



Government
— of —
Saskatchewan

Minister of Social Services
Legislative Building
Regina, Canada S4S 0B3

JUL 28 2021

Ken Cheveldayoff,
Chair
Standing Committee on Human Services
Room 0, Legislative Building
2405 Legislative Drive
REGINA SK S4S 0B3

Dear Ken Cheveldayoff:

During the April 26, 2021, consideration by the Standing Committee on Human Services of the Ministry of Social Services' estimates, I committed to provide additional information on several issues:

Closure of files in core income assistance programs

The total number of files closed between March 2020 and March 2021 for core IA programs was 16,800 (approximately 1,300 on average each month). Cases can be closed for various reasons such as the person finding employment, becoming eligible for other sources of income and other changes in their circumstances. The total number of closed cases in March 2018 and March 2019 in core Income Assistance programs was 1,421 in March 2018 and 1,537 in March 2019.

New SAID applications

Between March 2020 and March 2021, there were 3,498 new eligible SAID households (an average of 269 each month).

Short-term emergency benefits for SIS clients

The Saskatchewan Income Support (SIS) policy manual is available [here](#). For the information requested, please refer to Chapter 15 – Health and Safety Benefits, section 15.4 Short-Term Emergency Support on Page 43.

Number of beneficiaries on SIS, Saskatchewan Assistance Program (SAP) and Transitional Employment Allowance (TEA)

The total number of households who received benefits through Saskatchewan Income Support (SIS), Saskatchewan Assistance Program (SAP) or Transitional Employment Allowance (TEA) is outlined in the table below:

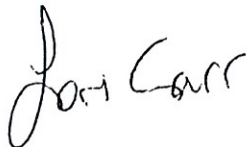
- \$3M will be used to support an increase in the number of extended family caregivers and the important work they do to help children in their care remain connected to their culture and community.
- \$0.120M to fully annualize a July 1, 2020 increase to basic rates for family-based caregivers (Foster Care, Extended Family, and Assisted Adoption).
- \$1.463M to address 2021 COVID payments from the federal government that the ministry will extend to caregivers;
- \$0.300M to support an increase in the number of youth being supported by Child and Family Program's 16/17 Years old program;
- \$2.481M will provide service providers with a 1.75 per cent increase to CBO staff compensation rates and a non-salary component to address rising rent and utility costs; and
- \$2M is included in the Budget for an increase in salary and non-salary costs such as travel and other staffing related costs.

Investments in the Linkin case management system

Through April 2021, a total of \$73.3M has been spent on the Linkin case management system. This includes all development and operational costs since the system's implementation in June 2012. Yearly costs for licensing and maintenance are approximately \$2M.

I trust this information helps answer some of the questions raised.

Sincerely,



Lori Carr
Minister of Social Services

cc: Members of Standing Committee on Human Services
Meara Conway, Deputy Chair; Ryan Domotor, Muhammad Fiaz, Derek Meyers,
Hugh Nerlien, Alana Ross
Tracey Smith, Deputy Minister, Social Services