



AUG 22 2019

MR. R. J. SIMPSON
MLA, HAY RIVER NORTH

Oral Question 838-18(3):
South Mackenzie Correctional Centre Therapeutic Model

On August 20, 2019, you asked questions in the Legislative Assembly regarding any relationships or agreements that the Department of Justice intends to pursue with the private sector to work with former residents released from South Mackenzie Correctional Centre (SMCC) Therapeutic Community for when this model becomes operational.

The Department of Justice is committed to support the healing, rehabilitation and reintegration of SMCC Therapeutic Community (TC) residents back into their home communities, and promoting basic and employment skills is an important part of this. Opportunities will be provided at several stages for TC residents to gain employment skills and experience. For example, while in the facility TC residents may be eligible to participate in an offender work crew and community outings under the supervision of corrections staff.

Another opportunity will be through work release under the temporary absence process, which will be determined on a case by case basis, with the assistance of the resident's case manager. Work release will be available once a resident has reached phase 3 in the TC model, which is designed to facilitate the resident's separation from the TC and their transition to programs or services in the wider society. While work release options may not always extend beyond the community of Hay River, TC residents will be supported to look for employment opportunities in their home communities, prior to release from custody.

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Currently, for inmates who expect to stay in Hay River following their release, SMCC case management staff engage with various employers and community resources in Hay River to assist offenders in obtaining employment and in developing employment related skills, both during their time in the facility and upon release. Through these and other resources in Hay River, training is offered at SMCC in resume writing, First Aid and CPR, Food Safe Level 1 certification, Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System and Safe Equipment Operation certifications. Contacts with local employers and training opportunities will continue once the Therapeutic Community is implemented.

Thank you for your continued interest in the Therapeutic Community. If you require further information, please contact my office.



Louis Sebert
Minister of Justice

- c. Mr. Tim Mercer, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
Mr. Martin Goldney, Deputy Minister, Justice
Mr. David Hastings, Legislative Coordinator