

Achieving Our Priorities

Believing in People and Building
on the Strengths of Northerners





Message from the Premier

Soon after the 17th Assembly was elected in 2011, Members met as a Caucus to determine their priorities for the next four years. Those priorities included major governance initiatives, significant infrastructure investments, long-term strategic partnerships with government and non-government agencies, and sustainable public services. All of the priorities supported the Assembly's vision of strong individuals, families and communities sharing the benefits and responsibilities of a unified, environmentally sustainable and prosperous Northwest Territories.

Significant progress on all of these priorities has been made in the first two years of the 17th Assembly through collaboration with all MLAs. This document provides an overview of the major achievements and looks ahead to the future. Some of our significant accomplishments in response to the Caucus Priorities, *Believing in People and Building on the Strengths of Northerners*, include:

- A final devolution agreement was signed in June 2013 and implementation is well underway with a planned transfer date of April 1, 2014.
- Major new public infrastructure has been opened: traffic flows freely across the Deh Cho Bridge, Inuvik students and residents are making full use of the East Three School, and energy-efficient multi-family public housing units have been constructed throughout the territory.
- Aboriginal governments are partners in major initiatives such as devolution, land management, and education renewal, and industry and NGOs are full participants in action plans to eliminate poverty, diversify the economy, and sustain the environment for future generations.
- As well, multi-stakeholder strategies or frameworks have been, or are being, developed to address land use sustainability, Aboriginal engagement, Aboriginal student achievement, mental health and addictions, early childhood development, and shelter policy.

These successes are the foundation of the work to come in the second half of the 17th Assembly and beyond.

Construction has begun on the Inuvik-to-Tuktoyaktuk Highway, the first step in completing the long proposed Mackenzie Valley Highway, and multi-stakeholder action plans have been developed to eliminate poverty, improve mental health and addictions services, and support early childhood development. We are working to develop and implement plans for educational reform, economic development, culture and heritage advancement, community safety, and environmental management.

This document outlines some of the major achievements the Government and Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories have made over the past two years, but it does not represent everything we are doing. A more detailed companion document listing GNWT activities in support of each Caucus priority has also been prepared and published online at www.gov.nt.ca. This more complete document will be updated every six months to help keep NWT residents updated on the progress their government is making on its stated priorities.

Creating a strong, prosperous Northwest Territories is a long-term project that requires participation from everybody. Governments at every level – federal, territorial, Aboriginal and municipal – all have a role. There is also a role for business and industry, community groups and associations and individuals. Everybody needs to work together to help create an NWT where all people can thrive and be healthy, where a well-managed environment contributes to our economic wellbeing and quality of life, and where a strong economy provides jobs and opportunities for all our communities.

We have made a lot of progress during the first two years of this Assembly to advance a balanced agenda that focuses on supporting our people, investing in our economy and conserving our natural heritage, but our work is not done. We will continue to work diligently on behalf of the people of the Northwest Territories during the remainder of our term and look forward to the continued support and participation of leaders and stakeholders at every level as we strive to achieve our shared vision of strong individuals, families and communities sharing the benefits and responsibilities of a unified, environmentally sustainable and prosperous Northwest Territories.

