

October 11, 2024

I have received, and have had an opportunity to review, the Integrity Commissioner's report to the Speaker, which was released to me on October 8, 2024. The matters complained of occurred while I was a rookie MLA, barely into my term.

Health Services in my constituency were the subject of considerable attention and complaint from my constituents. I had, and continue to have, many communications with elders and others asking me to try to help resolve these issues. I have no reason to believe anything I was told was inaccurate or incomplete. I did not, and do not, accept the findings of the investigation into health services in Fort Resolution, but I do accept the findings in the Integrity Commissioner's report into my actions.

My future actions will be guided by the Commissioner's findings. I acted and continue to act with only good intent, without malice and with the interests of those who elected me foremost in my mind.

As with any new MLA, I was learning on the job and anxious to do the best possible work for my constituents. I acknowledge that I could have done things better and commit to doing so into the future. This has been a learning experience and I believe has made me a better representative. Upon the acceptance of the Commissioner's recommendation by the Legislative Assembly, I will take heed of the reprimand and immediately pay the financial penalty. I pledge to my fellow members to perform my duties with this incident behind me and commit to my constituents in particular, to zealously advocate their interests. I will contemplate the findings of the Integrity Commissioner over the next while and use it as a template to help guide me into the future.

Given the sensitive nature of the subject matter and the pending consideration of the House, I will make no further public statement on the matter until after the House rules on the recommendation from the Integrity Commissioner. In the interim, any questions may be directed to my legal counsel Steven L. Cooper, K.C., who may be contacted at 1-800-994-7477 or 780-918-7964 or Steve@CooperRegel.ca

Richard Edjericon
MLA, Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh