

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

WESTERN COLLABORATION ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF ECONOMIC CORRIDORS

The Governments of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Nunavut, the Northwest Territories and the Yukon ("the Parties") have a common interest in strategic collaboration to advance Economic Corridors for Western Canada's economic future.

WHEREAS "Economic Corridors" refers to the full range of infrastructure, logistics, capital, technology and associated policies needed to support trade between two or more centres of economic activity.

WHEREAS the Parties' abilities to contribute fully to the Canadian economy is reliant on interconnected nation-building infrastructure that links Canada from coast-to-coast, including highways, railways, marine and inland ports, airports, oil and gas pipelines, and electricity transmission infrastructure.

WHEREAS the Parties have a common interest in enhancing and accessing Economic Corridors that connect people, communities, and facilitate the movement of goods and services and transmission of renewable and non-renewable resources, including critical minerals within their jurisdictions and to other jurisdictions.

WHEREAS the Parties recognize that in the face of economic uncertainty and the impact borne by the West from disruptive trade actions by the United States and China on Canada, expanding export capacity, increasing market access, and enhancing economic security has never been more essential.

WHEREAS the Parties are working in their own jurisdictions to invest in strategic infrastructure, build strong economies, and diversify markets and recognize there is an urgent need for federal investment and to update current federal policy frameworks to accelerate project approvals.

WHEREAS the West has the goods and services in their jurisdictions that Canada and the world needs, including, grains and other agriproducts, energy products, electrical power, petrochemicals, minerals, forest products and other natural resources, manufactured goods, and others.

WHEREAS the Parties agree that achieving sustainable economic growth in the West requires meaningful partnership with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples towards advancing economic reconciliation in the West.

THEREFORE, Parties are committed to the collective in the identification, planning, development, and evaluation of Economic Corridors, within the various legislative frameworks that exist among the Parties and any other applicable legislative frameworks, in order to advance initiatives across the West that are critical to economic prosperity.

I. BACKGROUND:

The Parties' ability to access markets, including international markets, plays a critical role in maximizing the value of goods and services produced by the Parties, diversifying industry markets, and securing financial investment in relevant trade infrastructure projects. The ability to access markets is often dependent on having the ability to access infrastructure at tidewater, interjurisdictional infrastructure, and supporting infrastructure and services that facilitate this access.

Parties rely on efficient and resilient trade infrastructure, as well as the services that operate within this trade-enabling infrastructure, which ensures the Parties can maintain and enhance their commitments and reputations as effective suppliers of goods and services in the domestic and international marketplace.

Economic Corridors can involve a broad range of infrastructure, related supply chain services, and commodities including transportation, energy, power, natural resources, agriculture, manufactured goods, telecommunications and other utilities or infrastructure. They can connect centres of economic activity such as population centres, industry hubs, centres of production or power generation, marine or inland ports, airports, and modal transhipment points.

II. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this MOU is to establish a more collaborative relationship to developing economic corridors to provide vital transportation links to services and markets in and out of the Parties' jurisdictions. The Parties will work together to promote an integrated and coordinated regional approach to the advancement of Economic Corridors and associated industries within their respective jurisdictions, and between their respective jurisdictions and other jurisdictions, including those that may not be parties of this MOU.

The Parties also wish to establish a more collaborative relationship in identifying solutions to supply chain impediments that may exist within or be mitigated by Economic Corridors.

III. **OBJECTIVES:**

The objective of this MOU is to advance strategic collaboration in the identification, planning, development, and evaluation of Economic Corridors, in accordance with the overall goals and priorities of the Parties, including but not limited to:

- a. Developing a list of priority strategic infrastructure projects of interjurisdictional significance and determine infrastructure investment requirements for the Western economic corridor system.
- b. Working together with the federal government to ensure adequate, timely, and sustainable federal supports, policy and regulatory frameworks to support nation-building infrastructure projects in Western Canada.
- c. Advancing Economic Corridors in a manner fully respectful to environmental, social, labour, and Indigenous reconciliation values and objectives.
- d. Sharing information on and developing best practices on maintaining and constructing climate-resilient economic corridors, including with other jurisdictions within Canada.
- e. Working cooperatively toward improving data collection and sharing, reducing red tape and aligning regulatory processes, where appropriate; and
- f. Undertaking other activities in relation to the advancement of Economic Corridors, should there be agreement among the Parties to do so.

