



Backgrounder – Biographical Information

Mike Aumond

Born and raised in the Northwest Territories, Mike has been employed by the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) for 27 years, including 10 as Deputy Minister.

Mike has worked in the areas of contract and procurement policy development, land claim negotiations, community fuel services and human resource management. From 1997 until 1999, Mike was employed as the Executive Director, Western Coalition, at the NWT Legislative Assembly where he worked with Members of the Legislative Assembly, Aboriginal governments, NWT Chamber of Commerce, and NWT Association of Municipalities to successfully implement Division of the NWT that took place in 1999. Mike also worked for one year as the Executive Assistant to a GNWT Minister.

In July 2001, Mike accepted the position of Director, Petroleum Products Division, and worked there until November 2005 when he assumed the position of Deputy Minister, Public Works and Services.

In June 2008, Mike was appointed lead Deputy Minister for GNWT Infrastructure. On August 28, 2009, Mike was appointed as the Deputy Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs.

On November 2, 2011, Mike was appointed as Deputy Minister of Finance and Secretary of the Financial Management Board.

David Stewart

David Stewart was appointed as Deputy Minister of the Department of Education, Culture and Employment for the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT), in May 2015. Previously David was President and Chief Executive Officer of the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation between 2011 and 2015. He has been with the GNWT since 1987.

In addition to his work at the NWTHC, David served as Assistant Deputy Minister of Executive Operations in the Department of the Executive between 2005 and 2011. Previous to that, David worked with the NWT Bureau of Statistics, including eight years as the Territorial Statistician.

David holds a Masters degree and a Bachelor of Arts (Honours), majoring in economic geography, from the University of Saskatchewan.

Sylvia Haener

Sylvia Haener has been with the Government of the Northwest Territories since 1989. During those years, she has held a number of positions in the Justice, Human Resources and Health and Social Services domains, including Director of Labour Relations and Compensation, Chief Executive Officer of Stanton Territorial Health Authority, Assistant Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services, and

Assistant Deputy Minister of the Solicitor General Branch in the Department of Justice. In the fall of 2012, Sylvia was appointed to her current position of Deputy Minister, Department of Justice.

A graduate of the University of Alberta, where she earned both a Bachelor of Commerce degree and certificate from the Executive Leadership Development Program, Sylvia has had a life-long passion for labour relations, as well as social policy issues and has brought her depth of skills to each position she has held. She has been an integral part of negotiation teams for many major agreements including collective bargaining and a significant equal-pay complaint. She has led work on significant GNWT wide policy such as a GNWT Code of Conduct as well as a Workplace Conflict Resolution Policy.

Martin Goldney

Martin Goldney was appointed Deputy Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations for the Government of the Northwest Territories in April 2013. Previously, he held the position of Executive Director and Chief Negotiator responsible for leading the Government of the Northwest Territories' negotiation of the Northwest Territories Lands and Resources Devolution Agreement, which became fully effective on April 1, 2014.

Mr. Goldney began his public service career as legal counsel for the GNWT, where his work included providing legal support and advice on a number self-government and land claim negotiations, and other constitutional matters. Mr. Goldney attended Trent University where he received a Bachelor of Arts Honours degree in Native Studies, and the University of Alberta's Faculty of Law where he earned a Bachelor of Laws degree.

Willard Hagen

Willard Hagen is of Gwich'in ancestry and was born in Tsiigehtchic, raised in the Travaillant River area, and completed his formal education in Wildlife Management in Inuvik. Mr. Hagen established Aklak Air in the late 1970s and has been a bush pilot and owner/operator for 30 years. Mr. Hagen was the Director of the Métis Development Corporation from 1978 to 1980. He was elected President of the Gwich'in Tribal Council in 1990 where his administration negotiated, ratified, and signed the Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement (1992). He was also active in drafting and signing the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act(1998). As the President of the Gwich'in Tribal Council, Mr. Hagen also served as the President of the Gwich'in Development Corporation and as a Member of the Gwich'in Arbitration Panel. In 1996, Willard became a member of the Gwich'in Land and Water Board (GLWB), and in 2002 he became the Chair. In 2005, along with carrying out his duties as Chair of the GLWB, Mr. Hagen became Acting Chair of the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board.

In November 2010, Willard was re-appointed for a second consecutive three-year term as the Chair/CEO of the MVLWB by the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada.

Tom Jensen

Tom Jensen has been an Executive with the Government of British Columbia for the past 23 years, most recently as Assistant Deputy Minister of Timber Operations, Pricing and First Nations Relations, with the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations.

Over the past 12 years, Tom has been an Assistant Deputy Minister in a range of Ministries, including Community and Rural Development; Attorney General; and, Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services. His areas of responsibility has included, timber sales and operations, timber pricing, international trade, safety, immigration and settlement, First Nations relations, community and regional economic development, and skills training and labour market analysis.

Tom also has experience in small business development and operation in the areas of planning consulting, wood products manufacturing and tourism accommodation.

Born and raised in British Columbia, his pursuit of post-secondary education and career experience has provided opportunities to live in the provinces of Quebec, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Tom has a Master of City Planning degree from the University of Manitoba and Bachelor of Arts (Urban Studies) from Concordia University in Montreal.