



THE PREMIER OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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JUL 14 2014

**HONOURABLE JACKSON LAFFERTY
MINISTER OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND EMPLOYMENT
MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WORKERS' SAFETY AND COMPENSATION
COMMISSION**

I am writing to provide an updated mandate for the Education, Culture and Employment Portfolio. You are also the Minister Responsible for Workers Safety and Compensation Commission. This mandate may be continue to be amended as circumstances require.

It is critical that as Cabinet, we continue to carry out the responsibilities that have been entrusted to us in a manner that will bear the closest possible scrutiny. As we make important and sometimes difficult decisions to advance the Goals and Priorities of the 17th Legislative Assembly, Cabinet solidarity remains essential. As a Cabinet Minister, you are responsible and accountable for the decisions taken by Cabinet as a whole.

Our government's commitment to accountability and transparency remains and as such I will be publicly releasing all updates to mandates.

I thank you for your leadership and hard work, and look forward to continuing to work with you, our Cabinet colleagues and all members of the Legislative Assembly to do our very best for the people of the Northwest Territories.

Robert R. McLeod

Attachment

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
YELLOWKNIFE, NT
CANADA X1A 2L9
Telephone (867) 669-2311
Facsimile (867) 873-0385

Minister of Education, Culture and Employment

- Work closely with education partners, including Aboriginal Student Achievement (ASA) partnership declaration signatories, to develop an action plan for the implementation of the Education Renewal and Innovation (ERI) Framework, which is intended to improve education for all students, while continuing to achieve the goals and priorities of the 2011 ASA Education Plan, ultimately closing the gap between Aboriginal and other students.
- Together with the Minister of Health and Social Services, implement and monitor the comprehensive Early Childhood Development Framework.
- Support the implementation and report on Aboriginal Language Plans.
- In collaboration with the Ministers of Industry, Tourism and Investment and Human Resources, develop strategies and actions to increase employment opportunities where they are needed most.
- Respond to the recommendations stemming from the review of the Student Financial Assistance (SFA) Program to provide adequate levels of financial support to students and help develop a healthy, educated workforce and skills and human resources to meet the needs of northern communities.
- Support the efforts of our government to transition to post-devolution roles, including new decision-making authorities and responsibilities for land, water and resource management.
- Revise Income Security System policies and benefits in order to reduce dependency on government by encouraging capable people to enter or remain in the workforce.
- Work with the Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment to support arts, culture and heritage programs.
- Support the implementation of the Economic Opportunities Strategy.
- Lead the development of a Culture and Heritage Strategic Plan for the GNWT.
- Support the efforts of our government to advance the Federal Engagement Strategy.
- In collaboration with the Education Authorities, implement the Safe Schools Strategy.
- Complete review of post-secondary, adult education, career development and other related programs and services.

- Advance the goal of the GNWT's Growth Strategy to increase the NWT population by 2000 people by 2019, particularly through options and strategies for public service recruitment and retention.