

R(15)091106338

Minister Roland Consults Northerners on NWT Macroeconomic Policy

YELLOWKNIFE (9 November 2006) - Finance Minister Floyd Roland announced today that he is undertaking consultations with Northerners on the development of a Northwest Territories (NWT) macroeconomic policy.

“Potential future development in the NWT will create tremendous opportunities and challenges,” said Minister Roland. “We face important questions as we move forward with investments that encourage positive economic development. At the same time we need to carefully manage the impact of this growth on our communities, people and environment.”

Minister Roland will convene a series of roundtable meetings with stakeholders from aboriginal, business and community groups in the months leading up to the 2007 Budget. Discussion during the roundtable meetings will provide the Minister with input to be used in formulating a long-term macroeconomic policy.

The first roundtable will take place in Yellowknife on November 14th followed by a second meeting in Inuvik on November 20-21st. Along with the 2007 Budget document Minister Roland will present a report summarizing the results of this consultation and suggestions for next steps.

“In order to determine our economic future we need to establish what we want our economy to look like in twenty years time and how the Government of the Northwest Territories can influence this outcome. This can only be successful if as many people as possible participate so all perspectives can be considered,” said Minister Roland.

The public is invited to participate in the consultation and can do so by accessing the Department of Finance website at www.fin.gov.nt.ca/economicroadmap. The workbook and economic scan posted on the website contain background information that will form the basis of these consultations.

For more information contact:

Julia Mott
Coordinator, Cabinet Communications
Office of the Premier
Government of the Northwest Territories
(867) 669-2304