



June 1, 2022

CAITLIN CLEVELAND
MLA, KAM LAKE

Oral Question 1041-19(2): Student Access to Support Services

This letter is in follow up to the Oral Question you raised on March 28, 2022 regarding Student Access to Support Services.

The Department of Health and Social Services has engaged the Department of Education Culture and Employment to discuss options for alignment of rehabilitation service delivery models for schools. I do acknowledge that the national shortage of qualified rehabilitation professionals will present challenges for the Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority (NTHSSA) to ensure consistent service and access levels for the foreseeable future. Additionally, the NTHSSA has reviewed how referrals are triaged and are committed to work with schools to ensure service availability and potential wait times are clearly communicated.

The Department plans to report wait times for rehabilitation services annually. This approach to publicly report on wait times experienced over the past year gives information on how the HSS system is performing. Data collection and reporting for 2022-23 is still being finalized. Available wait times for 2021-22 will be reported in Fall 2022 through the business plan annual update.

Thank you.

Julie Green
Minister of Health and Social Services

c Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

Legislative Coordinator
Department of Executive and Indigenous Affairs