Robert R. McLeod
Premier

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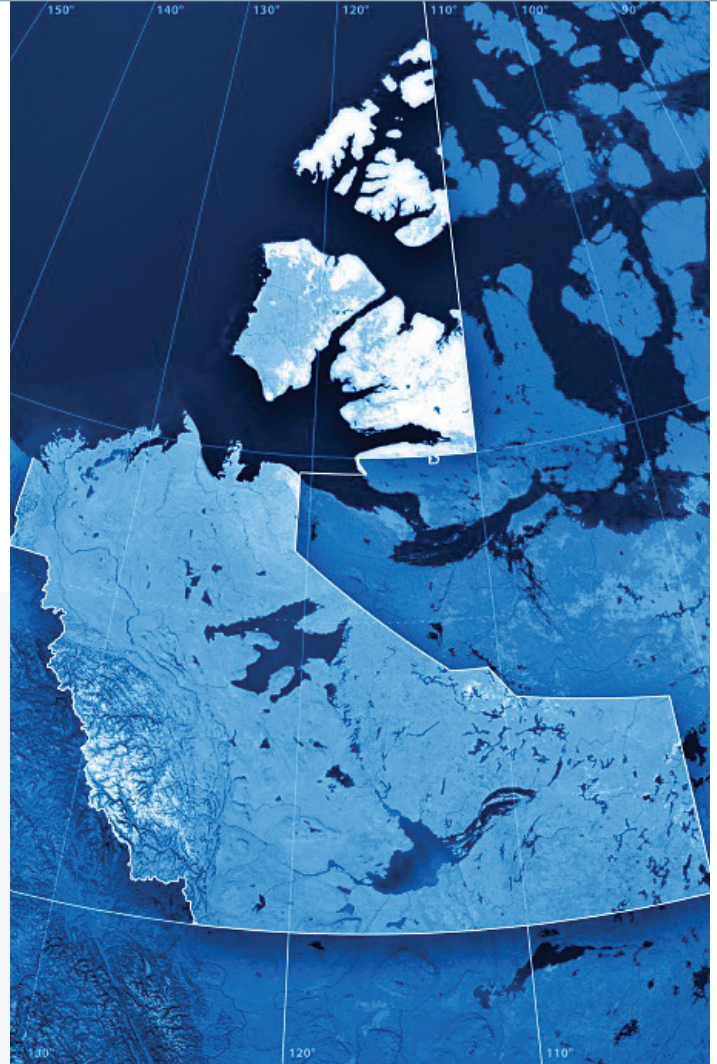
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Priority 1: Build a strong and sustainable future for our territory

Strong, effective governments working together in the best interests of NWT residents is critical to achieving our vision of a self-sufficient, prosperous Northwest Territories that provides opportunities for all residents now and into the future. The territorial government has a leadership role and is an important provider of programs and services, but other governments, organizations and individuals have a role to play as well. To succeed, we need to foster good relationships with other Northern governments, ensure we have the right financial resources and legislative authority and have a cooperative approach to effectively managing territorial lands and resources.

Key accomplishments:

- Strengthened relationships with Aboriginal and other Northern governments that lead to long-term prosperity, social well-being and environmental sustainability.
 - › Aboriginal Engagement Strategy
 - › Federal Engagement Strategy
 - › Four bilateral intergovernmental cooperation agreements
- Agreements that set out roles and responsibilities for mature, responsible governance that benefits all NWT residents and ensures a sustainable future for our children and grandchildren.
 - › Devolution Final Agreement
 - › Borrowing Limit
 - › Sahtu Land Use Plan
 - › Draft *Déłjı̄ne Final Self-Government Agreement and Finance Agreement*
 - › NWT-wide community-based monitoring in partnership with 18 communities



Strengthening our relationships with aboriginal and other northern governments

Completed Work:

- Aboriginal Engagement Strategy
 - › *Respect, Recognition, Responsibility: the GNWT's Approach to Engaging with Aboriginal Governments.*
 - › *Respect, Recognition, Responsibility: a GNWT Employee Guide to Strengthening Relations with Aboriginal Government.*
 - › "Understanding Aboriginal and Treaty Rights in the NWT" public awareness campaign.
- Agreements with Aboriginal governments:
 - › Bilateral intergovernmental cooperation agreements with the Tłı̄cho Government, the Gwich'in Tribal Council, the Northwest Territory Métis Nation, and the Akaitcho Dene First Nations.
 - › Draft *Inuvialuit Self-government Agreement-in-Principle.*
 - › Draft *Déljı̄ne Final Self-Government Agreement and Finance Agreement.*
 - › Memorandum of Understanding on GNWT Contracting with the Gwich'in Tribal Council to maximize contracting opportunities for Aboriginal businesses in the settlement area.
- Federal engagement:
 - › The Federal Engagement Strategy, *The NWT and Canada: the Power of Partnership*, outlines the 17th Assembly's key federal priorities.
 - › NWT Days in Ottawa, January 30 to February 1, 2013.
- Amendments to the *Tłı̄cho Community Government Act.*
- Seven five-year Aboriginal language plans developed in partnership with Aboriginal governments.
- Partnered with Yamozha Kue Society, Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute and K'asho Got'ine Charter Community to develop medical terminology around cancer and cancer prevention in Chipewyan, Gwich'in and North and South Slavey.

