

February 2020 – January 2021

Février 2020 – Janvier 2021



2019-2023 Mandate of the Government of the Northwest Territories Annual Status Report

Rapport d'étape annuel Mandat 2019-2023 du gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest





Table of Contents

Message from the Premier / Message de la première ministre	4 / 5
Executive Summary	6
Summary of Major Accomplishments	6
Summary of Major Objectives Forecast for 2021.....	8
Sommaire	10
Résumé des principales réalisations	10
Résumé des principaux objectifs établis pour 2021	12
Comprehensive Status Reporting Tables	15
Increase the number of affordable homes and reduce core housing need.....	16
Settle and implement treaty, land, resources, and self-government agreements.....	18
Implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples	20
Increase regional decision-making authority.....	22
Reduce the municipal funding gap.....	24
Strengthen the government’s leadership and authority on climate change	26
Ensure climate change impacts are specifically considered when making government decisions.....	28
Increase employment in small communities	30
Make strategic infrastructure investments that connect communities, expand the economy, or reduce the cost of living, including the Mackenzie Valley Highway, the Slave Geological Province Corridor, and the Taltson Hydro Project	32
Increase economic diversification by supporting growth in non-extractive sectors and setting regional diversification targets.....	36
Increase resource exploration and development	38
Reduce the cost of power and increase the use of alternative and renewable energy	40
Ensure government procurement and contracting maximizes benefits to residents and businesses	42
Adopt a benefit retention approach to economic development	44
Improve early childhood development indicators for all children	46
Advance universal childcare by increasing availability and affordability.....	48
Increase student education outcomes to the same level as the rest of Canada	50
Enable seniors to age in place with dignity.....	52
Increase food security through locally produced, harvested, and affordable food	54
Increase the number and variety of culturally-respectful, community-based mental health and addictions programs, including aftercare	56
Increase the number of resident health care professionals by at least 20 percent.....	60
Create a polytechnic university	62

Message from the Premier



One year after the *Mandate of the Government of the Northwest Territories, 2019-2023* was tabled in the Legislative Assembly, I am pleased to present the first annual status report on our government's actions and results to date on the Mandate.

The Government of the Northwest Territories' Mandate was developed based on the 22 priorities established by the 19th Legislative Assembly at the beginning of its term. Flowing from these priorities is a series of commitments and actions our government has set out to advance the priorities by 2023. The Mandate also contains timelines and performance measures that allow us to track and report on our successes and challenges.

Shortly after the Mandate was first tabled, the territory began to experience the profound and unprecedented impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. For several months, large segments of the public service were focused almost exclusively on working on our pandemic response. This led us to explore how, or if, we should continue with the commitments articulated in the Mandate.

In May 2020 and again in September 2020, I asked Ministers to undertake an internal assessment to determine whether our commitments could still be fulfilled by the end of the term. I am pleased to report that consistent with those reports, this status report indicates that despite some delays initially encountered as we turned our focus to the pandemic response, we expect that the majority of commitments will be achieved within the life of this Legislative Assembly, reasonably close to our original anticipated timelines.

We recognize that we will need to redouble our efforts and continue working collaboratively with our partners, including Indigenous governments, community governments, federal and interjurisdictional governments, and Members of the Legislative Assembly to continue to advance Mandate commitments. We will also continue to build relationships with non-government organizations, the private sector and residents throughout the North. Teamwork is now more important than ever, as we turn our attention from response to recovery, to rebuild and emerge stronger from the impact of the pandemic.

The sectors that have been hardest hit, such as tourism and hospitality are likely to take significant time to rebound before the targets established in 2019 can be achieved. Before the pandemic, economic growth and social development were identified as priorities for the 19th Legislative Assembly. Efforts to advance the 22 Priorities of the 19th Legislative Assembly and achieve the commitments set out in the Mandate are supportive of social and economic recovery, which will guide our government's efforts to set the Northwest Territories up to be in a position to thrive.

I hope this report provides valuable information on our government's progress toward achieving our commitments, as we continue to work together with our partners to make a difference for Northwest Territories residents.

Caroline Cochrane

Message de la première ministre

Un an après le dépôt du Mandat 2019-2023 du gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest à l'Assemblée législative, j'ai le plaisir de présenter le premier rapport annuel sur l'état d'avancement des mesures prises par notre gouvernement et sur les résultats obtenus jusqu'à présent dans le cadre de notre mandat.

Le Mandat du gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest a été élaboré d'après les 22 priorités établies par les membres de la 19^e Assemblée législative au début de leurs fonctions. Ces priorités donnent lieu à une série d'engagements et de mesures que notre gouvernement a pris pour faire progresser les priorités établies jusqu'en 2023. Le mandat comprend également des échéanciers et des mesures du rendement qui nous permettent de suivre nos progrès et de rendre des comptes sur nos réussites et sur les défis rencontrés.

Peu après le dépôt initial du mandat, le territoire a été confronté aux répercussions profondes et sans précédent de la pandémie de COVID-19. Pendant plusieurs mois, l'attention d'un grand nombre de secteurs de la fonction publique a été portée presque exclusivement sur la préparation de notre intervention contre la pandémie. Cette situation nous a menés à examiner comment nous devrions garder le cap sur les engagements énoncés dans le mandat, ou si nous allons garder ce cap.

En mai 2020, puis en septembre 2020, j'ai demandé aux ministres de procéder à une évaluation interne afin de déterminer si nous pourrions encore nous acquitter de nos engagements d'ici la fin du mandat. Je suis heureuse d'annoncer que le présent rapport d'étape indique qu'en dépit de certains retards initialement constatés alors que nous portions notre attention sur la réponse à la pandémie, nous nous attendons à ce que la plupart de nos engagements soient respectés pendant la durée de la présente Assemblée législative, avec des échéanciers sensiblement près de ceux prévus initialement.

Nous reconnaissons que nous devons redoubler d'efforts et que nous devons maintenir la collaboration avec nos partenaires, notamment les gouvernements autochtones, les administrations communautaires, les gouvernements fédéral et intergouvernementaux et les députés de l'Assemblée législative, afin de continuer à faire progresser les engagements pris dans le mandat. Nous continuerons également d'établir des relations avec les organisations non gouvernementales, le secteur privé et les résidents du Nord. Le travail d'équipe n'a jamais été aussi important qu'il l'est aujourd'hui, maintenant que notre attention passe de l'intervention au rétablissement, si nous souhaitons ressortir plus forts à la suite des répercussions de la pandémie.

Il faudra probablement un certain temps avant que les secteurs les plus durement touchés, comme le tourisme et l'hôtellerie, se rétablissent avant l'atteinte des objectifs fixés en 2019. Avant la pandémie, la croissance économique et le développement social étaient des priorités pour la 19^e Assemblée législative. Les efforts visant à faire progresser les 22 priorités de la 19^e Assemblée législative et à respecter les engagements énoncés dans le mandat appuient le rétablissement social et économique, qui orientera les efforts de notre gouvernement pour mettre les Territoires du Nord-Ouest en position de prospérer.

J'espère que ce rapport fournira des renseignements précieux sur les progrès accomplis par notre gouvernement dans la réalisation de nos engagements, à mesure que nous continuons de travailler de concert avec nos partenaires pour faire progresser les choses aux Territoires du Nord-Ouest.

Caroline Cochrane

Executive Summary

On February 7, 2020, the Premier of the Northwest Territories (NWT) tabled the *Mandate of the Government of the Northwest Territories 2019-2023* (the Mandate) in the Legislative Assembly.

The Mandate is a reflection of the 22 priorities established by the 19th Legislative Assembly at the beginning of its term. Flowing from these priorities is a series of commitments the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) has made to advance these priorities. As a measure of accountability, the GNWT is required by the *Process Convention on Priority Setting and Reporting* to provide a public report on progress made to implement the Mandate on an annual basis. This reporting provides an important tool for measuring progress and holding the government accountable to the Legislative Assembly and all residents of the Northwest Territories.

This report includes a summary of the government's major accomplishments over the past year, and a summary of major objectives forecast for the coming year. It includes comprehensive tables reporting the status of the commitments, actions, timelines and performance measures outlined in the Mandate, as well as further detail on the progress that has been made to date, and/or any challenges faced in advancing the work. As this report is a reflection of the first year of progress made on a four-year Mandate, most of the actions are in progress and a number are still in planning stages, while a small number are experiencing delays related to the pandemic or other developments.

The GNWT will continue to further its efforts toward social and economic recovery from the pandemic as we advance the Priorities of the 19th Legislative Assembly, and will continue to report annually on progress in implementing our government's Mandate.

Summary of Major Accomplishments

Since the Mandate was tabled in February 2020, the GNWT has made significant progress in a number of areas, including, but not limited to, strengthening relationships with Indigenous governments, providing improved social supports, making progress on the Aurora College transformation, and implementing efforts to sustain our economy as we weather the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Below are some highlights:

Strengthening Relationships with Indigenous Governments and Organizations:

- The success of our Mandate is heavily reliant on strong partnerships and meaningful engagement, particularly with our Indigenous partners. Over the past year, we have made progress toward settling outstanding land claim and self-government agreements.
- The Legislative Assembly established the Special Committee on Reconciliation and Indigenous Affairs.
- We continue to strive to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- Work continues with Indigenous governments to deliver On-the-Land Healing Programs for mental wellness and addictions recovery.
- Funding was enhanced to support Indigenous governments to deliver mobile addictions treatment, family-based treatment and aftercare programming.

Providing Improved Social Supports:

- We have made policy changes to better assist low income seniors and persons with disabilities to address home repairs.
- An interdepartmental Integrated Service Delivery (ISD) committee was established to better coordinate services for children and their families. The ISD initiative that is underway should help further these efforts by creating system-level change to the way services are delivered across the GNWT by taking a person-centred and community driven approach.
- Work has been initiated to provide multiple training/professional development opportunities for staff in trauma-informed, culturally respectful and recovery-oriented practices.
- We have implemented a program for non-governmental organizations to fund facility repairs, address code issues and undertake retrofits to support the preservation and/or creation of new childcare spaces.

Making Progress on the Aurora College Transformation:

- The transformation of Aurora College into a polytechnic university reached important milestones with the release of the *Aurora College Transformation Implementation Plan* and three-year *Aurora College Strategic Plan* in October 2020. These important plans were developed with input from Indigenous governments and key stakeholders and will guide the transformation process.
- The Aurora College Transformation website is in place for residents to follow progress and to learn more about what to expect when the polytechnic university launches in 2025.

Implementing efforts to sustain our economy and the environment:

- The GNWT secured funding for the 2020-21 delivery of the Mining Incentive Program.
- We are continuing to advance major infrastructure projects and integrate climate change factors into GNWT decision-making.



Summary of Major Objectives Forecast for 2021

Despite the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, meaningful progress continues to be made on the GNWT's Mandate commitments. We will build on our early successes and continue to deliver on our Mandate and focus on economic and social recovery from the impacts of the pandemic.

