



DEC 05 2017

HONOURABLE WALLY SCHUMANN
MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, TOURISM AND INVESTMENT
MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE

Mandate of the Government of the Northwest Territories (Revised)

In light of the revisions made to the *Mandate of the Government of the Northwest Territories 2016-2019*, I am writing to confirm your mandate as Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment and Minister of Infrastructure. In addition to your formal portfolios, you will continue to serve as chair the Energy and Climate Change Committee-of-Cabinet.

Together, Cabinet is responsible for implementing the Revised 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 remaining two years of the term of this Assembly. It is my expectation that you will continue to do your part to achieve the Legislative Assembly's vision of a healthy, just, sustainable and prosperous territory.

We face both challenges and opportunities for the remainder of the term of the 18th Legislative Assembly. 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 continue to 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 Revised Mandate objectives, such as adapting to climate change, lowering the cost of living, and investing in strategic infrastructure, renewable and alternative energy solutions and the knowledge economy are aligned with the priorities of other governments, including the Government of Canada.

Making the most of these advantages and achieving meaningful long-term change for the people of the Northwest Territories will require a disciplined and strategic approach to our relations with other governments, including the Government of Canada. To ensure that NWT priorities and needs are fully understood and factored into decisions and policies at the federal level, it will be important for all Ministers to speak clearly and consistently about the GNWT's priorities in all their dealings with their federal counterparts and avoid being diverted to initiatives and subjects of lower priority to our government. Maintaining a similar clarity in our interactions with our provincial and territorial counterparts, as well as Indigenous leaders, will further help improve awareness and understanding of GNWT priorities as outlined in our Federal Engagement Strategy.

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 continue to 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.

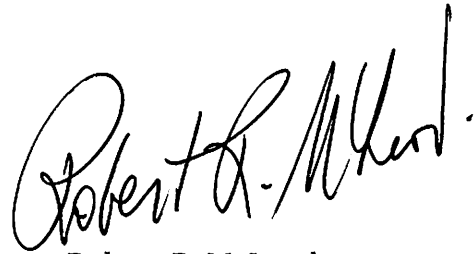
Your Deputy Ministers are accountable for assisting you to fulfill the responsibilities of your portfolio and the specific Mandate objectives for which you are accountable. You can continue to rely upon your Deputy Ministers to advise you on process and policy, and to bring forward comprehensive options 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 continue to 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, 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 Indigenous 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 for the remainder of the term of the 18th Legislative Assembly to realize our commitments. While the future of the global economy and what this will mean for the Northwest Territories remains uncertain, 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, reading "Robert R. McLeod". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R' and a long, sweeping tail.

Robert R. McLeod
Premier

Attachments

Mandate of the Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment

- In collaboration with the Department of Education, Culture and Employment and with the federal government, increase the number of immigrants working in the NWT and increase investment by immigrants, and implement an immigration strategy that prioritizes streamlining application processes, increasing awareness of immigration programs, and consolidating our administrative supports
- 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 investment in oil and gas resources that will provide economic and energy benefits to NWT residents and businesses, while recognizing and protecting environmental, social, cultural and economic values
- In collaboration with the Department of Lands, ensure that residents have meaningful opportunities to participate in the assessment of potential benefits and risks associated with resource development, including hydraulic fracturing
- Develop and foster the knowledge economy, by:
 - Implementing the NWT Geological Survey Strategic Plan, including carrying out Slave Province geoscience studies, ensuring the availability of high quality geoscience knowledge to promote the successful exploration for and discovery of NWT mineral resources, and defining permafrost conditions that may impact future infrastructure development
 - Implementing the Resources and Energy Development Information (REDI) initiative to increase public awareness and understanding of NWT renewable and non-renewable mineral and energy resources and the means by which they can be developed in a responsible and sustainable manner
 - In partnership with other organizations, supporting the creation of a central repository that supports knowledge dissemination, research, and best practices for northern farming conditions, and promoting innovative farm practices and northern based greenhouse and related technologies

- Support the growth of Aboriginal business development corporations and the capacity of Aboriginal governments, through the completion and implementation of memoranda of understanding that reflect the economic opportunity objectives found in modern land claims
- Support small communities by enhancing job-creation programs, building community capacity and supporting new economic opportunities, by:
 - Updating the Support for Entrepreneurs and Economic Development (SEED) programs as necessary to better align with the needs of NWT entrepreneurs and businesses, including those in small communities
 - Implementing the Economic Opportunities Strategy
- Expand the agricultural sector by:
 - Implementing the Agriculture Strategy
 - Improving access to agricultural land
 - Updating agricultural funding programs
 - Supporting training for commercial farmers
- Continue to 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, secure and build access to local and new markets for fishers, 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
- Expand tourism options and provide high quality public tourism facilities by:
 - Expanding and modernizing our parks infrastructure and signage
 - Collaborating with the Department of Infrastructure to improve road side facilities along remote highways
 - Building new parks such as Doi'Toh Territorial Park in the Sahtú Region
- 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*
 - Amending the NWT Mining Regulations
 - Collaborating with 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
- Reduce the burden of chronic disease by promoting healthy lifestyles and improving screening and management, with specific focus on expanding the production and availability of local foods such as fish, country food, and garden produce
- In collaboration with the Department of Executive and Indigenous Affairs, pursue an agreement with the federal government on the management of offshore resources

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 Infrastructure

- Work to secure funding to advance planning and construction of transportation projects, including three priority corridors: the Mackenzie Valley Highway, Tłıchǫ All-season Road, and Slave Geological Province Access Corridor
- Strengthen connections with private sector partners in transportation infrastructure (rail, trucking, airline, and marine)
- Strengthen connections with public sector partners in transportation infrastructure, including working with the federal government 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
- Expand tourism options and provide high quality public tourism facilities by collaborating with the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment to improve road side facilities along remote highways
- Reduce diesel use for heating and electricity in off-grid communities under the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change, as well as set targets for greenhouse gas reduction in the new NWT Energy Strategy and Climate Change Strategic Framework
- In collaboration with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, 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, and support residents and communities so that they can make investments into renewable energies, such as solar
- 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
- Implement a new NWT Energy Strategy that will include renewable and alternative energy solutions and actions that the GNWT and our partners will undertake to meet targets for greenhouse gas reductions in heating and power generation as well as a 10-year strategy for investing federal and other funding towards energy projects
- Continue to develop and advance initiatives to displace diesel generation in the NWT, including:
 - Hydroelectric power and transmission lines, including the Taltson expansion

- Wind energy projects, including the Inuvik High Point Wind Project, and assessing the feasibility of wind energy projects in other communities or regions
- Solar energy projects
- Biomass energy projects
- Seeking federal funding under the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change
- 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
- Improve collaboration for easier access to government programs and services online, including by:
 - Increasing online accessibility to driver and motor vehicle services as well as commercial permitting services

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

- Continuing to work toward finalizing an infrastructure funding agreement with the federal government that specifically addresses the strategic infrastructure priorities of the NWT
- 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