Ongoing work:

- Devolution will establish an intergovernmental council for the GNWT and participating Aboriginal governments to collaborate and cooperate in the management of land and resources.
- All Aboriginal governments who are negotiating or have finalized a self-government agreement have been invited to enter into arrangements with the GNWT to assume a greater role in education delivery.



Negotiating and implementing a devolution final agreement

Completed Work:

- Devolution negotiations concluded in March 2013 and the Legislative Assembly voted to approve the *Final Devolution Agreement* on June 5th, 2013. The GNWT, the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, NWT Métis Nation, Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated, Gwich'in Tribal Council, Tłı̄cho Government and the Government of Canada signed the *Devolution Final Agreement* on June 25, 2013 in Inuvik. The agreement gives NWT residents a greater voice in decisions about how public land, water and resources are managed; how the economy is developed; and how the environment is protected.
- *Results of the Public Engagement in the Proposed Northwest Territories Lands and Resources Devolution Agreement*, based on more than 40 public and stakeholder meetings in all regions of the NWT during April and May 2013.
- New organizational design for the GNWT incorporates devolved responsibilities from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC). Over 100 job offers have been made to employees of AANDC's NWT Regional Office.
- Dedicated portal for GNWT and AANDC employees established on Devolution website.
- Bridging agreement with the Union of Northern Workers.

Ongoing work:

- The Devolution Implementation Committee, which includes the GNWT, Canada and participating Aboriginal Parties, has established 14 working groups with corresponding work plans to implement the Devolution Agreement:
 - › Legislative Analysis
 - › Lands
 - › Water and Environment
 - › Minerals, Oil & Gas
 - › Human Resources
 - › Buildings, Leases and Assets

- › Records
 - › Information Technology
 - › Contracts
 - › Finance
 - › Communications
 - › Post-Devolution Roles & Responsibilities
 - › Completion of Schedules
 - › Joint Legal Analysis Closing Team
- Mirror legislation and other legislative changes required to implement the *Devolution Final Agreement* are being finalized by Canada and the GNWT.

Achieving an increase to our borrowing limit

Completed work:

- Borrowing limit raised from \$575 million to \$800 million.

Working with our partners to ensure responsible stewardship through our land and resource management regime

Completed work:

- Agreements and frameworks:
 - › Sahtu Land Use Plan.
 - › Policy framework for electronic-waste recovery in the NWT.
- Reports and reviews:
 - › *Report of Environmental Assessments for Giant Mine Remediation.*
 - › *Report of Environmental Assessment for Fortune Minerals Nico Project.*
 - › Participated in the NEB's Arctic Review.
 - › Review of waste management and waste diversion program models across Canada.
- NWT-wide community-based water monitoring in partnership with 18 communities (36 sites on 15 rivers and lakes).

- Draft Forest Management Regulations, addressing the incidental use of forests.
- Caribou surveys:
 - › Community-based recruitment survey for the Bluenose West herd.
 - › Aerial calf recruitment survey for the Cape Bathurst herd.
 - › Aerial calf recruitment survey for the Tuktoyaktuk herd.
 - › Calving ground photo survey of the Bluenose East herd.

Ongoing work:

- Pilot project for e-waste recovery: Fort Smith, Fort Providence, Norman Wells and Fort McPherson.



Priority 2:

Increase employment opportunities where they are most needed

A strong, prosperous territory provides jobs and opportunities in all communities and regions and gives NWT residents the ability to support themselves and their families. The GNWT is committed to ensuring all residents have an opportunity to prosper by supporting strong local economies and job creation at the community level. We are working to move positions to the communities wherever it makes sense and improving our programs and services so they don't discourage people from working. But our efforts don't end there. We will also encourage business and industry to increase local employment opportunities and help communities prepare themselves to better attract and support more jobs.

Key accomplishments:

- Job opportunities throughout the NWT in a wide range of industries, including public service.
 - › 18 positions have been or are being decentralized in 2013-14
 - › Small Community Employment Supports
- Work incentives and socio-economic agreements to ensure it is always “worth it” to get and keep a job.
 - › Gahcho Kué Mine Socio-Economic Agreement
 - › New public housing rent scales
 - › Improved Child Care User Subsidy



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Decentralizing more GNWT positions

COMPLETED WORK:

- Workforce Planning Strategy, including a Regional Recruitment Strategy and Hard-to-Recruit methodology.
- In the 2013-14 fiscal year, 49 new GNWT positions were created in Fort Simpson, Inuvik, Hay River, Tsiigehtchic, Paulatuk, Fort Resolution, Fort Smith, Norman Wells, and Behchokò. One RCMP officer was added to Tulita.

ONGOING WORK:

- A comprehensive approach to decentralization is being developed to help support the creation of positions in communities in future years.
- Devolution implementation will take advantage of opportunities to establish positions outside of Yellowknife.

Reducing dependency on Government by encouraging people who are able to enter or remain in the workforce

COMPLETED WORK

- Direct benefits to clients:
 - › New public housing rent scale reduces the disincentive to work.
 - › The Small Community Employment Supports provided wage subsidy contracts for 166 individuals in 27 communities in 2012-13.
 - › 260 individuals were supported under the Community Initiatives program in 2012-13.
 - › Up to \$500 per person of Treaty and Impact Benefit Agreement payments are no longer counted as income for income assistance clients, ensuring they realise the full benefit of their claims.

- Gahcho Kué Mine Socio-Economic Agreement, recognizing importance of local hiring, training and procurement.
- New *Apprenticeship, Trade and Occupation Certification Act* and corresponding Regulations.
- New Minimum Wage Adjustment Committee.
- Action plan in response to the recommendations from the Student Financial Assistance program review, which included increases to the assistance provided to students.
- Labour force development needs assessment in collaboration with the NWT Mine Training Society, Akaitcho Territory Government, Dehcho First Nation, NWT Métis Nation and Tłı̄chò Government.
- Action Plan to respond to the recommendations of the OAG to improve delivery of Income Security Programs.
- A new income assistance benefit pays pardon fees for Income Assistance clients.
- 200 northerners received basic and advanced training in wildland fire activities, including skills development transferable to other employment opportunities in the North.

ONGOING WORK:

- Community wellness resources are being maximized by supporting and coordinating community wellness programming between the GNWT, Authorities, community governments, and NGOs.

Supporting child care programs to help parents become or stay employed

COMPLETED WORK:

- The Child Care User Subsidy was rolled into the Income Assistance Program to reduce red tape and rates were increased to provide greater benefits for low-income parents. The number of families receiving a child care subsidy has increased since this change.
- Revised NWT Child Day Care Regulations.

Priority 3: Strengthen and diversify our economy

The NWT has a wealth of economic potential that could create significant opportunities and wealth for not just our residents, but the whole country. If we want to make the most of that potential, we need to invest strategically in our infrastructure, make sure we have effective and efficient processes for managing and supporting responsible development and create plans that will help us identify and take advantage of all the economic opportunities available to us. And so we can be sure that economic growth is sustained and long-lasting, we need to diversify our economy, reducing our reliance on any single sector by supporting broad growth across many sectors in many communities.



Key accomplishments:

- Public infrastructure reduces the cost of living and promotes investment.
 - › Deh Cho Bridge
 - › Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk Highway (under construction)
 - › Mackenzie Valley Fibreoptic Link (in final planning stages)
 - › Corridors for Canada III
- Strategic support for small and large businesses throughout the territory.
 - › Economic Opportunities Strategy
 - › Pathways to Mineral Development
- Improved regulatory processes will protect the environment and promote certainty for investors.
 - › Participated in review of federal *NWT Surface Rights Board Act*

Making strategic infrastructure investments such as the Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk highway, the Mackenzie fiberoptic link, and hydro initiatives

COMPLETED WORK:

- Deh Cho Bridge, including toll collection system for commercial traffic.
- The Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk Highway project received federal investment of \$200 million and was approved by the NWT Legislative Assembly.
- *Corridors for Canada III: Building for Prosperity*, the GNWT's ten-year plan for investing in transportation infrastructure, was completed and provided to the Prime Minister and federal Ministers for consideration under the new Building Canada Plan.
- Developed measures to reduce the risk of vehicular incidents on the Mackenzie Valley winter road in consultation with exploration companies, trucking industry, and road maintenance contractors.
- *Seasonal Overland Road (SOR) Financing Options Study*: Economic feasibility study of constructing a seasonal overland route into the Slave Geologic Province.
- Project Description Report and Request for Qualifications process for the Mackenzie Valley Fiberoptic Link.

