

KEVIN O'REILLY—MLA FRAME LAKE
Housing Corporation Website
Committee of the Whole—2019-2020 Operating Budget Review
NWT Housing Corporation—March 7, 2019

MR. O'REILLY: Thanks, Mr. Chair. I want to go to one of my favourite topics, and that is the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation web page. I will give them credit for improving the look of it. There seems to be more information available here, but I think that there is still quite a bit of work to be done. I will just give a couple of examples. The co-investment fund page, when you go there, the links are broken to get more information about new construction stream, repair and renewal stream. There are a few application forms found in some of the different web pages, but is it still the intention of the corporation to do a major overhaul of the website? At least, that is what I think that they have told me the last couple of years when they have been here. Thanks, Mr. Chair.

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

HON. ALFRED MOSES: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Since I have been in the role, I have been meeting with a lot of leadership, and we need to have these programs and services given out to our stakeholders and our partners. We will be focusing on getting the website done. We are still working on it, and hopefully in May/June we will have something more updated. That will be after the Northern Housing Summit, as well, so we will get some feedback from some of our leadership on how we can make that website even more efficient in terms of getting the programs and services out. Through you, Mr. Chair, maybe I will ask my president and CEO to give a little bit more information.

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

MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The Member is correct. It has been taking a while. I think it was over a year ago that it was raised in committee. We want to update our website. We are trying to improve it. One of the things that we are doing as a government is we are trying to update all of the websites. We are working closely with corporate comms. We want the website to have the same look and feel as the rest of the GNWT. That work is under way right now. We were hoping to get it done before today, but like the Minister said, we will be able to report on it in June. The new website will be up and running. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

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

MR. O'REILLY: Thanks, Mr. Chair. I played hockey with Mr. Williams last night, and he wouldn't let me score on him, so I said that I was going to have to be extra tough on him today. More seriously, I don't know how you are going to do this at the housing summit in Inuvik, but maybe you might walk people through what is currently on the website and get some ideas about how it could be improved. You know, even on the strategic renewal page, you can go off to a document and see things, but then there is a list of the changes that have been made, but there are no links to any other applications

forms, guidelines, which I am sure you guys must have in place. Contacts? Like, somebody needs to be able to go to the website, get the information about a program, and get the application form, and go off and send it to the right person or know who they can talk to in their community. Is that the kind of work that the corporation intends to do to the website? Thanks, Mr. Chair.

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

HON. ALFRED MOSES: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yes, that is exactly the work that we want to do. We want to make sure that our website is informative to all of our residents as well as all of our stakeholders and partners. We do have to work with corporate communications, and we will make sure that that work will get completed. Thank you.

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

MR. O'REILLY: Thanks, Mr. Chair. Okay. I have raised this now this is the third year, I think, so, come July 1st, if it's not ready, I am going to come back and ask the Minister what's going on. I appreciate the sincerity of which they say they are going to go ahead and get this work done. I just want it done sooner than later. Thanks, Mr. Chair. That is all I have.