

**KEVIN O'REILLY—MLA FRAME LAKE**  
**Need for Accurate Budget Documents**  
**Committee of the Whole—2018-2019 Operating Budget Review**  
**Dept. of Health and Social Services—February 28, 2018**

**MR. O'REILLY:** Mr. Chair, I'm looking at page 173, and it shows a two-person reduction from 2017-2018. It seems to be located in the Beaufort Delta. Can someone tell me what those two people do and why the reduction is being made? Thanks Mr. Chair.

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

**HON. GLEN ABERNETHY:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, what's in there is a reduction of two positions in the Health and Social Services Administration Office in Inuvik. However, post-printing of this document, the decision has been made to reduce only one of those vacant positions in Inuvik. The second position now identified is a vacant position in Yellowknife in the information system support. So the insured service coordinator and administrative assistant were the ones in Inuvik; and now it's just one of those.

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

**MR. O'REILLY:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thanks to the Minister for that answer. So one of the two positions in Inuvik is not going to be eliminated, but there is an additional position in Yellowknife that's going to be eliminated. So the total is still 98? Thanks Mr. Chair. Sorry, again, I am just worried that we're not dealing with the same main estimate page that the Minister seems to be dealing with, so that's going to cause a problem. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

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

**HON. GLEN ABERNETHY:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, as I said, originally, it was two positions in the Beaufort Delta; one was an insured services coordinator, and the other was an administration assistant. Since printing this document, we have changed our minds, and I apologize to the Members for the late notice on that. The bottom line is, the insured service coordinator position remains full. We anticipated that the demand was going to decrease there a little bit because we had a significant number of positions, but they're fully busy up there. We had to reevaluate. When it comes to the information assistant position in Yellowknife that we've eliminated instead, it's been vacant for an extended period of time. There were two positions, identical positions; one is filled, and in an assessment, it was determined to the workload could be carried by the one position. Eliminating it is not going to change results and it's not going to change or increase workload on the individuals. We feel comfortable that it can be done with one. Then the administrative assistant in Inuvik, it's been vacant for an extended period of time, and we're comfortable that the work can be done in that region, in that office, without that administrative position. Thank you.

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

**MR. O'REILLY:** Thanks, Mr. Chair. So the page, maybe, that the Minister is looking at

for 2018-2019 shows 83 in headquarters and 15 in the Beaufort Delta; is that correct? Thanks, Mr. Chair. For 2018-2019? Thanks, Mr. Chair.

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

**HON. GLEN ABERNETHY:** Yes, Mr. Chair. In future printings, it will reflect the numbers the Member has identified.

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

**MR. O'REILLY:** Thanks, Mr. Chair. So just before we get too much more into the departmental budget, are there any other changes to the main estimates that we should know about? I'll leave it at that. Thanks, Mr. Chair.

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

**HON. GLEN ABERNETHY:** No, Mr. Chair. Thank you.

**CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson):** Thank you, Minister Abernethy. Nothing further, Mr. O'Reilly?

**MR. O'REILLY:** This issue arose when we were looking at the Education, Culture and Employment main estimates, so I just want to encourage any Ministers: if there are changes to what we see in the printed document, they should advise us in advance. This is not a big deal, perhaps, for this page, but I want to try to avoid having this confusion on the floor where the Minister and his staff are looking at one document and we're looking at something different. So just a heads-up that, if there are changes to what they're looking at compared to what we have, we need to know. Thanks, Mr. Chair.

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

**HON. GLEN ABERNETHY:** Thank you, Mr. Chair, and I'll certainly share that information with the Minister of Finance. As a note, we are looking at exactly the same document. We just have the information that there has been a slight change, and that has been brought to your attention. I take the Member's point and we'll endeavour to make sure that happens. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

now.