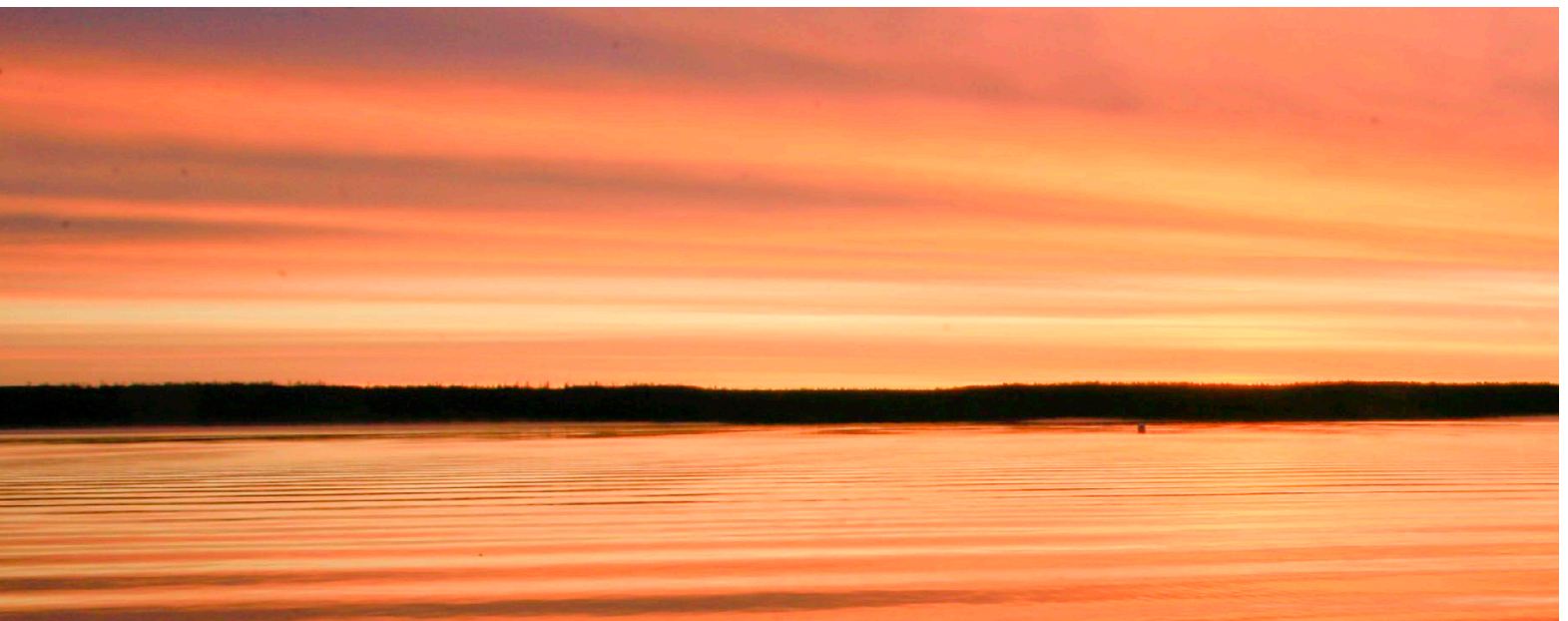
Some of the actions and milestones we are expecting to achieve in the areas of governance and relationships with Indigenous governments, improved social supports, efforts to sustain our economy and the environment, and address our infrastructure needs during the next reporting period, from February 2021 to January 2022, include:

Strengthening Governance and Relationships with Indigenous Governments and Organizations:

- Conclude two Aboriginal rights agreements.
- Complete a draft process guide for the transfer of lands within municipal boundaries for Yellowknife.

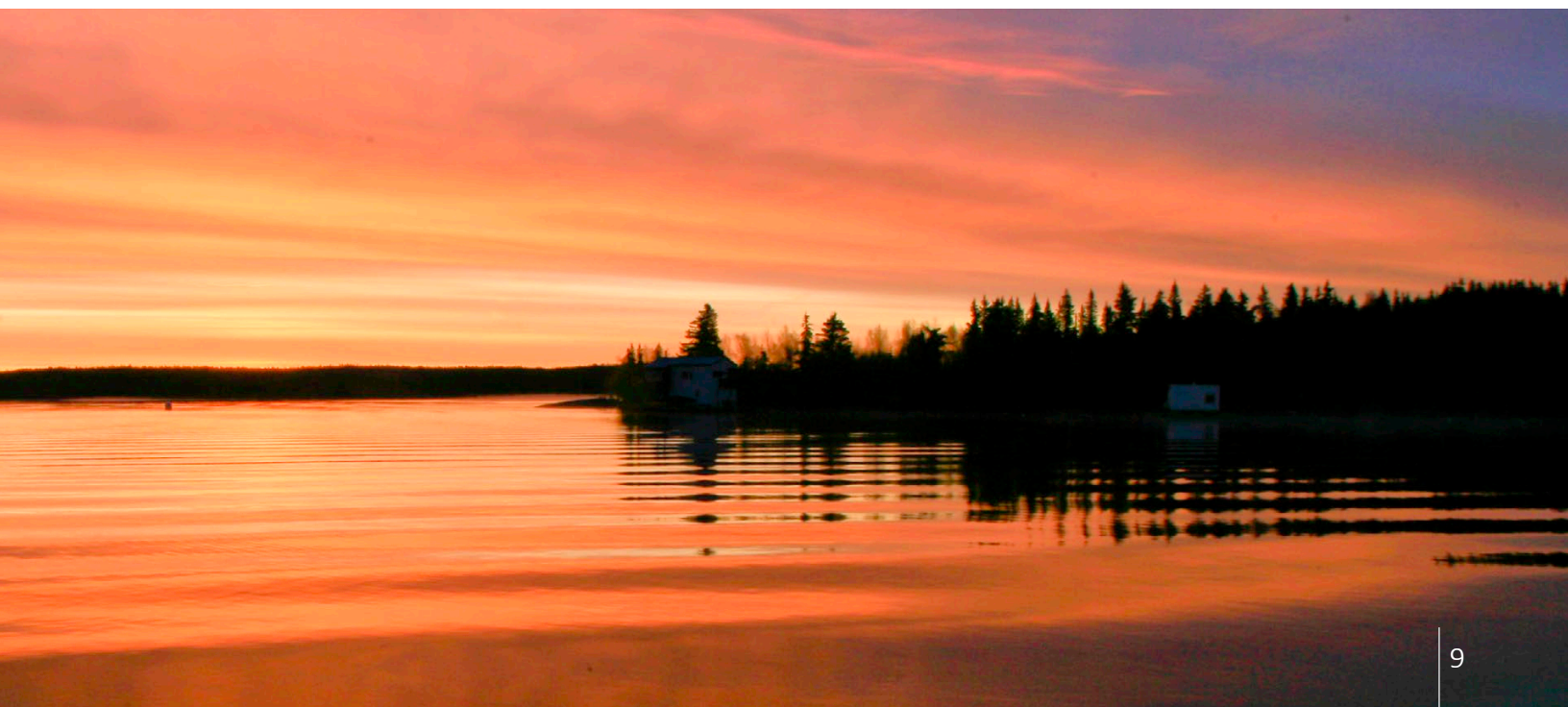
Providing Improved Social Supports:

- Implement policy revisions to allow appropriate home business opportunities within NWT Housing Corporation units.
- Finalize a made-in-the-North curriculum for the Healthy Family Program.
- Provide greater support to parents of young children by developing a single window for grants that promote parenting and early childhood development.
- Finalize the structure and process design of a dedicated health and social services recruitment team for the NWT, and complete a 3-year HSS System HR Plan to identify labour force needs and recruitment and retention strategies.



Implementing Efforts to Sustain our Economy and Environment:

- Sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Indigenous government partners on the Taltson Project and complete the Business Case.
- Submit a comprehensive project proposal for federal funding to replace the Frank Channel Bridge.
- Establish Regional Economic Development Plans.
- Engage with stakeholders and the public to develop a Knowledge Economy Action Plan.
- Establish and develop a Terms of Reference for the NWT Climate Change Council, including Indigenous governments and organizations, community governments, and other external partners.
- Issue a Pan-Northern Leaders' Climate Change Statement, prepared and endorsed by the three territories' Premiers as well as Indigenous governments, calling for the importance of adequate, flexible federal support to address climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts in the North.
- Submit regulatory application for the Hay River to Fort Providence transmission line and the federal funding application for the Whatì transmission line.
- Progress toward construction of the Fort Simpson liquefied natural gas power plant.
- Complete public and stakeholder engagement and develop recommendations for the Procurement Review.
- Develop an online 'one-stop-shop' for vendors to do business with the GNWT.
- Engage with stakeholders to develop recommendations addressing mineral royalties, taxes, and direct and indirect economic returns from the mining fiscal regime.
- Develop a pre-feasibility economic analysis to export Mackenzie Delta natural gas to Asia.



Sommaire

Le 7 février 2021, la première ministre des Territoires du Nord-Ouest a déposé Mandat 2019-2023 du gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest à l'Assemblée législative.

Le mandat définit les 22 priorités qui ont été établies par la 19^e Assemblée législative à ses débuts. Le gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest (GTNO) a mis en place une série d'engagements pour faire avancer ces priorités. Conformément à la Convention sur le processus d'établissement des priorités et des rapports, le GTNO doit présenter, comme mesure de reddition de compte, un rapport public annuel sur la réalisation du mandat. Ce rapport constitue un outil important pour évaluer les progrès effectués et obliger le gouvernement à rendre des comptes à l'Assemblée législative et aux résidents des Territoires du Nord-Ouest.

Ce rapport fait état des réalisations du GTNO mené à bien au cours de la dernière année et des principaux objectifs à mettre en œuvre pour l'année à venir. L'annexe contient un tableau détaillé affichant l'état d'avancement des engagements et des mesures à mettre en place ainsi que des échéanciers et des indicateurs de rendement à respecter énoncés dans le mandat. Ces questions sont accompagnées d'une explication détaillée de leur évolution ou des difficultés rencontrées pour les réaliser. Étant donné que ce rapport souligne les progrès accomplis au cours de la première année (d'un mandat de quatre ans), la majorité des mesures sont en cours de réalisation, plusieurs sont en cours de planification et un petit nombre ont subi des retards en raison de la pandémie ou d'autres circonstances.

Tout au long de la mise en œuvre des priorités de la 19^e Assemblée législative, le GTNO poursuivra ses efforts pour relancer l'économie et améliorer la situation sociale des TNO après la pandémie et continuera de produire des rapports annuels sur la réalisation de son mandat.

Résumé des principales réalisations

Depuis le dépôt du mandat, en février 2020, le GTNO a réalisé d'importants progrès dans plusieurs domaines, notamment le renforcement des relations avec les gouvernements autochtones, l'amélioration des mécanismes de soutien social, la transformation du Collège Aurora et la mise en œuvre d'efforts pour soutenir l'économie territoriale alors que la pandémie de COVID-19 sévit.

Voici quelques faits saillants.

