

**KEVIN O'REILLY—MLA FRAME LAKE  
LIBRARY SERVICES  
Committee of the Whole—2019-2020 Operating Budget Review  
Legislative Assembly—March 8, 2019**

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, committee. Please turn to the next activity, Office of the Clerk. Comments or questions? Mr. O'Reilly.

**MR. O'REILLY:** Thanks, Mr. Chair. There is a significant increase from 2018-2019 to 2019-2020 in research, information and library services. Can one of our guests here explain that? Thank you, Mr. Chair.

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

**MR. OUELLETTE:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. What is being proposed for library services for the upcoming year is a one-time initiative for a digitization system. This is a move to modernize the way that the library does business in terms of digitizing all of their information, being able to connect with other agencies and networks. The estimated cost for that is \$100,000, and there is an additional \$21,000 or \$22,000 for a summer student to assist with that digitization work during the summer period.

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

**MR. O'REILLY:** Thanks, Mr. Chair. I know that, over at the archives, there are actually copies of the minutes for the Northwest Territories Council going back to 1921, and they are the only record of those minutes anywhere in the world, as I understand it. Do you know if that sort of information is part of this project? There are research requests, and I have had reason to go back to the 1950s recently on this, but is that going to be part of this project? Thanks, Mr. Chair.

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

**MR. OUELLETTE:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. I can't confirm that. In talking with the librarian, I know that they are meeting with various groups to flesh out a plan in terms of how they are going to approach digitization, but I know that there are several groups that are involved with that.

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

**MR. O'REILLY:** Thanks, Mr. Chair. I might go and have a chat with some folks in the library as well, because they provide great service to us, and it would be great to have that sort of archival information available online for research purposes as well. I want to thank our witnesses. Thanks, Mr. Chair.