

KEVIN O'REILLY—MLA FRAME LAKE
Support for North Slave Fisheries
Committee of the Whole—2017-2018 Operating Budget Review
Dept. of Industry, Tourism and Investment—February 26, 2018

MR. O'REILLY: That's interesting to hear. So can I ask just about, while we're on fisheries revitalization, what is the department doing with regards to commercial fishing on this side of the lake, Yellowknife in particular? Is the department doing anything to help support the fishing industry here, in Yellowknife? Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thank you. Minister.

HON. WALLY SCHUMANN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. When you read the strategy, the strategy is for all of Great Slave Lake; it's not just for Hay River, but, in particular for the Yellowknife Member, we're looking at one of them being the pick-up point here, in Yellowknife. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thank you. Mr. O'Reilly.

MR. O'REILLY: Thanks, Mr. Chair. Look, I'm not a fisherman, so what's meant by a "pick-up point here in Yellowknife"? Is this a place where the product can be directly exported overseas, or is that the extent of the support from the department? Thanks, Mr. Chair.

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

HON. WALLY SCHUMANN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So this will be a new collection station, which we don't have right now on the north side of the lake. Once this thing is established, we can have fishermen fishing out of, particularly out of, Yellowknife, to access the zone on this side of the lake and be able to contribute to the new power strategy going forward. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thank you. Mr. O'Reilly.

MR. O'REILLY: Thanks, Mr. Chair. So is this a new fish plant for Yellowknife? What does the physical infrastructure actually look like? Thanks, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thank you. Minister.

HON. WALLY SCHUMANN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I don't think we have that totally sorted out yet, but I suspect it will be something that will be able to hold the fish in a safe manner so that we'll be able to transport it to plant in Hay River. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thank you. Mr. O'Reilly.

MR. O'REILLY: Thanks, Mr. Chair. That's interesting. So people here are catching fish, and the fish are going to have to be transported for processing before they can come back here, to Yellowknife? Thanks, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thank you. Minister.

HON. WALLY SCHUMANN: That is correct. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thank you. Mr. O'Reilly.

MR. O'REILLY: That's all I've got for now. I'm just a bit surprised at the last one, but I'm sure I'll have a chance to chat with the Minister more about it. Thanks, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thank you, Mr. O'Reilly. Hay River is a lot closer than Winnipeg, at least. Next, I have Mr. McNeely.