

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

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STRATEGY:

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A VISION FOR THE NORTH

MANITOBA'S NORTHERN
DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGY (NDS)

Manitoba 

OUR NORTH IS IMPORTANT TO THE FUTURE OF MANITOBA

The vast resources of the region provide a great benefit for the entire province. Eco-tourism, fishing, hydroelectric development, forestry and mining are major employers in the North.

Many communities rely on winter ice roads and air transportation for shipping. As a result, food, clothing, lumber and fuel costs are much higher. Access to health, education, and other social services often require costly travel. Many young people have to leave home for educational opportunities that could be delivered in the North.

How we meet the challenges and embrace the opportunities our North offers will greatly affect the economic future of our province. To meet this challenge the Manitoba government has introduced a Northern Development Strategy, which will increase services and opportunities for northern residents and communities.



WHAT IS THE NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (NDS)?

NDS is a long-term plan that identifies opportunities to develop the human and natural resources in the North - social and economic changes which will benefit the people of the region.

The NDS was initiated by the northern MLAs in April, 2000 and is based on previous consultations including the Northern Mayors and Chiefs Conference and the Report of the Northern Manitoba Economic Development Commission.



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HOW WILL THE NDS WORK?

The NDS is intended to make significant improvements in the lives of northern Manitobans. Many people have studied the North in the past. It's time to act on what has been learned.

The Government of Manitoba will work with northern and Aboriginal communities, non-government organizations and the private sector to build on existing strengths and to address the distinctive needs and priorities of northern people.

The priorities, strengths and experiences of northern people will guide the NDS.

NDS BENEFITS:

- improving the quality of life for northern Manitobans
- expanding educational and employment opportunities
- increasing economic opportunities
- coordinating approaches to services and investment in northern Manitoba



NDS PRIORITIES:

- Housing – partnerships to improve housing
- Health – improved health services and information
- Transportation – improved roads and airports
- Employment and training – improved opportunities for education and training
- Economic development – public and private investment and partnerships

NEXT STEPS: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

The Province will continue to work with Northerners on implementing the Northern Development Strategy.

Initiatives already announced will continue, including: the Child Welfare Initiative, improving road access to communities, the Aboriginal Justice Initiative, establishing partnerships with First Nations on hydro development projects and bringing internet access to more communities.

Government departments have been asked to make northern development a priority and have been asked to work together to meet the objectives of the NDS.

The Province is working with the Federal Government on important northern initiatives: ensuring greater commitment for northern housing, enhancing transportation links to northern communities, and expanding opportunities for post-secondary education.