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Asked by: Adam Arreak Lightstone, MLA for Iqaluit-Manirajak

Asked of: Hon. Joe Savikataaq Minister of Environment

Number: 62-5(2)

Date: February 27, 2020

Subject: Climate Change Incentive Programs

Thank you for your comments and questions. The Climate Change Secretariat (CCS) works closely across the Government of Nunavut (GN) and with the Government of Canada to promote climate change incentive programs available to Nunavut. In some cases, CCS administers federal funding programs on behalf of the Government of Canada to other GN Departments, whereas in other cases CCS works with other departments to promote their existing programs and develop new ones.

Question 1:

Many jurisdictions have tax rebates and credits as well as other incentive programs to encourage citizens to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. What is being considered by our government to encourage Nunavummiut to reduce their carbon footprint?

Response:

- Nunavummiut can apply to the Nunavut Housing Corporation's Home Repair Program to obtain financial assistance to reduce both

- energy costs and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through energy efficiency retrofits.
- The Community Energy Planning project, led by CCS, aims at helping Nunavut communities define and implement clean energy projects of their choice. The first four communities to develop Community Energy Plans with the support of the Climate Change Secretariat are Coral Harbour, Grise Fiord, Kugluktuk and Sanikiluaq. Engagement with these communities is ongoing.
 - CCS is currently drafting a business case to develop a Clean Energy Program for Nunavummiut. This program would provide an incentive to access Qulliq Energy Corporation's Net-Metering program with the goal of increasing the number of renewable energy systems in Nunavut. The target audience of the program includes homeowners, while other recipient categories are also under consideration.
 - CCS, in partnership with Qulliq Energy Corporation (QEC) and Nunavut Housing Corporation (NHC), developed the Energy Wise campaign, a joint energy awareness campaign that promotes energy savings in Nunavut households. The campaign includes radio ads, TV commercials, and social media outreach. Topics of focus are on individual actions that can help Nunavummiut save on energy costs and reduce their GHG emissions.

Question 2:

What departments have submitted funding requests, and what were the requests for?

Response:

- **Federal funds for GN**
The Climate Change Secretariat provides coordination on federal climate change funding programs that are aimed at GN Departments. The two most significant are:
 - i. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada's Climate Change Preparedness in the North Program is funding \$1.7M over four years of climate change adaptation projects across the GN. Projects include:

- Developing a youth advisory committee on climate change (led by CCS);
 - Assessing permafrost thaw in Kugluk Territorial Park and re-locating the ATV trail to a more stable location (led by Nunavut Parks & Special Places); and
 - Monitoring sea-ice through the community-based monitoring program SmartICE (led by the Department of Economic Development & Transportation).
- ii. CCS helped coordinate GN Departments and Agencies to apply for Environment and Climate Change Canada's Low Carbon Economy Fund. Nunavut obtained \$31M through this fund for the following projects:
- Nunavut Housing Corporation's "Accelerated Modernization and Improvement Project" to retrofit 1000 Nunavut public housing units;
 - Qulliq Energy Corporation's project "Installation of new district heating systems in Sanikiluaq and Taloyoak", and;
 - Community and Government Services "South Baffin Energy Management Project" to improve the energy efficiency of the GN's owned buildings in the South Baffin Region

Question 3:

When will the Government of Nunavut begin to roll out climate change adaptation and mitigation incentive programs?

Response:

The GN is currently working on a new climate change incentive program aimed at municipal governments. The new Municipal Green Infrastructure Program (MGIF) will help municipalities develop and implement climate change adaptation and mitigation projects. This program was developed by Community and Government Services in partnership with the CCS and will be launched in the spring of 2020.

Question 4:

What incentive programs are at the top of the priority list?

Response:

There is no 'priority list'. The initiatives and programs described are all of the current and planned initiatives. A priority, however, will be to continue to work to access additional funding for climate change related initiatives in Nunavut.

CCS is working to identify additional climate change funding opportunities for Nunavummiut to take advantage of. Part of this task is working with federal funders to ensure programs are accessible to Nunavummiut with low reporting requirements, and maximum flexibility.

Thank you once again for your questions. Please feel free to contact my office should you have any further inquiries on this matter.