Renforcer les relations avec les gouvernements et les organisations autochtones

- La réussite de notre mandat repose en grande partie sur des partenariats solides et un engagement concret, en particulier avec nos partenaires autochtones. Au cours de la dernière année, nous avons progressé dans le règlement des revendications territoriales et des accords d'autonomie gouvernementale en suspens.
- L'Assemblée législative a créé le Comité spécial sur la réconciliation et les affaires autochtones.
- Nous poursuivons les efforts concernant la mise en œuvre la Déclaration des Nations unies sur les droits des peuples autochtones.
- La collaboration se poursuit avec les gouvernements autochtones afin d'offrir des programmes de guérison dans la nature qui favorisent le bien-être mental et la guérison des dépendances.
- Les budgets ont été augmentés pour aider les gouvernements autochtones à offrir des programmes mobiles de traitement des dépendances, de traitement en milieu familial et de suivi.

Fournir de meilleurs services de soutien social

- Nous avons procédé à des changements stratégiques afin de mieux aider les personnes âgées à faible revenu et les personnes handicapées à effectuer des réparations à domicile.
- Un comité interministériel de prestation de services intégrés (PSI) a été créé pour mieux coordonner les services destinés aux enfants et à leurs familles. L'initiative de PSI en cours devrait contribuer à faire avancer les choses en modifiant, au niveau du système, le mode de prestation des services dans l'ensemble du GTNO grâce à l'adoption d'une approche centrée sur la personne et la communauté. Des travaux ont été entrepris pour offrir de multiples possibilités de formation et de perfectionnement professionnel au personnel en ce qui concerne les pratiques respectueuses de la culture, axées sur le rétablissement et tenant compte des traumatismes.
- Nous avons mis en place un programme pour les organisations non gouvernementales dont l'objectif est de financer la réparation des installations, de régler les problèmes liés aux codes et d'entreprendre des rénovations pour soutenir la préservation des places en garderie ou la création de nouvelles.

Progresser dans la transformation du Collège Aurora

- La transformation du Collège Aurora en un établissement universitaire polytechnique a franchi des étapes importantes avec la publication, en octobre 2020, du Plan de mise en œuvre de la transformation du Collège Aurora et du Plan stratégique triennal du Collège Aurora. Ces plans importants, qui ont été élaborés avec la contribution des gouvernements autochtones et des principaux intervenants, serviront à orienter le processus de transformation.
- Le site Web consacré à la transformation du Collège Aurora permet aux Téoïois de suivre les progrès réalisés et d'en savoir plus sur ce qui les attend au lancement de l'université polytechnique, en 2025.

Mettre en œuvre des efforts pour soutenir l'économie et l'environnement territoriaux

- Le GTNO a obtenu du financement pour la mise en œuvre du Programme d'encouragement aux activités minières en 2020-2021.
- Nous continuons également à faire avancer les grands projets d'infrastructure et à intégrer des facteurs liés au changement climatique dans le processus décisionnel du GTNO.



Résumé des principaux objectifs établis pour 2021

Malgré les perturbations causées par la pandémie de COVID-19, des progrès appréciables continuent d'être réalisés en ce qui concerne les engagements liés au mandat du GTNO. Forts de ce que nous avons accompli à ce jour, nous continuerons à remplir notre mandat et à nous concentrer sur la reprise économique et sociale post-pandémie.

Voici quelques-unes des démarches et des étapes que nous espérons réaliser dans les domaines de la gouvernance et des relations avec les gouvernements autochtones, de l'amélioration des mécanismes de soutien social, du soutien de notre économie et de notre environnement ainsi que de la prise en charge de nos besoins en infrastructures au cours de la prochaine période de référence, soit de février 2021 à janvier 2022.

Renforcer la gouvernance et les relations avec les gouvernements et les organisations autochtones

- Conclure deux accords sur les droits des Autochtones.
- Rédiger l'ébauche d'un guide pour le processus de transfert des terres à l'intérieur des limites de la municipalité de Yellowknife.

Fournir de meilleurs services de soutien social

- Réviser la politique afin de permettre aux gens de mener des activités d'affaires à domicile appropriées dans les unités de la Société d'habitation des TNO.
- Finaliser un programme d'études conçu dans le Nord pour le programme Familles en santé.
- Soutenir davantage les parents de jeunes enfants en mettant en place un guichet unique pour les subventions destinées à promouvoir la parentalité et le développement de la petite enfance.
- Finaliser la conception de la structure et des processus d'une équipe de recrutement spécialisée dans les services sociaux et de santé aux TNO et achever un plan de RH triennal pour le système de santé et des services sociaux afin de dresser la liste des besoins en main-d'œuvre et les stratégies de recrutement et de rétention.

Mettre en œuvre des efforts pour soutenir l'économie et l'environnement territoriaux

- Signer un protocole d'entente avec les partenaires gouvernementaux autochtones sur le projet Taltson et procéder à l'analyse de rentabilité.
- Soumettre une proposition de projet complète pour un financement fédéral afin de remplacer le pont du chenal Frank.
- Établir des plans de développement économique régional.
- Discuter avec les intervenants et le public pour élaborer un plan d'action pour l'économie du savoir.
- Créer le Conseil du changement climatique des TNO, qui regroupera les gouvernements et organismes autochtones, les administrations communautaires et d'autres partenaires externes, et élaborer un mandat pour celui-ci.
- Publier une Déclaration des leaders du Nord sur le changement climatique, préparée et approuvée par les premiers ministres des trois territoires ainsi que par les gouvernements autochtones, appelant à l'importance d'un soutien fédéral adéquat et adaptable pour s'attaquer à la question des efforts d'atténuation des effets du changement climatique dans le Nord et d'adaptation à celui-ci.
- Soumettre la demande réglementaire pour la ligne de transmission Hay River-Fort Providence et la demande de financement fédéral pour la ligne de transmission Whatì.
- Faire des progrès à l'égard de la construction de la centrale électrique au gaz naturel liquéfié de Fort Simpson.
- Terminer les consultations auprès du public et des intervenants et élaborer des recommandations pour l'Examen du processus d'approvisionnement.
- Mettre en place un « guichet unique » en ligne pour les fournisseurs qui veulent faire des affaires avec le GTNO.
- Consulter les intervenants pour élaborer des recommandations concernant les redevances minières, les taxes et les rendements économiques directs et indirects du régime fiscal minier.
- Élaborer une analyse économique de préaisabilité pour exporter le gaz naturel du delta du Mackenzie vers l'Asie.





Comprehensive Status Reporting Tables

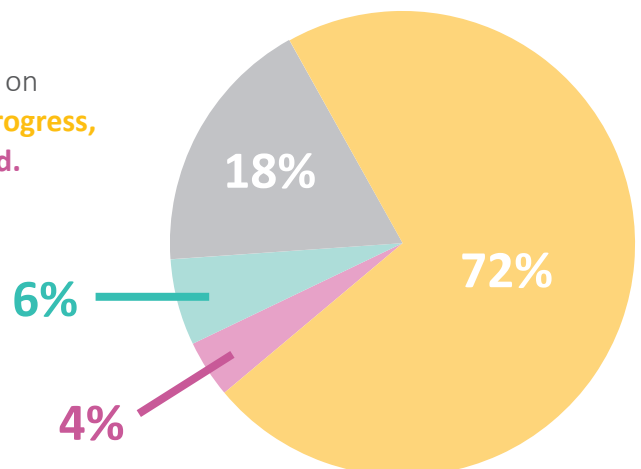
As the Mandate was tabled in February 2020, tabling an annual status report in February/March of each subsequent year provides the opportunity for the GNWT to report on the progress that has been made to advance the Legislative Assembly’s priorities and the GNWT’s commitments that year.

The following pages detail the Mandate commitment updates with input from all GNWT departments detailing actions, timelines and performance measures outlined in the Mandate. The possible status categories and explanations are as follows:

Status	Explanation
Fulfilled	Commitment or action is fully in place, or is ongoing in nature and is well on track.
In Progress	Commitment or action is on track and is expected to be fulfilled within the term of the 19 th Legislative Assembly, or progress is being made but the commitment is ongoing in nature.
In Planning	Commitment or action has not yet started.
Delayed	Commitment or action is not on track due to significant delays or issues, and there is risk that it may not be fulfilled.

The table also includes further detail on the work that has been undertaken to date, and/or any challenges the GNWT is facing in advancing the commitment or action.

The report indicates that actions included in the Mandate are well on track with **6% Fulfilled**, **72% In Progress**, **18% In Planning**, and **4% Delayed**.



Increase the number of affordable homes and reduce core housing need

To ensure the success and well-being of people and families, the number of NWT residents with adequate, affordable, and suitable housing must be increased.

What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Increase the stock of quality, energy-efficient and affordable housing, especially for vulnerable persons, by over 100 units over four years	In Progress	Work with partners, including the federal and Indigenous governments, to increase funding for housing programs	Beginning Winter 2020, ongoing annual reporting
	In Progress	Work with the private sector and Indigenous governments to improve the availability of private market and public housing options	
	Fulfilled	Address home repair barriers to assist low income seniors and disabled individuals with aging in place	Policy changes implemented Summer 2021, completed Spring 2022
	In Progress	Improve the availability of educational resources, building materials, and repair services in remote communities	Completed Winter 2021
	In Progress		Beginning Summer 2022, completed Fall 2023
	In Progress		
Transition 100 individuals and/or families to home ownership	In Progress	Increase options to sell or lease-to-own existing housing units	Winter 2020

This work will be led by the NWT Housing Corporation



How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

New funding is secured for housing programs

Partnership proposals submitted to the federal government. Supported Indigenous governments in their federal funding proposals.

An average of 25 units built per year over four years

Supported several Indigenous proponents with a total of 15 federal program applications.

Low income seniors and disabled individuals able to access housing repairs

Policy changes took effect January 2021. Changes include removing the requirement for insurance and land tenure. For senior homeowners, only senior's income is counted for program eligibility.

Educational resources for home repairs developed

Policy and procedures are being amended to provide direction to local housing organizations, including procurement of appropriate supply of emergency materials.

Building repair and building material planning completed

Residents in at least 3 remote communities better able to access local building supplies and repairs

Selection of 3 communities under consideration. Work being done to determine appropriate materials to provide and repair services to offer.

Lease-to-own policy developed and promoted
An average of 25 lease-to-own/home ownership agreements signed each year over four years

Amendments were made to the existing homeownership program. Lease-to-own arrangements have improved terms that better allow residents to purchase. Promotions of sale of public housing through program incentives. Public Housing tenants approached with homeownership opportunities. Some Northwest Territories Housing Corporation (NWT HC) units disposed of to new homeowners.

Settle and implement treaty, land, resources, and self-government agreements

Concluding agreements with our Indigenous government partners will advance reconciliation, recognize and affirm Aboriginal and treaty rights, support program and service delivery by Indigenous governments, and set the stage for further economic development in the NWT.

