

MEETING AOC 25-19-20

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 04, 2020 COMMITTEE ROOM "A" - YELLOWKNIFE, NT 9:00 AM

AGENDA

- 1. Prayer
- 2. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- 3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
- 4. Public Matters
 - a) Correspondence from Hon. Paulie Chinna, Minister responsible for the NWTHC regarding Update on Meeting with Yellowknife Women's Society, Concerned Citizens and City of Yellowknife, 03-03-20
- 5. In-Camera Matters:
 - a) Meeting and Events Calendar
 - b) Sessional Work Plan/House Planning
 - i. Review of Previous Day's Business in the House
 - ii. Ministers and Members Absences
 - iii. Members' Statements
 - iv. Oral Questions
 - v. Written Questions
 - vi. Tabled Documents
 - vii. Orders of the Day
 - viii. Motions/Members' Initiatives
 - 1. Mrs. Martselos
 - ix. Committee of the Whole
 - c) Discussion of Main Estimates
 - d) Confidential New Business
- 6. Date and Time of Next Meeting: Thursday March 5, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.
- 7. Adjournment



MR. STEVE NORN CHAIRPERSON STANDING COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT

MAR 0 3 2020

Update on Meeting with Yellowknife Women's Society, **Concerned Citizens and City of Yellowknife**

I am writing to advise that I met with the Yellowknife Women's Society, Concerned Citizens Group and City of Yellowknife, February 27, 2020, to discuss the Yellowknife Women's Society (YWS) application to the Canada Housing and Mortgage Corporation (CMHC) co-investment fund.

The NWTHC and YWS held a positive conversation aimed at moving this project forward and are in agreement on the importance of projects like this that provide homelessness supports.

NWTHC is working with CMHC to improve the communications process for applicants outlined by YWS as the first applicant to make it to this stage of the process and NWTHC will develop a process outline on its role with in projects related to the co-investment fund.

At this meeting, we reiterated NWTHC's approach to participation in the Co-Investment fund. The Federal Co-invest fund for the Northwest Territories is an important opportunity for Indigenous Governments, communities and non-profit organizations to leverage federal funding to enhance northern housing. The NWTHC does not pre-commit to any application until projects are deemed viable by CMHC, this reduces duplication of assessment and processing times, which are already quite long on the federal side. We have been clear in our communication to CMHC from the onset that the required up to 25% contribution from applicants is not automatically supported by the NWTHC, nor should it be promoted that way. The GNWT does not have the funding to provide the 25% for all projects applying to the Co-investment fund. Projects are strongly encouraged by the GNWT to look at all other avenues for funding partnerships including Community, Indigenous Government, and private industry, as well as internal financing available to the applicants. The NWTHC relies on CMHC to perform the assessments on projects for

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viability as it is their program. NWTHC confirmed for YWS and CMHC that if a contribution of \$620,000 is all that is left for CMHC to approve the application, the NWTHC commits to provide the funding. This is clearly aligned with our Mandate and this is funding I am committed to finding internally.

I encouraged YWS to reach out to other community partners such as municipalities, indigenous governments, private industry, and NGO's for input and support for this project as well.

YWS advised that if CMHC would review the updated application, they could address the outstanding matters identified by CMHC that led to their decision to reject. The NWTHC has reached out CMHC to ask that they re-open YWS' application, and CMHC has confirmed it will re-open YWS's application.

YWS and their consultants have been advised to contact CMHC to work on addressing the reasons their application was declined and that more SEED funding may be available from CMHC to assist YWS with the various parts of their application. CMHC will outline all the conditions to YWS that must be satisfied in order for this project to reach a final decision. There is no estimated timing for completion of this process, however, we have been assured that it will not take 300 days. At that point, YWS will be in a position to continue to move forward, or not.

The NWTHC and YWS agree that should CMHC choose not to approve the revised application, the two groups will continue to meet in order determine next steps.

Paulie Chinna

Minister Responsible for the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation

c. Members of the Legislative Assembly
Principal Secretary
Secretary to Cabinet/Deputy Minister EIA
President, Northwest Territories Housing Corporation
Clerk, Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight
Committee Members, Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight