



FEB 27 2020

JACKSON LAFFERTY
MLA, MONFWI

Oral Question 3-19(1) Tracking post-secondary student accomplishments

This letter is in follow-up to the Oral Question you raised on December 10, 2019 regarding statistics on the success of our northern Indigenous students in post-secondary education programs.

The Department of Education, Culture and Employment (ECE) administers the Student Financial Assistance (SFA) program which is intended to assist students with the costs associated with pursuing a post-secondary education, and is not set up to track or report on student academic or employment outcomes. Unfortunately, it is not easy to obtain statistics on the successful completion of programs, since there is no mandatory or legislated requirement for students to notify the Department.

ECE does track the number of residents accessing SFA, which can be broken down by basic information including: age, ethnicity, sex, region and community. In addition to basic information, statistics can also be provided based on institution, program of studies, level of studies and year of studies. Keep in mind, that when the Department collects information, we must ensure that we protect the privacy of our residents. ECE can only share personal information with the student's consent by completing Section 9 of the *Application for Full-Time SFA*.

Tracking the achievement of post-secondary students is a challenging process. ECE is interested in, and is exploring how to accomplish this. By working with post-secondary education partners and developing indicators to measure success we can better celebrate the accomplishments of our students.

Thank you for your questions and interests in this matter.

R.J. Simpson
Minister, Education, Culture
and Employment

- c. Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
Deputy Minister, Education, Culture and Employment
Legislative Coordinator, Executive and Indigenous Affairs