What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Focus on resolving outstanding issues with the use of expert facilitators and direct engagement among elected leaders	In Progress	Work with Indigenous governments to identify and resolve outstanding negotiating issues with the assistance of an independent facilitator	Ongoing
	In Progress		
	In Progress	Build stronger, more collaborative relationships with Indigenous governments through engagement and relationship building	Ongoing
Review, update, and publish territorial principles and interests to reflect the GNWT's new priorities and Mandate	In Progress	Establish internal Working Group to review principles and interests	Summer 2020
	Planning		Spring 2021
	Planning		Beginning Summer 2021
Improve accountability and oversight for Indigenous Reconciliation	Fulfilled	Establish a Special Joint Committee on Indigenous reconciliation between Cabinet members and Regular Members of the Legislative Assembly	Summer 2020
	Planning		Beginning Winter 2020 and ongoing

This work will be led by the Department of Executive and Indigenous Affairs



How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Quarterly reports provided to advisory committee

Facilitators continue to be used in negotiations regarding the southeast Northwest Territories. Continue to explore solutions to negotiations that are focused on resolving outstanding issues. Negotiations matters are standing agenda items at bilateral meetings. Regular reports on negotiations continue to be shared with Cabinet members and Regular Members of the Legislative Assembly.

Two agreements concluded

Consultation on two draft final agreements currently in progress; anticipated to be completed in early 2021.

Increase in meetings and more collaboration expressed in reporting

Many Implementation Committees have increased frequency of meetings. Other engagement includes COVID-19 NWT leaders’ meetings, negotiation with Indigenous governments on a proposed NWT Council of Leaders and multilateral forum, bilateral intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) meetings, renewal of existing bilateral intergovernmental MOUs, and collaboration with Intergovernmental Council Secretariat on a draft protocol for legislation development.

Internal Working Group established and Terms of Reference developed

Internal working group formed and Terms of Reference developed. Working group exploring options to achieve commitment within the timeline.

Principals and interests updated and published

Reporting on implementation of recommendations

Special Committee formed and Terms of Reference developed

Terms of Reference developed. Special Committee established.

Reporting on implementation of recommendations

Implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) within the constitutional framework of Canada will advance reconciliation.

What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Identify, prioritize, and strengthen key actions to further implement UNDRIP	In Progress	Work with Indigenous governments to create and implement an action plan that identifies changes required in GNWT legislation and policies to best reflect the principles set out in UNDRIP	Summer 2020
	In Progress		Summer 2020
	Planning		Summer 2022
	Planning		Ongoing
	In Progress		Collaborate with the federal government and Indigenous governments to support Canada's efforts to implement UNDRIP

This work will be led by the Department of Executive and Indigenous Affairs with the support of all Departments and Agencies



How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Terms of Reference developed

Negotiations are ongoing with Indigenous governments and Indigenous organizations on a draft MOU and Terms of Reference for an NWT council of leaders and multilateral forum. This is intended to be the forum to discuss the implementation of the UN Declaration (among other subjects).

Working Group with Indigenous governments established

The GNWT has begun to discuss the establishment of a working group with Indigenous governments. This working group would focus the implementation of the UN Declaration in the NWT and report back to the multilateral forum with recommendations and progress updates.

Implementation plan completed

Reporting on program changes provided

Federal process informs NWT action plan and implementation, including program changes

The federal government is moving ahead with legislation to implement the UN Declaration at a federal level. The GNWT has been engaged, as have NWT Indigenous governments.



Increase regional decision-making authority

Voices in all regions of the NWT need to be heard in discussions and decisions that affect them.

What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
<p>Ensure that the GNWT decision making reflects a full understanding of communities and regions</p>	In Progress	<p>Amend existing delegations of authority to empower regional and community staff, and provide training to ensure staff are aware of their decision-making authority</p>	Winter 2020
	In Progress		Summer 2021
	In Progress		Fall 2021
	In Progress		Beginning Fall 2021 and ongoing
	In Progress		Beginning Summer 2022 and ongoing

This work will be led by the Department of Executive and Indigenous Affairs with the support of all Departments and Agencies



How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Departmental review completed and decision-making authority amended

Initial departmental review is complete; work plan underway in partnership with Regional Management Committees on actions to increase and improve regional decision-making authority.

Training program developed

A work plan, which includes a regional senior management questionnaire, a review of Regional Management Committee Terms of Reference, and engagement with Regional Management Committees ongoing to determine format and content of training program.

Implementation plan announced

As described in the work plan, to be determined once format and content of training program determined.

Staff training provided

Regions and communities express more decision-making authority



Reduce the municipal funding gap

Community governments are essential partners in delivering programs and services to meet the needs of NWT residents, and they require adequate resources for this vital work.

What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Reduce the funding gap by \$5 million	In Progress	Increase GNWT funding to municipal governments	Budgets 2021, 2022 and 2023
Refine funding model to ensure continued fairness and transparency	In Progress	Engage with the NWT Association of Communities to update funding policies and options for allocating any new investment by the GNWT	Beginning Spring 2020, completed in 2023
Provide communities new opportunities to raise additional revenue and reduce or stabilize the cost of delivering core programs and services	In Progress	Develop a process guide for the transfer of lands within municipal boundaries	Winter 2021
	In Progress	Work with communities to identify options to enhance own source revenues and find efficiencies in program and service delivery	Beginning immediately

This work will be led by the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs with support from the Department of Lands



How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Fiscal capacity for communities improved each year

\$2.594 million approved in 2020-21 and ongoing for municipal governments. Additional one-time \$2.5 million included in the 2021-22 capital plan. \$740,000 increase proposed in the 2021-22 Main Estimates. Remaining \$1.7 million to be requested during the 2022-23 business planning process.

New funding allocated in consultation with NWT Association of Communities

Work is underway or in the planning phase with the NWT Association of Communities (NWTAC) and other partners to complete a reassessment of the 2014 Municipal Funding Policy; finalize amendments to the Water and Sewer Funding Policy, the Community Public Infrastructure Policy, and the Operations and Maintenance Funding Policy by 2023.

Process guide for the transfer of lands within municipal boundaries completed

A draft guide for Yellowknife is being finalized. Once complete, that process will be generalized so that it can be applied to other communities. The process will be communicated to NWTAC and community governments, including informational sessions to discuss what governance and management tools a community government will need to have in place.

Fiscal capacity for communities improved through own source funding

Community governments in the Beaufort Delta and Sahtu regions have removed or reduced stockpiles of hazardous waste from their landfills. Other community governments have implemented asset management plans.

Strengthen the government’s leadership and authority on climate change

Climate change is a significant challenge facing NWT residents and requires meaningful action and leadership.

What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Implement the <i>2030 NWT Climate Change Strategic Framework</i> and <i>2030 Energy Strategy</i>	In Progress	Carry out the action plans established under these strategies.	Work is underway, continuing through 2030
Improve coordination and communication for climate change	In Progress	Establish the NWT Climate Change Council to include Indigenous governments and organizations, community governments, and other external partners	Fall 2020
Work with national and international organizations to advocate for the consideration of the unique NWT and Northern perspectives on climate change impacts, adaptation, and mitigation	In Progress	Work with territorial and Indigenous government partners to advocate for NWT and Northern perspectives at national and international organizations and forums	Beginning immediately and ongoing
	In Progress	Work with Nunavut and Yukon to develop joint statement on climate change and the North	Beginning immediately, ending Fall 2020

This work will be led by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in collaboration with the Department of Infrastructure, the Department of Executive and Indigenous Affairs, and with additional support from all Departments



How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Actions are monitored and completed

Annual reporting on the *2030 Energy Strategy*, *2030 Climate Change Strategic Framework* and the *NWT Carbon Tax Report* was released in January 2021 with a plain language overview report that integrates climate change and energy reporting across the GNWT. Integrated annual reporting will occur each year for the life of the action plans.

Terms of Reference developed and the NWT Climate Change Council is established

The GNWT has met with Indigenous governments and organizations to discuss the establishment of the NWT Climate Change Council and to develop a Terms of Reference for the NWT Climate Change Council. The Terms of Reference is being finalized and Indigenous governments and organizations have selected an Indigenous government representative of the Council to serve as co-chair. Advisory panels and groups will also be formed for youth, Elders and external partners.

Recommendations provided to national and international organizations to guide their work

GNWT input provided to the United Nations Environment Program on nature based solutions in September 2020; GNWT participated in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Climate Dialogues in November 2020. Work continues with other Canadian jurisdictions to implement the *Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change* facilitated by the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment.

Joint statement is issued

Draft Pan-Northern Leaders’ Climate Change Statement prepared and endorsed by the three territories’ Premiers. Premiers are now seeking the endorsement of Indigenous governments with the goal of having a united voice across the territories to call for the importance of adequate, flexible federal support to address climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts in the North.

Ensure climate change impacts are specifically considered when making government decisions

What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Integrate climate change considerations and improve accountability in GNWT decision-making processes	Fulfilled	Update GNWT decision-making tools to ensure they include climate change considerations	Fall 2020
	In Progress	As part of annual reporting on Climate Change Action Plan progress, identify all climate change considerations in GNWT decision-making processes	Beginning Fall 2021 and ongoing

This work will be led by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in collaboration with the Department of Executive and Indigenous Affairs and the Department of Finance



Government decisions should consider the full range of climate change impacts, including changes in the natural environment, the associated increase in needs and costs related to infrastructure, and concerns related to human health, food security, and cultural well-being. Decisions should also be informed by potential economic development opportunities related to climate adaptation.

How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Decision-making practices demonstrate consideration of climate change impacts

GNWT decision-making tools amended to incorporate climate change considerations. *Guide to Integrating Climate Change Considerations into GNWT Decision-Making Instruments* developed and provided to all departments.

Annual report tabled in the Legislative Assembly

Work underway to determine how best to integrate climate change considerations in GNWT decision-making into the 2020-21 annual reporting on climate change.



Increase employment in small communities

What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Increase seasonal, part-time, and full-time employment in small communities by 125	In Progress	Create a Working Group to review existing employment opportunities and develop new programs that prepare NWT residents from small communities for job opportunities	Winter 2020
	In Progress		Fall 2020
	Planning		Fall 2021
	Planning		Fall 2022
	Planning		Fall 2023
	In Progress	Support new employment in collaboration with Indigenous governments, including opportunities associated with established and candidate Protected Areas	Beginning immediately
	In Progress	Amend the NWT Housing Corporation policies to allow appropriate home business opportunities within their units	Complete Summer 2020
Prepare residents for current and future job and business development opportunities	Planning	Develop new mentorship programs to support emerging entrepreneurs	Fall 2022
	In Progress	Introduce a new program to fund and support community-led makerspaces	Fall 2021
	In Progress		Fall 2023
Support small communities in developing skilled tradespeople	In Progress	The NWT Housing Corporation will leverage opportunities that encourage residents of small communities to learn a trade	Beginning Spring 2020 and ongoing

This work will be co-led by the Department of Education, Culture and Employment and the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment, with support from the NWT Housing Corporation and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Meaningful employment should exist in all communities throughout the NWT.

How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Working Group is established

A Terms of Reference for the Working Group is complete. Given the economic impacts on communities associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, the Working Group has not met to date, but an initial meeting of the Working Group is being planned for spring 2021.

