



May 25, 2020

RYLUND JOHNSON  
MLA, YELLOWKNIFE NORTH

**Oral Question 156-19(2) Women in Trades**

This letter is in follow-up to the Oral Question you raised on March 05, 2020 regarding the status of the Women in Trades.

As noted in the Apprenticeship, Trades and Occupational Certification (ATOC) Strategy, the Department of Education, Culture and Employment (ECE) has committed to increase the participation and completion rates of targeted groups in apprenticeship and certification, including women in non-traditional trades, and to develop and implement an initiative that will increase the number of women in the trades and occupations.

ECE is currently working to develop a “Women in Trades” program to remove barriers and encourage more women to consider careers in skilled trades. Such a program will require a multi-faceted approach to addressing barriers to success experienced by Indigenous and female apprentices.

Informed by the input of the ATOC Board and Advisory Committee, as well as the best practices for supporting women in trades in other provinces and territories, ECE will be inviting formal proposals for the development of a “Women in Trades” program by issuing a Request for Proposal in summer 2020, with the aim of having a program in place in 2021. This process will provide an opportunity for further stakeholder input, and ensure that the program meets the needs of industry and current and prospective women tradespersons.

Thank you for your questions and interest 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