

Asked by:

Member for Range Lake

February 28, 2024

Private Agency Nurses

The Northwest Territories healthcare system has seen a dramatic increase in the use of private agency nurses since the COVID1-19 pandemic. Many Northerners are concerned about the costs of agency nurses and their impact on healthcare staff recruitment and retention.

I have questions for the Minister of Health and Social Services:

1. Can the Minister provide a breakdown of the total costs for public agency nurses by fiscal year since 2019-2020;
2. Can the Minister provide a breakdown of the total costs for private? agency nurses based on expenditure categories, those being salaries, overtime, per diems, travel, accommodations, performance bonuses, and any other form of remuneration;
3. Can the Minister provide the total number of nursing staff positions in the public service that could be funded from an equivalent expenditure as on agency nurses;
4. Can the Minister provide the total number of registered nurses recruited to the public service since 2019-2020; and
5. Can the Minister provide the total number of registered nurses who have been terminated, retired or otherwise left their employment since 2019-2020?