

***Political Accord***

***Between***

***South Slave Métis Tribal Council (“SSMTC”)***

***And***

***Government of the Northwest Territories (“GNWT”)***

***(Hereinafter referred to as the “Parties”)***

***November 23, 2001***

**Whereas** the SSMTC desires a political accord with the territorial government to address certain matters, including:

- The exploration of revenue sources needed to support investments in economic, cultural and social development; and,
- Capacity building.

**And whereas**, the 14<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories has committed itself to working with the SSMTC and other NWT Aboriginal Peoples in building a shared vision for the Northwest Territories;

**And whereas** both parties desire to formalize a government-to-government relationship;

**And whereas** the South Slave Métis negotiations table is the sole forum in which the parties and the federal government have agreed to negotiate with the indigenous Métis of the South Slave and it is not the intention of the parties through this political accord to establish an alternate or parallel forum to negotiate or address matters described for negotiation in the South Slave Métis Framework Agreement;

**Now therefore**, the Parties agree as follows:

## **1. Objectives**

- i. The GNWT and SSMTC agree to work together on a variety of subjects including the following and any others the parties may agree to:
  - Develop the capacity of the SSMTC and the Métis Councils of Fort Resolution, Fort Smith and Hay River, bearing in mind the need for the smooth implementation of the South Slave Métis Agreement now under negotiation;
  - Development of common goals and objectives;
  - Improve communications and co-operation between the parties in the areas of political, economic, cultural and social development;

- The consideration of possible arrangements for the SSMTC and the GNWT in the area of natural resources and the sharing of resource revenues;
  - SSMTC initiatives that might have implications on the GNWT; and,
  - GNWT and territorial initiatives that might have implications on the SSMTC pursuant to the South Slave Métis Final Agreement.
- ii. The parties agree to meet periodically with the aim of having open, candid and without prejudice discussions to share ideas and information on an ongoing basis on the broad topics outlined above and on specific initiatives or issues as agreed from time to time.
  - iii. The parties to the Accord shall work towards enhancing the co-ordination of activities and improving communications between GNWT regional and headquarters operations and the SSMTC.
  - iv. The GNWT agrees to provide the SSMTC with resources to participate in these periodic discussions and meet the objectives of this Accord. Such funding is subject to an annual review by the sponsor, general terms and conditions of government contribution agreements and available resources.
  - v. Nothing in this Accord prevents the parties from participating in other intergovernmental processes or agreements.

## **2. South Slave Métis Negotiations**

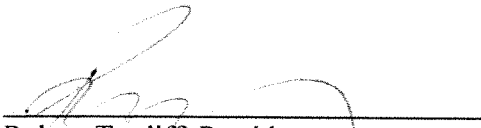
- i. The intent of discussions that arise from this Accord is to be supportive of South Slave Métis negotiations.
- ii. The role of the GNWT in the South Slave Métis negotiations has been set out in the South Slave Métis Framework Agreement.
- iii. The parties commit to work together to address any links between the two processes that may arise with a view to guaranteeing the integrity of the South Slave Métis negotiations pursuant to the


South Slave Métis Framework Agreement. Where there is an inconsistency or conflict between this Accord and the South Slave Métis Framework Agreement or the South Slave Métis Agreement, the South Slave Métis Framework Agreement or the South Slave Métis Agreement shall have precedence over this Accord.

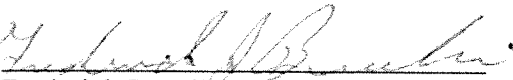
- iv. For greater certainty, the parties agree that discussions under way pursuant to this Accord should not overlap with or in any other way interfere with South Slave Métis negotiations.
- v. The Chief Negotiators to the South Slave Métis Negotiations will be kept informed and be consulted on discussions related to subject matters identified in this Accord.
- vi. This Accord shall be reviewed by the parties on an annual basis.
- vii. This Accord may be terminated by any one party, or parties, following the receipt of written notification by the other party or parties.

Signed at Fort Smith, Northwest Territories on November 23, 2001

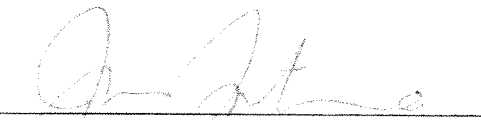
Representing the South Slave Métis Tribal Council:

  
Robert Tordiff, President

  
Cecil Lafferty, Vice President

  
Frederick Beaulieu, Secretary/Treasurer

Representing the Government of the Northwest Territories:

  
Honourable Jim Antoine  
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs