



WE CAN DO BETTER: BUILDING AN NWT COMMON FRONT

Saturday, October 1, 2016
Northern United Place, Yellowknife, NWT

Highlights Report

Introduction

In the fall of 2015, 41 individuals from 24 labour, Indigenous, social and environmental agencies met in Yellowknife to begin work on a common front or ways to take collective action on common causes and values. At that time, federal, territorial, and municipal elections were looming and many of us were working hard on progressive reforms both within and outside the electoral system. A report was produced entitled **We Can Do Better: Building an NWT Common Front**, September 2015.

In the winter of 2016, key organizers – the Council of Canadians NWT Chapter, Alternatives North, and the Public Service Alliance Canada (PSAC) North – surveyed groups/individuals who attend the 2015 NWT Common Front. A preference was expressed to get back together in the spring to debrief the election outcomes and assess the need for a common front. Unfortunately, too few people were able to make time for that meeting.

On October 1, 2016, the second meeting of the NWT Common Front allies was held. Compared to 2015, about half the number of people and organizations attended – 26 individuals from 13 organizations. However, five (5) new organizations were involved in or expressed interest in being informed of, and possibly being involved in the NWT Common Front movement. As such, at least 29 organizations and many more individuals seem to be interested in seeing this movement grow. This sentiment was reflected in the introductory remarks of many participants. For example, they see the NWT Common Front as:

- Growing partnerships on specific causes (e.g., food security, poverty, climate change).
- Enabling them/their organization to be part of something bigger and part of collective action for the change we want to see and the social and environmental justice we want to achieve.
- Working with others to take back control from corporations and supporting governments that work for citizens.

The objectives of the second NWT Common Front meeting were to:

1. Review the political landscape and changes since the 2015 Common Front gathering,
2. Refresh our understanding of common front movements and our work to date,
3. Consider a draft NWT Common Front Values Charter, and
4. Map out next steps for working together.



Getting ready for a great day of discussion. Photo: Julie Green

Within these objectives, meeting participants considered what has changed since we met in the fall of 2015? Are governments honouring and working for those values we all share? Is a

common front still needed? Is collective action a way to bring about the changes we want to see? If so, is a values charter a way to bring people together for collective action?

The meeting was moderated by **Jess Dunkin**. Lunch was provided by **Christine Barker**. **Alternatives North**, **PSAC North**, and the **Council of Canadians NWT Chapter** each contributed to the costs of the meeting. The meeting opened with a blessing offered by **Barb Hood** and recognition of the place and relationship we all have with the Chief Drygeese Territory within Treaty 8.



Jess Dunkin moderated the gathering. Photo: Bob Wilson

This report provides highlights of the day.

Promises Made, Broken, and Unfulfilled: Scanning the Political Landscape

This segment considered the territorial and federal political landscapes.

Tracking the McLeod Government

Julie Green, MLA Yellowknife Centre, admitted that the GNWT doesn't have a lot to show for the last year. The word to describe progress (or lack thereof) is 'incremental' as the work of government is slow.

Julie spoke about the mandate¹ of the 18th NWT Legislative Assembly and the five (5) areas of focus: 1) improving governance accountability, transparency, and collaboration; 2) cost of living, 3) education, training, and youth development, 4) community wellness and safety, and 5) economy, environment, and climate change. Within these five areas, are 25 priorities and 136 commitments. It is likely that less than 20% of the mandate will be moved forward by the 18th Assembly. But work is underway to implement universal day care and confront critical housing issues associated with core needs (e.g., affordable, suitable, acceptable, and adequate housing).

A challenge is the fiscal context that has not been agreed to by the whole 18th NWT Legislative Assembly. The NWT Cabinet is promoting a narrative of austerity and has instructed the GNWT administration to reduce the budget by \$150 million. But the evidence hasn't been presented to confirm this context or the necessity of these cuts.

