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Government of Gouvernement des

Northwest Territories Territoires du Nord-Ouest

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MR. KEVIN O'REILLY MLA, FRAME LAKE

Oral Question 401-18(2): Slave Geological Province Transportation Corridor

This letter is to provide additional information to the Oral Question raised on Wednesday, October 26, 2016 requesting maps indicating the proposed route of an all-weather road through the Slave Geological Province (SGP) as well as key caribou habitat located therein.

The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) is currently assessing the economic feasibility and P3 potential of building an all-weather road through the SGP. The Department of Transportation (DOT) has conducted numerous studies on this corridor over the last two decades, including needs and feasibility studies, route analysis studies, scoping, and benefit cost studies.

A detailed analysis is now complete that examined optimal routing options through the SGP using a mapping tool developed by Aurora Geoscience Limited. The tool identified an optimal route from the end of Highway No. 4 to Lockhart Lake. Ernst-Young has completed an Infrastructure Options Business Case, which provides an analysis of routing options, and has identified Route 3 as holding the greatest economic potential. The map titled 'All Season Route Comparison', attached, identifies the routing options explored.

The Department is committed to providing a transportation system that meets the environmental, social, and economic needs of the people of the NWT by making environmental priorities an integral part of the decision-making process. The Department works closely with various internal and external experts during all stages of any new highway construction project as part of its commitment to identify and responsibly manage potential environmental impacts and regulatory requirements.

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I am pleased to provide you with two maps attached to this letter that each indicates the range of the Beverly and Bathurst caribou herds in relation to the proposed all-weather road alignment, as well as the route of the annual winter road and Highway No. 4.

Thank you.

Wally Schumann

Minister of Transportation

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Attachments

c. Mr. Tim Mercer Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

> Mr. David Hastings Legislative Coordinator

All Season Route Comparison





