



SEP 16 2020

MINISTER OF EXECUTIVE AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS
CHAIR, COVID SECRETARIAT

Mandate of the Government of the Northwest Territories

As Premier, I will hold myself to the same standards that I have outlined for Ministers.

As Chair of the Reconciliation and Indigenous Affairs & Priorities and Planning Committee-of-Cabinet, I will ensure cooperation between Ministers and departments on key initiatives relating to overall government progress in addressing the priorities and the mandate, whole of government approaches, advancing Indigenous reconciliation, working in partnership with other governments, and activities that do not fall under another Committee of Cabinet.


As Minister of Executive and Indigenous Affairs, I will provide leadership to ensure mutually respectful intergovernmental relations between the GNWT and Indigenous, provincial, territorial, national and international governments are established and maintained. I will also provide leadership in the negotiation and implementation of land, resources and self-government agreements that address Aboriginal rights in the Northwest Territories.

In addition to the Departmental goals, I will undertake the following to support the achievement of the Government's Mandate:

- Lead the efforts of our government to conclude agreements with our Indigenous government partners that will advance reconciliation, recognize and affirm Aboriginal and treaty rights, support program and service delivery by Indigenous governments, and set the stage for further economic development in the NWT, by:
 - Focusing on resolving outstanding issues with the use of expert facilitators and direct engagement among elected leaders;
 - Reviewing, updating and publishing territorial principles and interests to reflect the GNWT's new priorities and mandate; and
 - Improving accountability and oversight for Indigenous Reconciliation.

- Lead the efforts to Implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) within the constitutional framework of Canada to advance reconciliation by:
 - Identifying, prioritizing and strengthening key actions to further implement UNDRIP.
- Lead efforts to ensure that voices in all regions of the Northwest Territories need to be heard in discussions and decisions that affect them by:
 - Ensuring that GNWT decision making reflects a full understanding of communities and regions.

Through the creation of the COVID Secretariat, I will remain responsible for the GNWT's operational response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including border compliance, compliance and enforcement, isolation centres and ProtectNWT.


Caroline Cochrane
Premier