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HONOURABLE WALLY SCHUMANN  
MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, TOURISM AND INVESTMENT  
MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION  
MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SERVICES

**Mandate of the Government of the Northwest Territories**

I am writing to confirm your mandate as Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment, Minister of Transportation, Minister of Public Works and Services, and chair of the Infrastructure Committee of Cabinet.

Together, Cabinet is responsible for implementing the Mandate of the Government of the Northwest Territories in order to advance the priorities set by all Members of the 18th Legislative Assembly. The people of the Northwest Territories have entrusted all of us to manage effectively, prudently, and responsibly over the next four years. It is my expectation that you will do your part to achieve the Legislative Assembly's vision of a healthy, just, sustainable and prosperous territory.

There are both challenges and opportunities ahead of us. In order to grow the NWT economy, we must stimulate economic growth, respond to the effects of climate change, and confront the rising cost of living. At the same time, we must continue to provide quality programs and services to residents. We know that in order to sustainably grow our economy we need to increase the territorial population, attract investment, settle outstanding land, resource, and self-government agreements, and address the ongoing impacts of colonialism and residential schools.

These pressures exist at a time when our fiscal situation requires a strong commitment to prudence and strong financial management. Difficult decisions will be required to ensure fiscal balance and future prosperity. More than ever, we must ensure our actions are responsible and transparent.

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We are well-positioned, in this post-devolution environment, to leverage our good working relationships and partnerships with other levels of government to our mutual benefit. Indeed, many of the Mandate objectives, such as adapting to climate change, lowering the cost of living, and investing in strategic infrastructure and renewable and alternative energy solutions are aligned with the priorities of other governments, including the Government of Canada.

People want a government that is more open and transparent, and which is clearly open to input from them. They also want their government to take the interests of all residents, in communities both big and small and in every region, into account. Meaningful dialogue and engagement with the residents of the NWT must be an ongoing priority for all Ministers.

The Guiding Principles of consensus government set out expectations for all Members, as well as the relationship between Cabinet and Regular Members. I expect Ministers to respect and act within the provisions of the Process Conventions governing Cabinet's communications, consultation and relationship with Standing Committees of the Legislative Assembly, Caucus and Regular Members. Our consensus government depends upon our collective commitment to working effectively together for the public good, in all that we do.

In addition to collaboration with Standing Committees, I expect Ministers will work closely and effectively with each other, to ensure that all pertinent, cross-departmental perspectives are considered when solutions to complex issues are developed. Ministers should use the appropriate Committee of Cabinet to advance Mandate commitments.

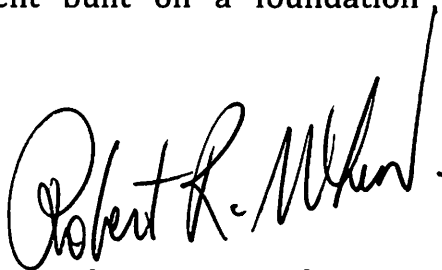
Your Deputy Ministers are accountable for assisting you to fulfill the responsibilities of your portfolio and the specific Mandate objectives for which you are accountable. You can rely upon your Deputy Ministers to advise you on process and policy, and to bring forward comprehensive options and advice for your consideration, but it is your responsibility to provide clear direction to your Deputy Ministers, including your expectations with respect to cross-departmental collaboration.

In addition to meeting the provisions of your departments' Establishment Policy, you are accountable for the specific Mandate commitments listed in the attachments to this mandate letter. Although they are not all included in the attachment, it is understood that you will continue to be accountable for the entire scope of programs, services and operations for the portfolios you hold.

As Minister, you must exercise the utmost compliance with the *Conflict of Interest Act*, the *Financial Administration Act*, and the policies and procedures of the Financial Management Board. The role of Minister demands the highest ethical standards and must bear the closest scrutiny. Your actions will be the basis on which this Government is measured for its commitment to ethical conduct, openness and transparency.

Our Cabinet has broad experience, fresh ideas, diverse backgrounds, and a shared commitment to respectful relationships and transparency- qualities that will generate innovative solutions to complex problems. I have full confidence that our collective capacity will result in good governance, programs and services that improve the lives of residents, stronger relationships with Canada and provinces and territories, NWT Aboriginal and municipal governments, and strategic investments that enable the prosperity of future generations and make the Northwest Territories an attractive place to live and work.

I look forward to working with you to realize our commitments. The future of the global economy, and what this will mean for the Northwest Territories, remains uncertain. However, I am certain that with a strong commitment to fiscal responsibility, thoughtful deliberation, respectful engagement and a willingness to innovate, we can achieve our vision of social progress, environmental sustainability and economic development built on a foundation of strong consensus government.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert R. McLeod". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long vertical stroke extending upwards from the end.

Robert R. McLeod  
Premier

Attachments

## **Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment**

- Support mineral exploration and the mining sector, by implementing the Mineral Development Strategy, capturing opportunities to build transportation infrastructure that enables resources to get to market, closing the skills gap in the mining sector, implementing the Mining Incentive Program, developing and proposing a *Mineral Resources Act*, and supporting Aboriginal governments to build capacity in dealing with mining-related activities
- Develop a long-term strategy to attract oil and gas development in the territory
- Provide high quality public tourism facilities by modernizing our parks infrastructure and signage, erecting emergency shelters along remote highways, and expand tourism options by building new parks such as Doi'Toh Territorial Park in the Sahtu Region
- Invest in artist-to-market and product-to-market opportunity chains, with a particular emphasis on making investments that enable the showcasing of art and increase sales at the regional level
- Support the film industry to further develop the skills and competencies of NWT film producers, build infrastructure, assist below-the-line crew and support services, and help develop marketing and communications plans for films made in the NWT
- Finalize and implement the Commercial Fisheries Revitalization Strategy to increase fish production, encourage and mentor new entrants to the Great Slave Lake fishery, negotiate an agreement with the Fresh Water Fish Marketing Corporation to access markets outside of NWT, seek federal funding to build a new fish processing plant in Hay River, and work with the Tu Cho Co-operative to promote and market fish caught in Great Slave Lake
- Develop a northern manufacturing strategy in collaboration with industry and the NWT's Manufacturer's Association to expand the manufacturing sector, identify potential areas of growth, promote, and market products manufactured in the NWT and aid in the professional and technological advancement of the industry
- In collaboration with the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations, pursue an agreement with the federal government on the management of offshore resources

- Increase exports by working with the tourism, diamonds, and traditional economy sectors to promote NWT products to international markets
- Attract foreign direct investment, and cross-promote minerals, furs, fish, forest products, and tourism to investors and markets
- Advance the territorial vision of land and resource management in accordance with the Land Use and Sustainability Framework, and our legislative, regulatory, and policy systems by:
  - developing and proposing a *Mineral Resources Act*
  - making amendments to the NWT Mining Regulations
  - collaborating with the Department of Lands and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to develop and propose amendments to the *Territorial Parks Act*
  - developing and proposing amendments to the *Petroleum Resources Act*
  - developing and proposing amendments to the *Oil and Gas Operations Act*
- Implement programs that support youth in their communities and in their schools to encourage local food production and consumption
- In collaboration with the Department of Education, Culture and Employment, Increase the number of immigrants working in NWT and increase investment by immigrants, by implementing an immigration strategy that prioritizes streamlining application processes, increasing awareness of immigration programs, and consolidating our administrative supports
- Develop and implement an Agriculture Strategy to increase domestic food production, improve distribution networks for NWT-produced foods, and to increase producer and supplier opportunities
- Expand the production and availability of local foods such as fish, country food, and garden produce.

In addition to the Mandate objectives listed above, you are also accountable for:

- Supporting the efforts of our government to build and maintain respectful government-to-government relations by implementing the government-wide Aboriginal government engagement strategy
- Supporting the efforts of our government to advance the federal engagement strategy

## **Mandate of the Minister of Transportation**

- Capture opportunities for investment in transportation infrastructure by working to secure funding to advance the Mackenzie Valley Highway, make an all-weather road from Highway 3 to Whatì, and improve access into the Slave Geologic Province
- Strengthen connections with private sector partners in transportation infrastructure, such as encouraging CN Rail to continue improving the rail line to Hay River to serve resupply needs and expand the system in accordance with demand
- Strengthen connections with public sector partners in transportation infrastructure, such as encouraging Fisheries and Oceans Canada to maintain federal community resupply port facilities and marine services in the NWT, to restore safe marine operating conditions in the Port of Hay River and at key sections of the Mackenzie River Corridor, and to improve charting and navigational aids

In addition to the Mandate objectives listed above, you are also accountable for:

- Continuing the work with Aboriginal governments and Aboriginal groups on the Mackenzie Valley Highway and lead efforts to secure federal funding to advance the Wrigley to Norman Wells segment of the route through the regulatory phase
- Leading the enhancement of the Motor Vehicle Information System (MVIS) to provide better services to residents by increasing online accessibility to driver and motor vehicle services as well as commercial permitting services
- Pursuing federal infrastructure funding to develop a long-range infrastructure investment agreement that provides flexibility to address Northwest Territories priorities, allocates funding on a base rather than per capita formula, and specifically address the strategic needs of the North
- Supporting the efforts of our government to build and maintain respectful government-to-government relations by implementing the government-wide Aboriginal government engagement strategy
- Supporting the efforts of our government to advance the federal engagement strategy

## **Minister of Public Works and Services**

- Work with our partners in the territory and in the federation to implement a Canadian Energy Strategy, by participating in intergovernmental working groups on energy efficiency, energy delivery, technology and innovation, and transitioning our country towards a lower-carbon economy
- Participate in the pan-Canadian Task Force on Reducing Diesel in Off-Grid Communities
- Expand and improve access to incentives for residents to invest in energy-efficient products, help businesses, condominiums, and cooperatives invest in energy conservation and efficiency, support residents and communities so that they can make investments into renewable energies, such as solar, and improve the energy efficiency of public housing
- Create a new three-year energy action plan, building on previous investments made over the past three years and the outcomes of the energy plan review
- Continue to investigate and implement renewable and alternative energy solutions to replace the use of imported diesel fuel for power generation in the Thermal Zone and reduce the use of diesel fuel for heating in all regions, including looking at the feasibility of wind energy, solar generation, geothermal and biomass energy initiatives
- Continue to explore the potential for the development of hydroelectric power and transmission lines, as well as the development of wind and solar energies to displace diesel generation while diversifying the NWT economy
- Better use our existing hydroelectric resources by exploring options to respond to low water in the North Slave hydroelectric power system, improve hydro system water monitoring and reservoir management, and find ways to make use of surplus Taltson hydroelectric power in the South Slave region and beyond

In addition to the Mandate objectives listed above, you are also accountable for:

- Supporting the efforts of our government to build and maintain respectful government-to-government relations by implementing the government-wide Aboriginal government engagement strategy
- Supporting the efforts of our government to advance the federal engagement strategy