Northerners and MLAs voted for change and greater accountability but the Premier and his Ministers haven't delivered. The Premier is not a 'change agent', despite what he told MLAs prior to their vote to select the Premier. For example, the commitment to more transparent, accountable and collaborative governance is not going well. As a result there is divisiveness once again between the Cabinet and the regular MLAs. There is unlikely to be any improvements in

¹ http://www.assembly.gov.nt.ca/sites/default/files/td_29-182.pdf

open governance until at least next spring (a consultant is expected to be hired to give the government direction on this priority).



Julie Green MLA Yellowknife Centre and Kevin O'Reilly, MLA Frame Lake, shared thoughts on the record of the GNWT since the November 2015 election. Photo: Jess Dunkin

The mid-term review will be a wake-up call for the Premier and his

Cabinet. Since there has not been a review of this nature since the 12th Assembly, the Standing Committee on Rules and Procedures has worked hard to come up with rules that work within the context of this Assembly. It is also hopeful that the regular MLAs are working together to fulfill the commitments set out in the mandate document. By working together, they do have influence. Like the NWT Common Front, everyone is stronger together.

Kevin O'Reilly, MLA Frame Lake, said that accountability within a consensus government is very strange and difficult to get a handle on. He praised the collective efforts of his regular member colleagues for their work and efforts to hold the government to account. He said that it is disconcerting that regular MLA's are finding out what the GNWT is doing through the media rather than through discussion, consultation, or consensus with them. He cited the GNWT's position on carbon pricing as an example of isolated decision making.

Kevin reminded us of the promises that Bob McLeod made in his speech to become Premier² and those in the 18th NWT Legislative Assembly mandate. To a large extent, the mandate is the platform. In the adoption of the mandate that was drafted before being brought to Assembly, the regular MLAs made 25 changes focusing on concrete actions and clear benchmarks (including calling for a review of fracking, protecting eco-diversity, and protecting the public from liability with respect to extractive industries). But the reality remains that the mandate document contains many competing visions. It seems that the Cabinet's vision for the 18th Assembly is to cut \$150 million in programs/services so the GNWT can go on a spending spree on building roads to resources and related infrastructure.

Kevin listed several tools that regular MLAs, the general public, and NWT Common Front allies can use to hold the GNWT to account and garner support for our shared values.

1. The mid-term review is an accountability mechanism. The Cabinet has also committed to an annual report, due in the coming session. Both of these should be scrutinized by the public and people can/should weigh in on the performance of the 18th Assembly.
2. Each MLA makes member statements. This is an opportunity to get issues on the table.

² <https://soundcloud.com/cbcnwt/bob-mcleod-wants-to-be-premier> and www.assembly.gov.nt.ca/sites/default/files/tlc151209.docx

3. MLAs can submit questions requiring the GNWT to provide information on specific issues.
4. MLAs can make motions requiring specific actions.
5. Standing committees have investigative powers and can subpoena witnesses and can be an avenue for effectively addressing issues.
6. MLAs can table petitions.
7. MLAs can access the services of research and legal staff.



Kevin O'Reilly, MLA Frame Lake, identified several tools that NWT Common Front allies can use to have their voices heard. Photo: Bob Wilson

Kevin encouraged individuals/groups to call or email their MLAs and make use of these tools. “Never underestimate the power of contacting your

MLA.” He also encourage putting forth possible solutions to problems/issues. Finally, he noted that as challenging as things are, it is still a time where there is the prospect of change because regular MLAs are committed to working together and to achieving their mandate.

