

**Department of Health & Social Development**  
**Minister Statement**  
**June 14, 2023**

**Mr. Speaker,**

**Child & Youth Mental Health**

Jessica Lyall, Child and Youth Clinical Lead was in Rigolet May 15-19<sup>th</sup> with BSW student Kelly Ann Blake and held the following:

- Community engagement session.
- Sensory play group.
- PD training for the daycare staff, which has also been opened up to other DHSD staff.

The turnout was great for these events.

The Child & Youth team is currently planning a Nain visit similar to Rigolet.

**Trauma & Addictions**

Team member, Sharon Edmunds, Program Planning Support was on tour with Twin Flames May 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> and they visited all Nunatsiavut communities, the week went well with high attendance in all 5 communities.

T&A were just in Nain and delivered the Self-Compassion workshop from May 22-29<sup>th</sup>.

**Mental Health & Addictions**

Regular programming and health promotion events continue in each community (we continue to navigate some challenges around land-based programming).

We just posted our Peer Support work position for the Harm Reduction Hub that we received funding for in Nain. We are awaiting the coordinator position to be posted and planning to pilot this for a year.

Upwards to 30 DHSD program staff (including the MH&A staff) are being trained this week in HVGB in Dialectical Behaviour Therapy.

**Community Justice Program**

The CJP had funded for approx. 60 employees to take part in Lateral Violence training, which occurred in 2 separate cohorts, the final session took place last week. There was great feedback on this training.

We have developed a new 2-year community justice worker position to assist with service navigation and case management, as we are seeing a significant need in this area for support.

**Youth Programs**

Youth Outreach and the Youth Administrator are working on planning a trip to the Torngats to take place mid-late August.

We have secured partial funding from the Urban Partnership Program to extend the Shed Programs in Hopedale, Nain and Rigolet for another 2 years

**Training**

We have 2 employees (Kelly Ann Blake and Jessica Lyall attending the train the trainer program in Ottawa for Mental Health First Aid-Inuit at the end of June and space for 2 more trainers this upcoming Fall, which will bring our training capacity to 4 in total.

Our MH&A Manager has been working closely with St. John Ambulance and is now trained in the administering of Nasal Naloxone and is preparing to have staff trained as well.

### **Health Services Mr. Speaker,**

#### **Tuberculosis**

- Rewriting the End TB Regional Action Plan (RAP) for the upcoming five years (2023-2028);

Dr. Maureen Baikie will be visiting HV-GB mid-July for a two-day TB RAP meeting;

#### **NIHB**

- Interviews for the NIHB Manager position took place on Friday June 2, 2023. HR is currently in the process of checking references for the new Candidate.
- **Vision:** Makkovik clinic was canceled due to weather. Currently waiting on a new date from Cowan's Optical.
- **Medical Transportation:** PAL Airlines has announced effective June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the cost of air-fare tickets will be forfeited for clients that are "no-shows", this could be a potential issue for NIHB Medical Transportation clients as this often occurs.
- **NG Hygienist Visits:** Jennifer Johnson is scheduled to complete her first trip in late June, she is scheduled to travel to Nain with Dr. Power.
- **NG Community Dental Visits:** Dr. Toor will be visiting Postville July 17-21, Makkovik July 21-27 and Rigolet July 27-31. Awaiting dates for Dr. Power for Hopedale and Nain. In addition, the new Hygienist will be travelling with Dr. Power to shadow for her first visit.
- **Ground Transportation:** No further update on the new vehicle that was ordered, still awaiting its' arrival. In the meantime, the team is looking into additional price quote options.

#### **QNIHS**

- Training of Fieldworks took place week of May 29 – June 2, 2023. Four CLOs completed training along with two new employees.
- Survey collection continues in Rigolet.

Makkovik started survey collection week of June 5, 2023. Currently in the process of preparing Postville for survey collection before end of June 2023.