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**Apprenticeship and Training Opportunities**  
**Committee of the Whole—2018-2019 Operating Budget Review**  
**Dept. of Infrastructure—March 8, 2018**

**MR. O'REILLY:** Thanks, Mr. Chair. I just had a general question for the department. Does it have any policies with regard to our infrastructure projects whereby there are quotas or targets set for northern apprentices or trades, or is it just left to the free market to determine? Thanks, Mr. Chair.

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

**MR. GUY:** Thanks, Mr. Chair. Overall, there are no specific quotas or targets. Of course, we encourage the use of apprentices. We encourage the use of developmental positions in our big projects and in any of our projects and in any of our contracts. A lot of that is evaluated through the application of the Business Incentive Policy. For example, local and northern content, we look at things like that as well.

Some of the larger projects where there is a prescribed training component, we do look to see where those quotas are, targets are. Things like the ITH Project, for example; there would be specific training requirements in there. We do have it on some of the larger projects, but there is no policy in the department itself. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

**CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson):** Thank you. Let the record show that that was Mr. Guy speaking. Mr. O'Reilly.

**MR. O'REILLY:** Thanks, Mr. Chair. The reason why I'm raising this is that some of us have had an opportunity to meet with the Northern Territories Federation of Labour on this specific issue of how other jurisdictions actually use their large infrastructure projects for training, well, to build capacity for doing training and trades and apprenticeships, and so on. If we don't really have a policy around that, I'm a bit concerned.

Mr. Guy talked about how some of this was done on the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk highway. Can the department provide us with a little bit more information, then, about how these matters were handled on the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk highway? I don't need it for tomorrow, but it would be helpful information, I think, to have. Thanks, Mr. Chair.

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

**HON. WALLY SCHUMANN:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. We'll certainly pull that together, and the requirements that were put together for that project and share that with the Member at some point. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

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

**MR. O'REILLY:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. I appreciate that commitment from the Minister. He is waving his hand, because I am sure he is going to clarify by what is meant by "at some point." Thanks, Mr. Chair.

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

**HON. WALLY SCHUMANN:** "In time." No. That information should be readily available, and I think we will maybe even try to pull together some of the other projects so that we can get an example of what has been done in the department.

One thing I can say about it is that, when we are working on these projects, we try to put as much in the RFP as we possibly can to make sure Northerners benefit from these things, and training is a big part of it. We work closely with the Minister of ECE. He has his Skills4Success. These things are important to all Northerners. We have to make sure that we try to benefit the most we can out of them. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

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

**MR. O'REILLY:** Thanks, Mr. Chair. Yes, I appreciate the commitment from the Minister on that one.

I am actually going to be going to a public meeting tonight on the Giant Mine remediation, and that is one of the questions I have there, because that is going to be the single largest government project that has ever been undertaken in Yellowknife. It is over \$1 billion.

From what I understand, there really is no northern training. I don't know. I have questions around that, but is this something that the Department of Infrastructure is involved with in any way, and have there been any discussions about ensuring that Northerners are actually going to benefit from training, building capacity, apprenticeships, and so on in relation to that project that the department is aware of? Thanks, Mr. Chair.

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

**HON. WALLY SCHUMANN:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. Well, our department for sure doesn't have anything to do with Giant Mine, but one thing I can tell the Member is that a number of us are down there talking to the federal Ministers, and we can certainly raise the issue of the opportunities that arise here.

I know the last time we were down there, I was talking to the federal Procurement Minister about some of the issues that we have in the Northwest Territories around some of their public tender processes. This is something that I can certainly talk to my Cabinet colleagues and make sure it is on everyone's radar with federal procurement and the Northwest Territories that we try to get the best out of it we can. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

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

**MR. O'REILLY:** Yes, thanks, Mr. Chair. I appreciate the commitment from the Minister on that. I will be happy to give him a little bit of an update from what happens at the meeting that I am going to go to tonight, because we want to make sure that we have a real meaningful way to benefit from those opportunities. I think those are going to be transferrable skills when it comes to dealing with Norman Wells and the other 700 sites that are part of the devolution agreement that are going to require some remediation. Because we have Giant Mine happening in our backyard, this is a real opportunity for us to develop some of that capacity.

Nothing further. Thanks, Mr. Chair.