In a short Q & A, the political disconnect among issues and realities was raised (e.g., climate change, water protection, poverty, housing). Julie agreed that there is a general disconnect. She urged NWT Common Front allies to insert evidence wherever possible and to use the tools available. The research that Alternatives North has done, is a good example of evidence that can influence decisions. She said that governments are not functioning well and seemed to be trapped in the same old, same old. New ideas are needed. Yukon has an addictions treatment centre but we don't – “what do they know that we don't?” The issue of public housing is huge but the NWT Housing Corporation doesn't want to increase its maintenance budget so isn't encouraging the investment of local housing authority surpluses into housing. “This is ludicrous.” Kevin agreed. He added that with a new government in Ottawa, the GNWT may be influenced to confront climate issues and connect the dots on other issues. He would like to see more young people get involved to influence the political agendas.

Tracking the Trudeau Government

Brent Patterson, Political Director with the Council of Canadians, participated via Skype to give an overview of promises made, broken, and unfilled by the Trudeau Government. He also wrote a blog about it.³ From CoC's perspective, the Trudeau government's record is a 'mixed-bag' after almost one year in power.

³ <http://canadians.org/blog/nwt-chapter-common-front-discussion-trudeaus-first-year-office>

Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP): This is a deal Harper initiated and the Liberals signed onto it.⁴ During the election, the Liberals promised "a full and open public debate in Parliament to ensure Canadians are consulted" on the TPP. In one sense they have kept this promise, the House of Commons Standing Committee on International Trade is conducting consultations across the country. But Trudeau also says the party "strongly supports free trade" and that the TPP would "increase opportunities for our middle class and those working hard to join it" (even though the evidence says that's not true). The Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) mechanism remains problematic for the damage it could do to public government. There is a lot of opposition to the TPP. The Liberals are facing a November 2017 deadline to ratify the agreement. CoC NWT, PSAC North, and Katlodeeche First Nation will be making presentations to the Standing Committee.

Emission Reductions: During the election, the Liberals promised to "establish national emissions-reduction targets" that recognize the consequences of "a greater-than-two-degree increase" in global temperatures. They said that the Harper government's weak emission reduction target was a floor "not a ceiling" of what they would do. Now, Environment and Climate Change Minister Catherine McKenna is saying, "What I said is that we will at least meeting the target". In other words they are, at this point, only committing to Harper's goal of a 14 per cent reduction below 1990 levels of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 - and not a target based on climate science. They've committed to working with the provinces/territories to meet Harper's emission reduction target.

Fossil Fuels: The Liberals promised to fulfill "our G20 commitment and phase out subsidies for the fossil fuel industry over the medium-term", which the G7 has agreed means 2025. But by November 2015, the Trudeau government had agreed to keep in place a \$50 million-over-five-years tax cut to spur the liquefied natural gas (LNG) industry in British Columbia. And in March 2016, Natural Resources Minister Jim Carr said now is "not the moment" to begin to reduce the billions of dollars in subsidies given to fossil fuel corporations given the impact of lower oil prices on the industry. In the past month, the Liberals approved the Pacific Northwest LNG project, which will entrench fracking and expand emissions. There is speculation that they'll also approve the Kinder Morgan pipeline in December.

Water Protection: The Liberals criticized the Harper government for its "elimination of the Navigable Waters Protection Act" and promised to "review these changes, restore lost protections, and incorporate more modern safeguards." There was hope this



Thanks to Alexander Lambretch and Skype, Brent Patterson, CoC's National Political Director, was able to participate from Ottawa. Photo: Brent Patterson

⁴ <http://business.financialpost.com/legal-post/the-trans-pacific-partnership-stephen-harpers-legacy-for-trade-lawyers>

would mean that the Trudeau government might, as a first step, immediately restore protections for the 31,000 lakes and 2.25 million rivers that were delisted in the Navigation Protection Act. That hasn't happened and now Liberal MP Kate Young, who is the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport, is suggesting an upcoming review of the Act will be on the listed waterways and whether or not more "should be added". Lobbying by Big Oil likely contributes to Trudeau's back-tracking on these commitments.

