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Asked by: Adam Arreak Lightstone

Asked of: Hon. Joe Savikataaq
Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs

Number: 70-5(2)

Date: October 13, 2020

Subject: Ministerial Travel 2019-20

Question 1: *How many trips, and what was the total number of days, that each Minister respectively spent on duty travel in the 2019-2020 fiscal year?*

Response: Duty Travel

	Trips	Total Days
The Honourable Joe Savikataaq, Premier	13	55
The Honourable Elisapee Sheutiapik, Minister	5	31
The Honourable David Akeeagok, Minister	9	37
The Honourable David Joanasi, Minister	8	35
The Honourable George Hickes, Minister	6	47
The Honourable Lorne Kusugak, Minister	10	34
The Honourable Patterk Netser, Minister	5	25
The Honourable Jeannie Ehaloak, Minister	10	42

Question 2: *How many trips and what was the total number of days, that each Minister respectively spent on home travel in the 2019-2020 fiscal year?*

Response: Home Travel

	Trips	Total Days
The Honourable Joe Savikataaq, Premier	8	105
The Honourable Elisapee Sheutiapik, Minister	-	-
The Honourable David Akeeagok, Minister	-	-
The Honourable David Joanasié, Minister	-	-
The Honourable George Hickes, Minister	-	-
The Honourable Lorne Kusugak, Minister	9	60
The Honourable Patterk Netser, Minister	11	125
The Honourable Jeannie Ehaloak, Minister	5	205

Question 3: *Figure 1 below depicts the collated information that was provided in my previous written question on Ministerial Travel 2018-19. As you will see there are a number of Ministers who have spent approximately 40% of the fiscal year away from their respective departments headquarter offices. What kind of challenges do Ministers, or their departments and agencies face when the Minister responsible for overseeing portfolios is out of the office for a significant amount of time?*

Minister	Start of Period	End of Period	Total Days	Duty Travel		Home Travel		Total Days on Travel	Total Days In Office	% of days away
				Trips	Days	Trips	Days			
Paul Quassa	01-Apr-18	14-Jun-18	74	6	19	0	0	19	55	25.7%
Joe Savikataaq	01-Apr-18	31-Mar-19	364	10	51	9	106	157	207	43.1%
Elisapee Sheutiapik	01-Apr-18	31-Mar-19	364	5	25	0	0	25	339	6.9%
Patricia Angnakak	01-Apr-18	1-Nov-18	214	3	21	0	0	21	193	9.8%
Patterk Netser	01-Nov-18	31-Mar-19	150	2	16	5	43	59	91	39.3%
Jeannie Ehaloak	01-Apr-18	31-Mar-19	364	10	84	4	73	157	207	43.1%
Lorne Kusugak	01-Apr-18	31-Mar-19	364	10	38	9	111	149	215	40.9%
David Joanasié	01-Apr-18	31-Mar-19	364	12	52	0	0	52	312	14.3%
David Akeeagok	01-Apr-18	31-Mar-19	364	6	23	0	0	23	341	6.3%
George Hickes	14-Jun-18	31-Mar-19	290	6	29	0	0	29	261	10.0%
				70	358	27	333	691	2221	

Response: *During periods when Ministers are unavailable, acting Ministers are appointed to provide oversight and continuity at the political and departmental level. Additionally, the Minister's staff assist acting ministers with administrative and operational business to ensure there is no disruption in service to Cabinet or the departments. Moreover, great strides have been made to ensure seamless service for Ministers while being able to both represent the GN as a Minister and support their constituency. Improved telecommunications and software have helped. Ministers use technologies which allow them to access files, emails and information while on both duty and home*

travel. We have tried to make this information accessible from anywhere the Minister travels whether it be duty travel or home travel.

Question 4: What is the Premier's position on Ministers spending 150 days out of office on travel?

Response: *The Premier recognizes that Cabinet members that are not from Iqaluit have important constituency work to complete in their home communities and will often find it necessary to work from those communities while attending to Ministerial duties. This has not been a concern as Ministers have effective secure access to materials from their communities. Additionally, Ministers are readily available to their staff, other Ministers and the Premier while outside of Iqaluit and have no challenges with fulfilling their responsibilities from any community in Nunavut.*

Question 5: When a Minister is on home travel, do they have access to the network?

Response: *Yes, Ministers have access to the GN network during home travel. Either access is acquired by cellphone or remote login to their GN platform. These technologies have advanced through lessons learned during ransomware. We have upgraded our security networks and Ministers can now access to a secure link to the GN network.*

Question 6: When a Minister is on home travel, do they have access to a full office?

Response: *Yes. Much like MLAs, Ministers provide service and require access to information 24/7. Ministers are issued a cellphone and Surface from which they can work remotely. This connection in tandem with their office staff provide them with the information and support required to perform their duties as a Minister.*