ONGOING WORK:

- The Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk Highway project is under construction.
- Mackenzie Valley Highway environmental assessment.
- Land access and Request for Proposals for the Mackenzie Valley Fiberoptic Link.

Supporting the Mackenzie Gas Pipeline project

ONGOING WORK:

- Strategic planning and GNWT coordination.
- Managing funding programs to help NWT residents, Aboriginal groups and communities meet the opportunities and challenges that the Mackenzie Gas Project will provide.

Developing a socially responsible and environmentally sustainable economic development and mining strategy

COMPLETED WORK:

- Economic Opportunities Strategy identifies opportunities and approaches for developing a strong, diverse economy in all regions of the NWT.
- Agreement with AANDC to amend the Forest Resources Transfer Agreement.
- Reports:
 - › *Resource Exploration in the Sahtu Area: Opportunities and Challenges*.
 - › *Environmental assessment report for Fortune Minerals NICO Project*.
 - › *What We Heard* (NWT Economic Opportunities Strategy Advisory Panel).
 - › *Pathways to Mineral Development* (Report of the NWT Mineral Development Strategy Engagement Panel).

Supporting the traditional economy

COMPLETED WORK:

- Growing Forward 2 will provide \$1.2 million per year for agriculture in the NWT over the next five years and includes support for community gardens, traditional food harvesting and Take a Kid Harvesting.
- Tourism 2015 continues to guide GNWT investments in the NWT tourism industry, with a goal of increasing the industry's value to \$130 million.
- Improved the Genuine Mackenzie Valley Furs Program.

ONGOING WORK:

- Support to artists through the SEED Policy, Support to Northern Performers Program, and NWT Arts Council.

Improving our regulatory processes

COMPLETED WORK:

- Represented the NWT in consultations on the development of the federal *NWT Surface Rights Board Act*.
- Draft Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Protection Plan and Wildlife Effects Monitoring Program Guidelines sent to industry, co-management partners and Aboriginal governments for review.
- Agreement with AANDC to amend the Forest Resources Transfer Agreement.

ONGOING WORK:

- Consultation with stakeholders on the revised Forest Management Regulations.
- Promoted NWT interests in federal work on proposed amendments to federal legislation in light of the Devolution Final Agreement and the federal government's Regulatory Improvement Initiative.
 - › *MVRMA*
 - › *NWT Act*
 - › *NWT Waters Act*
 - › *Territorial Lands Act*



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Priority 4: Address housing needs

Housing is central to personal success. Lack of suitable housing has far-reaching effects on people's health, socio-economic status, education and employment prospects. People need the stable and secure foundation that comes from having an affordable, suitable place to call home. The Government of the Northwest Territories is committed to addressing housing needs in all communities, so NWT residents can develop to their full potential as healthy, educated people and take advantage of the opportunities available to them now and in the future.

Key accomplishments:

- Addressed affordability challenges for residents in market rentals and public housing.
 - › New public housing rent scale
 - › New rent supplement program
- Encouraged homeownership.
 - › Changed homeownership subsidy to reflect needs of non-market communities and expand the pool of eligible clients
 - › New emergency repair program
 - › Revised mortgage balances and repayment options



Completing and implementing the shelter policy review including fair and sustainable public housing rent scales

COMPLETED WORK:

- Strategic framework:
 - › *Building for the Future: Northern Solutions for Northern Housing* outlines the direction the NWT Housing Corporation is taking to implement the Shelter Policy Review and address housing needs.
- New programs:
 - › Public housing rent scale.
 - › Transitional Rent Supplement program.
 - › Housing Appeal Committee.
 - › Provided revised mortgage balances and repayment options to all clients with mortgages held by the NWT Housing Corporation.
- Updated programs:
 - › CARE (Contributing Assistance for Repairs and Enhancements) Preventative Maintenance program.
 - › SAFE (Securing Assistance for Emergencies) program.
 - › PATH (Providing Assistance for Territorial Homeownership) homeownership purchase program to expand the potential client pool.
- New Homelessness Coordinator position.

Selling our public housing stock where this makes sense

ONGOING WORK:

- Continued disposal of single detached housing units in favour of building more energy efficient multi-dwelling public housing units.

