

# PROPOSED Mandate of the Government of the Northwest Territories 2016-2019





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English

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French

Kĩspin ki nitawihťin ē nĩhĩyawihk ōma ācimōwin, tipwāsinān.

Cree

TŁIČHŦ YATI K'ĚĚ. DI WEGODI NEWŦ DĚ, GOTS'O GONEDE.

Tłıchŧ

ŦERIHTŁ'ÍS DĚNE SÚLINÉ YATI T'A HUTS'ELKĚR  
XA BEYÁYATI THEŦA ŦAT'E, NUWE TS'ĚN YÓŁTI.

Chipewyan

EDI GONDI DEHGÁH GOT'IE ZHATIE K'ĚĚ EDATŁ'ĚH  
ENAHDDHĚ NIDE NAXETS'Ě EDAHLÍ

South Slavey

K'ÁHSHÓ GOT'INE XƏDÓ K'É HEDERI  
ŦEDIHTL'É YERINIWE NÍDÉ DÚLE.

North Slavey

Jii gwandak izhii ginjik vat'atr'ijahch'uu zhit  
yinothan jì', diits'at ginohkhii.

Gwich'in

UVANITTUAQ ILITCHURISUKUPKU INUVIALUKTUN, QUQUAQLUTA.

Inuvialuktun

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Inuktitut

Hapkua titiqqat pijumagupkit Inuinnaqtun, uvaptinnut hivajarlutit.

Inuinnaqtun

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# Introduction

The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) has a responsibility to all residents to develop and implement an integrated, long-range plan for creating a territory where all our people, communities and regions share in the benefits of a healthy, just, sustainable and prosperous society. We want to see an NWT where our people can thrive and be healthy, where a well-managed environment contributes to our economic wellbeing and quality of life, and where a strong economy provides jobs and opportunities for our communities as well as funding for government programs.

The GNWT is committed to achieving this vision of social progress, environmental sustainability and economic development built on a foundation of strong consensus government and the priorities agreed upon by all Members of the 18th Legislative Assembly.

A strong territory needs a strong society. All residents of the NWT should have the chance to enjoy the benefits of living in a prosperous, well-governed territory and to participate fully in a healthy, just society. The GNWT is committed to helping our residents achieve their aspirations for themselves, their families and their communities.

The land is our life and the source of our wealth and wellbeing. Healthy people depend on a healthy environment, and our natural resources have the potential to support a strong, sustainable economy that all residents and future generations can share in. We have a responsibility as stewards of the land to make prudent decisions about how we use, share and protect the land, in a way that reflects the values and priorities of our residents.

A thriving economy gives NWT residents the chance to support themselves and their families, and gives government the financial means to pay for the programs and services our people need. But we can't have a thriving economy without healthy, educated people. We need people to own and run businesses and employees to work in them. And people need education and training to play a role in the economic life of the territory.

A strong, effective and efficient government will help Northerners achieve their social, environmental and economic goals. All Northerners must have an opportunity to shape and influence decisions about the things that matter most to them: about their economy, about their environment and about the kind of society they want to have. And once those decisions are made, governments need to have the capacity, legislative authority and financial resources to implement those decisions and be accountable for their choices.

In our decision making and planning we will be guided by principles of respect, openness and collaboration, ensuring that we are hearing from the people that we serve and making decisions that consider their wishes. We will seek the guidance of the Legislative Assembly and the people represented, and adopt a territorial perspective that considers the needs and aspirations of every region and community to make decisions that are in the best interest of all residents. We will be prudent and fiscally responsible, making best use of limited resources to ensure the long-term sustainability of the programs and services that the people of the NWT need to realize their hopes for themselves and for the territory.

This mandate describes the strategic direction that the Government of the Northwest Territories will undertake to advance the priorities of the 18th Assembly. Our purpose is to create a secure and sustainable future for the territory and its people under the guidance of the Legislative Assembly and its Members. We are committed to working in every sector to advance the priorities of the Assembly with plans, strategies and programs that will provide for current and future needs, and create a foundation for the long-term success of all Northerners.



# Fiscal Context



The Northwest Territories is facing a range of economic challenges which continue to effect the territorial government. Our economy is small and open. This means that our resource sector, which accounts for one-third of the economy, is extremely vulnerable to the turmoil happening outside our borders. Diversifying the economy is an important priority of this Assembly, but we have to be realistic about expectations. In the short to medium term, mining will be the mainstay of our economy.

*Passing the Mace: the Report of the Special Committee on Transition Matters*, which was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on October 7, 2015, notes that the 2014 gross domestic product (GDP) for the NWT was 7.5 per cent lower than the five year average before the recession in 2008.

Since the release of *Passing the Mace*, the fiscal context has changed. De Beers Canada announced on December 4, 2015 that it was shutting down operation of its Snap Lake mine, resulting in the lay-off of 258 NWT residents. The direct and indirect effects of the Snap Lake shut down on the NWT economy and on GNWT revenues are still being realized, but are expected to be significant. Further exacerbating pressure on GNWT revenues, the GNWT was advised by Canada on December 18, 2015 that Statistics Canada has undertaken a major change to the way provincial/local government expenditure data is compiled, which, if not reversed, will permanently lower the GNWT's grant from Canada under Territorial Formula Funding . The impact is \$33 million less revenue per year to the GNWT. In addition, the GNWT is also projecting a decline in corporate income tax and resource revenues.

As a result of these events, the GNWT is now forecasting that total revenues will decline 1.7 per cent over the period 2015/16 to 2019/20 – the term of the 18th Assembly. Based on the economic outlook as well as population growth forecasts, the GNWT has a fiscal problem that will require expenditure management.

In finalizing the Fiscal Strategy of the GNWT, decisions made with respect to expenditures or revenues, will need to ensure that we fully understand the impacts our actions will have on our economy. We should not take any actions that will decrease investment, or increase the cost of living or operating a business in NWT.

Our government needs to be responsible stewards of the \$1.728 billion in revenue we are estimating the GNWT will receive in 2016/17. This means we need to chart a course that will align our expenditures with our revenues and stop borrowing money to run the day-to-day operations of the government. We need to develop a plan that will generate sufficient cash surpluses to fund reasonable capital plans in order to protect the existing asset base we have now, as well as begin to address our almost \$3 billion infrastructure deficit.

The 18th Assembly will need to make difficult decisions to ensure the GNWT's long term fiscal sustainability. This means: recognizing we can no longer afford the suite of programs and services we have been providing to our residents at the levels we have been providing them; recognizing we have a severe infrastructure deficit in government and in our communities that will need to be addressed; and, recognizing that we must retain fiscal flexibility in order to make necessary investments to grow the economy while protecting our environment, or our revenues will continue to decline.





# Priorities of the 18th Legislative Assembly

These priorities were developed by all Members of the 18th Legislative Assembly, and tabled in the Assembly on December 17th, 2015.

## **Governance: Improving accountability, transparency, and collaboration**

*The 18th Legislative Assembly will change the way it does business by:*

1. Collaborating and fostering government-to-government relationships with Aboriginal governments;
2. Advancing, finalizing, and implementing land, resources, and self-government agreements, including ongoing post-devolution initiatives;
3. Increasing transparency and accountability, and strengthening consensus government;
4. Building stronger relationships with community governments and stakeholders;
5. Support initiatives designed to increase the number of women running for elected office in the NWT.

## **Cost-of-living**

*The 18th Legislative Assembly will lower the cost-of-living by:*

1. Increasing the availability of safe, affordable housing and creating solutions for addressing homelessness;
2. Improving food security by encouraging local food production, traditional harvesting, and effective co-management of caribou herds and other wildlife;
3. Supporting the use of energy-efficient technologies in residential, commercial, and public sectors;
4. Increasing the production and transmission of renewable and alternative energy;
5. Working collaboratively to promote federal investment in reducing the cost-of-living for northerners;
6. Implementing universal and affordable childcare.

## **Education, training, and youth development**

*The 18th Legislative Assembly will foster lifelong learning, skills development, training, and employability by:*

1. Supporting quality early childhood development in collaboration with existing organizations;
2. Increasing K-12 support systems to improve educational outcomes;
3. Expanding opportunities for post-secondary education, trades-oriented learning, and northern educational institutions;
4. Increasing cultural programming in education and revitalizing Aboriginal languages;
5. Enhancing capacity-building programs for our youth.



## Community wellness and safety

*The 18th Legislative Assembly will foster wellbeing and safety by:*

1. Focusing on mental health and addictions by ensuring that services are delivered locally with culturally-appropriate methods;
2. Taking action so that seniors can age in place;
3. Fostering healthy families by focusing on wellness, prevention, and improved nutrition;
4. Taking action on the crisis of family and community violence;
5. Creating opportunities for healthy lifestyles and community leadership for our youth.

## Economy, Environment, and Climate Change

*The 18th Legislative Assembly will lead economic diversification and environmental stewardship in the NWT by:*

1. Making strategic investments in transportation infrastructure and workforce development and utilizing partnerships with northern and Aboriginal businesses;
2. Investing in renewable resources, agriculture, arts, fisheries, forestry, manufacturing, tourism, and traditional harvesting;
3. Improving coordination and effectiveness in resource management systems, recognizing traditional knowledge, land claims agreements, and devolution;
4. Implementing a strategy to mitigate and adapt to climate change in collaboration with other governments and organizations.



# Economy, Environment & Climate Change



The sustainability and growth of the NWT economy requires strategic investment, diversification, and modernization towards a high-tech and lower-carbon future. In the Northwest Territories, non-renewable resource development is responsible for one-third of the NWT economy. Mining and mineral-related activities are, and for some time will be, the largest provider of high-paying NWT jobs, and the main driver of the territorial economy. Benefits from non-renewable resource production enable investment into other sectors of the economy, into energy systems, and into lowering the cost of living. While commodity prices for oil and gas, and the price of rough diamonds, are currently low, the government recognizes the need to invest now to capitalize on future resource demand.

While recognizing the significant and continuing role mining will play in the northern economy, the government also believes in economic diversification and thinks that the best way to diversify is for the private sector to be further developed in all regions and for products with a natural NWT advantage, such as tourism, furs, and minerals, to be promoted in international markets. Economic development must be supported by improved and intensified skills development for the labour market, so that NWT residents can take advantage of current and future job opportunities. With the Lands and Resources Devolution Agreement having been completed by the previous government, it is now time to work with Canada, Aboriginal governments, industry and environmental partners to continue to evolve and improve our regulatory system. The government believes in a responsible, sustainable and balanced approach to land use. This will be achieved in partnership with northerners, through a mix of legislative amendments, regulations, and strategic policy. We need to work together to create the conditions for foreign and domestic economic investment while preserving the values of sustainability. This also means having a strategic response to climate change that recognizes international and national emissions targets and pricing schemes, alongside the realities of our northern geography and climate which drive energy consumption and the cost of living.

