

July 29, 2019

House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada K1A 0A6

To: *The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau*

I would like to draw your attention to our correspondence to yourself of July 2, 2019 regarding the importance of a speedy completion of an all season Mackenzie Valley road due to continuing climate change issues. We have heard from Michael McLeod, MP Northwest Territories and were encouraged to hear that this project is on the Federal Liberal radar.

Votes win elections, and good government guarantees equitable attention and action regardless of the number of votes from a region. As the climate warms and permafrost thaws, the urgency of the Arctic's challenges come into plain view: resupply is threatened, existing infrastructure such as housing is endangered and the ice and winter road systems become unsafe for travel. Our region requires your attention.

We have enclosed the letter and package we have subsequently sent to the following stakeholders:

- Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers
- Conoco Philipps Canada - Kirk Johnson, President
- Paramount Resources Ltd. - J.H.T (Jim) Riddell, President CEO
- Husky Energy Inc. - Victor T.K. Li, Co-Chairman
- Town of Inuvik - Mayor Natasha Kulikowski
- Village of Tuktoyaktuk - Mayor Darrel Nasogaluak
- Colville Lake - Chief Wilbert Kochon
- Deline - Ekw'atide Leeroy Andre
- Fort Good Hope - Chief Daniel Masuzumi
- Tulita - Mayor Rocky Norwegian Sr.
- Premier Robert McLeod - Minister of Executive and Indigenous Affairs
- Deputy Minister Eleanor Young - Municipal and Community Affairs
- Norman Wells Land Corporation - Sherry Hodgson
- Norman Wells and District Chamber of Commerce
- Sahtu MLA Legislative Assembly of the NWT - Danny McNeely
- Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment, Infrastructure - Wally Schumann
- NWT Chamber of Commerce
- Nunavut Chamber of Mines

The health and welfare of the Sahtu Region and the NWT is of great importance to each of the named stakeholders.

We draw your attention to “Northern Lights, A Wake-Up Call for the Future of Canada”, (June 2019) a report of the special senate committee on the Arctic. A report commissioned to “...consider the significant and rapid changes to the Arctic, and impacts on original inhabitants”. It concludes that “the North IS the future of Canada in countless ways. The issues are urgent; the recommendations require immediate action.”

Interconnecting issues include northerners’ health, economy, housing, security, education, food, culture, traditions, language, communications, climate change, summer shipping, road transportation and more.

The Mackenzie Valley Highway Sahtu extension will be a two-lane gravel highway, 321 kilometres in length for an estimated cost of \$700 Million to Norman Wells and an estimated \$1.5 Billion to Inuvik. The Federal Government has had a one-third share in the Imperial Oil Field, Norman Wells since 1944. Historical and present day profits realized by the Federal government are substantial. The Sahtu Region of the Northwest Territories is suffering greatly from the impacts of climate change caused by the use of carbon fuels. It is time those profits be reinvested in this region in the form of a completely funded Mackenzie Valley all season transportation route.

We have attached a summary paper for your consideration. A phone call from yourself, or your representative to discuss our transportation issues would be appreciated.

Mayor Frank Lope

Town of Norman Wells
Northwest Territories