



## **PAN-TERRITORIAL VISION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

The people of Nunavut, Northwest Territories and Yukon are our number one priority and our most important resource. As Premiers, we are committed to taking a leadership role in working with the federal government, territorial Indigenous governments and organizations and stakeholders to provide our residents with every opportunity for economic success and a high quality of life. Every Northerner deserves the opportunity to experience wellness and the strength of community that characterizes Canadians. Economic development and diversification are foundational to this goal.

### **PRINCIPLES:**

- The territories will stand together to create long term sustainable development of northern economies.
- Indigenous governments and organizations are integral to the economic future of the territories.
- Northerners must have the tools and the authorities to manage their own affairs and to make decisions on the future of the north.
- People of the territories have opportunities to build self-reliance, live in healthy, vibrant, prosperous communities, and build their capacities to reach their full potential.
- Social and environmental responsibilities are integrated into our territorial regulatory regimes and underpin all our economic development decisions.

## **RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

Responsible, sustainable resource development and job creation is the cornerstone of the territorial economies. Indigenous ownership, investment and participation in the resource industry are key to the success of this sector. Resource projects provide education, training and employment opportunities in communities as well as direct indigenous participation in supply and services business development.

We are positioned to drive innovation in cold climate resource extraction. As we work to responsibly develop our resources we will continue to collaborate with Indigenous governments and organizations, the federal government, and industry partners to sustainably and responsibly develop our economies. Through this work we will also ensure that the benefits of development improve the quality of life for our citizens and continue to protect the environment for future generations. The territories are endowed in the natural resources essential to the technologies that support the expanding green economy.

## **ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION**

Diversification is an essential factor in the success of sustainable economies. Across various regions, the territories are home to emerging and established sectors such as tourism, traditional economies, agriculture, film, digital media, arts and crafts, forestry, manufacturing, information technology, and commercial fishing.

Partnership with Indigenous governments and organizations, industry and the federal government will strengthen territorial economic diversification, balance interests and ensure benefits are dispersed more broadly across and within the territories. The territories will seek to strengthen and establish infrastructure, increase educational resources, and develop innovative partnerships to deliver leading edge business and entrepreneurial mentorship services to drive new business and employment opportunities.

## **INFRASTRUCTURE**

Large scale investment in northern transportation infrastructure corridors including highways, harbours, ports, airports and rail will create investment and economic opportunities in the North. The development of clean, affordable energy alternatives and connecting to hydroelectric grids will reduce the costs of living and doing business in the north and increase investment in the territories.

Resource potential and expanding northern sovereignty challenges make northern development a matter of national interest. Federal investment in northern infrastructure will lever private sector investment and maximize opportunities for exploration and development.

Connecting communities through telecommunications infrastructure is key to supporting innovation and technology development, creating prosperity, and increasing the well-being of citizens living in remote areas.

## **INNOVATION**

Research, innovation, and commercialization, particularly through entrepreneurship, will strengthen and diversify territorial economies. Many northern communities and industries rely on diesel as their main energy and heat source. New innovative technologies and modernized energy systems will provide alternative energy sources for communities and industries that have limited energy generation options.

The adoption of renewable and innovative technologies will decrease communities and industrial reliance on carbon intensive fuel sources and further our sustainable and, environmentally responsible development. Innovative energy and heating solutions as well as responsible industry practices will play an important role in the future of the North. Partnerships across all levels of government and with the private sector will create these innovative solutions and enable the north to prosper.