

LEGISLATIVE RETURN

SUBMITTED BY: Hon. John Streicker



1. On _____,
- asked the following question during the Oral Question Period at page(s) _____ of *Hansard*
- submitted the following written question – WQ No. _____
- gave notice of the following motion for the production of papers – MPP No. _____
- RE: _____

OR

2. This legislative return relates to a matter outstanding from discussion related to:
- Budget Debate – Domestic Water Well Program
“...if the minister would consider looking into potentially a program similar to the domestic well or rural electrification or municipal well program, where the homeowners could have this essential work done — water and sewer is obviously an essential service — on their own property and then pay back over time through their taxes.”

On June 6, 2017 at page(s) 792 of *Hansard*

The response is as follows:

- The Domestic Water Well local improvement charge (LIC) program currently applies to rural properties and municipal properties that are not connected to municipal water and sewer systems. It covers the installation of wells to residential homes.
- The *Municipal Act* does not provide options for upgrading water or sewer lines to a person’s home. Division 3.01 states that the Domestic Water Well Program is specific to the program outlined in the *Assessment and Taxation Act*.
- Section 1 of the Domestic Local Improvement Water Well Regulation under the *Assessment and Taxation Act*, defines the well program as “the construction, installation, reconstruction or replacement of a domestic water well as a local improvement, and includes directly or indirectly providing in whole or in part for its construction, installation, reconstruction or replacement.”
- Amendments to both the *Municipal Act* and the *Assessment and Taxation Act* as well as program agreements with participating municipalities would be required in order to extend the program to include upgrades to operational systems and building renovations other than those specified by legislation.
- Within the Yukon government’s taxing authority, new electrical, telecommunications and water systems can be financed as “local improvements” as set out in section 57 of the *Assessment and Taxation Act*. The Act authorizes the Yukon government to levy local improvement charges as taxes on properties using an Order-in-Council to require loan repayment.
- Within municipal taxing authorities, water systems can be financed as “local improvements” however a municipality is required to levy, collect, and remit the LIC charge back to Yukon government.
- In 2015 the Domestic Water Well Program was offered to property owners within participating municipalities for the first time. It is now possible for residential property owners within a municipality to be eligible for the loan program and to drill a water well.

12 June, 2017
Date


Signature