Long-Term Care (LTC) beds. The eligibility criteria for admission into LTC requires that individuals are NWT residents with a valid NWT Health Care Card, and have assessed care needs beyond what can safely and adequately be provided in the home or community setting with support from Home and Community Care.

All LTC applications are reviewed through a single point of access: the Territorial Admissions Committee (TAC). TAC is composed of representatives from the Department of Health and Social Services, the Health and Social Services Authorities, and the public. TAC determines an individual's eligibility for LTC and their level of care need. If an individual is eligible for LTC, but a bed in their preferred LTC facility that can meet their care needs is not available, the individual is placed on the Territorial Waitlist (Waitlist) for LTC. When a LTC bed becomes available, it is offered to the individual on the Waitlist with the highest care need.

Thank you.

Julie Green
Minister of Health and Social Services

c Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

Legislative Coordinator
Department of Executive and Indigenous Affairs