



Office of the Minister  
Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6

May 11, 2017

Brad Cathers  
MLA for Lake Laberge  
Yukon Legislative Assembly  
Box 2703  
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C6



Dear Mr. Cathers:

**RE: Health Care Insurance Coverage for Nadja Cooper**

Thank you for your letter of April 11<sup>th</sup> 2017, regarding health insurance coverage for Nadja Cooper. As you have noted, there have been previous letters sent on this matter, all of which have been responded to explaining why Mrs. Cooper is not eligible for Yukon Health Care coverage until June 1<sup>st</sup> 2017.

While the Department of Health and Social Services acknowledges that Ms. Cooper was present in the Yukon prior to obtaining a work visa, it is the combination of both being lawfully entitled to be in or remain in Canada and being ordinarily present in the Yukon that make an individual eligible for Yukon health care.

*Section 5 of the Health Care Insurance Plan Act*, which you have referenced in your letter, does not infer the waiving of the three month waiting period by the Director of Insured Health and Hearing Services. The *Health Care Insurance Plan Act* further defines the differences between a visitor to the Yukon and a permanent resident.

Last month, Ms. Cooper presented at Insured Health and Hearing Services with a one-year work visa which then made her eligible for Yukon health care coverage. Her application was subsequently processed and she was informed of her eligibility date (June 1, 2017), taking into account a three month waiting period which is not unlike our national counterparts.

We acknowledge the stress this situation has caused and please be assured that the Department has taken the opportunity to discuss options for assistance in situations such as the one you describe. Ms. Cooper has been encouraged in all of our correspondence to connect with the Director of Insured Health and Hearing Services as she may be in a position to assist with the negotiation of the cost of physician and hospital services that she may have or may incur until her Yukon health care coverage commences.

Thank you for bringing Ms. Coopers concerns to our attention.

Mahsi,

Pauline Frost  
Minister of Health and Social Services

