

KEVIN O'REILLY—MLA FRAME LAKE

Early Childhood Development Funding

Committee of the Whole—2016-2017 Operating Budget Review

Dept. of Health and Social Services —June 13, 2016

MR. O'REILLY: Thanks, Mr. Chair. I have a couple of rounds of questions for the Minister. The first one is on page 184, under contributions, there's an early childhood development action plan. And I see that there's actually a reduction of \$100,000 there, and I'm just wondering if the Minister can explain that 'cause I understand it early childhood development is one of the best investments we can make as a Government, so I'm just wondering what the reduction is all about. Thanks, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. McNeely): Thank you, Mr. O'Reilly. Mr. Minister.

HON. GLEN ABERNETHY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, there was some money transferred to the authorities for \$81,000. There was the sunset on the regional early intervention coordinator's position, \$18,000 that was for some O an M costs, but there was also an increase as the result of some northern allowance for its growth. So basically an internal transfer and some sunset.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. McNeely): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. O'Reilly.

MR. O'REILLY: Okay, thanks, Mr. Chair. I encourage the department to find more money for early childhood development and for working with the Minister on the 2017-18 budget.