IV. COORDINATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

In order to advance the objectives of this MOU, each Party shall designate a Minister responsible for overseeing the implementation of this MOU. The Minister responsible, or their designate, will work with other Parties to facilitate communication, monitor activities, and address any issues arising from the collaboration. The Parties may seek to hold coordination meetings to review progress on objectives, discuss ongoing or upcoming activities, and identify opportunities for further cooperation.

V. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND CONFIDENTIALITY:

The Parties will seek to keep each other informed of progress and results in areas of common interest. Parties recognize and acknowledge that by the nature of their respective operations, they will be involved with not only each other, but also with third parties directly or indirectly, and that as a result of such involvement, confidential information may be generated or obtained from such third parties. Nothing in this MOU will be construed as requiring the Parties to disclose to one another any confidential information generated or obtained. Parties will each have the right to place any reasonable restrictions and limitations upon the communications and cooperation contemplated by this MOU.

The Parties acknowledge this MOU, its terms, and information exchanged among the Parties based on it, may be subject to protection, use and disclosure in accordance with access and privacy provisions of applicable freedom of information and protection of privacy legislation. The Parties will endeavor to obtain written consent from the other parties prior to collecting, using, or disclosing information exchanged pursuant to this MOU (as required or applicable), unless the information is required to be disclosed by law.

VI. EFFECT OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING:

This MOU is a platform for the definite expression of and record of the purpose and intention of the Parties, to which each honourably pledge itself. Nothing in the MOU shall be construed so as to affect the jurisdictional responsibility of each Party. This MOU does not create any legally binding obligations and there is no legal obligation by the Party to provide funds, goods or services for a particular project, or otherwise, within the areas of cooperation unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Party.

VII. COORDINATION WITH OTHER MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING:

This MOU is intended to function in alignment with other MOUs of similar purpose entered into separately by the Parties to this MOU. Nothing in this MOU shall prevent or limit the ability of any Party to enter into additional, separate MOUs with other participants.

Where multiple MOUs relate to the same initiative or program, the Parties agree to:

- Share relevant non-confidential information with other signatories, as appropriate and legally permissible, to ensure coordinated action and avoid duplication of efforts.
- Acknowledge that each MOU operates independently but is intended to be complementary, supporting a unified approach to the initiative's objectives.
- Participate in joint meetings or communications, where applicable, to foster collaboration and alignment among all relevant MOU participants.

In the event of any conflict or inconsistency between this MOU and another MOU concerning the same subject matter, the Parties will make reasonable efforts to reconcile such conflicts in good faith through dialogue and mutual agreement.

VIII. AMENDING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING:

While the objectives expressed in the MOU may be best met by each of the Parties developing separate processes and procedures, the Parties may agree to amend this MOU or enter into another MOU to further the objectives set out herein. This MOU may be amended through written consent signed by all Parties.

Should the Parties consent to including other Parties within this MOU, appendices may be added to the MOU containing the signatures of any future new party or parties.

IX. WITHDRAWAL:

Any of the Parties may withdraw its participation under this MOU with thirty (30) days' written notice to the other Parties.

X. TERM:

This MOU will commence on the Effective Date and shall, unless subject to early withdrawal by any of the Parties, expire five years from Execution Date with an option to renew for an additional five years.

XI. **EXECUTION:**

This MOU may be executed in counterparts, in which case the counterparts together shall constitute an agreement and communication of execution by fax transmission or e-mailed in PDF constitutes good delivery.

The Parties have executed this MOU as of May 22, 2025 ("Effective Date").

GOVERNMENT OF YUKON, as represented by the Premier of Yukon, Honourable Ranj Pillai GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, as represented by the Premier of the Northwest Territories, Honourable R.J. Simpson

GOVERNMENT OF NUNAVUT, as represented by the Premier of Nunavut, Honourable P.J. Akeeagok

GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, as represented by the Premier of British Columbia, Honourable David Eby

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GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA, as represented by the Premier of Alberta, Honourable Danielle Smith

GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN, as represented by the Premier of Saskatchewan, Honourable Scott Moe

GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA, as represented by the Premier of Manitoba, Honourable Wab Kinew

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