



**Government of the Northwest Territories Response to  
Motion 37-20(1): Mackenzie Valley Highway Business Case Renewal**

**Motion**

***NOW THEREFORE, I MOVE, seconded by the Member for Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, that the Government of the Northwest Territories update the business case to complete the Mackenzie Valley Highway immediately;***

***AND FURTHER, that the Government of the Northwest Territories use the updated business case to formalize Indigenous partners in the project and to lobby the federal government in partnership to secure the funding required in the upcoming federal budget to build this critical infrastructure for the territories and Canada;***

***AND FURTHERMORE, that the Government of the Northwest Territories provide a response to this motion within 120 days.***

**GNWT Response**

The Mackenzie Valley Highway (MVH) has been a longstanding vision for the Northwest Territories (NWT), aligning closely with the government's mandate priorities around economic development and strategic infrastructure investment, as well as supporting critical infrastructure needed for emergency management efforts. The current drought and climate-related impacts have underscored the urgent need to advance this project quickly.

Work is underway to develop an updated business case for the MVH project. The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) is committed to the timely completion of this work and recognizes the importance of ensuring the business case reflects the current need, urgency and opportunities associated with the MVH. It is anticipated that this collaborative work will result in an updated business case in early 2025, and that it will be sufficient to inform future federal engagement.

The Department of Infrastructure (INF) is dedicated to working collaboratively with interested Indigenous governments on this important work, and the GNWT fully supports collaborative advocacy with Indigenous governments to advance the MVH with the Federal Government and other relevant parties. Indigenous involvement and collaboration are not only crucial for the success of the project, but also in ensuring that the benefits it will bring serve the communities and residents of the NWT.

Canada will also need to play a strong collaborative role in supporting construction of the national-scale MVH transportation corridor. The GNWT cannot manage the costs of a project of this magnitude without significant federal investment.