



October 10, 2024

SHERYL YAKELEYA
MLA, DEHCHO**Oral Question 245-20(1) Housing as a Human Right**

This is in response to your June 05, 2024, Oral Questions regarding Housing as a Human Right.

Thank you for your questions on providing more outcome-based measures in the Housing Northwest Territories (Housing NWT) Annual Report.

To support this, the most important task that Housing NWT will be undertaking is the completion of a Housing Needs Assessment (HNA). This work will be commencing shortly and Housing NWT intends to have results by the winter of 24-25. The HNA will give the Northwest Territories (NWT) comparable data to other jurisdictions on the type and amount of housing required to meet the needs of all residents in the Territory. This information will allow Housing NWT and Indigenous Government partners to focus their efforts in accessing federal funding based on the type of need and will provide the NWT with the business case to defend its asks of Canada for long term sustainable funding to address the relative needs of our residents. It will also allow Housing NWT to work more strategically with partners so that it can focus on the type of housing required in each community and region.

The City of Yellowknife (City) has received federal funding and will be contracting support to complete the HNA analysis within the city of Yellowknife. Housing NWT will work with the NWT Housing Forum to determine the approach to be used for all other communities and work to then combine that data and analysis with the City's information to provide NWT wide data and reporting. Housing NWT will be seeking to use information that can be easily updated and therefore used for reporting changes year over year and track overall progress on providing housing to residents of the NWT by all sources. The Department of Finance will provide assistance to Housing NWT in the provision of statistical data and analysis. The University of British Columbia has offered to provide table-top/data collection support as well at no cost.

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Once the study is complete, Housing NWT will present the results of the initial study to all interested stakeholders. The HNA will include all types of housing on the housing continuum, not just public/affordable housing needs. As we know, solving the housing crisis will involve many partners. The HNA will give us a tool to track successes of various actions taken by Housing NWT and its partners to improve the overall housing situation in the NWT.

Thank you,



Lucy Kuptana
Minister Responsible for
Housing Northwest Territories

- c. Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
Director, Legislative Affairs and House Planning