



BIOGRAPHY

Government of
Northwest Territories

Joe Dragon

Principal Secretary Executive and Indigenous Affairs

A Smith's Landing First Nation member, Dr. Dragon brings a wealth of experience from a distinguished 28-year career in territorial and federal public service. His academic foundation, including a Bachelor of Science from Cornell University and a PhD in Wildlife Ecology and Management from the University of Alberta, underlines his profound connection and commitment to the North's environment and diverse wildlife.

Dr. Dragon's professional journey includes service in various senior leadership roles within the territorial and federal governments. In Ottawa, his experience spanned federal departments such as Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Treasury Board Secretariat, and National Defence. For the Government of the Northwest Territories, Dr. Dragon served as Deputy Minister of Environment and Natural Resources and later as Deputy Minister of Infrastructure, during which time he served as Chairman of the Board for the Northwest Territories Power Corporation.

In 2020, Dr. Dragon founded Dragonworks Consulting, providing expert advisory services to Indigenous governments and organizations, academic institutions, and businesses in Canada's North. His work has encompassed a range of projects from housing and wildlife management to legislative reviews and updates, ensuring Indigenous knowledge and meaningful engagement are incorporated.

Beyond his consulting work, Dr. Dragon holds significant roles in various organizations. He chairs the Canadian Mountain Network, sits on the boards of The Gordon Foundation and Honouring Nations Canada – Fulbright Canada, and contributes to the Government of Canada's I-STEM Cluster Advisory Circle and the Arctic and Northern Challenge Program Advisory Committee.

