

## Government of Gouvernement des Northwest Territories Territoires du Nord-Ouest

September 1, 2020

MR. KEVIN O'REILLY MLA, FRAME LAKE

## Oral Question 268-19(2): Support for Entrepreneurs and Economic Development Policy Funding Delays

This letter is in follow up to the Oral Question you raised on June 1, 2020 regarding delays in the rollout of Support for Entrepreneurs and Economic Development (SEED) for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

The Minister committed to confirming with the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI) whether portions of the \$4 million in total SEED funding are allocated to specific regions and to providing you with those allocations. I can advise that for 2020-21, the SEED Policy budget is currently allocated as follows:

| Program/Region         | 2020-21      |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Film*                  | \$ 160,000   |
| Arts and Crafts*       | 125,000      |
| Prospector Support*    | 50,000       |
| Strategic Initiatives* | 750,000      |
| COVID top-up*          | 134,000      |
| ADM Hold*              | 125,000      |
| Beaufort Delta         | 470,000      |
| Dehcho                 | 470,000      |
| North Slave            | 484,000      |
| NWT-wide               | 269,000      |
| Sahtu                  | 445,000      |
| South Slave            | 518,000      |
| Total                  | \$ 4,000,000 |

<sup>\*</sup> funds held for transfer to regions as programs are accessed

You also asked why the SEED policy and application form and has not been updated to reflect the COVID-19 response guidelines and the Minister committed to updating that immediately. ITI has advised me that the guidelines work within the existing framework of the program, so updates to the policy and application form are not required. However, it seems that the confusion may have been caused by the guidelines being difficult to find on the ITI website. That was promptly corrected and I appreciate your bringing it to the Minister's attention.

Thank you.

Shane Thompson

Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment

c. Mr. Tim Mercer Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

> Mr. David Hastings Legislative Coordinator