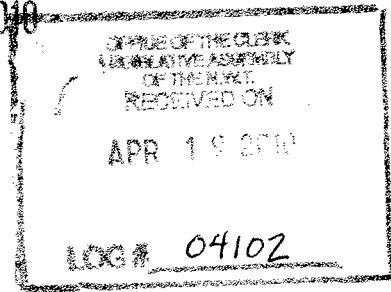




Northwest Territories Minister of Health and Social Services



APR 18 2010

MR. TIM MERCER
CLERK OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Response to Petition 2-16(5) – Diagnosis and Treatment of Residents Affected by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)

Attached is a Response to Petition 2-16(5) – Diagnosis and Treatment of Residents Affected by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD).

Sandy Lee
Sandy Lee

Attachment

- c. Mr. Kevin O'Keefe
Legislative Coordinator

① Noted April 2010
② Table during May sitting.
JK



Petition tabled by Mr. Glen Abernethy on March 3, 2010

Response by the Honourable Sandy Lee
Minister of Health and Social Services

Diagnosis and Treatment of Residents Affected by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)

FASD diagnosis is available in the Northwest Territories (NWT) for children through Stanton Territorial Health Authority (STHA). The FASD Diagnostic Team includes a core team consisting of a coordinator, physician, neuropsychologist, social worker, occupational therapist and speech-language pathologist as per specific Canadian Diagnostic Guidelines for FASD.

A Child Development Team (CDT) at STHA for children and their families in the NWT and the Kitikmeot region of Nunavut provides initial diagnostic assessment and follow-up services for children from birth to 16 years of age with complex developmental needs and their families. The current CDT diagnostic assessment includes individual assessment, family conferencing, goal setting and linkages to the child's home community. Follow-up clinics for children are provided with the purpose of reviewing team goals and the development of treatment plans. Clinics occur approximately once a month. The CDT receives referrals from physicians, community health nurses and rehabilitation professionals within the NWT and the Kitikmeot region of Nunavut.

FASD diagnosis for adults is currently not available in the NWT; however, lack of diagnosis does not limit access to services. A continuum of services is available for adults with development disabilities and/or FASD in the NWT. Access to these services is not dependent upon a diagnosis. Types of services include day/work programs, adult respite, group homes and supported living programs.