

ORAL QUESTION—JULIE GREEN, MLA YELLOWKNIFE CENTRE

QUESTION 853-18(3): NAMING OF GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS

August 23, 2019

MS. GREEN: Masi, colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Premier as the Minister responsible for implementing the Cabinet policy on the naming of government buildings.

I will return now for a third time to the naming of the NOB, the new government building that is in downtown Yellowknife. The building opened in the summer of 2015. The naming process started in 2018, and in May of this year, the Premier reported that we had received many suggestions by public nomination. I am wondering when we can expect an announcement on the name for that new building and two others. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Masi. The Honourable Premier.

HON. BOB MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I updated the House earlier in one of the sessions, the Government of the Northwest Territories received a total of 89 nominations of names for three government office buildings located in Fort Simpson, Inuvik, and Yellowknife, and we expect to make the announcement shortly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MS. GREEN: Can the Premier tell us why there is a delay in making this announcement, given that the nominations have been in hand now for about three months?

HON. BOB MCLEOD: We have received the recommendations from the NWT Honours Advisory Council, and I guess it's a process issue. Some of the names are in a special font; there's a special pronunciation which we don't know how to pronounce, or are difficult to pronounce, so we have to make sure we work out all of these details before we can make a public announcement.

MS. GREEN: Thank you to the Premier for that. When the announcement does come, will there be community events or activities planned to commemorate these new namings?

HON. BOB MCLEOD: That would be my expectation. Whenever we open new buildings or commission new buildings, we have done that, and so I expect that would be the case, as well.

MR. SPEAKER: Masi. Oral questions. Item 10, replies to the Commissioner's opening address. Member for Frame Lake.