

Government of  
Northwest Territories

April 15, 2024

KIERON TESTART  
MLA, RANGE LAKE**Oral Question 109-20(1): Extended Health Benefits Policy**

This letter is in follow up to the Oral Question you raised on February 26, 2024, regarding the Extended Health Benefits (EHB) Policy.

Effective September 1, 2024, the new EHB Policy reduces barriers to access to health-related benefits for NT residents who are not covered under the federal government's Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) program or the Métis Health Benefits Policy.

According to NIHB data, in 2023 there were 28,000 NIHB eligible clients in the NT. Additionally, the Métis Health Benefits Policy currently has 1,700 registered clients. In total, approximately 29,700 NT residents are covered by these two programs. The residual population is eligible for the new EHB program.

Residents currently accessing benefits under the Seniors and Specified Disease Programs are eligible to apply for benefits under the new EHB Policy provided they continue to hold an effective registration with the Northwest Territories Health Care Plan. Seniors (60+) will continue to receive the same extended health benefits as they are currently receiving.

To access the new EHB Policy, residents will submit an application including their Canada Revenue Agency Statement of Income to have their net income assessed and adjusted for region of residence, cost of living, and family size (dependants). The adjusted income will then determine the benefits for which the individual/family are eligible, as well as any cost sharing arrangement.

The income threshold levels and cost sharing arrangement by income threshold will be shared publicly in April 2024.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lesa Semmler".

Lesa Semmler  
Minister of Health and Social Services

- c. Principal Secretary  
Deputy Secretary, Premier's Office  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly  
Director, Legislative Affairs and House Planning