

Government of Northwest Territories

June 12, 2024

GEORGE NERYSOO MLA, MACKENZIE DELTA

Oral Question 186-20(1): Addressing Erosion in Aklavik

This letter is in follow-up to the Oral Question you raised on May 27, 2024, in the House regarding funding supports for erosion issues in Aklavik.

The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA) distributes all of its funding directly to community governments so that they can prioritize their own projects, this includes disaster mitigation projects such as restoration of shorelines, berms, culverts and fire breaks. MACA does not keep any funding for community governments' capital projects.

Aklavik's funding for 2024-2025 is \$895,000 for Community Public Infrastructure Funding and \$355,000 for Community Capacity-Building Funding. Disaster mitigation projects are eligible under both these programs. In addition to annual funding, there are other supports that MACA can offer for Aklavik's erosion issues. MACA staff cannot complete community projects for them; however, MACA can provide advice to Aklavik in capital planning and project management.

MACA is also beginning a project with the Hamlets of Tuktoyaktuk, Paulatuk, Ulukhaktok, and Sachs Harbour that will be developing community planning guidance and information for these communities that are facing significant impacts due to coastal erosion from the Arctic Ocean. This guidance may also be useful for the Hamlet of Aklavik and will be shared with them once the project is completed.

The Hamlet may also wish to apply to the Government of Canada's Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF). The Hamlet of Aklavik has accessed this funding in the past to develop a flood mitigation plan.

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If the Hamlet would like assistance with capital planning, community planning or more information on where they would apply to the federal DMAF program, they should be encouraged to contact Dana Moran, Regional Superintendent, Inuvik Region at <u>dana moran@gov.nt.ca</u>.

Vince McKay Minister Municipal and Community Affairs