



November 18, 2024

ROBERT HAWKINS
MLA, YELLOWKNIFE CENTRE

Oral Question 419-20(1): NTHSSA Operational Concerns

This letter is in follow-up to the Oral Question you raised on November 1, 2024, regarding internationally educated nurses (IEN).

As the Member knows, the College and Association of Nurses of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut (CANNN) has the legislated authority and responsibility to ensure public safety described in their mandate. CANNN is supportive of avenues that would enable IENs to be licensed in the NWT while upholding their mandate.

Each IENs education and experience is different, and therefore every IEN's suitability for practice must be examined individually. Currently, CANNN is pursuing a contract with Inspire Global Assessments, a recognized nursing assessment service that can assess skills, knowledge, and competencies of IENs applying for licensure in the NWT.

CANNN's current requisites for IEN registration is:

- 1,125 practice hours in another Canadian jurisdiction, within the past 5 years; or
- completion of an IEN bridge-in program, with supervised clinical practicum and laboratory skills, to meet registration requirements similar to graduate nurse.

The Joint Territorial Nursing Council, which is comprised of nursing leadership from the Department, the three health and social services authorities, Aurora College, and CANNN, is exploring options for IENs and their entry into the NWT HSS system.

Thank you.

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

Les Semmler
Minister of Health and Social Services

- c. Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
Director, Legislative Affairs and House Planning

