



July 2, 2024

MS. KATE REID
MLA, GREAT SLAVE

Oral Question 280-20(1): Apply for a Name Change

This letter is in follow-up to the Oral Question you raised on June 11, 2024, regarding Applying for a Name Change. Specifically, you requested a list of health and social services legislation that identifies the forms prescribed by legislation to include sex or gender in a binary fashion.

The Department completed a scan of health legislation and found there is no specific legislative requirements to include sex or gender in a binary fashion in the respective corresponding forms. However, the *Change of Name Regulations (Change of Name Act)* includes the *Application for Change of Name Form* within the regulations and is the only legislated form that requires identifying a person's gender in a specific fashion, as M, F or X.

As committed, the Department has updated the Change of Name (CON) web pages and the instructions to the [Document Checklist – Application for Change of Name](#) to clarify the process for requesting an exemption to having a CON publicly posted in the Gazette in order to address the concern that having a deadname (birth name) publicly posted can be a harmful experience for transgender, non-binary, and gender-diverse persons. The following web pages have been updated:

Changing a Name (Child)

- English: <https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/en/services/changing-name-child>
- French: <https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/fr/services/changement-de-nom-enfant>

Changing a Name (Adult)

- English: <https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/en/services/changing-name-adult>
- French: <https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/fr/services/changement-de-nom-adulte>

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These updates clarify that residents may reach out to the Registrar General of Vital Statistics at 1-800-661-0830 (toll free) or hsa@gov.nt.ca to request an exemption to having their change of name published, either once they've submitted their application or in the email with their completed application form.

Thank you.



Les Semmler
Minister, Health and Social Services

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