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Jones Unhappy With Airlift Food Subsidy Changes



Opposition Leader Yvonne Jones isn't happy with what is happening with the airlift food subsidy to Labrador communities. Government says a vastly improved transportation system has lessened reliance on the program to offset the cost of nutritious perishable items during these winter months. The Labrador Affairs Minister says assistance will be available when it is needed, such as if the marine service is interrupted due to adverse ice conditions or inclement weather. Jones says she recently contacted staff in the minister's office on behalf of Labrador Strait Air which was to provide airlift service, and was assured the subsidy would stay in place until the end of March. Jones says businesses in her district made plans on the basis that the subsidy would not be suspended mid-season. She says the company has already leased a plane and was ready to continue providing the service. Jones calls the decision disrespectful, and she is asking government to reconsider and extend the subsidy.