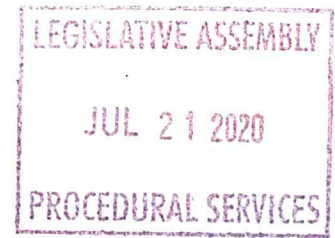




Government
— of —
Saskatchewan

Minister of Social Services
Legislative Building
Regina, Canada S4S 0B3



JUL 16 2020

Larry Doke, Chair
Standing Committee on Human Services
Room 105, Legislative Building
2405 Legislative Drive
REGINA SK S4S 0B3

Dear Larry Doke:

During the June 18, 2020 consideration by the Standing Committee on Human Services of the Ministry of Social Services' estimates, I committed to provide additional information on several issues:

1. The total amount of the child tax that the ministry received that wasn't flowed out?

The total amount of child tax that the ministry received that wasn't flowed out was \$340,000

2. How many hotel rooms were paid for by the ministry during the pandemic?

From April 3 to June 30, 2020, 1009 nightly hotel stays were paid for on behalf of 212 individuals by Social Services when they were required by public health to self-isolate due to a COVID-19 diagnosis, symptoms or exposure, and did not have the means to self-isolate safely.

During this time the ministry continued to refer clients to hotels for a variety of other reasons such as temporary shelter or travel for regular scheduled medical appointments outside their community of residence.

3. The \$171,000 that province provided to the emergency shelters, can you give the breakdown of how much money was provided to each of those shelters?

This one-time additional funding of up to \$171,000 is for adult and family emergency shelters where Income Assistance regularly refers clients in need of emergency shelter.

This funding is not available for youth shelters, interpersonal violence shelters or transition houses as they receive funding from other government sources.

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As of June 2020, the amounts paid are as follows:

Lloydminster Social Action Coalition (Men's Shelter) - \$11,000
YWCA of Regina – My Aunt's Place - \$24,800
Saskatoon Lighthouse Supported Living - \$38,200
Prince Albert YWCA (Cold Weather beds) - \$5,500
Saskatoon Salvation Army Crossroads - \$22,500
Salvation Army Regina - \$20,000
Regina Souls Harbour Rescue Mission - \$13,400
Moose Jaw Souls Harbour Rescue Mission - \$5,500
North Battleford Lighthouse - \$23,800


4. How many children and youth are currently under the care of the ministry? Can you break that down on the children and youth that are in foster homes, group home, and stabilization units?

The number of children and youth in the care of the ministry is currently 3,362. The breakdown in the types of placements are as follows; Foster Care 888, Other Family based care (i.e. Extended Family) 1,341, Stabilization Care 165, Group Care 533, First Nations Agency Transfers 151, Independent Living arrangements 193 and Other 91.

The "other" category represents a small number of other circumstances or temporary care arrangements for children and youth in care including: addictions treatment facilities, hospital stays, first nations approved caregivers, inter-provincial cases and youth absent from care.

I trust this information meets your needs.

Sincerely,



Paul Merriman
Minister of Social Services

cc: Members of Standing Committee on Human Services:
Ms. Danielle Chartier, Deputy Chair; Mr. Herb Cox, Mr. Muhammad Fiaz, Hon. Todd Goudy, Ms. Nicole Rancourt, Ms. Nadine Wilson

Tammy Kirkland, Deputy Minister, Social Services