

1 Q. **Reference: Programs and Projects Under \$750,000, Procure Accommodations (2026) –**  
2 **Makkovik**

3 a) Since the filing of the 2024 Capital Budget Application has Hydro further evaluated options  
4 within the community of Makkovik for the purchase and/or lease of personnel  
5 accommodations? If not, why not?

6 b) In which other remote communities in Labrador does Hydro maintain personnel  
7 accommodations?

8 c) What is Hydro's overall approach to providing personnel accommodations for remote  
9 communities in Labrador?

10  
11  
12 A. a) Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro ("Hydro") released an expression of interest in  
13 November 2024 for a rental property in Makkovik and received no submissions.

14 b) Hydro currently owns and maintains its own accommodations in Black Tickle, Rigolet,  
15 Natuashish and Norman's Bay. Prior to the community's relocation in 2017, Hydro also  
16 owned and operated accommodations in William's Harbour.

17 c) For Hydro employees who must travel to remote communities in Labrador to perform work,  
18 Hydro has the obligation under Health and Safety legislation to ensure a safe workplace.  
19 This reasonably extends to ensuring that the employee has access to safe and reliable  
20 accommodations.

21 Hydro will avail of public accommodation (i.e., hotels, Airbnb) if they meet the standard of  
22 being a safe, reliable least cost option and are available. Hydro will also ascertain whether  
23 there is rental accommodation available, as it did in this case. Please refer to Hydro's  
24 response to part a) of this response. However, in circumstances where those options are not  
25 readily or reliably available, Hydro will consider owning dedicated accommodations to  
26 ensure work crews can be sent to the community to complete the work necessary to  
27 maintain the system, while ensuring the employees are not at risk of having no access to

1           appropriate living arrangements. Reliably available accommodations are critical to the  
2           scheduling and carrying out of necessary work to maintain assets and ensure service to  
3           customers, particularly in the case of emergency work. Where it is the least-cost alternative  
4           to enable the safe, reliable operation of assets within remote communities, Hydro will  
5           continue to consider ownership options. Based on discussions with the various off-grid  
6           utilities in Canada, it is common practice for utilities to own accommodations in off-grid  
7           communities in which it operates. In addition to Makkovik, Hydro has identified a need for  
8           secure and reliable accommodations in Postville, Cartwright, Hopedale, and Nain. Hydro is  
9           assessing options for accommodations in these communities, and where appropriate, will  
10          propose capital projects to secure accommodations in these communities in future capital  
11          budget applications.