



MR. SHANE THOMPSON
MLA, NAHENDEH

MAR 06 2018

Oral Question 119-18(3): Medical Travel Coverage

This letter is in reference to the Oral Question raised on February 15, 2018 regarding Medical Travel for Traditional Healing Treatments.

As stated in the House, Government of the Northwest Territories Medical Travel does not cover the travel cost to attend traditional healer services. However, the Federal Non-Insured Health Benefit (NIHB) program offers Medical transportation benefits to see a traditional healer. However NIHB must consider certain criteria prior to approving medical transportation benefits for traditional healer services.

Detailed information on the Federal NIHB program can be found online at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/non-insured-health-benefits-first-nations-inuit.html>

Northwest Territories residents can also contact Health Services Administration Staff with any questions or concerns regarding the NIHB program and application process.

Health Services Administration Office

Health and Social Services

Toll-free 1-800-661-0830

Phone 1-867-777-7400

healthcarecard@gov.nt.ca

As committed, I look forward to sitting down with you to figure out how we can improve the flow of information so that our residents who are interested can apply for support through NIHB.

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