30 new jobs

30 new jobs

30 new jobs

35 new jobs

Territorial Protected Areas are generating new employment in communities in full-time, part-time and seasonal/casual positions associated with GNWT compliance and enforcement positions and Indigenous guardians. There are currently 54 jobs associated with Territorial Protected Areas, including 3.5 GNWT Renewable Resource Officer positions and 50.5 non-GNWT jobs, including protected areas guardians.

Tenants in public housing have access to home business opportunities

Policy revisions drafted and anticipated to be released by end of 2020-21 for implementation in April 2021.

Mentorship program in place

Makerspace Program developed

Work underway on new program to fund and support community-led makerspaces as part of the Mandate commitment to develop a NWT Knowledge Economy Action Plan. (Will follow the same public engagement process and timelines.)

3 makerspaces implemented in communities

Arts, Crafts and Technology Micro-Manufacturing Centre in Inuvik is fully operational and Makerspace Yellowknife received funding from the GNWT and federal government to open a space in late 2020.

Number of journeypersons and apprentices in small communities identified and increased by 15%

Effective July 2020, contractors required to include in new construction tender bids at least one new apprenticeship position. Nine positions created to date. Existing apprenticeship program supports up to 12 apprentices a year at local housing organizations.

Make strategic infrastructure investments that connect communities, expand the economy or reduce the cost of living, including the Mackenzie Valley Highway, the Slave Geological Province Corridor, and the Taltson Hydro Project

These projects will provide the foundational infrastructure to support an improved quality of life and lower cost of living for NWT residents, as well as support the expansion and diversification of the economy.

What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Advance the development of the Mackenzie Valley Highway (MVH), the Slave Geological Province Corridor (SGPC), and the Taltson Hydro Expansion (Taltson) Project	In Progress	Establish collaborative partnerships with Indigenous governments	Fall 2020
	In Progress	Undertake work required for the Environmental Assessment and regulatory processes for the MVH and the SGPC	Fall 2023 (MVH) Winter 2024 (SGPC)
	Delayed	Develop the business case for the Taltson Project	Spring 2020
	In Progress	Undertake work to enable the Taltson Project environmental and regulatory processes	Winter 2024
	In Progress	Undertake work to enable a construction decision on the Taltson Project	Fall 2024
	In Progress	Work with the Federal government to secure funding for large infrastructure projects	Ongoing

This work will be led by the Department of Infrastructure with support from the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment, and the Department of Finance



How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Partnership agreements completed, implemented, monitored, and progress reported on

MOU signed with the Sahtu Secretariat Inc. (SSI) on MVH in August 2019. Joint Training Committee established with the Pehdzeh Ki First Nation (PKFN) on MVH. Initial discussions with the Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN) towards establishment of an MOU with Indigenous governments on SGPC. Working to finalize MOU with the Akaitcho Dene First Nations, Northwest Territory Metis Nation and Salt River First Nation on Taltson Hydro Expansion Project. Once MOU is completed, Steering Committee meeting will be planned.

Work completed and submitted

Regulatory applications for the Mount Gaudet Access Road (MGAR) submitted in August 2020. Prohibition Creek Access Road (PCAR) regulatory authorizations (water license and land use permit) received November 2020. Planning work for the MVH in process. Discussions underway on planning and potential contract opportunities for SGPC.

Business case completed and submitted

Completion of the business case for the Taltson project behind schedule. GNWT continues to work to establish an MOU with Indigenous government partners and determine the business arrangements that could flow from it.

Work completed and submitted

Transmission line routing and baseline data collection for regulatory applications underway. Project definition including a preferred transmission line route is required prior to a regulatory application.

Work completed and submitted for decision

Technical review of costs and risks for the Transmission Line alignment options underway.

Funding for construction of each project secured prior to construction starting

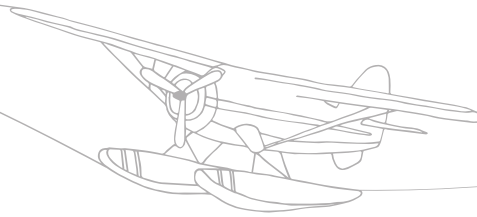
\$20 million federal funding secured for Prohibition Creek Access Road (MVH). \$140 million federal funding secured for MVH planning and environmental assessment, MGAR and Great Bear River Bridge construction. GNWT invited to submit a comprehensive project proposal for replacement of Frank Channel Bridge (SGPC) under Transport Canada’s National Trade Corridors Fund, Arctic and Northern Call for proposals. \$18 million in federal funding announced in 2019 for feasibility work and Indigenous engagement on Taltson Project. Preparing information for review by Canada Infrastructure Bank to enable decision on construction financing.

Make strategic infrastructure investments that connect communities, expand the economy or reduce the cost of living

Including the Mackenzie Valley Highway, the Slave Geological Province Corridor, and the Taltson Hydro Project (cont'd)

What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Support the development of fast and reliable broadband internet services for NWT communities	In Progress	Complete Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk fiber link	Fall 2021
	In Progress	Work with the federal government and private organizations to secure funding	Fall 2021 and ongoing
	In Progress	Advance work to support fast and reliable broadband internet services in all NWT communities	Summer 2021
	In Progress		Winter 2022
Modernize NWT airport infrastructure	In Progress	Complete construction of a new terminal building, runway extension, and drainage upgrade at the Inuvik airport	2024
	In Progress	Complete runway and drainage upgrades in Sachs Harbour, Sambaa K'e, Aklavik, and Hay River airports	2024
	In Progress	Implement Airport Master Plans to ensure airports meet the needs of communities and regions	Ongoing

This work will be led by the Department of Infrastructure with support from the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment, and the Department of Finance



How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Fiber link completed

GNWT has had preliminary discussions with Inuvialuit Regional Corporation regarding the project. The GNWT has requested a discussion regarding the permitting and engagement phase of the project to ensure alignment and project success.

Funding secured

Application for capital funding submitted to federal government for Tuktoyaktuk. GNWT also working closely with the Tłıchǫ Government and their partners to progress the Whatì line. Application is currently being generated for submission under the Universal Broadband Fund.

Business cases completed for 3 communities

GNWT is completing a costed plan for all communities to receive the minimum standard of internet speed (50/10) prior to the end of the 19th Legislative Assembly.

All business cases completed for communities not yet connected to fiber

Construction completed

Design work for drainage upgrade and runway extension to be completed in February 2021. Construction contract negotiations for the air terminal building to be initiated in March 2021. GNWT and Canada signed Contribution Agreement for \$4.5 million for technical and financial aspects for design phase of airport runway extension. GNWT and Canada in discussion for the construction phase of the airport runway extension.

Construction completed

Work on Sachs Harbour runway project began in summer 2020, anticipated to be completed by December 2022. Hay River runway project completed in summer 2020. Aklavik runway project completed in October 2020. Sambaa K'e priority drainage work completed in December 2020, remaining work expected to be completed in fall 2021.

Plans implemented, monitored, and progress reported on

Background technical studies and market and economic analyses for the Yellowknife Airport Master Plan completed. Request for Proposals (RFP) to be issued winter 2021 for development of an updated 2041 Yellowknife Airport Master Plan to combine findings of prior 20 Year Master Plan and market and economic analysis produced by external contractor, and seek public input. Work underway on RFP to develop system-wide strategy to shape the development of the NWT system of airports.

Increase economic diversification by supporting growth in non-extractive sectors and setting regional diversification targets

What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Work with Indigenous and community governments to identify and advance economic opportunities	In Progress	Establish regional economic development plans to support growth in all sectors of the economy, including agriculture, fisheries, forestry, the knowledge economy, manufacturing, and arts	Beginning Spring 2020, completed Summer 2023
Increase tourism in the NWT with a focus on increasing tourism outside Yellowknife	In Progress	Include tourism potential and community planning within regional economic plans	Beginning Spring 2020, completed Summer 2023
	Delayed	Work with Indigenous and community governments to develop regional, tourism-based promotional campaigns.	Beginning Winter 2020; First plans completed Winter 2021; All plans completed Spring 2024
	In Progress	Support the development of local capacity and tourism infrastructure and programs across the NWT	Beginning immediately and ongoing
Advance the knowledge economy	In Progress	Work with a broad range of partners to create a Knowledge Economy Action Plan	Beginning Fall 2020, completed Fall 2022 Annually beginning Fall 2021
Encourage entrepreneurship by reducing red tape and regulatory burdens on small businesses	In Progress	Establish a working group with the private sector that will provide policy and regulatory recommendations to eliminate unnecessary administrative burdens on small businesses	Beginning Fall 2020, completed Fall 2022
	In Planning		Fall 2022

This work will be led by the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment and the Department of Finance

The NWT has untapped economic potential in areas including tourism, agriculture, and the knowledge economy. Supporting opportunities for economic diversification will create jobs and improve community resiliency.

How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Regional plans are completed, implemented, and reported on annually

Work plan in progress to finalize the development of Regional Economic Development Plans by end of 2020-21. This work will be completed by March 2021.

Tourism included in regional economic plans

Tourism potential to be highlighted in any Regional Economic Development Plans developed. Part of the Tourism 2025 strategy is anticipated to focus on tourism development opportunities outside of Yellowknife.

2 regional tourism plans per years starting 2021

Delayed in early 2020 due to inability to meet with Indigenous and community governments in compliance with COVID-19 guidelines. This will be supported in part by the Tourism 2025 strategy.

Visitor spending increased by 10%, visitation increased by 15% with at least 5% growth in the number of Tourism Operator Licenses outside Yellowknife

On-going investments being made into local capacity and tourism product and infrastructure through tourism business programming. Targets expected to be difficult to achieve until tourism numbers begin to return to pre-pandemic levels.

Action plan developed, implemented, monitored, and progress reported on annually

A draft logic model developed for the Knowledge Economy Action Plan and it is being finalized prior to public engagement via release of a discussion paper in spring 2021.

Working Group established and recommendations used to guide actions

The Working Group's first meeting was in February 2021, and an Action Plan to be developed. The Action Plan will include timeframes for items that may be short term in nature (within 1 year) and those which will take longer to implement (over 1 year).

Regulatory changes begin

Increase resource exploration and development

Renewed exploration activity is needed to restore levels of investment, partnership, employment, and growth in the NWT's economy.

What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Attract and support both early-stage and advanced exploration projects	Fulfilled	Complete a review of the Mining Incentive Program and identify new ways to support advanced projects	Beginning Spring 2020, completed Fall 2020
	In Progress	Increase funding for mining incentive programs by 50% over the next four years	Winter 2020
	In Planning		Winter 2021
			Winter 2022
			Winter 2023
			Completed Winter 2023
Increase local supply and production of natural gas	In Progress	Assess the feasibility of local gas supply projects and the export of liquefied natural gas	Fall 2020
	In Progress	Support development of local natural gas suppliers where feasible	Beginning Summer 2021 and ongoing
Enhance Indigenous participation in the resource sector	In Progress	In collaboration with Indigenous governments, develop and implement the Regional Mineral Strategies that promote investment and increase awareness of the NWT's regulatory system	Beginning Spring 2020, completed Summer 2023

This work will be led by the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment



How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Review completed and recommendations used to guide actions

Program review and response to recommendations completed. Advanced projects are being supported and other recommended actions are being implemented.

