



Nunatsiavut Government Department of Health and Social Development Policy for Travelling Interpreter/Translator

Policy Developed	
Revised	August 26 th , 2024

The Nunatsiavut Government (NG) Department of Health and Social Development (DHSD), through the Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Program, will cover the cost of transportation and accommodations for an Interpreter/Translator to accompany unilingual patients for medical appointment(s) when necessary.

The criteria for travelling Interpreter/Translator services are as follows:

- Medical referral for the Beneficiary of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement must identify the need for Interpreter/Translator services;
- The Beneficiary must be unilingual or state difficulty in understanding and discussing their health condition in the English language;
- The Interpreter must be able to provide the verbal and or written service(s) for the Beneficiary and be available to the Beneficiary at all times;
- The Beneficiary and or their family can choose the Interpreter, or NIHB can provide an Interpreter; and,
- In the case whereby an Interpreter is traveling to support the unilingual client, acting solely as the Interpreter and is not responsible for assisting the Beneficiary physically, the Interpreter will be provided with a private room within the vicinity of the Beneficiary.

Travelling Interpreters are paid at the rate of \$150 per day. An advance of \$150 can be requested before departure and the remainder will be paid upon return from medical travel. Advance requests must be sent within seven (7) days before travel, and forwarded to the Medical Transportation Analyst for review.

Travelling Interpreters may be expected to provide service for more than one Beneficiary at a time. Compensation will remain at \$150 per day.

Interpreters are expected to:

- Accompany the Beneficiary to all medical appointments;
- If the Interpreter has a dual role of acting as Interpreter and escort they will assist the Beneficiary physically when necessary;

- If the Interpreter, has the sole role of interpreting they will not be responsible for assisting the Beneficiary physically. This will fall under the role of the escort; and,
- Be available to the Beneficiary at all times en route to and from the healthcare facility and or place of accommodation.

Interpreters can be replaced, if they cannot provide services as outlined above, or if they behave in an unprofessional or potentially harmful manner if an alternate is available.

I (print out full name) _____ understand the above policy and agree to comply with the same.

Signature of Interpreter/Translator: _____

Date: _____ to _____

NIHB can have any written information regarding a Beneficiary's' medical condition, medical instructions, etc., translated into Inuktitut at no cost to the Beneficiary.