



October 06, 2021

MR. ROCKY SIMPSON
MLA, HAY RIVER SOUTH

Oral Question 754-19(2)

LOTTERY REVENUES FOR HAY RIVER SPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

I would like to provide some information in response to the question you asked on June 2, 2021 regarding Lottery Revenues for Hay River Sporting Organizations.

Municipal and Community Affairs is currently completing accountability requirements for the Physical Activity, Sport and Recreation Fund in accordance with the *Western Canada Lottery Act*. Based on unaudited statements for the 2020-21 fiscal year, the three retailers in Hay River generated approximately \$660,000 in net revenue. The total revenue generated will be confirmed when all final accounting with the Western Canada Lottery Corporation is completed. This information will be made available when the annual report for the Fund is tabled in the Legislative Assembly.

With respect to total revenues for the Western Canada Lottery Program, for the 2019-20 fiscal year the amount generated was \$5,509,216 across the territory through lottery sales. This includes sales figures for both the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, which the Government of the Northwest Territories also administers through an Agreement.

For the purposes of disclosing where lottery revenues are generated, MACA is unable to provide detailed information by retailer for the smaller communities, as this could be a disclosure of proprietary information in locations where there is a single retailer in a community. However, in the attachment, the lottery sales for community where multiple retailers operate is provided. In 2019-20, the retailers in Hay River combined to generate \$740,750.

At this time, lottery revenues are being generated in 15 of 33 communities. It is important to note that the motto of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut Lotteries is "When you play everyone plays". In this regard, there is no correlation between where lottery revenues is generated in 15 communities, because the funding provided supports programs and services for all communities.

The attachment also details all contributions made under the Western Canada Lottery for the 2019-20 fiscal year.

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With respect to how the Hay River Ski Club was notified that their Agreement under the Legacy Retailer Grant Program would not be renewed, I am aware that notice was provided in writing several months in advance. However, I now understand that communication to the Hay River Ski Club on the intent of the Agreement may have been unclear.

Subsequent to the elimination of the Legacy Retailer Grant Program, and the expiration of the Hay River Ski Club agreement, I can confirm that I have approved a one-time contribution to the Hay River Ski Club under the Non-government Organization Stabilization Fund. The intent of this additional contribution is for the organization to use this funding to develop a transitional plan for the sustained delivery of their programming. This agreement will be for the next two years in order to support this transition.



Shane Thompson
Minister
Municipal and Community Affairs

- c. Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
Legislative Coordinator