Nation to Nation Relationships: The Liberals promised a "renewed, nation-to-nation relationship with Indigenous Peoples, based on recognition, rights, respect, co-operation and partnership". And there was further hope when the Trudeau government announced in May that it fully endorsed the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). But Grand Chief Stewart Phillip accused the Trudeau government of a "betrayal" when it issued Navigation Protection Act and Fisheries Act permits this summer to allow construction on the Site C dam in Treaty 8 territory to continue, despite the absence of "free, prior and informed consent" (article 19 in UNDRIP) from First Nations for this dam. The NDP's Romeo Saganash has put forward a private members bill calling for the full implementation of UNDRIP but the Liberals have said that it is "unworkable."

Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women:

After years of the Harper government refusing to hold a national public inquiry on murdered and missing Indigenous women, there was relief when the Liberals promised to "immediately launch" an inquiry to seek recommendations on "concrete actions that governments, law enforcement, and others" could take. The Trudeau government did launch this inquiry in September, and that inquiry will report its findings in December 2018. But Indigenous women have expressed dismay that the inquiry will not have the authority to address police misconduct or the conduct of police investigations. There are also questions about the Trudeau government's commitment to actually implementing the inquiry's recommendations.

Health Accord: The Liberals promised to "negotiate a new Health Accord with provinces and territories" as well as a "long-term agreement on funding". But now the Trudeau Liberals say they will implement the Harper government's funding formula and Health Minister Jane Philpott said: "I do not intend to push for an increase in the escalator". We'll recall that Harper refused to negotiate a new Health Accord (with a 6 per cent escalator) and instead imposed a new funding



Brent Patterson, CoC's National Political Director, described the Trudeau Government's record to date as a 'mixed bag'. Photo: Bob Wilson

formula that could mean more than \$36 billion will not be transferred from the federal government to provincial/territorial governments over the next ten years.

While the Liberals did not promise to implement pharmacare during the election (they only pledged to "improve access to necessary prescription medications"), it is still disappointing that the Health Minister confirmed in April that pharmacare is not part of her mandate. It is even more disappointing that the Trudeau government is pushing hard to get the Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) ratified even though studies show that the patent provisions for pharmaceutical drugs in CETA could cost us between \$850 million to \$1.65 billion annually, while pharmacare would save about \$14 billion a year.

Many Other Promises: The Liberals promised to "end Canada's combat mission in Iraq". But weeks after they took office, at least 16 air strikes by CF-18s had taken place. While fighter jets were eventually removed by April 2016, Canada still provides refuelling and reconnaissance airplanes to support US and UK aerial-bombing missions in Iraq. iPolitics has reported, "Canadian trainers are calling in airstrikes, Canadian planes are scouting targets, and Canadian officers are on the ground in Baghdad working with the Iraqi military and other members of the U.S.-led international coalition."

The Liberals promised "to better help those affected by war and violent conflict" by contributing to United Nations "conflict-prevention" and "post-conflict reconstruction" efforts. But by May, even after seeing a video of Saudi Arabia using armoured vehicles against civilians, Trudeau said Canada had to uphold its business deals and sell \$15-billion of armoured vehicles to the government widely-known for its human rights violations. In July, Trudeau also announced that Canada would send up to six CF-18s, naval frigates and 450 soldiers as part of a NATO (not UN) mobilization in the Baltic region to block Russia expansionism, even though many analysts say the NATO buildup will only serve to destabilize the region.

The Canada Revenue Agency is still auditing charities although the Liberals promised to allow charities to do their work "free from political harassment." We hope that as promised the Liberals will pass Bill C-4 that would repeal the anti-union legislation introduced by the Harper government (though in recent contract negotiations they reportedly offered the same deal to the PSAC as Harper did).

We are also hopeful that online consultation on C-51 could lead to changes to this "national security" legislation (though there are concerns that the questions are skewed and read like a "wish list" for police and intelligence services). There is also hope that the



Bob Gamble, KatieSue Derejko, NomaZulu Khumalo, Bree Denning, and Christine Barker consider the state of the federal and territorial political landscape. Photo: Bob Wilson.

