

Leadership Commitment Snapshot

**Governance reforms, advocacy,
reconciliation, and shared priorities
for efficient action.**



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Reforming How We Govern

- Strengthen the standing committee system by making each committee chair an Associate Minister, enabling them to access their counterparts' pre-session briefings, and have observer status in committees of Cabinet, meetings of the Intergovernmental Council and the Council of Leaders.
- Allow Cabinet Ministers to debate motions brought forward by Regular Members and standing committees, bring forward their own motions unrelated to their role as Minister.
- Ministers will not be subject to Cabinet solidarity on votes except for public bills and appropriation bills.
- Provide additional staffing to Ministers to ensure effective direction is provided to the public service and that communication is current, consistent, and clear with the public at large.
- Develop new portfolios for Treaties, Addictions, Official Languages, Net Zero, and Red Tape Reduction that will be integrated into existing Ministries to refocus departmental priorities and give the public and Indigenous Nations more clarity on government objectives.
- A fixed-time Premier's Question Period to be held at least once a legislative sitting where the Premier does not transfer questions to other Ministers and answers directly to Members.
- Organize policy subjects under one departmental mandate, such as immigration policies which are currently split between Education, Culture and Employment (ECE) and Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI)
- Dissolve the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs and replace it with new departments of Infrastructure & Communities and Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness.
- Strengthen corporate functions of government with a new Executive Council Office and NWT Treasury Board that coordinate GNWT policies across all departments and ensure an all-of-government approach to policy implementation and service delivery.

- Appoint Regional Directors that report to the Premier, bringing departments together in regions to ensure successful program delivery and liaising on the ground with local, regional, and Indigenous governments.
- Hold annual Leadership Summits between all MLAs in Caucus and Indigenous leaders, codifying these summits into conventions.
- Regular caucus meetings that are longer and more thorough for information sharing to discuss the governments legislative and fiscal agenda.

Advocating Effectively for Change

- Adopt a Team NWT approach where the Premier will lead missions to Ottawa, provinces, and international destinations in concert with Indigenous leaders furthering federal cooperation on infrastructure, land claims negotiations, housing, NIHB, Nutrition North, offshore oil and gas, and northern defence infrastructure.
- Hold a Constitutional Convention in two years, if not sooner, to discuss the future of the NWT with representatives from Indigenous nations, the Government of Canada, the Government of the Northwest Territories, and civil society. This will discuss comprehensive changes to the NWT Act, devolve the remaining powers held by Ottawa, and provide to Indigenous Nations legislative oversight over what the public government does as an appointed senate.

Taking Real Action on Reconciliation

- Withdraw from Quebec's lawsuit against federal Bill C-92 and formally apologize to the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation for unconstitutionally preventing them from having jurisdiction over their children and youth.
- Issue a formal apology for the illegal raid on Lutselk'e Dene First Nation and further direct that fair compensation be provided to the people of Lutselk'e for their suffering.

- Make progress on outstanding land claims by issuing new negotiation mandates within one year of swearing-in the next Cabinet and new offers at all tables within two years.
- Indigenize policy development across all departments to ensure programs and services are regionally based and recognize the unique needs of each of our communities.

Shared Priorities We Can Get Done Quickly

- Support a motion to establish an Independent Commission to investigate the wildfire and flooding disasters while directing the public service to cooperate fully with the process so Northerners can understand why and how decisions were made. The commission will also make recommendations on how we can move forward together to prevent future disasters.
- Ensure our supply chain is intact and uninterrupted by completing the Mackenzie Valley Highway.
- Develop regional treatment centres across our communities through establishing a treatment centre working group that brings together Indigenous governments, municipalities, and civil society to identify barriers to success, jointly apply for funding, and develop culturally relevant terms of reference for each program and facility.
- Close the municipal funding gap by the the first operational maintenance budget, fully funding our communities or changing the funding formula to make it workable within the means of our fiscal framework.
- Scrap the NWT carbon tax and replace it with the federal system to improve efficiency and lower administrative costs. Direct the Department of Finance to create a grant rebate program to offset extra costs for heating oil until the federal exemptions kick in.



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