Our plan begins with continuing to invest in developing a skilled northern workforce, strategic investments in infrastructure, and working in partnership to improve the regulatory system and adapt to climate change. This is how:

- 1. Making strategic investments in transportation infrastructure and workforce development and utilizing partnerships with northern and Aboriginal businesses.**
  - We will capture opportunities for investment in transportation infrastructure by working to secure funding to advance the Mackenzie Valley Highway, make an all-weather road from Highway 3 to Whatì, and improve access into the Slave Geologic Province.
  - We will strengthen connections with private sector partners in transportation infrastructure, such as encouraging CN Rail to continue improving the rail line to Hay River to serve resupply needs and expand the system in accordance with demand.

- We will strengthen connections with public sector partners in transportation infrastructure, such as encouraging Fisheries and Oceans Canada to maintain federal community resupply port facilities and marine services in the NWT, to restore safe marine operating conditions in the Port of Hay River and at key sections of the Mackenzie River Corridor, and to improve charting and navigational aids.
- We will continue to implement the government's Hard-to-Recruit initiative to link regional job vacancies with potential employees and on-the-job training for residents.
- We will get more 18-24 year olds into the labour market by using a better mix of improved educational attainment and skill development, while matching skills with employer needs through improved career development supports.
- We will take steps to close the skills gap using the Skills4Success strategic framework, and by working with Aurora College on a renewed strategic plan, refocusing support for post-secondary institutions in NWT, improving outcomes from our Community Learning Centres, strengthening the apprenticeship program, and improving our career development services.
- We will increase the number of immigrants working in NWT and increase investment by immigrants, by implementing an immigration strategy that prioritizes streamlining application processes, increasing awareness of immigration programs, and consolidating our administrative supports.
- We will support mineral exploration and the mining sector, by implementing the Mineral Development Strategy, capturing opportunities to build transportation infrastructure that enables resources to get to market, closing the skills gap in the mining sector, implementing the Mining Incentive Program, developing and proposing a *Mineral Resources Act*, and supporting Aboriginal governments to build capacity in dealing with mining-related activities.
- We will develop a long-term strategy to attract oil and gas development in the territory.
- We will ensure that residents are informed about the territory's resource development options, including the potential benefits and risks associated with different options.
- We will complete the Mackenzie Valley Fibre Optic Link in order to help modernize the economy and enable growth in all economic sectors.
- We will support the growth of Aboriginal business development corporations and the capacity of Aboriginal governments, through the completion and implementation of memoranda of understanding that reflect the economic opportunity objectives found in modern land claims.

## **2. Investing in renewable resources, agriculture, arts, fisheries, forestry, manufacturing, tourism, and traditional harvesting.**

- We will expand the agricultural sector by developing and implementing an Agriculture Strategy.

## Economy, Environment and Climate Change

- We will invest in artist-to-market and product-to-market opportunity chains, with a particular emphasis on making investments that enable the showcasing of art and increase sales at the regional level.
- We will support the film industry to further develop the skills and competencies of NWT film producers, build infrastructure, assist below-the-line crew and support services, and help develop marketing and communications plans for films made in the NWT.
- We will finalize and implement the Commercial Fisheries Revitalization Strategy to increase fish production, encourage and mentor new entrants to the Great Slave Lake fishery, negotiate an agreement with the Fresh Water Fish Marketing Corporation to access markets outside of NWT, seek federal funding to build a new fish processing plant in Hay River, and work with the Tu Cho Co-operative to promote and market fish caught in Great Slave Lake.
- Through agreements with communities, we will help to establish and/or expand self-sufficient businesses that sell products from renewable resource harvesting.
- We will help to promote products manufactured in the NWT.
- We will provide high quality public tourism facilities by developing a plan to invest in the modernization of our parks infrastructure and signage, as well as expand tourism options by building new parks such as the Doi Toh Territorial Park in the Sahtu Region.
- We will increase exports by working with the tourism, diamonds, and traditional economy sectors to promote NWT products to international markets.
- We will attract foreign direct investment, and cross-promote minerals, furs, fish, forest products, and tourism to investors and markets.
- We will build partnerships to expand resources available for community-based traditional economy programs, which could be used to support, amongst other things, local operators, culturally-based tourism, and the conservation economy.

### **3. Improving coordination and effectiveness in resource management systems, recognizing traditional knowledge, land claims agreements, and devolution.**

- Using the Land Use and Sustainability Framework to be clear and transparent, we will:
  - ◇ Create a defined set of collective land use and sustainability objectives
  - ◇ Develop a method for integrating our land use and sustainability objectives into GNWT decision processes
  - ◇ Develop an approach to monitor and evaluate the degree to which GNWT decisions are contributing to our collective objectives
  - ◇ Complete land use plans for all areas, including unsettled areas
  - ◇ Implement the agreed upon governance structure for land use planning in the Wek'eezhii Management Area

- ◊ Finalize the Recreational Land Management Framework, and the plan for the Yellowknife Periphery Area
- ◊ Finalize and implement the Conservation Action Plan in order to finalize existing candidate protected areas
- ◊ Establish Thaidene Nene Park
- ◊ Finalize and implement the Water Stewardship Strategy action plan
- ◊ Develop an integrated comprehensive approach to the management of contaminated sites, including prioritizing, sharing of responsibility with other governments, collaboration with other governments, and monitoring.
- In order to advance the territorial vision of land and resource management in accordance with the Land Use and Sustainability Framework, we will evolve our legislative, regulatory, and policy systems by:
  - ◊ Developing and proposing a *Mineral Resources Act*
  - ◊ Making amendments to the *NWT Mining Regulations*
  - ◊ Developing and proposing amendments to the *NWT Lands Act*
  - ◊ Developing and proposing amendments to the *Commissioner's Land Act*
  - ◊ Developing and proposing amendments to the *Territorial Parks Act*
  - ◊ Developing and proposing amendments to the *Petroleum Resources Act*
  - ◊ Developing and proposing amendments to the *Oil and Gas Operations Act*
  - ◊ Developing and proposing amendments to the *Waters Act*
  - ◊ Developing and proposing amendments to the *Environmental Protection Act* (including the development of air quality regulations)
  - ◊ Developing and proposing amendments to the *Forest Management Act*.
- We will develop a strategy to manage the resources and potential economic and environmental benefits derived from household, commercial, and industrial garbage from private sector sources and in our municipalities.
- We will continue to implement the Traditional Knowledge Policy and Framework across the GNWT, while working with Aboriginal governments to develop an action plan to improve the inclusion of traditional knowledge in program development, implementation and decision making.
- We will develop options for the implementation of the next 5-year action plan for the Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program (CIMP).
- We will negotiate with Yukon, Nunavut, and Saskatchewan towards the completion of transboundary water agreements.

## Economy, Environment and Climate Change

### 4. Implementing a strategy to mitigate and adapt to climate change in collaboration with other governments and organizations.

- We will develop a territorial climate change strategy that takes into account northern energy demands and the cost of living, while reflecting international and national commitments to lower greenhouse gas emissions, exploring options for carbon pricing systems, and capturing local alternatives such as hydro, biomass, wind, geothermal and solar.
- We will work with our partners in the territory and in the federation to implement a Canadian Energy Strategy, by participating in intergovernmental working groups on energy efficiency, energy delivery, technology and innovation, and transitioning our country towards a lower-carbon economy.
- We will participate in the pan-Canadian Task Force on Reducing Diesel in Off-Grid Communities.
- We commit to assisting community governments as they innovate to address climate change by supporting the development of community government capital plans and asset planning, and ensuring that training recognizes the challenges of climate change.
- We will provide incentives for residents to invest in energy efficient products, help businesses, condominiums and co-operatives make investments in energy conservation and energy efficiency, support residents and communities so they can make investments into renewable energies such as solar, and improve the energy efficiency of public housing.
- We will support Net Metering through clear policy direction to the Public Utilities Board (PUB), to provide certainty to allow customers to recover their investments in renewable energy.



# Education, Training and Youth Development

Education is a key element to achieving the overall goals of a strong and sustainable territory with healthy communities and residents. Employment and education are inextricably linked, with 83 per cent of residents 15 years of age and older with post-secondary education having a job, compared to an employment rate of 49 per cent for those without a post-secondary diploma, certificate or degree. Employment and education also have strong linkages to reduced issues related to health, crime and housing.

There have been improvements in education outcomes over time in the Northwest Territories, but gaps continue to exist. Disparities in education outcomes between large and small communities and between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal residents are apparent.

Improving education outcomes requires a multi-faceted approach from early childhood development, to the school system, to post-secondary education and training programs. There is a need for strong linkages between each phase, to support residents as they pass through each phase, and as they develop the skills and knowledge to fully participate in their communities. In recent years, the GNWT has developed key strategic frameworks such as Right from the Start, an early childhood development framework, the Education Renewal and Innovation Framework, to reform the school system, and the Skills for Success strategic framework, associated with post-secondary education and training. These foundational documents provide a path, and it will be critical that we continue to develop and implement actions in support of the goals we have outlined.

Our plan begins with continuing to invest in quality early childhood development, supporting the K-12 system, supporting effective post-secondary opportunities, strengthening cultural and Aboriginal language programming, and building capacity for our youth. This is how:

## 1. Supporting quality early childhood development in collaboration with existing organizations.

- We will implement the Right from the Start framework to invest in early childhood development by:
  - ◊ Working with stakeholders and communities to explore options for free play-based care for 4-year olds
  - ◊ Revising the funding support model for licensed early childhood programs
  - ◊ Strengthening licensed early childhood programs through improving resource materials and increased training for early childhood workers
  - ◊ Improving access to and outcomes of early intervention services for children 0-5 by looking at the results of evaluating NWT rehabilitation services and by continuing pilot projects in the Dehcho, Tłıchǝ, and Beaufort Delta regions, along with territorial program design
  - ◊ Supporting parents with programs and supports to help ensure their children have a strong foundation.



## **2. Increasing K-12 support systems to improve educational outcomes.**

- We will implement the Education Renewal and Innovation Initiative by:
  - ◊ Implementing the renewed K-12 Inclusive Schooling Directive which provides greater direction on roles and responsibilities, increases the number of Program Support Teachers, increases emphasis on training, and increases accountability
  - ◊ Implementing a renewed Aboriginal Language and Culture-based Education Directive in order to strengthen the role of schools in supporting Aboriginal language development and culture in programming
  - ◊ Implementing a comprehensive accountability framework for the JK-12 education system with integrated program and financial reporting processes
  - ◊ Developing options to increase the approaches available to students that lead to graduation, to improve graduation rates, and to provide greater linkages to post-secondary schooling
  - ◊ Expanding the NWT distance learning pilot project to increase access for NWT senior secondary students in all communities
  - ◊ Undertaking a planning study on options for shared service administration across NWT school boards.

## **3. Expanding opportunities for post-secondary education, trades-oriented learning, and northern educational institutions.**

- We will take steps to close the skills gap using the Skills4Success strategic framework, by working with Aurora College on a renewed strategic plan, refocusing support for post-secondary institutions in NWT, improving outcomes from our Community Learning Centres, strengthening the apprenticeship program, and improving our career development services.
- We will offer online delivery of community government training curriculum to build capacity for careers that focus on community governance.

## **4. Increasing cultural programming in education and revitalizing Aboriginal languages.**

- We will strengthen culture and heritage in the NWT by implementing a renewed Aboriginal Language and Culture-based Education Directive in order to strengthen the role of schools in supporting Aboriginal language development and incorporate culture in programming, work with the Government of Canada towards a strengthened multi-year Canada-Northwest Territories Co-operation Agreement for French and Aboriginal Languages, develop an action plan for the Culture and Heritage Strategic Framework, and work with stakeholders to update the 2010 NWT Aboriginal Languages Plan: A Shared Responsibility.
- We will finalize, in conjunction with Aboriginal governments, co-management partners and traditional user groups, a culturally appropriate, made in the north, hunter education program for delivery in all communities of the NWT.

## Education, Training and Youth Development

- We will build partnerships to expand resources available for community-based traditional economy programs
- We will continue to implement the Traditional Knowledge Policy and Framework across the GNWT while working with Aboriginal governments to develop an action plan to improve inclusion of traditional knowledge in program development, and in implementation and decision making.

### **5. Enhancing capacity-building programs for our youth.**

- We will get more 18-24 year olds into the labour market by using a better mix of improved educational attainment and skill development, while matching skills with employer needs through improved career development supports.
- We will implement the Youth Resiliency program in schools and during after school programs to help improve student outcomes and increase graduation rates.
- We will support opportunities for youth by ensuring effective youth programming such as the Youth Corps, Youth Contributors, Youth Ambassador Programs, Youth Centres, and Youth Tours.
- We will promote and improve student financial assistance to support NWT youth in developing the skills and abilities to meet their potential as well as territorial labour demand.
- We will implement programs that support youth in their communities and in their schools to encourage local food production and consumption.



# Cost of Living

Lowering the cost of living in the NWT is essential to improving our residents' quality of life, attracting more people to make their homes in the territory, and expanding economic opportunities for residents, investors, and entrepreneurs. People and businesses in the Northwest Territories experience higher costs of living and higher operating costs primarily as a result of fuel and electricity costs that greatly exceed rates in the rest of Canada, an aging and underdeveloped transportation system that raises the price of goods, and high building and operating costs that make for expensive housing. These are factors that result from the NWT's climate, distance from major markets, and a population that is relatively few and yet widely dispersed. At a time when interest rates are comparatively low, and the demand for a better quality of life and need for population growth is high, now is the time to build for our future.

The government sees opportunities for partnership with the Government of Canada and local governments on areas of mutual priority such as infrastructure investment and addressing climate change. We recognize that those who feel the territory's high cost of living most intensely are our most vulnerable residents, including those who are homeless and unemployed. Vulnerable conditions can be bridged by better managing our wildlife and traditional economy to provide local food options, improving coordination between governments to address homelessness and housing options, and using innovation to get communities off expensive diesel fuel consumption. Longer term investments are required to strengthen connections for the movement of goods into communities and to move resources to markets. There is potential for the development of expanded hydroelectric capacity, while at the same time better diversifying our energy sources with solar, wind, and biomass. We believe that improving the security and affordability of housing requires attention to the full spectrum of shelter options, including partnering on homelessness solutions, addressing demand with forward thinking planning and building, and using common sense management and appropriate pricing structures.

Our plan begins with focusing attention on the cost drivers that directly affect families, so that people are secure in their shelter, food, and childcare to allow for participation in the economy, while expanding and modernizing territory-wide energy, transportation, and housing infrastructure. This is how:

## 1. Increasing the availability of safe, affordable housing and creating solutions for addressing homelessness.

- We will continue to implement northern solutions for northern housing by:
  - ◊ Working in partnership with other orders of government to address affordable housing requirements in support of their service delivery to NWT residents
  - ◊ Developing program approaches such as Housing First to address high demand for single person households, including those that are homeless
  - ◊ Reviewing the GNWT's homelessness supports and implementing recommendations that improve policy and program consistency between departments
  - ◊ Implementing community based housing property management services in rural and remote communities to improve service levels

- ◊ Developing options for rationalizing public housing utility pricing structures to promote self-reliance
- ◊ Demolishing vacant housing units that are beyond their useful life in order to support land requirements for new housing investment
- ◊ Developing options to support Aboriginal and local governments in their housing aspirations and initiatives to address homelessness
- We will support community-based planning to help make land available for the construction of affordable housing and to support community governments in dealing with derelict properties in their community.

## **2. Improving food security by encouraging local food production, traditional harvesting, and effective co-management of caribou herds and other wildlife.**

- We will develop and implement a multi-year management strategy for barren-ground caribou in the Northwest Territories.
- We will develop a range plan for boreal caribou in the Northwest Territories.
- We will develop species-specific wildlife management strategies for wood bison, muskox, and moose.
- We will develop country food programming to promote opportunities for the consumption of foods such as fish, wildlife, berries, and mushrooms.
- We will finalize and implement the Commercial Fisheries Revitalization Strategy to increase fish production, encourage and mentor new entrants to the Great Slave Lake fishery, negotiate an agreement with the Fresh Water Fish Marketing Corporation to access markets outside of NWT, seek federal funding to build a new fish processing plant in Hay River, and work with the Tu Cho Co-operative to promote and market fish caught in Great Slave Lake.
- We will develop an Agriculture Strategy to increase domestic food production, improve distribution networks for NWT-produced foods, and to increase producer and supplier opportunities.

## **3. Supporting the use of energy-efficient technologies in residential, commercial, and public sectors.**

- We will provide incentives for residents to invest in energy efficient products, help businesses, condominiums and co-operatives make investments in energy conservation and energy efficiency, support residents and communities so they can make investments into renewable energies such as solar, and improve the energy efficiency of public housing.
- We will create a new three-year energy action plan, building on previous investments made over the past three years and the outcomes of the energy plan review.

## Cost of Living

- We commit to assisting community governments as they innovate to address energy efficiency and conservation, address climate change by supporting the development of community government capital plans and asset planning, and ensure training recognizes the challenges of climate change.

### **4. Increasing the production and transmission of renewable and alternative energy.**

- We will develop a territorial climate change strategy that takes into account northern energy demands and the cost of living, while reflecting international and national commitments to lower greenhouse gas emissions, exploring options for carbon pricing systems, and capturing local alternatives such as hydro, biomass, wind, geothermal and solar.
- We will continue to investigate and implement renewable and alternative energy solutions to replace the use of imported diesel fuel for power generation in the Thermal Zone and reduce the use of diesel fuel for heating in all regions, including looking at the feasibility of wind energy, solar generation, geothermal and biomass energy initiatives.
- We will continue to explore the potential for the development of hydroelectric power and transmission lines, as well as the development of wind and solar energies to displace diesel generation while diversifying the NWT economy.
- We will better use our existing hydroelectric resources by exploring options to respond to low water in the North Slave hydroelectric power system, improve hydro system water monitoring and reservoir management, and find ways to make use of surplus Taltson hydroelectric power in the South Slave region and beyond.
- We will work with our partners in the federation and in the territory to implement a Canadian Energy Strategy, by participating in intergovernmental working groups on energy efficiency, energy delivery, technology and innovation, and transitioning our country towards a lower-carbon economy.
- We will participate in the pan-Canadian Task Force on Reducing Diesel in Off-Grid Communities.

### **5. Working collaboratively to promote federal investment in reducing the cost-of- living for northerners.**

- In collaboration with our partners in Yukon and Nunavut, we will work with the Government of Canada to increase the federal Northern Resident's Tax Deduction by at least 33 per cent, indexed to inflation.
- We will capture opportunities for investment in transportation infrastructure by working to secure funding to advance the Mackenzie Valley Highway, make an all-weather road from Highway 3 to Whatì, and improve access into the Slave Geologic Province.
- We will strengthen connections with private sector partners in transportation infrastructure, such as encouraging CN Rail to continue improving the rail line to Hay River to serve resupply needs and expand the system in accordance with demand.

- We will strengthen connections with public sector partners in transportation infrastructure, such as encouraging the Fisheries and Oceans Canada to maintain federal community resupply port facilities and marine services in the NWT, to restore safe marine operating conditions in the Port of Hay River and at key sections of the Mackenzie River Corridor, and to improve charting and navigational aids.
- We will leverage available funding through the New Building Canada Plan to invest in community public infrastructure.
- In collaboration with our partners in Yukon and Nunavut, we will work with the Government of Canada to increase federal investment in Nutrition North by at least \$40 million over four years and seek improvements to the transparency, accountability and effectiveness of the overall federal program.
- We will participate in all Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) proceedings that effect the north to ensure competitive and affordable broadband and telecommunication services for NWT residents.

## 6. Implementing universal and affordable childcare.

- We will implement the Right from the Start framework to invest in early childhood development by:
  - ◊ Working with stakeholders and communities to ensure the territory has free play-based care for 4-year olds
  - ◊ Revising the funding support model for licensed early childhood programs
  - ◊ Strengthening licensed early childhood programs through improving resource materials and increased training for early childhood workers.
- We will develop options for universal day care and changes to support overall affordability, ensuring sustainability for early childhood program operators and expanded access to early childhood programs across the territory.