Liberals will introduce legislation to implement proportional representation in May 2017, repeal the barriers to voting Harper implemented in the Fair Elections Act, and make good on their promise to end boil water advisories in First Nations by 2020.

It is worrying that the Trudeau government approved both the Woodfibre and Pacific Northwest LNG projects, agreed to exploratory talks on a Canada-China Free Trade Agreement; appears likely to approve the 890,000 barrel per day Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain pipeline in December (though it's believed they could reject the 525,000 barrel per day Enbridge Northern Gateway pipeline in October); could potentially privatize airports and other public assets through a scheme called "asset recycling" beginning in March next year; and that the public input against the TPP will weigh less in its ultimate fate than the outcome of the US presidential election next month.

The Liberals still remain very popular in public opinion polls, but almost a year into their mandate they have already fallen short on some of the key promises they made.

In response to questions about a national food security strategy and an anti-poverty strategy, Brent commented that little is known about the Liberal's intentions. What is known is that corporate rights/free trade agreements are driving inequality and will make it even more difficult for governments to address food and shelter needs and stabilize the growing level of precarious work/income. We have also seen the Liberals approve genetically modified food (e.g., salmon, apples).



Craig Yeo, Alternatives North and Council of Canadians NWT, explains common front movements. Photo: Bob Wilson

Common Front Movements

Craig Yeo of Alternatives North and CoC NWT, provided a brief overview of common front movements and the benefits of them.

Common front movements are about building alliances and working together to support each other. Alliances are formed around shared values and a shared vision for what is possible.

Common front movements are inclusive, positive, and aspirational. They are a way of working toward a common purpose, for sharing wisdom and expertise, and for working together in a positive way. The NWT anti-poverty coalition and the Fracking Action North coalitions are examples of common fronts that have come together for a common purpose.

One of the challenges facing common front movements is getting media coverage given that mainstream media operates on a conflict versus a cooperative/collaborative model.

Draft NWT Common Front Values Charter

Cristina Popa, PSAC North provided a recap of the first NWT Common Front meeting in September 2015, post-election events, and the survey of NWT Common Front allies last winter. Based on direction from NWT Common Front allies, Cristina prepared a draft Values Charter (see next page). The draft Values Charter provides a framework for working together.

The draft Values Charter was the subject of small group discussions.

- There was agreement that the draft Values Charter is an excellent starting point for working together.
- There is no disputing the benefits of working together to amplify our voices and values.
- Minor changes are needed to some word to eliminate any barriers to organizations signing on/endorsing the Charter.
- Minor changes to the Charter should ensure positive rather than negative statements and include active verbs.
- Minor changes to the Charter will use inclusive terms and concepts whether it be related to water, land, older adults, children, youth, or justice.



Cristina Popa, PSAC North, explains the work done to date to build an NWT Common Front. Photo: Jess Dunkin

NWT Common Front Charter

Advancing the Values of a Just Society

Environmental degradation, increasing poverty, soaring unemployment, the largest income gap in the country, infringement of Indigenous rights, lack of adequate social and health support for our most vulnerable, corporate welfare, dying languages and cultures, low voter turnout. These are some of the grim realities facing the people of the NWT. But today we commit to **CHANGE**.

WE Can Do Better.

People from labour, social, environment, and Indigenous organizations are united in our determination to achieve the well-being of all our residents and of our environment through advocacy and progressive action. The NWT Common Front unites in **values** that promote social, political, economic and environmental justice in the NWT, as follows:

- All individuals have equal rights, choices and responsibilities.
- All people have the right to strong public services and basic necessities that allow them to live in dignity, safety and security.
- Economic activity generates equitably distributed social, environmental and economic benefits.
- All individuals have the right to meaningful work and a living wage.
- Water, land and air are not commodities.
- Living organisms are interconnected and dependent on the health of our environment.
- Governments are honest, transparent and accountable; govern for the well-being of the people and land to sustain a healthy ecosystem; and work in collaboration with the civil society and honour the central values of equality, inclusion and accessibility.

