



November 3, 2022

LESA SEMMLER
MLA, INUVIK TWIN LAKES

Oral Question 1159-19(2) Mental Health and Suicide

This letter is in follow up to the Oral Question you raised on October 13, 2022 regarding Mental Health and Suicide.

The Northwest Territories' health and social services system supports the use of ASIST suicide prevention training. The Department of Health and Social Services holds a contribution agreement with the Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority (NTHSSA) that includes funds to support the delivery of ASIST.

Child and Youth Care Counsellors and Regional Mental Health and Addictions staff deliver key programming for suicide prevention to schools and community members. Training funds for Living Works programming such as START (offered online) and ASIST (offered in-person) have been fully utilized this fiscal year. NTHSSA continues to promote these resources with partners and will prioritize suicide prevention training for youth, schools and community caregivers in the new fiscal year.

There are a variety of resources outside of Living Works that schools may access to incorporate suicide prevention into current programming. Local Community Counselling Program staff will consult with schools to discuss further training or group education options around suicide prevention.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JAGreen".

Julie Green
Minister of Health and Social Services

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