



1. Statement of Policy

The Government of the Northwest Territories will establish a department called the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment, under the direction of a Minister.

Mandate

The mandate of the Minister and the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment is to promote economic self-sufficiency through the responsible development of Northwest Territories natural resource industries, including agriculture, commercial fishing and the traditional economy; and the promotion and support of tourism, trade and investment, business, and manufacturing and secondary industries, to create a prosperous, diverse and sustainable economy for the benefit of all Northwest Territories residents.

2. Principles

In directing the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment to carry out its mandate, the Minister will adhere to the following principles:

- (1) The territorial economy should be developed by private sector ownership and employment where possible and, through public sector ownership and employment when necessary or appropriate.
- (2) Natural resources should be managed and developed in a manner that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.
- (3) Creation of a diversified sustainable economy should emphasize import replacement and export development in order to achieve economic stability and self-sufficiency.
- (4) Decisions relating to the management and development of natural resources and the territorial economy should be directed towards enhancing territorial and community self-sufficiency and should incorporate public input, scientific knowledge, and traditional knowledge.
- (5) Programs and services should be delivered in an effective and accountable manner and as close as practical to the people being served.



- (6) The design and delivery of programs and services should be based on a clear demonstration of need, benefit, sustainability and shared risk.
- (7) This policy should not prejudice any present or future treaty, land claim or treaty land entitlement based rights.

3. Scope

This Policy applies to all employees of the Government of the Northwest Territories.

4. Definitions

The following terms apply to this Policy:

Economic Self Sufficiency

The quality or condition of being able to meet material needs without external aid or support.

Environment

Means the components of the Earth, including:

- (a) Air, land and water,
- (b) All layers of the atmosphere,
- (c) All organic matter and living organisms, and
- (d) The interacting natural systems that include components referred to in paragraphs (a) to (c).

Natural Resources

Naturally occurring components of the environment that can be used for human purposes, consisting of flora and fauna and their habitat, including wildlife, forests and agricultural products and resources that cannot be replaced or renewed following extraction, including all minerals, aggregates and fossil fuels.



Sustainable Development

Development of natural resources in a manner that ensures economic, social and cultural needs are met while maintaining ecosystem integrity and biological diversity and without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

Traditional Economy

A system of production for both use and exchange consisting of natural resource harvesting (hunting, trapping, fishing and gathering) and processing activities by which people provide food, fuel and other material household needs as a means of subsistence and source of material for trade.

Traditional Knowledge

Knowledge and values, which have been acquired through experience, observation, from the land or from spiritual teachings, or handed down from one generation to another.

5. Authority and Accountability

(1) General

This Policy is issued under the authority of the Executive Council. The authority to make exceptions and approve revisions to this Policy rests with the Executive Council. Authority and accountability is further defined as follows:

(a) Minister

The Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment (the Minister) is accountable to the Executive Council for the implementation of this Policy.

(b) Deputy Minister

The Deputy Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment (the Deputy Minister) is accountable to the Minister and responsible to the Minister for the administration of this Policy.



(2) Specific

(a) Executive Council

The Executive Council may approve a change to the mandate of the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment.

(b) Minister

The Minister is:

- (i) Responsible for carrying out the mandate of the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment and shall preside over the operation of the Department; and
- (ii) Authorized to carry out the duties described in this Policy in a manner the Minister deems appropriate for the efficient and economical fulfilment of the Department's mandate.

(c) Deputy Minister

The Deputy Minister is:

- (i) Responsible for the management of the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment including the planning, administration and other functions necessary to further the Department's mandate; and
- (ii) Accountable to the Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment for the proper conduct of the business of the Department.

6. Provisions

(1) Mandate Establishment

Pursuant to the Government Organization Policy, the mandate, including the authority, responsibilities and functions, of the Minister and the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment, is established in this Policy.



(2) Duties of the Minister

The Minister shall develop and carry out programs and services in the Department as may be appropriate to fulfil the mandate of the Minister and the Department.

The Minister shall have charge of and be responsible for:

- (a) Developing, recommending and enforcing legislation, policies and agreements that support the promotion and development of sustainable economic opportunities for the benefit of all Northwest Territories residents.
- (b) Encouraging the long-term economic development, self-sufficiency, and stability needed to meet the needs of Northwest Territories residents by promoting and supporting the sustainable development of natural resource industries, including agriculture, commercial fishing and the traditional economy, tourism, trade and investment, business, and manufacturing and secondary industries.
- (c) Supporting the development and increased use of domestic energy sources and the reduction of energy supply costs.
- (d) Negotiating and recommending agreements with the federal, provincial and other governments concerning economic development, including natural resource industries, including agriculture, commercial fishing and the traditional economy, tourism, trade and investment, business, and manufacturing and secondary industries in the Northwest Territories.
- (e) Promoting community-based economic opportunities to stimulate and augment employment opportunities for Northwest Territories residents.
- (f) Providing timely, relevant and accessible information and programs to support economic development in the Northwest Territories.



- (g) Promoting and supporting the use of scientific research, traditional knowledge and public education to support decision making and increase the understanding of sustainable development of natural resources in the Northwest Territories.
 - (h) Representing the Government of the Northwest Territories and coordinating the Government's involvement in territorial, national and international matters related to Northwest Territories economic development, including natural resource industries, including agriculture, commercial fishing and the traditional economy, tourism, trade and investment, business, and manufacturing and secondary industries.
 - (i) Planning and facilitating the devolution of provincial-type responsibilities within the departmental mandate.
 - (j) Providing financial and administrative support to other government agencies or secretariats when required.
- (3) Administration

The Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment shall be administered in such a manner as to ensure that government requirements as expressed in statutes, agreements, regulations, policies and directives are satisfied.

7. Prerogative of the Executive Council

Nothing in this Policy shall in any way be construed to limit the prerogative of the Executive Council to make decisions or take action respecting the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment outside the provisions of this Policy.


Premier and Chairman of the
Executive Council