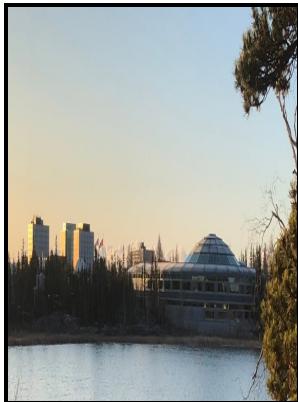


PRIORITIES FOR THE NORTH - A SUBMISSION BY THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

-- Budget 2020



Description: -

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Legislative Assembly of The Northwest Territories

The 18th Assembly established two special committees: The Special Committee to Increase the Representation of Women and the Special Committee on Transition Matters. Significant recommendations for the North were made in the final report of the Canada Transportation Act Review Panel in February of this year.

Assembly passes motion urging review of NWT Housing Corporation

Although Premier McLeod joined with other premiers in objecting to the two controversial bills, this collaboration has not extended to the outright opposition to the carbon tax seen from some provincial governments. Further, the territory was able to establish a rebate system for large industrial emitters, namely the three diamond mines in the NWT: 75 percent of the carbon taxes they will pay on fuels not used for transportation will be rebated directly to them, with the remaining tax revenue held in trust and available to them for green technology projects. The Legislative Assembly has three types of committees - Committee of the Whole, Standing Committees and Special Committees.

New NWT government releases list of priorities

The Government of the Northwest Territories has also been working with its partners in the Tlicho Government to advance a 97 kilometre all-season road to the community of Whati.

Tabled Documents

Others observed that there was great difficulty in actually administering such a large geographical region, which was a contributing factor in the creation of the District of Keewatin on the same day that the North-West Territories Act was proclaimed. Public meetings could include discussion on a Bill that was recently given to the Committee to review, discussions with Ministers on various topics, public updates of programs and services

offered by the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Budget 2020

While there was widespread appreciation for the effort to improve in the region, critics were quick to highlight its deficiencies. The completion of the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway will establish a land based connection across Canada from coast to coast to coast for the first time.

Northern priorities and carbon pricing

Budget 2020 invests in individuals and families, making it easier for residents to access programs and services, expanding important education initiatives like Northern Learning Centres, strengthening supports for residents to age in place, and providing tax benefits to help address the high cost of living in the North. Currently, only 33 percent of the land area of the NWT is within 100 kilometres of all-weather road, and only 12 of our 33 communities have uninterrupted access via the all-weather highway system.

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