

ORAL QUESTION—JULIE GREEN, MLA YELLOWKNIFE CENTRE

QUESTION 106-18(2): FIBRE OPTIC LINK PROJECT

March 2, 2016

MS. GREEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the Minister of Finance. CBC is reporting that Ledcor has fired its subcontractor on the first two-thirds of the fibre optic line because the work was inadequate. My question for the Minister is: What is the impact of this change on the cost of the project? Mahsi, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mahsi. Minister of Finance.

HON. ROBERT MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There should be no change. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mahsi. Oral question Member for Yellowknife Centre.

MS. GREEN: Mahsi, Mr. Speaker, and mahsi to the finance minister for that. I would also like to ask about the impact on the timing of the completion of the project. Mahsi, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mahsi. Minister of Finance.

HON. ROBERT MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, there should be no impact, but I will follow up with their proponent and confirm that. Thank you.

MS. GREEN: Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. My larger question is about P3s. First the bridge, now the fibre optic line, and soon the hospital. What kind of oversight is the government providing of P3 projects to avoid the kind of problems that we seem to run into consistently with them? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

HON. ROBERT MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yes, we have oversight on these projects, and that is how we discover some of the deficiencies in the project. You know, we can't assume that with the new hospital we're going to run into difficulties there too, but we do have a fairly significant oversight to a lot of products that we work on. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mahsi. Oral questions. Member for Yellowknife Centre.

MS. GREEN: Mahsi, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the finance minister for that answer. Could the finance minister please explain what that oversight process looks like? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

HON. ROBERT MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we would ask for updates from the proponents, and we have our own people monitoring these, and if we feel that there's a need for additional information we will seek that, but I can assure all Members that for the projects we enter into, we will have oversight, because these are public dollars that we are speaking about. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mahsi. Oral questions. Member for Frame Lake.