# Community Wellness and Safety



Much of the social context of the NWT is the product of historical factors such as colonization, residential schools, rapid cultural change, and the removal of people's power to make decisions about their own lives. There exist significant gaps when comparing the social conditions of people in the NWT with those in the rest of Canada, comparing Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal residents in NWT, comparing between genders, and considering whether a person lives in a smaller or larger NWT community. Most social conditions in the territory are showing improvement over time; for example, graduation rates are going up, rates of violent crime are going down, and infant mortality rates have decreased. There is evidence that intervention at the earliest stages of life, preventative measures, and having sustainable social systems in place that recognize root causes such as culture and social history can make a difference.

Community wellness and safety begins with supports to encourage individuals and families to be and stay healthy. Healthy lifestyles, including mental health, are kept with the promotion of physical activity, volunteerism, positive relationships within families, and time on the land. These are the things we believe help to prevent chronic disease, domestic abuse, and feelings of helplessness. This means getting it right from the start, before children are even born and when they are under age five, through until late in life when planning is required to ensure independence for seniors in the places where they are most comfortable. When mental health concerns do arise, especially for youth, our communities and health care system need to be prepared with services that take into account one's culture, location, and social setting. When chronic disease is diagnosed, it needs to be caught early, by health practitioners who understand the cultural and historical dimensions of health care in NWT. When family violence or crime does occur, we need measures in place to reintegrate offenders and heal families. Territorial government is one partner in ensuring the wellness and safety of our communities, alongside families, community groups, police, courts, and schools.

Our plan begins with prevention, by encouraging healthy lifestyles and strong families, making sure sustainable and responsive systems are in place for people when they are needed, and planning for individual well-being from birth to old age, being mindful of our history and culture, but confident that our residents have many strengths to build upon and anchor us towards a better future. This is how:

## **1. Focusing on mental health and addictions by ensuring that services are delivered locally with culturally-appropriate methods.**

- To enhance access to culturally-appropriate programs and services, we will develop a comprehensive mental health and addictions framework that:
  - ◊ Prioritizes improvements to outpatient mental health services, with a particular focus on youth mental health services in schools and the broader community
  - ◊ Addresses gaps in integrated community-based services



- ◊ Evaluates our land-based addictions healing programs
- ◊ Models a mobile addictions treatment team
- ◊ Enhances treatment options at local and regional levels, including aftercare
- ◊ Compiles baseline data so that government can be better held to account for the performance of mental health and addictions services.
- Taking into account mental health and addictions, we will look at innovative ways to prevent and reduce crime such as integrated case management, wellness courts, domestic violence treatment options courts, and culturally appropriate correctional programs.

## 2. Taking action so that seniors can age in place.

- We will support elders to live in their own homes for as long as possible and ensure adequate supports are available for those who can no longer do so, by:
  - ◊ Completing a review of existing programs in order to project, over a 20-year period, policy and financial needs
  - ◊ Developing updated capital projections for long-term care and dementia beds
  - ◊ Developing financing options for long-term care facilities
  - ◊ Proposing a regulatory framework for long-term care
  - ◊ Developing an action plan for enhanced home and community care services
  - ◊ Developing an action plan for expanded palliative care services
  - ◊ Building more Seniors' Supported Independent Living units
  - ◊ Marketing preventative maintenance, renovation and mobility upgrades to assist seniors to age in place.

## 3. Fostering healthy families by focusing on wellness, prevention, and improved nutrition.

- We will continue implementing the Building Stronger Families action plan to transform child and family services by:
  - ◊ Auditing to ensure compliance with the *Child and Family Services Act*
  - ◊ Implementing a standardized approach to assessing children's immediate safety needs and future risk of harm
  - ◊ Developing caseload and workload measures for child protection in order to monitor and track the resources that are required to ensure compliance with the *Child and Family Services Act*
  - ◊ Reviewing the standards and delivery methods of the Healthy Family Program to determine whether there are more effective ways to reach families-at-risk.

## Community Wellness

- We will explore options for expanding beyond Yellowknife, the Mediation and Parenting after Separation and Divorce Program.
- We will continue to support at-risk children and families through preventative and collaborative approaches, including:
  - ◊ Introducing a risk assessment tool to enable child protection workers to support families more effectively
  - ◊ Ensuring services for children in care focus not just on safety, but also on stability and child development
  - ◊ Improving the coordination, delivery and effectiveness of family services through an integrated care model
  - ◊ Improving system supports for Aboriginal children and families including improving the cultural competence of service providers.
- We will continue implementing Right from the Start to improve early childhood development, by:
  - ◊ Working with stakeholders and communities to ensure the territory has free play-based care for 4-year olds
  - ◊ Revising the funding support model for licensed early childhood programs
  - ◊ Strengthening licensed early childhood programs through improving resource materials and increased training for early childhood workers
  - ◊ Improving oral health and developmental outcomes for children aged 0-5
  - ◊ Developing options to enhance access to birthing services and pre- and post-natal care, including development of a territorial midwifery model
  - ◊ Reviewing the standards and delivery methods of the Healthy Family Program to determine whether there are more effective ways to reach families-at-risk
  - ◊ Enhancing access to early intervention services for children 0-5
  - ◊ Supporting community wellness initiatives with early childhood development funding and subject matter expertise
  - ◊ Supporting community wellness priorities that address the pillars of the Anti-Poverty Strategic Framework, and aim to reduce the effects of poverty on children.
- We will reduce the burden of chronic disease by promoting healthy lifestyles and improving screening and management, with specific focus on:
  - ◊ Promoting healthy eating in NWT communities through a variety of programs including Healthy Family Collective Kitchens and Drop the Pop
  - ◊ Hosting Healthy Living Fairs in communities
  - ◊ Increasing awareness and availability of smoking cessation aids
  - ◊ Standardizing access to cancer screening across the NWT
  - ◊ Developing improved supports for patients and families battling cancer

- ◊ Giving health care providers tools and training to support patients and families in the management of chronic disease such as diabetes
- ◊ Developing and proposing updated tobacco control legislation
- ◊ Expanding the production and availability of local foods such as fish, country food, and garden produce.
- We will continue integration of the health and social services system to improve care for our people, by clarifying timelines, appointing people to Regional Wellness Councils and the NWT Health and Social Services Leadership Council, finalizing roles and responsibilities, and ensure seamless service delivery for all residents during the transition.
- We will continue to work collaboratively to eliminate poverty in the NWT by funding community-based partners, convening meetings of stakeholders, finalizing indicators that allow performance to be assessed, and developing additional options for action.
- We will ensure effective supports and programs are in place for persons with disabilities by preparing an accessible inventory of the GNWT supports systems that already exist, and then by responding to previous evaluations of government supports.
- We will promote the national physical activity strategy for all residents to improve health and fitness.
- We will finalize a strategic plan to enhance existing programming and build new partnership initiatives to support healthy and sustainable traditional lifestyles.
- We will promote volunteerism by ensuring effective programming such as the Volunteer Development Fund, Outstanding Volunteer Awards, NGO Stabilization Fund, and the Community Volunteer Recognition Program.

#### 4. Taking action on the crisis of family and community violence.

- We will strengthen initiatives and partnerships to prevent and reduce family violence by:
  - ◊ Examining the feasibility of expanding the Domestic Violence Treatment Options Court beyond Yellowknife and Hay River
  - ◊ Providing training, public information and outreach on the protections provided under the Protection Against *Family Violence Act*
  - ◊ Supporting five family violence shelters across the NWT, including support for the overall capacity of the people who work in these shelters
  - ◊ Providing funding to develop family violence protocols and response teams in regions with no shelters
  - ◊ Supporting programming for children who have witnessed violence
  - ◊ Continuing to implement ‘What Will it Take?’, the social marketing campaign on family violence.
- We will support the RCMP and communities in their efforts to strengthen partnerships to

## Community Wellness

prevent and respond to violence by supporting the development of policing action plans in each community in accordance with each community's priorities.

- We will seek to improve access to justice in the NWT, by expanding community legal outreach programs, making family law duty counsel services available to assist self-represented family members on first appearance in family court, and expanding public education on programs and services so that people know what help is out there and how to access it.
- We will improve our social response to crime reduction by examining and analyzing social indicators, conducting research on what works to reduce crime, and identifying any gaps in territorial programming.
- We will implement the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that fall within the jurisdiction of the territorial government, especially related to violence against indigenous women and girls.
- We will support and participate in a National Round Table and National Inquiry into Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women in collaboration with families, Aboriginal governments, the federal government, and other organizations.

### **5. Creating opportunities for healthy lifestyles and community leadership for our youth.**

- We will support the RCMP and communities in their efforts to develop policing action plans in each community that reflect local priorities, including issues relating to youth.
- We will implement the Youth Resiliency program in schools and during after school programs to improve student outcomes and lower overall dropout rates.
- We will support opportunities for youth by ensuring effective programming such as the Youth Corps, Youth Contributors, Youth Ambassador Programs, Youth Centres, Youth Tours, and Children and Youth Resiliency Program.



# Governance

Governance in the NWT continues to evolve as territorial, regional, and local governments take on new responsibilities. What has not changed, is the significant and ongoing role that respect and recognition play in northern governance. With the Lands and Resources Devolution Agreement having been completed by the previous government, now is the time to evolve towards greater land use sustainability, through effective and coordinated land, resource, and water management systems. To be successful, we need strong relations between our government and our partner Aboriginal and community governments.

We believe that better governance starts with the GNWT being a better government. Consensus government will constantly evolve, and to support that evolution this government will ensure that the public is better informed about the decision making process and that all people have an opportunity to take part in our system. With the appointment of a Minister responsible for Public Engagement & Transparency, we are prepared to move towards stronger policy for open government by enhancing our communications, service delivery, and ways of doing business. From there, we intend to lead the country in building progressive relationships with Aboriginal governments, recognizing that having these relationships not only benefit Aboriginal governments, it makes all governments stronger. Moreover, resolving outstanding land, resource, and self-government agreements provides increased certainty to promote economic development. Community governments are playing stronger roles in NWT governance, but still require investment, training, and capacity building to ensure that their infrastructure, decision making systems, and planning processes reflect the needs of the people who live there. Finally, government has a role in addressing the long-standing underrepresentation of women in territorial elected office, but promotion and facilitation by government must be matched by other societal groups supporting more women in leadership roles.

