

FOR RELEASE  
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## **Territorial premiers meet to discuss northern policy**

*Joint news release*

The premiers of Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut met in Vancouver this week to discuss northern policy and common pan-territorial priorities, including sustainable development. Premiers reaffirmed their support for mining, and commitment to a robust, sustainable economy in the North.

Premiers discussed plans for cooperating on a pan-territorial vision for ongoing growth and development. The Government of the Northwest Territories will lead the development of a Sustainable Development Strategy that will help ensure that Northerners have a strong, collective voice in ongoing discussions about the future of the North and have a role in shaping any decisions affecting the North and its people.

Premiers will also collaborate, and work with Indigenous peoples in their respective territories, to develop a common set of values and principles which will guide the development of a new Pan-Territorial Northern Policy.

### **Quotes**

"I am pleased to meet with my territorial counterparts to discuss our shared priorities. I am committed to ensuring that the views of Yukoners are reflected in federal Arctic policy work and to developing northern solutions for northern concerns."

*–Yukon Premier Sandy Silver*

"Decisions about the North must be made by Northerners. We are not content to stand aside and let other governments or countries tell us how and when the North can be developed. We have lived here for generations and have a direct stake in creating a strong and sustainable future according to Northern priorities and values. A pan-territorial vision for territorial growth and sustainability based on shared principles will be an important way for ensuring Northerners continue to play a rightful role in Northern decisions."

*–Northwest Territories Premier Bob McLeod*

"It's critical that any new policy framework that specifically addresses the Arctic must involve and have input from Northerners and the three territorial governments. Our meeting reaffirmed and reiterated that point."

*–Nunavut Premier Peter Taptuna*

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