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MR. O'REILLY: Thanks, Mr. Chair. I was just reflecting on the Minister of Finance's response to my earlier questions around the capacity of the ENR. Just so we're clear, I guess, what I'm looking for is I want to know what kind of capacity there is within ENR with regard to climate change, greenhouse gas emissions, how many staff they've got, how they collaborate with public works and services and finance. It sort of sounded to me like Finance is going to take over the lead on carbon pricing and that's fine. They are bean counters, but I'm interested in making sure that the people that know something about greenhouse gas emissions actually are engaged and involved in designing a carbon pricing system.

My questions were with regard to the capacity of the ENR, not Finance. We are going to get to that department a little later. I hope that helps clarify what I was after in that. I'm looking to the Minister for a response wearing his ENR hat, not Finance. Thanks, Mr. Chair.

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

HON. ROBERT MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, my apologies to the Member. He was asking about the capacity of the ENR and I kind of said we would go through and look at Finance because they were the lead, and I knew that wasn't the end of it, so I was actually being prepared for him to come back with the same question. I will defer to Ms. Kelly. She will talk about the number of people we have in there and the working group that ENR is a part of, but I can assure the Member that finance is not off doing this on their own. We are, as we should be, seeking advice from the expert, but I will have Dr. Kelly elaborate a bit more. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Blake): Thank you, Minister McLeod. Dr. Kelly.

DR. KELLY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. To my knowledge, there has been no reduction in the capacity in the climate change group. In fact, we have added an interim position to the climate change group to help with developing the work behind the Climate Change Strategic Framework. We have also been in discussions with the federal government. There is some funding available for adaptation and we've looked to see if we can address the capacity issues through that funding as well.

Internally, we work closely with Public Works and Services. As you may have seen if you were at the engagement sessions, we were there jointly, ENR and Public Works. We also work very closely with Finance, Transportation, MACA, Education, Culture and Employment at the ADM level and at the working level on climate change related issues, including the Pan-Canadian Framework and the Climate Change Strategic Framework and energy work that's been going on. So it's at multiple levels that we're working together throughout the government on these issues. Thank you, Mr. Chair.