Our plan begins with being a modern open government, by working with our partner Aboriginal and community governments to complete agreements and build capacity, and by supporting efforts to see increased participation and success for women in politics. This is how:

## **1. Collaborating and fostering government-to-government relationships with Aboriginal governments.**

- Consistent with the policy of Respect, Recognition & Responsibility, we will invite any regional or community Aboriginal governments that are not yet a party to one, to strengthen their intergovernmental relations with the GNWT through the negotiation of an intergovernmental memorandum-of-understanding.
- We will consult with Aboriginal governments to complete the next phase of regulation making under the *Wildlife Act*.
- We will work in partnership with Aboriginal governments to explore the design and launch of a training program for First Nations governments with municipal-like responsibilities in order to help improve the governance and management capacity of those governments.

- We will work to resolve outstanding land, resource and self-government agreements with the Akaitcho, Dehcho, NWT Metis Nation, Acho Dene Koe and the Government of Canada during the term of our government, and advocate that particular focus in our negotiations be placed on land quantum.
- We will provide funding to Aboriginal community governments and work with communities to develop wellness plans that meet local needs and priorities.
- We will implement the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that fall within the jurisdiction of the territorial government.
- We will continue to support the Intergovernmental Council towards implementation of the vision of cooperative and collaborative management of lands and resources, as set out in the Lands and Resources Devolution Agreement.

## **2. Advancing, finalizing, and implementing land, resources, and self-government agreements, including ongoing post-devolution initiatives.**

- We will seek to establish a joint committee between Cabinet Ministers and Regular Members to share information and discuss approaches on the advancement of land, resource, and self-government agreements as well as initiatives to enhance relationships with Aboriginal governments.
- We will negotiate with Yukon, Nunavut, and Saskatchewan towards the completion of transboundary water agreements.
- We will work with Aboriginal governments to jointly develop their human resource capacity, for example by finalizing and evaluating the existing pilot project with the Gwich'in Tribal Council.
- We will pursue an agreement with the federal government on the management of offshore resources.
- We will work to improve the NWT integrated resource management regime to ensure the regime reflects NWT interests and priorities.

## **3. Increasing transparency and accountability, and strengthening consensus government.**

- We will improve access to information and the protection of privacy by:
  - ◊ Developing and proposing amendments to the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (ATIPPA Act)*
  - ◊ Creating a GNWT privacy framework and management programs, so that the privacy protections in the *ATIPPA Act* are administered consistently and fairly
  - ◊ Ensuring online training is available on access to information and protection of privacy requirements for GNWT employees as well as employees of territorial public bodies

## Governance

- ◊ Continuing to safeguard and improve the security and integrity of the information entrusted to government on behalf of residents, businesses and visitors.
- We will implement the government's new *Financial Administration Act* in order to improve government-wide planning and accountability, and overall fiscal responsibility.
- We will improve collaboration for easier access to government programs and services online, including by:
  - ◊ Aligning territorial approaches with pan-Canadian efforts to establish and use digital identities for online government
  - ◊ Creating a single integrated online portal for residents and businesses to securely transact with government
  - ◊ Increasing online accessibility to driver and motor vehicle services as well as commercial permitting services
  - ◊ Participating in national surveys to assess both resident and business satisfaction with government service delivery.
- We will maximize citizens' ability to access government by using consistent approaches to social media, visual identity, and overall communications.
- We will establish an Open Government Policy to enhance civic participation, increase the availability and accessibility of information about government activities, and explore new technologies for openness and accountability.
- We will improve public visibility and accessibility of Cabinet by organizing Cabinet meetings in each region of the NWT, holding selected Committee-of-Cabinet meetings in public, and meeting with standing committees in public more frequently.
- We will improve opportunities for meaningful public input into government decision making by improving access to government public engagement initiatives and reporting on how public views have shaped government decisions.
- We will enhance collaboration between Cabinet and Regular Members by exploring more options to formally work together, and strengthening processes for consistently sharing and tracking information provided to standing committees.
- We will do a better job of making our residents aware of the mechanisms available to appeal government decisions.
- We will do a better job of making our residents, particularly those in smaller communities, aware of available government programs and services, and how to access them, through Single Window Service Centres and our Government Service Officers.

#### **4. Building stronger relationships with community governments and stakeholders.**

- We will support the RCMP and communities in their efforts to strengthen partnerships to prevent and respond to violence by supporting the development of policing action plans in each community in according with each community's priorities.



- We will take further action to monitor drinking water quality as well as support community-based water monitoring programs.
- We will finalize community wildland fire protection plans, and develop and propose amendments to modernize forest protection legislation.
- We will continue to pursue new federal funding for the enhancement of community government infrastructure, and implement the asset management framework through the Gas Tax Agreement to ensure that all community infrastructure lifespan is extended and new infrastructure is delivered in a manner that takes into account new building technologies that assist in climate change adaptation and energy efficiencies.
- We will develop a strategy to close the gap in funding levels to meet municipal core needs.
- We will install remote water monitoring stations in five additional communities and build three additional water treatment plants.
- We will work with stakeholders to develop and propose amendments to modernize the *Civil Emergency Measures Act* and to revitalize the Territorial Emergency Response Plan.
- We will develop and propose amendments to the *Fire Prevention Act*, and work with stakeholders to identify priorities for Community Fire Protection Plans.
- We will assist community governments with technical assistance in identifying energy efficiency improvements for community government buildings and taking action to improve energy efficiency.

**5. Support initiatives designed to increase the number of women running for elected office in the NWT.**

- We will support the delivery of workshops that help to get women into politics.
- We will support a communications campaign to promote women in politics.
- We will enhance gender equity in the appointment of residents to territorial boards and agencies, to further develop women’s leadership experience and exposure to governance.



# Reporting

Accountability is crucial to effective, responsible and transparent government. Our elected representatives must ensure the government remains committed to its mandate determined at the outset of the 18th Legislative Assembly. Transparency, in turn, allows the public to be informed about government decisions, generates discussion about the direction of government, and increases the ability of all elected Members to hold the government to account. Accountability and transparency reinforce one another in positive ways for our democracy.

Consensus government in the Northwest Territories continues to evolve towards increased accountability and transparency. The Legislative Assembly's *Process Convention on Priority Setting and Reporting* sets out how government priorities are set at the beginning of a new Assembly and how government is held to account for acting on the priorities. There are many ways that government is held to account for its actions, including debate of its budgets, oral questions, and meetings of legislative committees. Specifically, this Convention requires the government to report at least once every 12 months on the progress it is making to implement the mandate, and to make this reporting public.

At the mid-point of the life of the 18th Assembly, the Legislative Assembly will prorogue in order to review, debate, and if necessary adjust the priorities of the 18th Assembly and the corresponding government mandate. At the end of the 18th Assembly's term, a joint Special Committee on Transition Matters will review progress and make recommendations to the next Assembly.

To guide the implementation and coordination of its mandate, the government has established eight Committees-of-Cabinet. The structure of these committees reflects the commitments of the government in response to the priorities of the 18th Legislative Assembly. They are:

- Priorities and Planning, chaired by Hon. Robert. R. McLeod
- Energy and Climate Change, chaired by Hon. Robert R. McLeod
- Infrastructure, chaired by Hon. Robert C. McLeod
- Governance, chaired by Hon. Louis Sebert
- Cost of Living, chaired by Hon. Caroline Cochrane
- Education, Training and Youth, chaired by Hon. Alfred Moses
- Community Wellness and Safety, chaired by Hon. Glen Abernethy
- Economy and Environment, chaired by Hon. Wally Schumann

In addition to formally submitting an annual report to the Standing Committee on Priorities and Planning, the government intends to track progress on commitments made in the mandate through a publically available reporting tool. This tool, which will be maintained on an ongoing basis, will provide contextual and issue-specific information, and demonstrate the linkages and relationships between the strategic commitments made by government in the mandate, the work of each Committee-of-Cabinet, and the priorities of the 18th Assembly. In this way, the public can track and monitor details on the progress of mandate implementation.

The broader goal of this reporting is to improve not just accountability and transparency, but the programs and services government has put in place for a healthy, vibrant and prosperous territory. Ultimately, greater scrutiny of government policies, programs and services will help ensure the government implements its mandate in a manner that is most effective and fiscally responsible.

# Appendix A

## Commitments of the GNWT

Reference#	Commitment	Departmental Lead
1.1.1	We will capture opportunities for investment in transportation infrastructure by working to secure funding to advance the Mackenzie Valley Highway, make an all-weather road from Highway 3 to Whatì, and improve access into the Slave Geologic Province.	DOT
1.1.2	We will strengthen connections with private sector partners in transportation infrastructure, such as encouraging CN Rail to continue improving the rail line to Hay River to serve resupply needs and expand the system in accordance with demand.	DOT
1.1.3	We will strengthen connections with public sector partners in transportation infrastructure, such as encouraging Fisheries and Oceans Canada to maintain federal community resupply port facilities and marine services in the NWT, to restore safe marine operating conditions in the Port of Hay River and at key sections of the Mackenzie River Corridor, and to improve charting and navigational aids.	DOT
1.1.4	We will continue to implement the government's Hard-to-Recruit initiative to link regional job vacancies with potential employees and on-the-job training for residents.	HR
1.1.5	We will get more 18-24 year olds into the labour market by using a better mix of improved educational attainment and skill development, while matching skills with employer needs through improved career development supports.	ECE
1.1.6	We will take steps to close the skills gap using the Skills4Success strategic framework, and by working with Aurora College on a renewed strategic plan, refocusing support for post-secondary institutions in NWT, improving outcomes from our Community Learning Centres, strengthening the apprenticeship program, and improving our career development services.	ECE
1.1.7	We will increase the number of immigrants working in NWT and increase investment by immigrants, by implementing an immigration strategy that prioritizes streamlining application processes, increasing awareness of immigration programs, and consolidating our administrative supports.	ECE/ITI
1.1.8	We will support mineral exploration and the mining sector, by implementing the Mineral Development Strategy, capturing opportunities to build transportation infrastructure that enables resources to get to market, closing the skills gap in the mining sector, implementing the Mining Incentive Program, developing and proposing a <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> , and supporting Aboriginal governments to build capacity in dealing with mining-related activities.	ITI
1.1.9	We will develop a long-term strategy to attract oil and gas development in the territory.	ITI