We **envision** a NWT society and political system that is **better** at safeguarding Indigenous and human rights, the integrity of our land, waters and air, and the sovereignty of our territory and country. To that end, we commit to collectively and diligently pursue the following **goals**:

- Elimination of poverty and its associated ills through implementing Basic Income, providing affordable child care, adequate housing, and food security for all NWT residents.
- Equitable access to education and employment opportunities for all NWT residents.
- Reduced reliance on fossil-fuels and increased sustainable energy generation.
- An end to cuts and privatization of public services, financed by progressive personal and corporate taxation.
- Greater support for civil society groups and organizations serving our most vulnerable: women, Indigenous peoples, seniors, homeless, children, youth and immigrants.
- Increased sustainable economic development.
- An end to corporate welfare through ‘polluter-pays’ approaches, reducing needless subsidies and tax cuts.
- Fair processes and progress to recognize and respect Indigenous rights and title.
- Promotion and support for Indigenous languages and cultures.
- Work with governments to ensure they value citizen participation, meaningfully consult, truly listen, welcome alternative perspectives, make evidence-based decisions and are willing to change.
- Stop investor state agreements, like the Trans Pacific Partnership, that undermine judicial and Indigenous sovereignty.
- Increased voter turnout and political engagement in all levels of government.
- Public policy that is approached from social, environmental and economic justice perspectives.

Co-existence requires co-resistance. Our resistance begins **NOW**.

Coming Together to Support an NWT Common Front Values Charter

In small groups, NWT Common Front allies considered processes for organizations to sign onto/support and implementing the Charter and other processes for collective action on common causes and values. The discussions recognized the challenges of the rate of change and the ability to keep everyone informed and connected.

In addition to finalizing the NWT Common Front Values Charter, some elements of moving forward include:

- An education campaign (e.g., with talking points) for each organization's members/supporters with respect to 'marketing'/'selling' the benefits of working with others in solidarity to amplify our voices and values.
- A short blurb/one-pager on each organization to foster greater awareness and understanding.
- Identifying some key contacts within the NWT Common Front who could help others to sell the benefits of working together.
- General guidelines for interaction/cooperation/working together (e.g., how to give/ask for support; who to ask for support from; how many times per year can put a call out for support letters/actions so not to over-burden others or dominate a common front alliance).
- Getting young people involved perhaps through citizenship themes in NWT schools.
- Broadening the coalition to include other social justice seeking organizations (e.g., multi-cultural, youth, Indigenous groups).



Small group discussion on the benefits of common front movements and a draft Values Charter. Photo: Bob Wilson

There was also discussion but not agreement, about focusing on one particular theme or goal that everyone could get behind such as climate change or homelessness. The rationale for this was the success of single-issued coalitions such as the Fracking Action North Coalition and the Homelessness Coalition.

Actions:

1. **Craig Yeo, Caroline LaFontaine and Annemieke Mulders** will revise the draft Values Charter and use Google Docs to enable all to comment on/support the revisions so the Charter can be finalized.
2. A working group of the three sponsoring organizations (CoC NWT, AltNorth, PSAC North) will draft the rules of interaction, again using Google Docs to enable all to comment on/support the guidelines.
3. **Alexander Lambrecht** will investigate Google for Non-profits as a platform for NWT Common Front allies to connect and work together to support each other.

It is important to remember that the NWT Common Front is a network of allies; it is not a new organization, and does not require a structure. But the NWT Common Front does require positive communications and relationships. We are all responsible for maintaining positive communications and relationships.

