

Asked by:

Member for Range Lake

February 28, 2024

Extended Health Benefits Policy

An estimated 2,200 Northwest Territories residents do not have access to any health benefits, do not have access to any benefits like those through employee or third-party insurance plans. The Minister of Health and Social Services has implemented changes to the Extended Health Benefits Policy that will impose a low-income threshold on eligible benefits.

My questions are to the Minister of Health and Social Services:

1. Can the Minister explain the income assessment process to determine eligibility for all benefits, including exact income amounts in dollar values;
2. Can the Minister explain the cost-sharing model for residents above the low-income threshold, including defined reasonable family maximums and a list of all eligible benefits;
3. Can the Minister indicate how many Northwest Territories residents will no longer receive extended health benefits after September 1, 2024;
4. Can the Minister provide a regional breakdown of how many Northwest Territories residents will no longer receive extended health benefits after April 1, 2024; and
5. Can the Minister provide the total reduction in expenditures anticipated from the changes to Extended Health Benefits after September 1, 2024?