Reference#	Commitment	Departmental Lead
<b>1.1.10</b>	We will ensure that residents are informed about the territory's resource development options, including the potential benefits and risks associated with different options.	<b>ITI</b>
<b>1.1.11</b>	We will complete the Mackenzie Valley Fibre Optic Link in order to help modernize the economy and enable growth in all economic sectors.	<b>FIN</b>
<b>1.1.12</b>	We will support the growth of Aboriginal business development corporations and the capacity of Aboriginal governments, through the completion and implementation of memoranda of understanding that reflect the economic opportunity objectives found in modern land claims.	<b>DAAIR</b>
<b>1.2.1</b>	We will expand the agricultural sector by developing and implementing an Agriculture Strategy.	<b>ITI</b>
<b>1.2.2</b>	We will invest in artist-to-market and product-to-market opportunity chains, with a particular emphasis on making investments that enable the showcasing of art and increase sales at the regional level.	<b>ITI</b>
<b>1.2.3</b>	We will support the film industry to further develop the skills and competencies of NWT film producers, build infrastructure, assist below-the-line crew and support services, and help develop marketing and communications plans for films made in the NWT.	<b>ITI</b>
<b>1.2.4</b>	We will finalize and implement the Commercial Fisheries Revitalization Strategy to increase fish production, encourage and mentor new entrants to the Great Slave Lake fishery, negotiate an agreement with the Fresh Water Fish Marketing Corporation to access markets outside of NWT, seek federal funding to build a new fish processing plant in Hay River, and work with the Tu Cho Co-operative to promote and market fish caught in Great Slave Lake.	<b>ITI</b>
<b>1.2.5</b>	Through agreements with communities, we will help to establish and/or expand self-sufficient businesses that sell products from renewable resource harvesting.	<b>ENR</b>
<b>1.2.6</b>	We will help to promote products manufactured in the NWT.	<b>ITI</b>
<b>1.2.7</b>	We will provide high quality public tourism facilities by developing a plan to invest in the modernization of our parks infrastructure and signage, as well as expand tourism options by building new parks such as the Doi Toh Territorial Park in the Sahtu Region.	<b>ITI</b>
<b>1.2.8</b>	We will increase exports by working with the tourism, diamonds, and traditional economy sectors to promote NWT products to international markets.	<b>ITI</b>
<b>1.2.9</b>	We will attract foreign direct investment, and cross-promote minerals, furs, fish, forest products, and tourism to investors and markets.	<b>ITI</b>
<b>1.2.10</b>	We will build partnerships to expand resources available for community-based traditional economy programs, which could be used to support, amongst other things, local operators, culturally-based tourism, and the conservation economy.	<b>ENR</b>

Reference#	Commitment	Departmental Lead	
<b>1.3.1</b>	Using the Land Use and Sustainability Framework to be clear and transparent, we will:	<b>Lands/ ENR</b>	
	◊ Create a defined set of collective land use and sustainability objectives		
	◊ Develop a method for integrating our land use and sustainability objectives into GNWT decision processes		
	◊ Develop an approach to monitor and evaluate the degree to which GNWT decisions are contributing to our collective objectives		
	◊ Complete land use plans for all areas, including unsettled areas		
	◊ Implement the agreed upon governance structure for land use planning in the Wek'eezhii Management Area		
	◊ Finalize the Recreational Land Management Framework, and the plan for the Yellowknife Periphery Area		
	◊ Finalize and implement the Conservation Action Plan in order to finalize existing candidate protected areas		
	◊ Establish Thaidene Nene Park		
	◊ Finalize and implement the Water Stewardship Strategy action plan		
	◊ Develop an integrated comprehensive approach to the management of contaminated sites, including prioritizing, sharing of responsibility with other governments, collaboration with other governments, and monitoring.		
<b>1.3.2</b>	In order to advance the territorial vision of land and resource management in accordance with the Land Use and Sustainability Framework, we will evolve our legislative, regulatory, and policy systems by:	<b>Lands/ ENR</b>	
	◊ Developing and proposing a <i>Mineral Resources Act</i>		<b>ITI</b>
	◊ Making amendments to the <i>NWT Mining Regulations</i>		<b>ITI</b>
	◊ Developing and proposing amendments to the <i>NWT Lands Act</i>		<b>Lands</b>
	◊ Developing and proposing amendments to the <i>Commissioner's Land Act</i>		<b>Lands</b>
	◊ Developing and proposing amendments to the <i>Territorial Parks Act</i>		<b>ENR</b>
	◊ Developing and proposing amendments to the <i>Petroleum Resources Act</i>		<b>ITI</b>
	◊ Developing and proposing amendments to the <i>Oil and Gas Operations Act</i>		<b>ITI</b>
	◊ Developing and proposing amendments to the <i>Waters Act</i>		<b>ENR</b>
	◊ Developing and proposing amendments to the <i>Environmental Protection Act</i> (including the development of air quality regulations)		<b>ENR</b>
	◊ Developing and proposing amendments to the <i>Forest Management Act</i> .		<b>ENR</b>
<b>1.3.3</b>	We will develop a strategy to manage the resources and potential economic and environmental benefits derived from household, commercial, and industrial garbage from private sector sources and in our municipalities.	<b>ENR</b>	
<b>1.3.4</b>	We will continue to implement the Traditional Knowledge Policy and Framework across the GNWT, while working with Aboriginal governments to develop an action plan to improve the inclusion of traditional knowledge in program development, implementation and decision making.	<b>ENR</b>	
<b>1.3.5</b>	We will develop options for the implementation of the next 5-year action plan for the Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program (CIMP).	<b>ENR</b>	

Reference#	Commitment	Departmental Lead
1.3.6	We will negotiate with Yukon, Nunavut, and Saskatchewan towards the completion of transboundary water agreements.	ENR
1.4.1	We will develop a territorial climate change strategy that takes into account northern energy demands and the cost of living, while reflecting international and national commitments to lower greenhouse gas emissions, exploring options for carbon pricing systems, and capturing local alternatives such as hydro, biomass, wind, geothermal and solar.	ENR
1.4.2	We will work with our partners in the territory and in the federation to implement a Canadian Energy Strategy, by participating in intergovernmental working groups on energy efficiency, energy delivery, technology and innovation, and transitioning our country towards a lower-carbon economy.	PWS
1.4.3	We will participate in the pan-Canadian Task Force on Reducing Diesel in Off-Grid Communities.	PWS
1.4.4	We commit to assisting community governments as they innovate to address climate change by supporting the development of community government capital plans and asset planning, and ensuring that training recognizes the challenges of climate change.	MACA
1.4.5	We will provide incentives for residents to invest in energy efficient products, help businesses, condominiums and co-operatives make investments in energy conservation and energy efficiency, support residents and communities so they can make investments into renewable energies such as solar, and improve the energy efficiency of public housing.	PWS
1.4.6	We will support Net Metering through clear policy direction to the Public Utilities Board (PUB), to provide certainty to allow customers to recover their investments in renewable energy.	EXEC
2.1.1	We will implement the Right from the Start framework to invest in early childhood development by:	ECE/HSS
	◊ Working with stakeholders and communities to explore options for free play-based care for 4-year olds	ECE
	◊ Revising the funding support model for licensed early childhood programs	ECE
	◊ Strengthening licensed early childhood programs through improving resource materials and increased training for early childhood workers	ECE
	◊ Improving access to and outcomes of early intervention services for children 0-5 by looking at the results of evaluating NWT rehabilitation services and by continuing pilot projects in the Dehcho, Tłı̄chǫ, and Beaufort Delta regions, along with territorial program design	HSS
	◊ Supporting parents with programs and supports to help ensure their children have a strong foundation.	HSS

Reference#	Commitment	Departmental Lead
<b>2.2.1</b>	We will implement the Education Renewal and Innovation Initiative by:	<b>ECE</b>
	◊ Implementing the renewed K-12 Inclusive Schooling Directive which provides greater direction on roles and responsibilities, increases the number of Program Support Teachers, increases emphasis on training, and increases accountability	
	◊ Implementing a renewed Aboriginal Language and Culture-based Education Directive in order to strengthen the role of schools in supporting Aboriginal language development and culture in programming	
	◊ Implementing a comprehensive accountability framework for the JK-12 education system with integrated program and financial reporting processes	
	◊ Developing options to increase the approaches available to students that lead to graduation, to improve graduation rates, and to provide greater linkages to post-secondary schooling	
	◊ Expanding the NWT distance learning pilot project to increase access for NWT senior secondary students in all communities	
	◊ Undertaking a planning study on options for shared service administration across NWT school boards.	
<b>2.3.1</b>	We will take steps to close the skills gap using the Skills4Success strategic framework, by working with Aurora College on a renewed strategic plan, refocusing support for post-secondary institutions in NWT, improving outcomes from our Community Learning Centres, strengthening the apprenticeship program, and improving our career development services.	<b>ECE</b>
<b>2.3.2</b>	We will offer online delivery of community government training curriculum to build capacity for careers that focus on community governance.	<b>MACA</b>
<b>2.4.1</b>	We will strengthen culture and heritage in the NWT by implementing a renewed Aboriginal Language and Culture-based Education Directive in order to strengthen the role of schools in supporting Aboriginal language development and incorporate culture in programming, work with the Government of Canada towards a strengthened multi-year Canada-Northwest Territories Co-operation Agreement for French and Aboriginal Languages, develop an action plan for the Culture and Heritage Strategic Framework, and work with stakeholders to update the 2010 NWT Aboriginal Languages Plan: A Shared Responsibility.	<b>ECE</b>
<b>2.4.2</b>	We will finalize, in conjunction with Aboriginal governments, co-management partners and traditional user groups, a culturally appropriate, made in the north, hunter education program for delivery in all communities of the NWT.	<b>ENR</b>
<b>2.4.3</b>	We will build partnerships to expand resources available for community-based traditional economy programs	<b>ENR</b>
<b>2.4.4</b>	We will continue to implement the Traditional Knowledge Policy and Framework across the GNWT while working with Aboriginal governments to develop an action plan to improve inclusion of traditional knowledge in program development, and in implementation and decision making.	<b>ENR</b>
<b>2.5.1</b>	We will get more 18-24 year olds into the labour market by using a better mix of improved educational attainment and skill development, while matching skills with employer needs through improved career development supports.	<b>ECE</b>

