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Representing Northern Business Since 1973

February 07, 2019

Hon. Wally Schumann
Minister of Infrastructure
PO Box 1320
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

Dear Minister Schumann,

Re: Application to the National Trade Corridors Fund

As per our letter of support dated November 2, 2017 the NWT Chamber of Commerce continues to support the Government of the Northwest Territories' (GNWT) funding application to the National Trade Corridors Fund (NTCF) for Slave Geological Province Access Corridor (SGP) including the replacement of the Frank Channel Bridge.

The SGP and replacement of the Frank Channel Bridge is of significant economic importance for not only the mineral and transportation industries in the NT but will also have a strong socio-economic impact as it will open up the opportunity to reduce our reliance on diesel generators both residentially and industrially throughout the region; reduce the impact of food instability in remote communities; and bring skilled jobs to those remote areas effected by the build.

The SGP can play a very significant role in nation building by linking the country from coast to coast to coast. This corridor allows for the consideration of green energy through the expansion of hydro production and transmission which would not only lower the cost of living for residents along the SGP but lowers the cost for mineral exploration, development and production for the mineral and mining industries. The biggest barrier to attracting new investment and encouraging existing companies to prolong their closure dates is access to green energy. With access to greener energy and the reduction of reliance on diesel generators to power the existing mines makes development in the SGP and NT as whole affordable.

The NT holds world class minerals and oil & gas deposits along with a tremendous reputation in industry working with our Aboriginal Nations; proactively working within our environmental guidelines/regulations and donating back to the communities but without access to the region and greener energy this is all for not.

We are hopeful that SGP and replacement of the Frank Channel Bridge application is successful and we look forward to working with you as these projects continue to come to fruition.

Regards,



Renée Comeau
General Manager, NWT Chamber of Commerce



Trevor Wever
President, NWT Chamber of Commerce