



## THE PREMIER OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

# CHRONO

HONOURABLE J. MICHAEL MILTENBERGER JUL 14 2014  
MINISTER OF FINANCE  
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES POWER CORPORATION  
CHAIRMAN OF THE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT BOARD

JUL 14 2014

## Portfolio Mandate Confirmation

I am writing to thank you for your efforts on behalf of the Government of the Northwest Territories and confirm my expectation for the remainder of the term.

The specific mandates for the Finance and Environment and Natural Resources portfolios are attached. These mandates are consistent with the recently amended Establishment Policies for both departments. You are also the Minister Responsible for the Northwest Territories Power Corporation and the Chairman of the Financial Management Board.

In addition to the portfolios listed above, you serve as Chair of the Economic and Employment Development Committee-of-Cabinet mandated to consider, evaluate and provide advice on a range of actions concerning economic development and employment strategies. You also serve as Chair of the Refocusing Government Committee-of-Cabinet, mandated to propose, track and evaluate efforts to improve operations and effectively manage resources.

Our government has assumed new responsibilities for an already well-developed environmental protection and regulatory system as part of devolution. As a Responsible Minister you will play a key role in carrying out these new responsibilities.

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 17<sup>th</sup> 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 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 D. Merton

Robert R. McLeod

## Attachments

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
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## **Minister of Finance**

- Support the successful implementation of the Devolution Final Agreement, specifically in regards to financing aspects and net fiscal benefit.
- 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.
- Establish and maintain a culture of prudent fiscal management by developing budgets that addresses the Legislative Assembly's priorities but also recognize the government's finite resources and respect our "Fiscal Responsibility Policy".
- Seek an increase of \$1 billion to the GNWT borrowing limit from the Government of Canada.
- Develop a strategy and long-term plan to manage the government's overall debt burden.
- Recognizing that our sources of revenue are at times volatile, explore options for stabilizing our revenues for budgetary purposes.
- Advance the Mackenzie Valley Fibre Link Project through the P-3 process.
- In association with PWS and H&SS lead the advancement of the Stanton Territorial Hospital through the P-3 process.
- Implement Financial Shared Services model throughout the GNWT to improve government-wide information and reporting in support of transparency and decision-making.
- Provide benefits administration, payroll and human resource management system services to the Government of the Northwest Territories.
- Support the efforts of our government to advance the federal engagement strategy.
- 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.

## **Minister of Environment and Natural Resources**

- Lead collaborative implementation of the NWT Water Stewardship Strategy and Plan for Action with partners including Aboriginal governments and communities.
- Negotiate transboundary water agreements with Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Yukon.
- Responsible for the regulation of NWT waters as legislated by the NWT Water Act.
- 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.
- Support coordinated and integrated decision-making for devolved responsibilities for the management of lands, resources and rights with respect to water.
- Lead the implementation of northern conservation tools.
- Take action on climate change by implementing actions outlined in the Greenhouse Gas Strategy and advancing community-based alternative energy initiatives.
- Implement the Barren Ground Caribou Management Strategy with available resources.
- Implement recommendations from the Forest Fire Management Program Review with available resources.
- Conduct a review of the Waste Reduction and Recovery Program and expand the program in areas identified in the review.
- Responsible for managing the clean-up of abandoned contaminated sites for which the GNWT is responsible and assessing and monitoring the clean-up of other contaminated sites throughout the NWT.
- Lead the implementation of the NWT Traditional Knowledge Policy.
- As lead for the NWT Science Agenda, work collaboratively with federal and academic partners to ensure northern research and monitoring activities reflect the priorities of NWT residents.
- Support GNWT participation in Environmental Assessment and regulatory processes.
- Support the efforts of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and intergovernmental relations to lead the GNWT's participation in the Intergovernmental Council established pursuant to the Devolution Final Agreement.

- Support the efforts of our government to advance the federal engagement strategy.