

Dave Ramsay for Yellowknife MLA

September 14, 2019

In reply to NWT Association of Communities – Questions for MLA Candidates Election 2019:

(Answers in number sequence to each question received)

1. A \$40 million shortfall still exists for community governments. What is your position on the funding formula for community governments and the significant shortfall not being addressed over the past five years?

The shortfall in community funding should be discussed by the incoming members to look at finding a solution to the chronic underfunding.

2. What steps will you take to ensure that communities funding shortfall as identified by MACA is addressed and do you commit to prioritizing funding?

I have many years of experience in finding collaborative approaches and working with others to find solutions.

3. Homelessness, mental health and addictions are serious issues in the North. Are you willing to work to ensure these issues get addressed and potential solutions put in place in a timely manner?

Yes

4. How do you think communities can prepare for the climate change crisis that is presently occurring in many communities and what is your position on the Territorial Government finding solutions and taking a leadership role with funding?

The arctic is experiencing the impacts of climate change more rapidly than anywhere else. The GNWT has to work with communities to mitigate the impacts. We need strong leadership that will have to deal with the federal government to ensure we receive access to funding. We need to get communities off of diesel and look to cleaner alternatives.

5. What are your views on the issue of the early childhood education deficiency in the NWT and how it relates to post-secondary success of students and do you support an Auditor General Review of the education system?

I support universal day care, and any effort we can make to help children and families successful. JK has been a success. I would support an AG review of the Education System.

6. The 2018 Federal Budget affirmed that its expectation is that a 25% portion of the revenues from cannabis excise taxes provided to the Territory and Provinces be transferred to municipalities and local communities. What is your view of the GNWT deciding that there will be no revenues passed on to the municipalities from the Territorial Government?

This is something I would discuss with the new government. Revenues are nowhere near what was expected and perhaps this is part of the GNWT's rationale.