Putting higher density housing units in small communities

ONGOING WORK:

- 98% of new public housing units are multi-family configuration.



Priority 5: Ensure a fair and sustainable health care system

A strong territory needs strong people. Personal strength comes from living in a supportive, safe community and having access to the programs and services people need to help them live healthy lives. The GNWT is committed to ensuring NWT residents achieve their full potential by giving our children the best start possible during their critical early years and making sure that everybody has the tools and support they need to overcome the challenges that might hold them back like poverty, poor mental and physical health and addictions.

Key accomplishments:

- Multi-stakeholder strategic frameworks and action plans to address long-term issues.
 - › Poverty
 - › Mental Health and Addictions
 - › Early Childhood Development
- New health infrastructure in communities.
 - › Hay River
 - › Fort Smith



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Investing in prevention, education and awareness and early childhood development

COMPLETED WORK:

- Strategic frameworks:
 - › *Building on the Strengths of Northerners: A Strategic Framework toward the Elimination of Poverty in the NWT.*
 - › *Right from the Start: A Framework for Early Childhood Development in the NWT.*
- Healthy Family Programs expanded to Inuvik, Fort McPherson, Fort Simpson, Fort Providence, and Fort Liard.

ONGOING WORK:

- GNWT action plan in response to *Building on the Strengths of Northerners*. The GNWT will also lead the work to develop and complete a monitoring, evaluation and accountability plan.
- GNWT action plan to support the Early Childhood Development Framework.
- Healthy Family Programs will be expanded to the Sahtu in 2013 and two additional sites per year until 2015-16.
- Improvements in efficiency through shared and collaborative services across Health and Social Services Authorities.
- Strategies in development:
 - › Cancer Awareness and Response Strategy
 - › Physical Activity Strategy
 - › Traditional Games Strategy (with the Aboriginal Sport Circle)

Enhancing addictions treatment programs using existing infrastructure

COMPLETED WORK:

- *A Shared Path Towards Wellness: Mental Health and Addiction Action Plan.*
- Reports and reviews:
 - › Minister's Forum on Addictions and Community Wellness report: Healing Voices.
 - › Review of the Matrix Program (Fort Smith).
 - › Feasibility study for the implementation of an NWT Wellness Court.
- Significant improvements to patient access to mental health and addictions services through the partnership between Stanton Territorial Health Authority, Yellowknife Health and Social Services, and the Department of Psychiatry at Dalhousie University.
- "Mental Health First Aid for Northern Peoples", a pan-territorial project developed in partnership with Mental Health Commission of Canada, piloted in Tuktoyaktuk.
- Matrix addictions treatment program expanded to Lutselk'e and Hay River.

ONGOING WORK:

- On-the-land healing and mobile addictions treatment programs will be piloted in 2013-14.
- Developing evaluation indicators and data-collecting strategies for mental health and addictions with Health and Social Services Authorities.
- Mental Health First Aid and Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training will be offered in three regions annually.
- "My Voice, My Choice" social marketing campaign for youth.
- Not Us! continues to provide funding and support to create community-based campaigns combating drug and alcohol use.

Addressing our health facilities deficit

COMPLETED WORK:

- Hay River Reserve Health Centre.
- Phase II renovations for the Fort Smith Health Centre.

ONGOING WORK:

- Arrangements in place for NWT medevac patients to access Alberta Health Services Air Operations Centre at Edmonton International Airport.
- Construction:
 - › Long Term Care Facility in Behchokò.
 - › Phase III renovations for the Fort Smith Health Centre.
- Design and Construction:
 - › Hay River Health Centre.
 - › Fort Providence Health Centre.



Other achievements

Advancing the interests of NWT residents means working on many initiatives and projects in a broad range of areas. It also means continuing to improve, manage and deliver the many programs and services that NWT residents have come to expect and rely on. Much of this work goes on behind the scenes, but it is still critical to ensuring that we are helping to create the kind of territory people want, a territory that celebrates its vibrant and diverse cultural heritage, that supports its people to learn and thrive, that protects and conserves the environment and that is served by an efficient and effective government staffed by dedicated, professional public servants.