Reference#	Commitment	Departmental Lead
2.5.2	We will implement the Youth Resiliency program in schools and during after school programs to help improve student outcomes and increase graduation rates.	MACA
2.5.3	We will support opportunities for youth by ensuring effective youth programming such as the Youth Corps, Youth Contributors, Youth Ambassador Programs, Youth Centres, and Youth Tours.	MACA
2.5.4	We will promote and improve student financial assistance to support NWT youth in developing the skills and abilities to meet their potential as well as territorial labour demand.	ECE
2.5.5	We will implement programs that support youth in their communities and in their schools to encourage local food production and consumption.	ITI
3.1.1	<p>We will continue to implement northern solutions for northern housing by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◊ Working in partnership with other orders of government to address affordable housing requirements in support of their service delivery to NWT residents</li> <li>◊ Developing program approaches such as Housing First to address high demand for single person households, including those that are homeless</li> <li>◊ Reviewing the GNWT's homelessness supports and implementing recommendations that improve policy and program consistency between departments</li> <li>◊ Implementing community based housing property management services in rural and remote communities to improve service levels</li> <li>◊ Developing options for rationalizing public housing utility pricing structures to promote self-reliance</li> <li>◊ Demolishing vacant housing units that are beyond their useful life in order to support land requirements for new housing investment</li> <li>◊ Developing options to support Aboriginal and local governments in their housing aspirations and initiatives to address homelessness</li> </ul>	NWTHC
3.1.2	We will support community-based planning to help make land available for the construction of affordable housing and to support community governments in dealing with derelict properties in their community.	MACA
3.2.1	We will develop and implement a multi-year management strategy for barren-ground caribou in the Northwest Territories.	ENR
3.2.2	We will develop a range plan for boreal caribou in the Northwest Territories.	ENR
3.2.3	We will develop species-specific wildlife management strategies for wood bison, muskox, and moose.	ENR
3.2.4	We will develop country food programming to promote opportunities for the consumption of foods such as fish, wildlife, berries, and mushrooms.	ENR
3.2.5	We will finalize and implement the Commercial Fisheries Revitalization Strategy to increase fish production, encourage and mentor new entrants to the Great Slave Lake fishery, negotiate an agreement with the Fresh Water Fish Marketing Corporation to access markets outside of NWT, seek federal funding to build a new fish processing plant in Hay River, and work with the Tu Cho Co-operative to promote and market fish caught in Great Slave Lake.	ITI
3.2.6	We will develop an Agriculture Strategy to increase domestic food production, improve distribution networks for NWT-produced foods, and to increase producer and supplier opportunities.	ITI



Reference#	Commitment	Departmental Lead
3.3.1	We will provide incentives for residents to invest in energy efficient products, help businesses, condominiums and co-operatives make investments in energy conservation and energy efficiency, support residents and communities so they can make investments into renewable energies such as solar, and improve the energy efficiency of public housing.	PWS
3.3.2	We will create a new three-year energy action plan, building on previous investments made over the past three years and the outcomes of the energy plan review.	PWS
3.3.3	We commit to assisting community governments as they innovate to address energy efficiency and conservation, address climate change by supporting the development of community government capital plans and asset planning, and ensure training recognizes the challenges of climate change.	MACA
3.4.1	We will develop a territorial climate change strategy that takes into account northern energy demands and the cost of living, while reflecting international and national commitments to lower greenhouse gas emissions, exploring options for carbon pricing systems, and capturing local alternatives such as hydro, biomass, wind, geothermal and solar.	ENR
3.4.2	We will continue to investigate and implement renewable and alternative energy solutions to replace the use of imported diesel fuel for power generation in the Thermal Zone and reduce the use of diesel fuel for heating in all regions, including looking at the feasibility of wind energy, solar generation, geothermal and biomass energy initiatives.	PWS
3.4.3	We will continue to explore the potential for the development of hydroelectric power and transmission lines, as well as the development of wind and solar energies to displace diesel generation while diversifying the NWT economy.	PWS
3.4.4	We will better use our existing hydroelectric resources by exploring options to respond to low water in the North Slave hydroelectric power system, improve hydro system water monitoring and reservoir management, and find ways to make use of surplus Taltson hydroelectric power in the South Slave region and beyond.	PWS
3.4.5	We will work with our partners in the federation and in the territory to implement a Canadian Energy Strategy, by participating in intergovernmental working groups on energy efficiency, energy delivery, technology and innovation, and transitioning our country towards a lower-carbon economy.	PWS
3.4.6	We will participate in the pan-Canadian Task Force on Reducing Diesel in Off-Grid Communities.	PWS
3.5.1	In collaboration with our partners in Yukon and Nunavut, we will work with the Government of Canada to increase the federal Northern Resident's Tax Deduction by at least 33 per cent, indexed to inflation.	DAAIR/ FIN
3.5.2	We will capture opportunities for investment in transportation infrastructure by working to secure funding to advance the Mackenzie Valley Highway, make an all-weather road from Highway 3 to Whatì, and improve access into the Slave Geologic Province.	DOT
3.5.3	We will strengthen connections with private sector partners in transportation infrastructure, such as encouraging CN Rail to continue improving the rail line to Hay River to serve resupply needs and expand the system in accordance with demand.	DOT

Reference#	Commitment	Departmental Lead
3.5.4	We will strengthen connections with public sector partners in transportation infrastructure, such as encouraging the Fisheries and Oceans Canada to maintain federal community resupply port facilities and marine services in the NWT, to restore safe marine operating conditions in the Port of Hay River and at key sections of the Mackenzie River Corridor, and to improve charting and navigational aids.	DOT
3.5.5	We will leverage available funding through the New Building Canada Plan to invest in community public infrastructure.	MACA
3.5.6	In collaboration with our partners in Yukon and Nunavut, we will work with the Government of Canada to increase federal investment in Nutrition North by at least \$40 million over four years and seek improvements to the transparency, accountability and effectiveness of the overall federal program.	DAAIR
3.5.7	We will participate in all Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) proceedings that effect the north to ensure competitive and affordable broadband and telecommunication services for NWT residents.	FIN
3.6.1	We will implement the Right from the Start framework to invest in early childhood development by:	ECE
	◊ Working with stakeholders and communities to ensure the territory has free play-based care for 4-year olds	
	◊ Revising the funding support model for licensed early childhood programs	
	◊ Strengthening licensed early childhood programs through improving resource materials and increased training for early childhood workers.	
3.6.2	We will develop options for universal day care and changes to support overall affordability, ensuring sustainability for early childhood program operators and expanded access to early childhood programs across the territory.	ECE
4.1.1	To enhance access to culturally-appropriate programs and services, we will develop a comprehensive mental health and addictions framework that:	HSS
	◊ Prioritizes improvements to outpatient mental health services, with a particular focus on youth mental health services in schools and the broader community	
	◊ Addresses gaps in integrated community-based services	
	◊ Evaluates our land-based addictions healing programs	
	◊ Models a mobile addictions treatment team	
	◊ Enhances treatment options at local and regional levels, including aftercare	
◊ Compiles baseline data so that government can be better held to account for the performance of mental health and addictions services.		
4.1.2	Taking into account mental health and addictions, we will look at innovative ways to prevent and reduce crime such as integrated case management, wellness courts, domestic violence treatment options courts, and culturally appropriate correctional programs.	DOJ

Reference#	Commitment	Departmental Lead
4.2.1	We will support elders to live in their own homes for as long as possible and ensure adequate supports are available for those who can no longer do so, by:	HSS
	◊ Completing a review of existing programs in order to project, over a 20-year period, policy and financial needs	HSS
	◊ Developing updated capital projections for long-term care and dementia beds	HSS
	◊ Developing financing options for long-term care facilities	HSS
	◊ Proposing a regulatory framework for long-term care	HSS
	◊ Developing an action plan for enhanced home and community care services	HSS
	◊ Developing an action plan for expanded palliative care services	HSS
	◊ Building more Seniors' Supported Independent Living units	NWTHC
	◊ Marketing preventative maintenance, renovation and mobility upgrades to assist seniors to age in place.	NWTHC
4.3.1	We will continue implementing the Building Stronger Families action plan to transform child and family services by:	HSS
	◊ Auditing to ensure compliance with the <i>Child and Family Services Act</i>	
	◊ Implementing a standardized approach to assessing children's immediate safety needs and future risk of harm	
	◊ Developing caseload and workload measures for child protection in order to monitor and track the resources that are required to ensure compliance with the <i>Child and Family Services Act</i>	
	◊ Reviewing the standards and delivery methods of the Healthy Family Program to determine whether there are more effective ways to reach families-at-risk.	
4.3.2	We will explore options for expanding beyond Yellowknife, the Mediation and Parenting after Separation and Divorce Program.	DOJ
4.3.3	We will continue to support at-risk children and families through preventative and collaborative approaches, including:	HSS
	◊ Introducing a risk assessment tool to enable child protection workers to support families more effectively	
	◊ Ensuring services for children in care focus not just on safety, but also on stability and child development	
	◊ Improving the coordination, delivery and effectiveness of family services through an integrated care model	
	◊ Improving system supports for Aboriginal children and families including improving the cultural competence of service providers.	

Reference#	Commitment	Departmental Lead
<b>4.3.4</b>	We will continue implementing Right from the Start to improve early childhood development, by:	<b>ECE/HSS</b>
	◊ Working with stakeholders and communities to ensure the territory has free play-based care for 4-year olds	<b>ECE</b>
	◊ Revising the funding support model for licensed early childhood programs	<b>ECE</b>
	◊ Strengthening licensed early childhood programs through improving resource materials and increased training for early childhood workers	<b>ECE</b>
	◊ Improving oral health and developmental outcomes for children aged 0-5	<b>HSS</b>
	◊ Developing options to enhance access to birthing services and pre- and post-natal care, including development of a territorial midwifery model	<b>HSS</b>
	◊ Reviewing the standards and delivery methods of the Healthy Family Program to determine whether there are more effective ways to reach families-at-risk	<b>HSS</b>
	◊ Enhancing access to early intervention services for children 0-5	<b>HSS</b>
	◊ Supporting community wellness initiatives with early childhood development funding and subject matter expertise	<b>HSS</b>
	◊ Supporting community wellness priorities that address the pillars of the Anti-Poverty Strategic Framework, and aim to reduce the effects of poverty on children.	<b>HSS</b>
<b>4.3.5</b>	We will reduce the burden of chronic disease by promoting healthy lifestyles and improving screening and management, with specific focus on:	<b>HSS</b>
	◊ Promoting healthy eating in NWT communities through a variety of programs including Healthy Family Collective Kitchens and Drop the Pop	
	◊ Hosting Healthy Living Fairs in communities	
	◊ Increasing awareness and availability of smoking cessation aids	
	◊ Standardizing access to cancer screening across the NWT	
	◊ Developing improved supports for patients and families battling cancer	
	◊ Giving health care providers tools and training to support patients and families in the management of chronic disease such as diabetes	
	◊ Developing and proposing updated tobacco control legislation	
	◊ Expanding the production and availability of local foods such as fish, country food, and garden produce.	
<b>4.3.6</b>	We will continue integration of the health and social services system to improve care for our people, by clarifying timelines, appointing people to Regional Wellness Councils and the NWT Health and Social Services Leadership Council, finalizing roles and responsibilities, and ensure seamless service delivery for all residents during the transition.	<b>HSS</b>
<b>4.3.7</b>	We will continue to work collaboratively to eliminate poverty in the NWT by funding community-based partners, convening meetings of stakeholders, finalizing indicators that allow performance to be assessed, and developing additional options for action.	<b>HSS</b>

