

14-20(1)

The Honourable Lesa Semmler
Minister Of Health and Social Services

Operating Rooms at Stanton Territorial Hospital

Mr. Speaker, I have a Return to Written Question asked by the Member for Range Lake on March 6, 2025, regarding the productivity of operating rooms at Stanton Territorial Hospital.

Later today, at the appropriate time, I will table a document titled Operating Room Activities for Stanton Territorial Hospital.

The Member asked for the total number of scheduled surgeries and day procedures completed in 2024, broken down per month. There were a total of 2,053 surgeries completed at Stanton Territorial Hospital in 2024. The monthly breakdown of Operating Room activity is presented in **Table 1** of the tabled document, which is titled Scheduled Surgeries and Day Procedures Completed in 2024.

The Member asked for the total hours worked by all surgical teams for the year 2024. A full time Operating Room Registered Nurse will work 1,950 hours per year. Each service is provided with an allocation of Operating Room days per week. For example, the types of surgeries are scheduled as follows:

- Orthopedics surgeries are scheduled on Monday and Wednesday;
- General surgeries are scheduled on Monday and Wednesday;
- Gynecology surgeries are scheduled on Tuesday and Friday;
- Ophthalmology surgeries are scheduled on Thursday;
- Ears, Nose and Throat surgeries are scheduled on Wednesday and Friday; and
- Urology surgeries are scheduled once per month on Tuesday and Wednesdays.

The Member asked for the number of surgeries and day procedures cancelled over the same period. In 2024, there were a total of 561 surgery cancellations. There are a variety of reasons for these cancellations. 210 were patient generated cancellations, 85 were cancelled by the Surgeon, and there were 81 no shows. In the tabled document, a summary of these reasons is given as well as a break down by month, in **Table 2** titled Summary of Rationale for Surgery Cancellations, for 2024.

The Member asked for a full cost accounting of all scheduled surgeries and day procedures completed in 2024. The 2024-25 fiscal year revised operating budget for the operating room is \$5,910,000. The 2024-25 revised operating budget for Day Procedures is \$3,014,000. Expenses for the year are not due to be finalized until the end of June 2025.

The 2023-24 total expenditures for both Operating Room and Day Procedures was \$7,877,643.

The Member asked for the average completed surgeries and day procedures vs. cancelled surgeries and day procedures over a 5-year period.

The breakdown of completed surgeries at Stanton Territorial Hospital for the previous five years is as follows.

- 607 surgeries completed from January 1 to April 31, 2025;
- 2,053 surgeries completed in 2024;
- 1,589 surgeries completed in 2023;
- 1,447 surgeries completed in 2022;
- 852 surgeries completed between July 1 and December 31, 2021; and there is no data available from January 1 to June 30, 2021.

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic response and measures, there were fewer surgeries performed in 2021. There is no electronic data available prior to July 1, 2021.

Further, the total number of surgery cancellations at Stanton Territorial Hospital for the previous five years is as follows:

- 138 surgeries were cancelled from January 1 to April 31, 2025;
 - 561 surgeries were cancelled in 2024;
 - 507 surgeries were cancelled in 2023;
 - 392 surgeries were cancelled in 2022; and
 - 480 surgeries were cancelled in 2021; and there is no data available from January 1 to June 30, 2021.
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic response and measures, there were more surgery cancellations in 2021. There is no electronic data available prior to July 1, 2021.

As indicated in **Table 2: Summary of Rationale for Surgery Cancellations**, for 2024, of the tabled document, there are a variety of reasons for cancellations that are often beyond Stanton Territorial Hospital's control. Additionally, when cancellations occur, there is very little lost Operating Room time as same day surgical procedures are often scheduled.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.