Increase 10%

One time increase of 10 percent provided in 2020-21; future year funding to be determined through annual business planning process.

Increase 15%

Increase 15%

Increase 10%

Number of early-stage exploration projects increased and advanced exploration projects progressing

Review commenced

External consultant undertaking a pre-feasibility economic analysis to export Mackenzie Delta natural gas to Asia.

Imports of petroleum products reduced

With respect to development of local resources, IRC will continue to be supported when possible as it develops the Inuvialuit Energy Security Project and continue to increase awareness of potential in the South Slave/Dehcho.

Indigenous involvement, investment, and employment in the resource sector increased

Funding provided to Gwich'in Tribal Council (GTC), Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC) and Tłı̄chǫ Government (TG) to complete Regional Mineral Development Strategy (RMDS) activities. RMDS funding sunset in 2019-20 and work continues to identify ongoing needs for RMDS in new regions and implementation funding in others.

Reduce the cost of power and increase the use of alternative and renewable energy

The NWT’s relatively small population and expansive geography contributes to the high cost of power. Investment in alternative and renewable energy can reduce the reliance on diesel. Reducing the cost of power will require partnerships and strategic investments.



What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Reduce reliance on diesel generation	In Progress	Advance the Hay River to Fort Providence transmission line	Fall 2020
	In Progress	Finalize engineering and design work for the Whatì transmission line	Fall 2021
	In Progress	Advance Fort Simpson liquefied natural gas power plant	Fall 2020
	In Progress	Complete Inuvik wind power and energy storage project	Fall 2023
	In Progress	Advance Sachs Harbour wind power and energy storage project	Fall 2020
Expand the reach of energy conservation and efficiency initiatives	In Progress	Target energy conservation and efficiency initiatives to those most in need in partnership with key stakeholders, including the Arctic Energy Alliance and Northwest Territories Power Corporation	Beginning Spring 2021 ongoing

This work will be led by the Department of Infrastructure



How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Project milestones set and achieved, and diesel consumption in non-hydro communities reduced

Initial engineering work on the project completed and an environmental consulting firm will be retained to conduct environmental studies and assist in developing regulatory application beginning in spring 2021. Federal funding application submitted. Initial round of consultation and engagement meetings is currently underway.

Engagement with the Tłı̨chǫ Government initiated on a general routing option to be studied. Next phase of work includes initiating engineering and environmental work and potential additional studies. Once the routing and feasibility work is completed, federal funding application to be developed in late 2021.

Front end engineering work completed. NTPC is developing contracts for engineering design and equipment procurement. Construction is anticipated to begin in spring 2021.

A Land Use Permit and Type B water licence was issued in November 2020. Project is proceeding to the construction phase, including updating the project schedule and coordinating next steps with the Northwest Territories Energy Corporation.

Wind monitoring incomplete due to equipment, technical issues and COVID-19 related delays. Internal assessment to resolve issues is ongoing.

Access by individuals in small and remote communities to initiatives increased

GNWT continues to work with Arctic Energy Alliance (AEA) on the delivery of its regular programs and services, and to track and report on results achieved, by community. AEA nearly doubled the number of rebates it provided in 2019-20 compared to the previous year, representing a 150 percent increase worth almost a million dollars.

Ensure government procurement and contracting maximizes benefits to residents and businesses

Government procurement and contracting is a source of economic activity throughout the NWT, and residents and businesses should benefit as much as possible.



What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Strengthen GNWT procurement policies and practices	In Progress	Work with NWT businesses to identify recommendations to strengthen GNWT procurement policies and practices, including the Business Incentive Policy (BIP), P3 projects, and the Northern Manufactured Products Policy (NMPP)	Review begins Summer 2020, completed Summer 2022
	In Progress	Review existing policies and procedures to ensure timeliness of payments	Completed Fall 2021
Increase awareness of GNWT contracting opportunities	In Progress	Increased training and open forums for vendors with special focus on the delivery of more procurement workshops	Completed Summer 2021
	In Progress		Beginning Fall 2021 and ongoing
	In Progress	Provide a one-stop shop for vendors online	Beginning Fall 2020, completed Fall 2022
Improve participation in BIP by NWT companies	In Progress	Actively encourage and support NWT businesses in applying for BIP status	Beginning immediately, completed Fall 2022

This work will be led by the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment with support from the Department of Infrastructure and the Department of Finance



How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Procurement policies and practices are updated

Plain language discussion paper released in January 2021. Panel has been established, and public engagement is underway.

Standard processing times for GNWT contractors reported

Payment terms on invoices have been reviewed to create a consistent benchmark to track progress. Reporting for 2021-21 to be completed by the end of April 2021. Quarterly reporting to start in 2021-22.

Plan to increase training and provide forums developed

30 vendor procurement workshops/open forums scheduled, to advertised and posted on GNWT website.

Number of training and open forums identified and increased

Plan in place to increase the number of workshops and open forums by 35% in 2020-21 and an additional 15% in 2021-22. Training programs continue to be offered, and the number of training workshops offered each year will continue to be assessed.

Utilization of the one-stop shop for vendors online tracked and increased

The online 'one-stop-shop' for vendors will be available by May 2021.

The number of BIP-registered businesses increased by 20%

Regions cross referencing business license listings in their communities to the BIP Registry and reaching out to those businesses not already BIP approved, to invite them to apply and assist with any questions and completing required paperwork, if needed.

Adopt a benefit retention approach to economic development

NWT residents and businesses should benefit from economic development in the NWT to the greatest extent possible.



What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Maximize benefits from development while maintaining competitiveness	In Progress	Conduct an independent review on the competitiveness of the NWT's mining regime and develop recommendations addressing mineral royalties, taxes, and direct and indirect economic returns	Fall 2020
	In Planning		Completed Spring 2022
Increase the success in meeting objectives under socio-economic agreements	In Progress	Conduct an independent review and develop recommendations to increase the success of objectives set out in socio-economic agreements.	Spring 2022
	In Planning	Host a socio-economic forum with representatives from the mining industry, Indigenous governments, and the GNWT to identify ways to work together to increase the socio-economic benefits from resource development	Fall 2022
	In Planning	Meet annually with senior officials of NWT mines to review the actions identified from the forum and objectives set out in socio-economic agreements	Beginning Fall 2023 and ongoing
Increase opportunities for equity participation with local and Indigenous governments in economic development projects	In Progress	Implement intergovernmental partnerships whenever appropriate in economic development opportunities	Spring 2020 and ongoing

This work will be led by the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment in collaboration with the Department of Finance



How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Independent review begins

Competitiveness Report completed and recommendations compiled and used to guide actions

Benchmarking report completed with independent third party review publicly released. Working towards stakeholder engagement to develop recommendations.

Review Completed

Forum held and recommendations developed

External program evaluator in place and invitation letters for IGO participation sent February 2021. Redesign recommendations anticipated by spring 2022.

Annual meetings held

Number of partnership agreements for economic development opportunities completed, implemented, monitored, and progress reported on

GNWT continuing bilateral discussions with Indigenous governments on economic cooperation memoranda of understanding, and supports for development of regional economic development plans to assist in building partnerships for economic development opportunities. Additionally, parts of this commitment may be included in the scope of the procurement review.

Improve early childhood development indicators for all children

What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Ensure better coordinated services for children and their families	<div style="background-color: #f4a460; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">In Progress</div> <div style="background-color: #d9d9d9; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">In Planning</div>	Implement a child-focused and family-centred approach to improving early childhood outcomes by strengthening collaboration among departments and service providers to integrate service delivery	Fall 2020 <hr/> Fall 2021 <hr/> Winter 2021 and ongoing
Ensure our programs and services respect the cultural needs of children and youth	<div style="background-color: #f4a460; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">In Progress</div> <div style="background-color: #d9d9d9; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">In Planning</div>	Implement the recommendations from the Healthy Family Program review, including developing a made-in-the-North curriculum for the program	Summer 2021 <hr/> Beginning Fall 2021 and ongoing <hr/> Ongoing
Provide greater supports for parents	<div style="background-color: #f4a460; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">In Progress</div> <hr/> <div style="background-color: #f4a460; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">In Progress</div> <hr/> <div style="background-color: #f4a460; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">In Progress</div>	<p>In collaboration with Indigenous governments, community governments, and other stakeholders, expand community-based and family-friendly programming</p> <hr/> <p>Streamline early childhood development funding across government by instituting multiyear funding and exploring the establishment of "single window" funding for grants that promote parenting and early childhood development</p>	Beginning summer 2020 and ongoing <hr/> Spring 2021 and ongoing

This work will be co-led by the Department of Education, Culture and Employment and the Department of Health and Social Services

A positive early childhood increases a child's prospects for success later in life. Investments in early childhood can lower education costs, reduce crime rates and improve self-sufficiency and self-reliance.

How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Stakeholder engagement begins

Integrated service delivery approach developed

Wait times for access to assessment and rehabilitation services for children reduced

While a child-focused and family-centred approach has not yet been created and implemented, the Interdepartmental Integrated Service Delivery committee has been established to engage with stakeholders and develop an approach. ECE and HSS continue to work together to engage with stakeholders, for example, through the roll out of the 2030 Early Learning and Child Care Strategy. Engagement to support the Strategy's development will begin in spring 2021.

New curriculum, evaluation, and reporting criteria developed

Training provided for Family Support Workers

Families report satisfaction with the Healthy Family Program

Implementation supported by activities at ECE and HSS. Work underway to create a robust, peer-reviewed, made-in-the-North curriculum under the guidance of health experts, elders, caregivers, and a curriculum expert. A prototype was developed and is under review by partners until February 2021.

Availability of community-based, family-friendly programming identified and increased

Single window for grants is established, monitored and progress reported on

Early Development Instrument results improved

Planning underway for potential expansion of the Healthy Family Program to five additional communities. Funding provided for the Northern Birthwork Collective to develop an Indigenous Doula Training Program, and for Supporting Child Inclusion and Participation.

HSS has established the GNWT Funders interdepartmental working group, on an ad hoc basis, to consider all funding supports for communities across government. The establishment of a single window, multi-year funding pot for early learning and child care programs may be considered through this process. An inventory is being completed to reflect the types of funding provided across departments. Policy work has not yet been started. An early learning and child care funding review is currently underway and will be completed in April 2021 which will inform the development of a single window for grants for early child development initiatives.

Early Development instrument data collected annually; results are seen as trends over time.

