



NWT Devolution of Lands & Resources: *A Seamless Transition*

GNWT - Shaleen Woodward, ADM Devolution
Implementation

AANDC - Stephen Van Dine, DG Devolution and
Territorial Relations

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Overview of Presentation

- Overview of NWT Devolution Agreement
- Transition - Implementation
- Working Together
- More to Come



NWT Devolution

NWT Devolution is the transfer of responsibility for managing public land, water and resources in the NWT from Canada to the GNWT.

- Negotiations began in 2002 and concluded in March of 2013
- *NWT Land and Resources Devolution Agreement*
 - Signed June 25, 2013
 - Canada, GNWT and five Aboriginal governments
- Transfer is targeted for **April 1, 2014**



Partners in Progress

Aboriginal, territorial and federal leaders identified the devolution of lands and resources as a priority at 1st NWT Intergovernmental Forum in May 2000

Final Agreement was signed June 25, 2013.

Signatories currently include:

- Government of Canada
- Government of the Northwest Territories
- Inuvialuit Regional Corporation
- Northwest Territory Métis Nation
- Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated
- Gwich'in Tribal Council
- Tlicho Government

Canada and the GNWT have undertaken section 35 consultations with all Aboriginal groups in the NWT

	YU	NWT	NU
Policy Decision			
Framework Agreement / Negotiation Protocol	1998	2004	2008
Agreement in Principle (AIP)		2011	
Final Agreement			
Legislation & Transition	2001	2013	
Implementation	2003	2014	



Benefits of Devolution

Legislative and Delegated Authority – Authorities currently found in about 27 federal acts and regulations will transfer to the GNWT, delegated authority under the MVRMA

Program Authority – ability to deliver and design/modify

Budgets – \$67.3 million per year to deliver related programs

Resource Revenues – up to 50% of revenues collected from resource development on public land

- GNWT will share up to 25% of its revenues with participating Aboriginal governments – an unprecedented sharing agreement in Canada

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Implementing the Agreement

Parties to the Agreement are committed to a seamless transition of authorities and services. Accomplishments to date include:

- *Joint Working Groups established* to prepare for transition of legislation, records, assets, leases, buildings, systems & staff
- *GNWT Organizational Design completed*
- *New Department of Lands announced*, DM and Minister designate appointed
- *Job offers made* to impacted AANDC staff
- *Second reading of Territorial Legislation* (three Acts) in Legislative Assembly, with four more Acts planned for tabling in the Winter Session

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Transition of Regulatory Regime

- Combination of implementing NWT Devolution Agreement (Canada and GNWT) and *Action Plan to Improve Northern Regulatory Regimes* (Canada)
- Devolution Agreement Chapter 3 implemented by April 1, 2014 (Legislation, regulations, Orders In Council and Memorandums of Understanding)
- Operational transfers of dispositions and records, including notifications
- Canada's Action Plan changes (timelines, board restructuring, policy direction, etc.) will have varied coming into force dates
- AANDC will work with GNWT, Aboriginal governments, other government departments, boards and industry to clarify and manage changes
..... will require sequencing and outreach

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Working Together

Devolution will create new opportunities for public and Aboriginal governments to work together on land and resource management through :

- an *Intergovernmental Council*
to coordinate land and resource management
- an *Onshore/Offshore Cooperation Agreement*
to coordinate transboundary jurisdictions
- a *Waste Sites Management Committee*
to provide recommendations on remediation

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More to Come...

The following presentations today will provide more detail on:

- The administration of mineral rights after devolution
- How applications are being treated with devolution in mind
- Continuation of existing rights and interests
- Residual Federal Lands
- GNWT legislative and policy framework
- Departmental structure
- Day-to-day operations

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Aboriginal Affairs and
Northern Development Canada

Affaires autochtones et
Développement du Nord Canada



Questions?

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