Key accomplishments:

- Programs and services that promote and protect the NWT's cultural diversity and historical legacy.
 - › Residential schools curriculum
 - › Strategic Plan on French Language Communications and Services
 - › Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Training program
 - › Recognized as a "Top Diversity Employer" and for "Innovation in Diversity"
 - › Wek'èahkaa: A New Day healing program
- Worked with partners to protect the environment and reduce greenhouse gases.
 - › NWT Solar Strategy 2012-2017
 - › Revised NWT Biomass Strategy 2012-2015
 - › Feasibility review of installing biomass boilers in four GNWT assets in communities
- Worked with FPT partners to promote sustainability of social housing:
 - › Chairing the Federal Provincial Territorial Housing Forum with a focus on sustainable social housing
- Major agreements for a stable GNWT workforce:
 - › Four-year collective agreements:
 - Union of Northern Workers
 - Northwest Territories Medical Association
 - NWT Teachers' Association
 - › Memorandum of Agreement on Safe Disclosure of Information

Education:

COMPLETED WORK:

- Adult Recognition Model.
- Comprehensive collection of resources exploring the history and legacy of residential schools.

ONGOING WORK:

- Education Renewal and Innovation.
- Review of adult and post-secondary education.
- Co-lead jurisdiction for the Council of Ministers of Education Canada on issues relating to Aboriginal education.
- Amendments to the *Education Act* to include bullying prevention measures and ensure the development of safe school plans for NWT schools.

Culture:

COMPLETED WORK:

- *Strategic Plan on French Language Communications and Services.*
- Four-year agreement with Nunavut for the professional care and storage of Nunavut's museum and archives collection.

ONGOING WORK:

- Strategic Plan for Culture and Heritage.

Environment:

COMPLETED WORK:

- Feasibility review of installing biomass boilers in GNWT assets:
 - › Air Terminal Buildings in Yellowknife and Norman Wells
 - › Combined Service Building and Mackenzie Mountain School in Norman Wells
 - › New Office Building in Fort Simpson
- Strategies
 - › NWT Solar Strategy 2012-2017.
 - › Revised NWT Biomass Strategy 2012-2015.
- Expanded the solar array in Fort Simpson from 60kW to 100kW.
- New NWT climate change website.
- Amended the Good Building Practices for Northern Facilities Guidelines.

ONGOING WORK:

- By the end of 2013/14 the GNWT's total cumulative reduction in fossil fuel consumption for space heating buildings is expected to exceed 13.5 million litres with a corresponding cumulative decrease in greenhouse gas emissions of over 36,000 tonnes.

Effective, efficient Government:

COMPLETED WORK:

- Financial Shared Services:
 - › Phase 1 of a Procurement Shared Services included ten departments.
 - › Beaufort-Delta Financial Shared Services.
- Three collective agreements, including a Memorandum of Agreement on Safe Disclosure of Information and Memorandum of Understanding on Rest Periods.
- GNWT Careers website.

- International and national recognition:
 - › Canada's Top 100 Employers.
 - › Canada's Top Diversity Employers.
 - › Top 10 Innovation in Diversity.
- Transferred specialized Health Human Resources functions to Health and Social Services and piloted a Service Partnership Agreement. The new System Human Resource Planning division at Health and Social Services provides leadership and management of the human resource strategy and programs related to the recruitment and retention of health and social services providers.
- Occupational Health and Safety Policy.
- Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Training program.
- Established seven Committees-of-Cabinet and respective DM Committees.
- Established Sustainability of Rural and Remote Communities.

Housing:

COMPLETED WORK:

- Developed overall strategic approach related to the declining federal funding.
- Increased GNWT contribution to offset declines in federal funding to operate public housing.

ONGOING WORK:

- Chairing the Federal Provincial Territorial Housing Forum with a focus on sustainability of social housing within Canada.

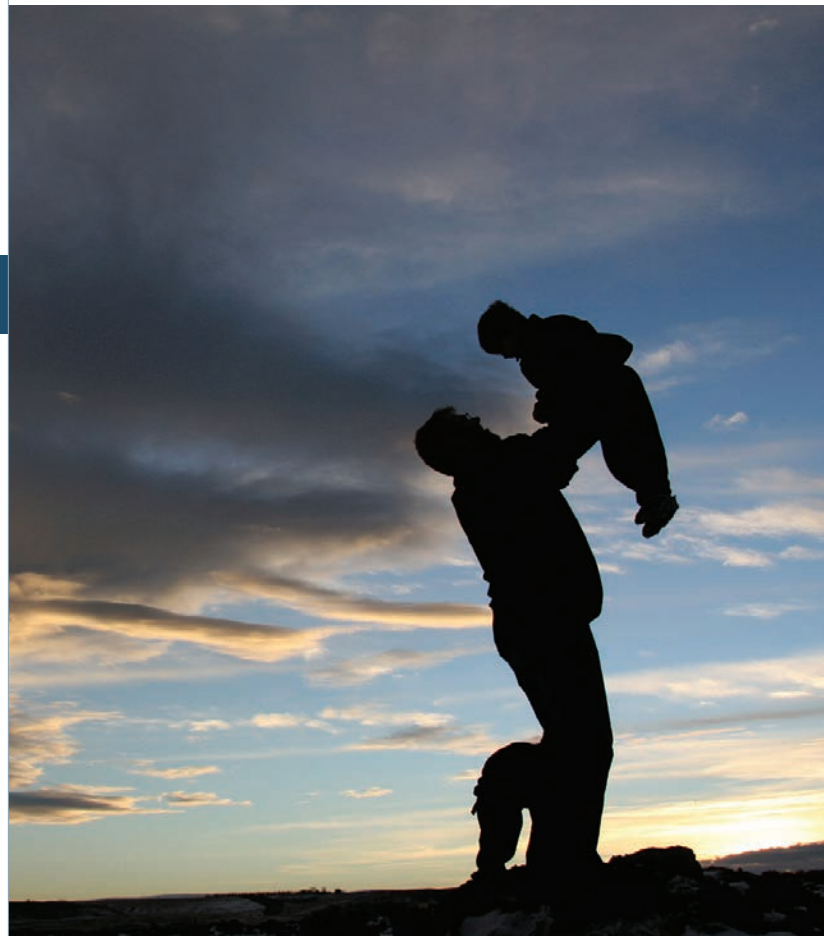
Justice:

COMPLETED WORK:

- Wek'èahkaa: A New Day healing program.

ONGOING WORK:

- Exploring collaborative approaches to integrate case management, support increased diversions, and focus on prevention. This work includes the development of a wellness court focusing on underlying issues of addictions and mental illness.



What's next?

The second half of the 17th Assembly will build on the successes of its first two years, with new responsibility for managing public lands and resources, strategic investments in infrastructure, and enhanced programs and services for all Northwest Territories residents.

Devolution will create over 250 new GNWT jobs as of April 1, 2014. Of these, roughly half are expected to be filled by staff who were doing similar jobs for the federal government in the Northwest Territories just before the transfer of responsibility. The GNWT's new organizational design will integrate its current responsibilities with the devolved authorities, creating a new Lands department and updating the structure of three others. New GNWT jobs will be available in communities through devolution and through other initiatives that support residents close to home.

The Mackenzie Valley Fibreoptic Link will give Northerners greater and more modernized program and service delivery for tele-health, online learning, e-commerce, and more. It will diversify the economies in communities along its path, and is an important first step toward developing the communications infrastructure needed for continued economic growth. It will also benefit the development of the Inuvik Satellite Station Facility, a world-class location for receiving data from satellites.

Action plans to eliminate poverty, create economic opportunities, revitalize the education system and provide improved mental health and addictions services will be implemented in the final half of the 17th Assembly. These plans are the result of strategic planning with NGOs, other northern governments, and industry partners. They are long-term plans that require vision and commitment, and will have significant positive effects throughout the territory. These initiatives have several common themes:

- Having the right governance and foundational infrastructure is critical for success.
- Programs and services need to be accessible and effective.
- People, communities and regions know what is right for them.
- Building capacity is key to success.
- Accountability is a pillar of good governance.

The Government of the Northwest Territories wants to see an NWT where all people can thrive and be healthy, where a well-managed environment contributes to our economic wellbeing and quality of life, and where a strong economy provides jobs and opportunities for communities and regions. The GNWT is committed to achieving this vision of social progress, environmental sustainability and economic development built on a foundation of partnership and strong consensus government. The work we have done over the past two years provides a solid foundation that will help us as we implement the strategies and action plans we have developed to realize the vision of the people and Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories.



Achieving Our Priorities

Believing in People and Building
on the Strengths of Northerners