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Small group discussion on the benefits of common front movements and a draft Values Charter. Photo: Bob Wilson

Next Steps

It was suggested that next steps might include:

- An official launch similar to the anti-poverty “All I Want for Christmas’ No Place for Poverty launch.
- Issuing an annual report card similar to that issued by the Homeless Coalition or the Coalition Against Family Violence showing how governments and others are working for (or not) on our shared values.
- Holding town halls to promote the NWT Common Front.
- Making a presentation (e.g., the Charter and list of organizations endorsing it) to the February sitting of the NWT Legislative Assembly.
- Each of us sharing the Charter and common front message with our personal contacts to get more organizations to sign on (e.g., “common people for a common front” or as the NWT Seniors’ Society suggests – a legacy for generations to come).

Several individuals are available to help out on a ‘time-limited’, ‘task specific’ basis to move forward on actions and next steps to make the NWT Common Front come alive and active.

Participants

Alex Borowiecka, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS)
Alexander Lambrecht, Northern Territories Federation of labour (NTFL)
Annemieka Mulders, Status of Women Council of the NWT
Barb Hood, NWT Seniors' Society
Bob Gamble, Council of Canadians NWT Chapter (CoC NWT)
Bob Wilson, CoC NWT
Bree Denning, Centre for Northern Families'/Yellowknife Womens' Society
Brent Patterson, Council of Canadians
Caroline Lafontaine, Yellowknife Farmers' Market
Christine Barker, Alternatives North
Craig Scott, Ecology North
Craig Yeo, CoC NWT/Alternatives North
Cristina Popa, Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC North)
Dave Roebuck, NWT Teacher Association (NWTTA)
France Benoit, Yellowknife Farmers' Market
Iris Hamlyn, Side Door
Jess Dunkin, Moderator
Julie Green, MLA Yellowknife Centre
KatieSue Derejko, Alternatives North
Kevin O'Reilly, MLA Frame Lake
Lesley Wakelyn, CPAWS
Lois Little, CoC NWT
Lorraine Hewlett, CoC NWT
Lydia Bardak, John Howard Society
Nancy Vail, Alternatives North
NomaZulu Khumalo, Side Door

Regrets

Aggie Brockman, Alternatives North
Alyssa Praamsma, Native Women's Association of the NWT
Bob Bromley, Fracking Action North (FAN) and Ecology North
Denise McKee, NWT Disabilities Council
Geoff Ray, NWT Recreation and Parks Association (NWTRPA)
Heather Nakehk'o', Dene Nahjo
Jack Bourassa, PSAC North
Jonathan Churcher, FAN
Liza Pieper, Native Women Association of the NWT
Rachel Abel, CoC NWT
Shannon Moore, FAN
Suzette Montreuil, Alternatives North
Tasha Stephenson, Alternatives North/FAN
Vanessa Rankin, NWT Social Workers Association

2015 NWT Common Front Meeting Participants Not in Attendance/Sending Regrets

Edward Sangris, Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN)
Daniel T'seleie, Dene Nahjo

Chair (previously Joan Kuyp), PSAC NWT Regional Women's Committee
Kathryn Barry Paddock, NWT Literacy Council
Marie Buchanan, Union of Northern Workers (UNW)
Marie Speakman, Victim Services/Native Women's Association of the NWT
Michael Aubry, PSAC North
Sandra Lockhart, CoC NWT
Stephanie Irlbacher-Fox, YWCA
Tracey Williams, Yellowknife Farmers Market
Wanda Gale

Other Invitees Not Responding

Bill Erasmus, Dene Nation and Assembly of First Nations
Clifford Daniels, Tlicho Government
Courtney Howard, Canadian Physicians for the Environment (CAPE)
Eddie Erasmus, Tlicho Government
Erin Freeland-Ballantyne, Dechinta
Jessica Mackenzie, Institute for Circumpolar Health Research (ICHR)
Lyda Fuller, YWCA Yellowknife
Todd Parsons, UNW
Sara Brown, NWT Association of Communities
Steve Ellis, Tides Canada