



MR. JACKSON LAFFERTY
MLA, MONFWI

FEB 11 2020

Oral Question 13-19 (1) Housing in Behchokò

This letter is in follow-up to the Oral Question you raised on December 11, 2019 regarding housing concerns in Behchokò.

Regarding the concerns that you raised on the number of burnt and boarded up units, NWT HC currently has 38 units that are empty at this time comprised of 24 vacant units, and 14 surplus units.

Of the 24 vacant units, there are five units that are in the process of being allocated to tenants. We have a further 19 units that are vacant due to needed repairs. Of those, 13 units are scheduled for repair in fiscal year 2019-2020, and the remaining six units will be repaired in fiscal year 2020-2021.

Of the 14 surplus units, five units have been approved for demolition, eight units have been approved for sale to the Tłıchǫ Government, and a final unit is pending a disposition decision.

You also raised concerns about residents dealing with homes that have been affected by fire. Throughout its support for homeowners, the NWT HC continues to emphasize the importance of home insurance. However, I understand that home insurance can be hard to get in our smaller communities, and can be quite expensive. To make repair programming more accessible, the majority of NWT HC homeownership programming does not require that homeowners have insurance. Additionally, the NWT HC is working with financial institutions around identifying possible affordable insurance options for NWT residents.

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I would look forward to taking a tour of Behchokò with you to take a look at housing in the community and discuss the work being done by the Tłıchǫ-Government of the Northwest Territories Strategic Working Group on Housing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paulie Chinna', written in a cursive style.

Paulie Chinna
Minister responsible for the
Northwest Territories
Housing Corporation

c. Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

Legislative Coordinator, Executive and Indigenous Affairs