Advance universal childcare by increasing availability and affordability

What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Increase availability and reduce the costs of childcare in communities	In Progress	Develop a 2030 Early Learning and Childcare Strategy in consultation with stakeholders that considers both the availability of childcare spaces in communities and reduction of childcare costs to families	Fall 2021
	Fulfilled	Implement a program that provides non-government organizations with funding for facility repairs, to address code issues, and to undertake retrofits to support new childcare spaces	Beginning Spring 2021 ongoing
	In Progress		Fall 2021 to Fall 2023
	In Progress	Amend our income assistance and housing programs to allow for delivery of licensed childcare programs	Fall 2020
	In Planning		Fall 2021 to Fall 2023
	In Progress	Better utilize GNWT infrastructure for early childhood program space	Spring 2021 and ongoing
Provide support for NWT students to pursue post-secondary programs that produce qualified childcare educators	In Progress	Evaluate Early Childhood Scholarships and Early Childhood Staff Grants to ensure it is providing adequate incentives to residents to enroll in early childhood programs. Review the Student Financial Assistance benefit levels to ensure residents have adequate funding to assist with the costs associated in obtaining a post-secondary education	Spring 2023
Work with partners to support communities to tailor early learning and childcare programs to meet community needs	In Progress	Review and amend existing policies and funding models of early childhood programs	Spring 2021
	In Planning	Provide recommendations to the development of the 2030 <i>Early Learning and Childcare Strategy</i>	Spring 2021

This work will be led by the Department of Education, Culture and Employment

Improving the availability of early learning and childcare programs that meet the specific needs of communities will help ensure children get the best possible start in life.

How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

2030 Early Learning and Childcare Strategy developed for tabling

A discussion paper will be used to engage with Indigenous governments and key stakeholders. This engagement and a funding review will be used to inform the development of the 2030 Early Learning and Child Care Strategy. Engagement to support the Strategy's development will begin in spring 2021.

Program implemented

Early Childhood Infrastructure Funding (ECIF) implemented in August 2020 and two projects were provided funding in two communities (total of \$500,000). Call-out for another round of applications to be advertised in early 2021 for funding in 2021-22.

Average of 25 new spaces added and an average of 3 centres renovated each year

The number of spaces created in 2020-21 due to ECIF to be determined following the construction and licensing process. ECE tracks increases to licensed spaces annually.

Policy changes completed

Discussions ongoing to provide for licensed family day homes and/or licensed centres to be run in housing units.

Average of 20 licenced childcare spaces added each year

Childcare spaces considered in renovations and/or new builds

Policy work to examine changes to Capital Planning Standards underway.

Number of qualified childcare educators increased by 5% per year

Early Childhood Program review in progress to evaluate funding subsidies, Early Childhood Staff Grant, and Early Childhood Scholarship program. This review is expected to be completed in April 2021. A Student Financial Assistance Client Satisfaction Survey is also underway and scheduled to be completed by April 30, 2021.

Review completed

Recommendations considered in *2030 Early Learning and Childcare Strategy*



Increase student education outcomes to the same level as the rest of Canada

The NWT education system will require modernization and fundamental changes to focus resources and system-wide efforts on student learning and well-being. Students should have access to a high quality education regardless of the community they live in or the size of their school.

What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Work with Indigenous governments, community governments, families, and partners to identify and begin to address the impediments to student success and promote the value of education	In Progress	Modernize the Education Act and review education funding framework	Beginning Summer 2020, completed Fall 2023
	In Progress	Ensure distance learning opportunities are available in all NWT communities	Completed 2022-23 school year
	Delayed	Implement a pilot program to support training for classroom assistants	Winter 2020
	In Planning		Spring 2021-22 school year
Address concerns about social passing	In Progress	Implement new programming to assist schools and parents when making decisions about student placement, promotion to the next grade, or retention	Fall 2021-22 school year

This work will be led by the Department of Education, Culture and Employment



How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Education Act updated

Public engagement will begin in February 2021 toward development of Legislative Proposal for summer/fall 2021.

All small communities have access to distance learning

Nineteen (out of 20) small community schools will be offering Northern Distance Learning by the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Education bodies invited to identify interest in becoming a second host, to increase the number of courses available. Annual performance management plan reports being produced each November. Final evaluation of program planned for March 31, 2024 to March 31, 2025.

Program developed

Support Assistant training sessions developed, offered, implemented and stored for ongoing use. Department continues to work with Program Support Teachers and Regional Inclusive Schooling Coordinators to determine regional needs and develop training to support. Intent is to engage with Aurora College on timing of delivery of training.

Pilot project implemented

Programming implemented, monitored, and progress reported to guide actions to address social passing concerns

ECE is working on a communications plan that outlines the rights of parents/guardians to collaborate with the school and to decision make in terms of educational plans and transitions for their child.

Enable seniors to age in place with dignity

Seniors are a valued part of our communities. We need to enable seniors to age in place with dignity.

What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Increase supports for seniors to stay in their homes and communities	In Planning	Work with Indigenous governments, community governments, support agencies, and families to identify gaps in existing resources	Summer 2021
	In Progress	Amend NWTTC policies to allow more low income seniors access to housing supports	Beginning Summer 2021
	In Progress	Increase the Seniors Home Heating Subsidy and review and reduce potential barriers for seniors in accessing the subsidy	Spring 2022
	In Progress	Create a separate Income Assistance program tailored to seniors and persons with disabilities	Winter 2022
Fund actions that enhance inclusion, safety, and removal of community-level barriers to aging in place	In Planning	Establish an Age-Friendly Community Grant program that would enable seniors to remain in their homes and home community longer	Spring 2022
Help protect seniors from abuse or neglect	Delayed	Review and implement regulatory and service delivery changes required to protect seniors	Beginning Spring 2020, completed Winter 2023
	In Progress	In collaboration with stakeholders, launch a public awareness campaign focused on educating seniors on their rights	Fall 2021
	In Planning	Increase training to GNWT staff providing programs and services to identify signs of abuse	Beginning Fall 2021 and ongoing

This work will be led by the Department of Health and Social Services, the Department of Education, Culture and Employment, and the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation

How We Will Demonstrate Progress**Progress to Date**

Gaps identified	
10% more seniors have access to housing programs	Policy changes took effect in January 2021 to assess only seniors' incomes for home repair program eligibility and exclude all other family members. Lower assessed income will allow more seniors to access programs. Impacts of these changes are anticipated to be measured over the coming year.
Seniors Home Heating Subsidy review completed and increased funding and criteria implemented	Senior Home Heating Subsidy rates increase April 2020 to assist with 80% of the average cost of heating a home. Rates will continue to be reviewed. Subsidy may be rolled into the Income Assistance program for seniors and persons living with disabilities once that program is implemented.
Program established, implemented, monitored, and progress reported on	Income Assistance Client Satisfaction Survey scheduled to be completed by April 30, 2021 as well as Project Charter for Income Assistance program review. This work will lead into the creation of a new program geared towards Seniors and Persons Living with Disabilities. Development of a program planning report and corresponding engagement plan, financial analysis and modeling, and preliminary planning will be completed by December 2021. Engagement on Program Planning Report with key Income Assistance program stakeholders to be completed by March 2022.
Program implemented, monitored, and reviewed annually	
Regulatory changes implemented	Work related to regulatory review and changes in (jurisdictional scan, reviewing best practices, completing stakeholder engagement) delayed due to GNWT response to COVID; anticipated to begin in Summer 2021.
Awareness campaign launched	Annual funding provided to the NWT Seniors Society to support the Network to Prevent Abuse of Older Adults to promote public awareness around recognizing abuse, prevention supports, and programming. Work to be continued with the Society to look at additional ways to increase awareness among elders, communities, and service providers.
Employee training provided	

Increase food security through locally produced, harvested, and affordable food

What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Support the development of the food industry	Delayed	Review and amend regulatory framework to remove barriers that impede NWT residents from developing food production businesses	Completed Fall 2022
	In Progress	Implement a meat inspection regulatory framework for locally produced and sold meat products	Spring 2023
	In Progress	Complete construction of a fish plant in Hay River	Fall 2023
	In Planning	Review and amend the Northern Food Development Program, to ensure supports are provided for greenhouses and community gardens	Spring 2021
Increase country food harvesting	In Progress	Work with and support Indigenous governments to develop and deliver culturally-appropriate harvester support programs, such as a Harvester Mentorship Program	Summer 2022
Work with Canada to increase the flexibility of the Nutrition North Program to better serve NWT residents	In Progress	Work with Indigenous and community governments to make recommendations for improvements to the Nutrition North Program	Fall 2021

This work will be led by the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment with support from the Department of Health and Social Services, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and the Department of Lands

Increased local food production can support the GNWT's goal to improve food security across the territory.

How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Regulatory changes implemented

Review of agriculture regulatory framework completed and actions are being reviewed by departments to determine next steps. HSS is developing new meat inspection regulations that will permit the sale of meat products. Lands is finalizing an internal directive to guide land tenure decision making specific to agriculture to support the implementation of the NWT Agriculture Strategy. Lands is also working on the implementation of the *Public Land Act* and the development of supporting regulations, which are expected to address agricultural use in more detail.

Locally produced meat is available for purchase

HSS has begun work on Meat Inspection Regulations (MIR) under the Public Health Act to allow for meat production and sales. Drafting of the regulations was set to occur in 2020-21; however, the COVID-19 pandemic has slowed progress in this area as HSS resources have been directed to contain the impact of that pandemic. The finalization of a draft MIR may be delayed to 2022/23.

Fish plant construction completed

A Request for Proposals for design/build of the fish plant was released October 16, 2020, and closed January 28, 2021. Four proposals for the Design/Build were received. ITI and INF will be evaluating the proposals over the next month.

Supports for greenhouses and community gardens improved

A review of the commercially-oriented Northern Food Development Program is underway, and recommendations are anticipated in March 2021.

New harvester support programs delivered

ENR launched several new and enhanced programs to support harvesters and families to go out on the land. These programs reflect the importance of increasing food security through locally-harvested food and are a direct response to the challenges communities are facing during the COVID-19 pandemic. These programs include:

- The COVID Regional Harvesting, Mentorship and Training Program for one-time funding in 2020-21 to regional Indigenous governments to support harvesting and training opportunities.
- The ongoing Take a Family on the Land Program to provide funding to organizations to help offset costs for families in need to pursue on the land activities, including harvesting.

A Community Harvesters Assistance Program evaluation framework has been developed, and an engagement plan is being finalized to accommodate COVID-19 restrictions. Engagement on the program review is expected to begin in winter 2021.

Recommendations provided to Canada to guide their work

Canada has launched the Harvesters Support Grant, co-developed with Indigenous partners to improve access to traditional foods and lower the high costs of hunting and harvesting. GNWT is in contact with Nutrition North Canada to explore ways to better support communities who are not eligible for the program.

Increase the number and variety of culturally-respectful, community-based mental health and addictions programs, including aftercare

To support the health and well-being of our residents, we need to put individuals and families at the center of care and value the unique needs of each person’s journey. Comprehensive care will integrate culture and community, promote collective action, and strengthen our approach with evidence of what works across the spectrum of mental health and addictions.

