

KEVIN O'REILLY—MLA FRAME LAKE
Victim Services
Committee of the Whole—2019-2020 Operating Budget Review
Dept. of Justice—February 20, 2019

MR. O'REILLY: Thanks, Mr. Chair. My colleagues had some questions about the integrated case management pilot project, but I do want to ask some questions about Victim Services if I can.

I note that I think there was a review done back in 2013-2014. I know I raised this issue in the House as well as with the Minister, and I understood that there was going to be a more comprehensive review of Victim Services in 2019-2020. Can the Minister confirm that and let me know what level of resources have been allocated for that Victim Services review? Thanks, Mr. Chair.

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

HON. LOUIS SEBERT: Yes, thank you. The Member has brought this matter to my attention, and I do have a copy of the report from 2014 on my desk.

The department is currently preparing the scope for a program review of Victim Services. The intent is to have a contractor in place early in 2019-2020 and a final report later in the year. This is important. This is an important area, and this report will be a key document to guide us in any future decisions regarding the program and how it is delivered in the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

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

MR. O'REILLY: Thanks, Mr. Chair. Thanks to the Minister for that. Can the Minister share that document that he was referring to? It was some sort of terms of reference or scope of work for the contractor. Can the Minister commit to share that with the Standing Committee on Social Development? Thanks, Mr. Chair.

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

HON. LOUIS SEBERT: Yes, I can undertake to do that. I don't know whether the report or the terms of reference have been finalized yet, but, when finalized, we will provide it to the committee or the Member or both.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thank you. For the record, the Minister has committed to providing the Standing Committee on Social Development with the terms of reference once finalized. Is that correct, Minister?

HON. LOUIS SEBERT: Yes. We can do that.

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

MR. O'REILLY: Thanks, Mr. Chair, and thanks to the Minister for that commitment. What would work even better in our consensus-style government is if the Minister could commit to share it as a draft with the standing committee so that the standing committee might actually have some input into it. This is an area of ongoing interest that I and other Members have raised. Could the Minister commit to sharing a draft with the

standing committee in our consensus-style government system? Thanks, Mr. Chair.

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

HON. LOUIS SEBERT: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We always like to cooperate with committee, and I think we could meet and provide a draft on a confidential basis. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): For clarification, the Minister is committing to share the draft on a confidential basis with committee. Is that correct, Minister?

HON. LOUIS SEBERT: Yes.