



FOR RELEASE
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Premiers work together to strengthen Canada's economic future

WHITEHORSE—Premier Darrell Pasloski discussed matters of national importance with other leaders at the Council of the Federation meeting in Halifax on July 26 and 27.

"We made decisions on a number of topics that are important to all of us as Canadians, under the theme of leadership and shaping Canada's economic future," Pasloski said. "Premiers share a commitment through this unique and strong federation to working together for the benefit of all our citizens. The success of our meeting in Halifax demonstrates the effectiveness of this approach."

The premiers' talks covered topics including health care, infrastructure development, immigration and the economy.

"I led the discussion on the need for coordinated and strategic investment in, and development of, key infrastructure," Pasloski added. "This built on the discussions I led on this topic at the recent Northern Premiers' Forum and Western Premiers' Conference. We are also in agreement that the federal government needs to work with provinces and territories on a long-term predictable and flexible infrastructure funding plan."

The premiers endorsed and released *From Innovation to Action*, a report developed by COF's Health Care Innovation Working Group. All provinces and territories contributed to the work of the group and the report was developed with input from representatives of the Canadian Medical Association and the Canadian Nurses' Association. The report provides concrete recommendations on ways to improve patient outcomes for those suffering from heart disease and diabetes.

The premiers also agreed to establish a working group to work with provincial and territorial Energy ministers to build on the 2007 COF document, *A Shared Vision for Energy in Canada*.

"This working group will support growth in the economy, encourage sustainable development and recognize the important role of First Nations. It will also address environmental approaches to the developing energy sector," Pasloski said.

Before their meeting, premiers held talks with national Aboriginal leaders including National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations, Shawn Atleo to discuss education, economic development and preventing violence against Aboriginal women and girls.

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