Reference#	Commitment	Departmental Lead
4.3.8	We will ensure effective supports and programs are in place for persons with disabilities by preparing an accessible inventory of the GNWT supports systems that already exist, and then by responding to previous evaluations of government supports.	HSS
4.3.9	We will promote the national physical activity strategy for all residents to improve health and fitness.	MACA
4.3.10	We will finalize a strategic plan to enhance existing programming and build new partnership initiatives to support healthy and sustainable traditional lifestyles.	ENR
4.3.11	We will promote volunteerism by ensuring effective programming such as the Volunteer Development Fund, Outstanding Volunteer Awards, NGO Stabilization Fund, and the Community Volunteer Recognition Program.	MACA
4.4.1	We will strengthen initiatives and partnerships to prevent and reduce family violence by:	HSS/DOJ
	◊ Examining the feasibility of expanding the Domestic Violence Treatment Options Court beyond Yellowknife and Hay River	DOJ
	◊ Providing training, public information and outreach on the protections provided under the Protection Against <i>Family Violence Act</i>	DOJ
	◊ Supporting five family violence shelters across the NWT, including support for the overall capacity of the people who work in these shelters	HSS
	◊ Providing funding to develop family violence protocols and response teams in regions with no shelters	HSS
	◊ Supporting programming for children who have witnessed violence	HSS
4.4.2	Continuing to implement 'What Will it Take?', the social marketing campaign on family violence.	HSS
	We will support the RCMP and communities in their efforts to strengthen partnerships to prevent and respond to violence by supporting the development of policing action plans in each community in accordance with each community's priorities.	DOJ
4.4.3	We will seek to improve access to justice in the NWT, by expanding community legal outreach programs, making family law duty counsel services available to assist self-represented family members on first appearance in family court, and expanding public education on programs and services so that people know what help is out there and how to access it.	DOJ
4.4.4	We will improve our social response to crime reduction by examining and analyzing social indicators, conducting research on what works to reduce crime, and identifying any gaps in territorial programming.	DOJ
4.4.5	We will implement the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that fall within the jurisdiction of the territorial government, especially related to violence against indigenous women and girls.	DAAIR
4.4.6	We will support and participate in a National Round Table and National Inquiry into Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women in collaboration with families, Aboriginal governments, the federal government, and other organizations.	DAAIR

Reference#	Commitment	Departmental Lead
4.5.1	We will support the RCMP and communities in their efforts to develop policing action plans in each community that reflect local priorities, including issues relating to youth.	DOJ
4.5.2	We will implement the Youth Resiliency program in schools and during after school programs to improve student outcomes and lower overall dropout rates.	ECE/ MACA
4.5.3	We will support opportunities for youth by ensuring effective programming such as the Youth Corps, Youth Contributors, Youth Ambassador Programs, Youth Centres, Youth Tours, and Children and Youth Resiliency Program.	MACA
5.1.1	Consistent with the policy of Respect, Recognition & Responsibility, we will invite any regional or community Aboriginal governments that are not yet a party to one, to strengthen their intergovernmental relations with the GNWT through the negotiation of an intergovernmental memorandum-of-understanding.	DAAIR
5.1.2	We will consult with Aboriginal governments to complete the next phase of regulation making under the <i>Wildlife Act</i> .	ENR
5.1.3	We will work in partnership with Aboriginal governments to explore the design and launch of a training program for First Nations governments with municipal-like responsibilities in order to help improve the governance and management capacity of those governments.	MACA
5.1.4	We will work to resolve outstanding land, resource and self-government agreements with the Akaitcho, Dehcho, NWT Metis Nation, Acho Dene Koe and the Government of Canada during the term of our government, and advocate that particular focus in our negotiations be placed on land quantum.	DAAIR
5.1.5	We will provide funding to Aboriginal community governments and work with communities to develop wellness plans that meet local needs and priorities.	HSS
5.1.6	We will implement the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that fall within the jurisdiction of the territorial government.	DAAIR
5.1.7	We will continue to support the Intergovernmental Council towards implementation of the vision of cooperative and collaborative management of lands and resources, as set out in the Lands and Resources Devolution Agreement.	DAAIR
5.2.1	We will seek to establish a joint committee between Cabinet Ministers and Regular Members to share information and discuss approaches on the advancement of land, resource, and self-government agreements as well as initiatives to enhance relationships with Aboriginal governments.	DAAIR
5.2.2	We will negotiate with Yukon, Nunavut, and Saskatchewan towards the completion of transboundary water agreements.	ENR
5.2.3	We will work with Aboriginal governments to jointly develop their human resource capacity, for example by finalizing and evaluating the existing pilot project with the Gwich'in Tribal Council.	DAAIR
5.2.4	We will pursue an agreement with the federal government on the management of offshore resources.	DAAIR/ ITI
5.2.5	We will work to improve the NWT integrated resource management regime to ensure the regime reflects NWT interests and priorities.	Lands

Reference#	Commitment	Departmental Lead
5.3.1	We will improve access to information and the protection of privacy by:	DOJ
	◊ Developing and proposing amendments to the <i>Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (ATIPP Act)</i>	DOJ
	◊ Creating a GNWT privacy framework and management programs, so that the privacy protections in the <i>ATIPP Act</i> are administered consistently and fairly	DOJ
	◊ Ensuring online training is available on access to information and protection of privacy requirements for GNWT employees as well as employees of territorial public bodies	DOJ
	◊ Continuing to safeguard and improve the security and integrity of the information entrusted to government on behalf of residents, businesses and visitors.	FIN
5.3.2	We will implement the government's new <i>Financial Administration Act</i> in order to improve government-wide planning and accountability, and overall fiscal responsibility.	FIN
5.3.3	We will improve collaboration for easier access to government programs and services online, including by:	FIN
	◊ Aligning territorial approaches with pan-Canadian efforts to establish and use digital identities for online government	
	◊ Creating a single integrated online portal for residents and businesses to securely transact with government	
	◊ Increasing online accessibility to driver and motor vehicle services as well as commercial permitting services	
	◊ Participating in national surveys to assess both resident and business satisfaction with government service delivery.	
5.3.4	We will maximize citizens' ability to access government by using consistent approaches to social media, visual identity, and overall communications.	EXEC
5.3.5	We will establish an Open Government Policy to enhance civic participation, increase the availability and accessibility of information about government activities, and explore new technologies for openness and accountability.	EXEC
5.3.6	We will improve public visibility and accessibility of Cabinet by organizing Cabinet meetings in each region of the NWT, holding selected Committee-of-Cabinet meetings in public, and meeting with standing committees in public more frequently.	EXEC
5.3.7	We will improve opportunities for meaningful public input into government decision making by improving access to government public engagement initiatives and reporting on how public views have shaped government decisions.	EXEC
5.3.8	We will enhance collaboration between Cabinet and Regular Members by exploring more options to formally work together, and strengthening processes for consistently sharing and tracking information provided to standing committees.	EXEC
5.3.9	We will do a better job of making our residents aware of the mechanisms available to appeal government decisions.	EXEC

Reference#	Commitment	Departmental Lead
5.3.10	We will do a better job of making our residents, particularly those in smaller communities, aware of available government programs and services, and how to access them, through Single Window Service Centres and our Government Service Officers.	EXEC
5.4.1	We will support the RCMP and communities in their efforts to strengthen partnerships to prevent and respond to violence by supporting the development of policing action plans in each community in according with each community's priorities.	DOJ
5.4.2	We will take further action to monitor drinking water quality as well as support community-based water monitoring programs.	MACA/ ENR
5.4.3	We will finalize community wildland fire protection plans, and develop and propose amendments to modernize forest protection legislation.	ENR
5.4.4	We will continue to pursue new federal funding for the enhancement of community government infrastructure, and implement the asset management framework through the Gas Tax Agreement to ensure that all community infrastructure lifespan is extended and new infrastructure is delivered in a manner that takes into account new building technologies that assist in climate change adaptation and energy efficiencies.	MACA
5.4.5	We will develop a strategy to close the gap in funding levels to meet municipal core needs.	MACA
5.4.6	We will install remote water monitoring stations in five additional communities and build three additional water treatment plants.	ENR/ MACA
5.4.7	We will work with stakeholders to develop and propose amendments to modernize the <i>Civil Emergency Measures Act</i> and to revitalize the Territorial Emergency Response Plan.	MACA
5.4.8	We will develop and propose amendments to the <i>Fire Prevention Act</i> , and work with stakeholders to identify priorities for Community Fire Protection Plans.	MACA
5.4.9	We will assist community governments with technical assistance in identifying energy efficiency improvements for community government buildings and taking action to improve energy efficiency.	MACA
5.5.1	We will support the delivery of workshops that help to get women into politics.	DAAIR
5.5.2	We will support a communications campaign to promote women in politics.	DAAIR
5.5.3	We will enhance gender equity in the appointment of residents to territorial boards and agencies, to further develop women's leadership experience and exposure to governance.	EXEC



# Appendix B

## Legislative Initiatives Identified in the Mandate of the Executive Council

The following legislative initiatives have been identified in the mandate for introduction and passage in the 18th Legislative Assembly to support the government in achieving its objectives under the mandate. This list is not reflective of the entire legislative agenda for the 18th Assembly. Moreover, legislation is only one tool of government used to accomplish its mandate.

- *Mineral Resources Act*
- *NWT Lands Act*
- *Commissioner's Land Act*
- *Territorial Parks Act*
- *Petroleum Resources Act*
- *Oil and Gas Act*
- *Waters Act*
- *Environmental Protection Act*
- *Forest Management Act*
- *Tobacco Control legislation*
- *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy (ATIPP) Act*
- *Civil Emergency Measures Act*
- *Fire Prevention Act*