What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Increase the availability of e-health, on the land, and other proven approaches to mental wellness and addictions recovery	In Progress	Conduct an international jurisdictional review of service delivery for isolated and remote communities	Winter 2020
	Fulfilled	Partner with and support Indigenous governments and community stakeholders in the delivery of programs	Fall 2021
Improve services for individuals with addictions to reduce number of returns to treatment and increase length of time between treatments	In Progress	Increase community-based peer support programs such as Alcoholics Anonymous and Wellbriety	Spring 2021
	In Progress	Increase access to transitional housing for those returning from addictions treatment	Fall 2023
	In Progress	Establish medical detox and managed alcohol programming	Spring 2023

This work will be led by the Department of Health and Social Services



How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Review completed

A jurisdictional review of provincial and regional alcohol strategies is underway to inform the alcohol strategy process in the NWT. Anticipated work will be complete by summer 2021.

Availability of local treatment services identified and increased

Work continues with Indigenous governments (IGs) to deliver On-the-Land Healing Programs for mental wellness and addictions recovery. In 2019-20, funding was enhanced to support Indigenous governments to deliver mobile addictions treatment, family-based treatment and aftercare programming with eight IGs accessing the funding. In 2020-21, five agreements (to date) signed that provide funding for mobile addictions treatment.

Number of individuals requiring a return to treatment is reduced and the length of time between treatment is increased

Work is underway to increase and/or enhance peer support programs. Engagement with communities to occur to better understand the need, capacity and how best to enhance peer support programming. Anticipated that funds will be distributed before the end of 2020-21 with ongoing funding and increased uptake in 2021-22 and ongoing.

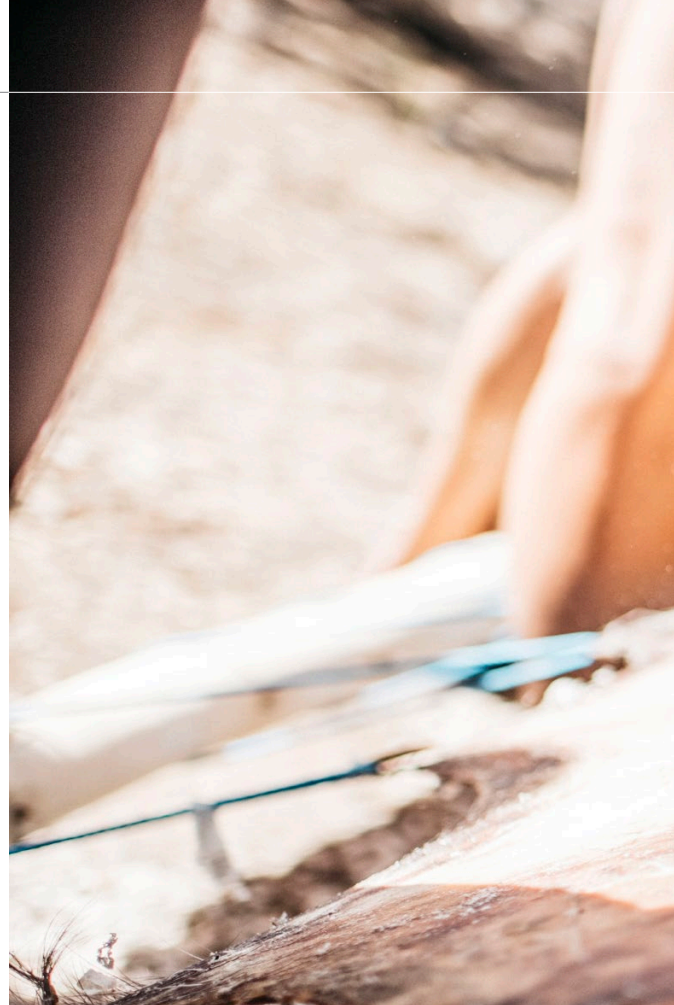
9 transitional housing units added in several communities

Working group conducted jurisdictional scan on different types of models in use in other parts of the country. This, along with engagement, will help to inform the model for the NWT.

Program developed and hospitalizations for alcohol reduced by 30%

Options for implementation of a Territorial Medical Detox Program and a community-based Managed Alcohol Program being explored in 2020-21. Work to date includes research and literature reviews for community-based and inpatient detox models, and an evaluation of the lessons learned from the controlled distribution of alcohol during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Increase the number and variety of culturally-respectful, community-based mental health and addictions programs, including aftercare (cont'd)



What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Strengthen community counselling services	In Progress	Provide standardized screening and assessment tools, incorporating more traditional healing approaches	Fall 2022
	Fulfilled	Increase support and counselling training opportunities for staff	Beginning Spring 2021 and ongoing
	In Progress	Reduce wait times for access	Fall 2023

This work will be led by the Department of Health and Social Services



How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Standardized screening / assessment tools developed

As part of the implementation of the Suicide Prevention and Crisis Response Network, standardized suicide risk assessment tools established. Tools to support this work included in updated Community Counselling Program Standards which were implemented January 1, 2021. An Indigenous Advisory Body established to provide guidance and advice on how to incorporate Indigenous tradition, culture and healing practices with the HSS system.

Training opportunities for staff increased by 20%

Work has been initiated to provide multiple training/professional development opportunities for staff in trauma-informed, culturally respectful and recovery-oriented practices. Conference for staff in the Community Counselling Program (CCP) hosted annually. As of January 2021, 15 additional training sessions provided to CCP managers or staff. Baseline and methodology to best track and report on training opportunities for CCP staff currently being developed.

Wait times identified and reduced by 30%

In March 2020, wait lists for Community Counselling were eliminated and same day access was made available. Anticipated that this will have significant impacts on median wait times ongoing. In partnership with Canadian Institute for Health Information a standardized mechanism to track wait times was established to enable ongoing monitoring and measurement of success. From 2020-21 on, full fiscal year wait times will be available territory-wide. Reporting will be on-going on an annual basis.

Increase the number of resident health care professionals by at least 20 percent

To be understood and receive the best care, people require an ongoing relationship with their health and social services professionals.



What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Reduce the number of vacancies and the reliance on locums	In Progress	Work with employees and partners to identify the factors contributing to retention challenges and make recommendations	Fall 2020
	In Progress	Establish a dedicated health and social services recruitment team for the NWT	Winter 2020
	In Progress	Review and implement renewed recruitment and retention strategies, policies and practices, including staff surveys	Winter 2020
	In Progress	Implement comprehensive labour force planning for health human resources to identify demand and develop career pathways for key health and social service professions	Spring 2021

This work will be led by the Department of Health and Social Services



How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Review completed

Active promotion of the HSS system and the NWT as a place to live, work, and expand opportunities, through the PracticeNWT banner/brand. Work to occur with HSS system staff through Joint Workforce Working Groups, staff surveys and leadership competency training to complete a review that identifies gaps and develops strategies for meaningful retention strategies.

Dedicated recruitment team established

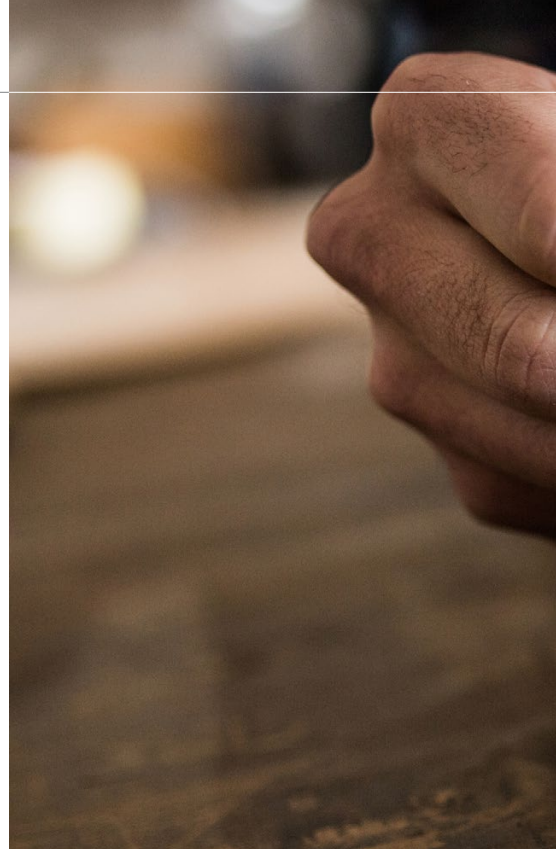
The Department of Finance has established an HSS unit but in early stages of structure and process design. The HSS Recruitment Team is establishing working relationships and regular meetings with Department of Finance staff to provide information to Finance around system needs.

New recruitment and retention strategies implemented, monitored and progress reported on

Careers within the HSS system continue to be promoted. Number of programs in place and new strategies underway including efforts to provide for more efficient hiring; promotion of HSS system professions among Northern students and youth, newly launched Medical Residency Program, Graduate Transition Program, and a proposed Medical Bursary Program.

Labour force planning implemented, monitored and progress reported on

A 3-year HSS System Human Resource Plan, to identify labour force needs and recruitment and retention strategies is under development (target date April 1, 2021).



Create a polytechnic university

Post-secondary education is essential to the social and economic development of the NWT. The transformation of Aurora College into a polytechnic university will help meet labour demands, support the knowledge economy by encouraging innovation, and attract new investments in Northern research.

What We Will Do	Status	How We Will Do It	Timeline (from Mandate)
Transform Aurora college into an accredited and independent polytechnic university over the next six years	Fulfilled	Complete an implementation plan that will outline the overall transformation process	Summer 2020
	Fulfilled	Engage with Indigenous governments and key stakeholders to develop a three year strategic plan for Aurora College that will shape the first phase of the transformation process	Fall 2020
	In Progress	Complete a regional needs assessment and release a capital plan for the polytechnic university	Fall 2021
	In Progress	Complete an institutional quality assurance review	Fall 2023
	In Progress	Work with the federal government to access infrastructure funding for the campuses	Beginning immediately and ongoing

This work will be led by the Department of Education Culture and Employment in collaboration with Aurora College



How We Will Demonstrate Progress

Progress to Date

Implementation plan completed, monitored, and progress reported on

The *Aurora College Transformation Implementation Plan* was released in October 2020. The Aurora College Transformation website is in place for residents to follow progress and provide feedback. Quarterly reports will be developed for distribution and public download from the website. Monitoring and reporting will be ongoing throughout the transformation.

Three year strategic plan released, implemented, and monitored

The *Aurora College Strategic Plan, Strengthening the Foundation and Planning for Change (2020-2023)* was released in October 2020.

Capital plan completed and submitted

The development of a Facilities Plan will outline current and future infrastructure needs for the polytechnic university. The Facilities Plan will be completed in July 2022.

Quality assurance review completed, monitored, and progress reported on

Proposed amendments to the *Aurora College Act* will support an arm's length relationship from government that meets quality assurance requirements. Working Groups are developing and implementing changes to the institution that will meet quality assurance requirements. Aurora College and ECE have increased capacity to support the quality assurance process.

Number of campus improvement projects secured by federal funding

The establishment of co-investment partnerships and the implementation of strategies to best engage with the federal government are continuing, including around infrastructure funding. Completion of a Facilities Plan in July 2022 that outlines infrastructure needs for the polytechnic university will continue to support engagement. In the interim, work is underway with federal partners to identify co-investment opportunities.

