

KEVIN O'REILLY—MLA FRAME LAKE
Municipal Funding Gap
Committee of the Whole—2021-2022 Supplementary Infrastructure Expenditures
Budget Review
June 2, 2021

MS. SEMMLER: Committee, we will now consider the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs on page 8. Supplementary estimates Infrastructure expenditures number one: 2021-2022, Department of Municipal and Community Affairs operation expenditure regional operations not previously authorized, \$2,500,000. Does committee agree? Member for Frame Lake.

MR. O'REILLY: Thanks, Madam Chair. I usually try to find something nice to say about my Cabinet colleagues, at least once a day. And this is a good one. So I want to compliment them for finding some money to start to close the municipal funding gap. But can someone tell me what the current, you know, calculation of the municipal funding gap is? I know there's -- there was some targets set in the mandate that Cabinet developed. So how much is the gap and how -- you know, how does this meet the mandate commitments and, you know, how close are we getting. Thanks, Madam Chair.

MS. SEMMLER: Thank you. Minister.

HON. CAROLINE WAWZONEK: Thank you, Madam Chair. So, Madam Chair, we'll certainly see if, in fact, there's an estimate that perhaps the Department of Finance might be aware of, although I'm not sure -- I mean, again, that's not necessarily the information we would have brought on the supplementary estimates for this particular sup. But, you know, again, the operational -- or I'm sorry, the -- sorry, Madam Chair.

The commitment that was made in the priorities is, of course, is to reduce the funding gap by \$5 million so we certainly are taking a significant step towards that with this additional 2.5 million here, even in the one-time event. But, yeah, Minister -- or sorry, Madam Chair, I'm going to have to commit to get back on an update with the numbers as to what this will do to the municipal funding gap. I don't think I have that here or not in terms of this infrastructure sup.