



TD 413-18(3) TABLED ON MAY 23, 2019

Government of Northwest Territories
Gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest

MR. SHANE THOMPSON
MLA, NAHENDEH

MAY 02 2019

Oral Question 651-18(3) Equity Leases

This letter is in follow-up to the Oral Question you raised on March 6, 2019 regarding Equity Lease Land Specialist positions in the Northwest Territories. I committed to providing an update on the progress being made with the Equity Lease initiative.

The Equity Lease Land Specialists are nearing completion of their detailed review of lease documents in their respective regions and developing the necessary approach to each file.

A team meeting occurred in late March 2019 to complete the regional inspection plans for each community where equity leases exist. A three day inspections training workshop occurred April 16-18, 2019. Inspections of equity leases have begun and will continue through the summer and fall.

On March 13, 2019 the Department of Lands initiated Aboriginal consultation on the proposed approach to allow equity leases within community boundaries in regions with unsettled land claims to acquire their land. All equity leases that are considered for this initiative are currently used for housing or business. The consultation period concludes on June 14, 2019.

The Equity Lease Team Lead that was with the Department on a Transfer Assignment has accepted a promotional opportunity with the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs. The Department of Lands has subsequently filled the position, effective April 1, 2019. The four Land Specialists are working under the guidance of the Team Lead and the Director of Land Administration to prepare for a busy upcoming field season. Thank you for raising this important issue.

Louis Sebert
Minister of Lands

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