



MR. MICHAEL M. NADLI
MLA, DEH CHO

OCT 23 2017

Oral Question 923-18(2): Elder Abuse

This letter is in response to the Oral Question you raised on October 3, 2017 regarding Elder Abuse.

In the Continuing Care Services Action Plan 2017-18 – 2021-22, the Department of Health and Social Services (department) committed to finalizing an Elder Abuse screening tool. With input from stakeholders, Northwest Territories (NWT) residents and the department, the NWT Seniors' Society developed an Elder Abuse Screening Tool. Before being rolled out as an approved practice, the tool will be trialed by care providers in the regions to ensure the Elder Abuse Screening Tool is suitable for use in the NWT. During the trial, seniors will be asked how they feel about the questions being used. Care providers will also give feedback on the suitability of the questions, and how effective the questions are at eliciting meaningful responses.

Training in the use of the Elder Abuse Screening Tool will be provided and give guidance on:

- Whether to screen for possible elder abuse;
- How to enter into a dialogue about possible elder abuse; and
- What to do if elder abuse is suspected.

Screening is a first step to identifying if an elder is potentially at risk. The department expects the trial to take place in early 2018. Results will be shared with the Northwest Territories Health and Social Service Authority and other partners before the tools are implemented across the NWT.

Thank you.

Glen Abernethy
Minister of Health and Social Services

c Mr. Tim Mercer
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

Mr. David Hastings
Legislative Coordinator, Executive