RED TAPE REDUCTION

PROGRESS REPORT – OCTOBER 2026

RÉDUCTION DES FORMALITÉS ADMINISTRATIVES

RAPPORT D'ÉTAPE – OCTOBRE 2026

Le present document contient la traduction française du sommaire.

Government of Northwest Territories
Gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest

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Executive Summary

Red tape reduction focuses on identifying and addressing rules, requirements, processes, and administrative practices that are excessive, duplicative, or unnecessary while maintaining appropriate safeguards, accountability measures, and protections in the public interest. Reducing unnecessary administrative burden is an important part of the Government of the Northwest Territories' (GNWT's) commitment to support economic growth, strengthen investment certainty, and improve the delivery of programs and services.

The GNWT's Red Tape Reduction initiative supports a practical, targeted approach to improving how residents, businesses, Indigenous governments, municipalities, organizations, and GNWT employees interact with government. Current efforts include simplifying requirements, streamlining access to programs and services, modernizing legislation and regulations, expanding digital services, and improving coordination across governments.

The initiatives highlighted in this report demonstrate how departments and agencies are reducing burden, improving service delivery, modernizing regulatory frameworks, and strengthening coordination across government systems. To reflect the different ways this work is being advanced, initiatives are organized into four themes:

1. Direct Burden Reduction,
2. Regulatory Modernization,
3. Digital Service and Process Improvement, and
4. Regulatory Coordination.

Reducing unnecessary administrative burden is an ongoing responsibility shared across the GNWT. The GNWT will continue advancing these efforts throughout the remainder of the 20th Legislative Assembly to create a more efficient, transparent, and responsive government while supporting economic growth, investment certainty, and effective public service delivery.

Sommaire

La réduction des formalités administratives vise à relever et à réformer des règlements, des exigences, des pratiques administratives et des processus contraignants, duplicatifs ou inutiles, tout en conservant des mesures de sauvegarde et de protection ainsi que des mécanismes de reddition de comptes adéquats dans l'intérêt du public. La réduction du fardeau administratif constitue un élément important de l'engagement du gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest (GTNO) à soutenir la croissance économique, apporter une certitude en matière d'investissement, et améliorer la prestation de ses programmes et services.

Cette initiative du GTNO favorise une approche pratique et ciblée pour améliorer la manière dont les résidents, les entreprises, les gouvernements autochtones, les municipalités, les organisations et les employées du GTNO interagissent avec le gouvernement. Parmi les efforts déployés actuellement, mentionnons l'allègement des exigences, la simplification de l'accès aux programmes et aux services, la modernisation des lois et des règlements, l'élargissement des services numériques et l'amélioration de la coordination entre les gouvernements.

Les initiatives présentées dans ce rapport mettent en lumière la façon dont les ministères et les organismes réduisent le fardeau administratif, améliorent la prestation des services, modernisent les cadres réglementaires et renforcent la coordination entre les systèmes gouvernementaux. Pour illustrer les différentes façons dont ce travail avance, les initiatives sont regroupées en quatre thèmes :

1. Réduction directe du fardeau administratif
2. Modernisation des règlements
3. Services numériques et amélioration des processus
4. Coordination réglementaire

La réduction du fardeau administratif représente une responsabilité continue partagée à l'échelle du GTNO. Le GTNO poursuivra ces efforts jusqu'à la fin de la 20e Assemblée législative pour créer un gouvernement plus efficace, transparent et ouvert tout en appuyant la croissance économique, la durabilité des investissements, et l'efficacité de la fonction publique.

Introduction

Reducing unnecessary administrative burden supports economic growth, strengthens investment certainty, and improves the client experience for residents, businesses, organizations and communities across the Northwest Territories.

The GNWT defines red tape as a systemic business practice characterized by a formal (enforced) set of rules, regulations, policies, guidelines, procedures, or forms that are excessive, duplicative, or unnecessary, and that create financial, operational, or time-based compliance costs for individuals, businesses, organizations, or GNWT staff. An issue is considered red tape if it lacks clear purpose, adds little value for users, and introduces unnecessary complexity or inefficiency.

The GNWT launched its formal Red Tape Reduction initiative in November 2020. To support this work, the Department of Finance established the Red Tape Reduction Working Group, which included representatives from the business community, the Northwest Territories Association of Communities, and GNWT departments. Through public engagement and a dedicated reporting mechanism, the Working Group identified regulatory irritants and administrative challenges and provided recommendations in its 2022 Progress Report.

With the transition to the 20th Legislative Assembly in November 2023, the GNWT's red tape reduction efforts were realigned with the mandate commitment to strengthen economic growth and investment certainty by improving the efficiency, predictability, and consistency of regulatory systems and administrative processes. In March 2025, responsibility for coordinating this work transferred from the Working Group to the Department of Finance, enabling a more cross-departmental approach to reducing red tape.

This report provides an update on the GNWT's red tape reduction efforts since the release of the 2022 Progress Report. It outlines the current Red Tape Reduction Framework, summarizes actions and progress undertaken across departments and agencies during the 20th Legislative Assembly, and identifies planned activities for the remainder of the Assembly.

Red Tape Reduction Framework

The Management Board Secretariat (MBS) within the Department of Finance is responsible for coordinating the GNWT's red tape reduction function. Centralizing this responsibility supports a coordinated, whole-of-government approach to identifying and providing clearer and more consistent reporting on red tape reduction activities.

Reducing red tape supports economic growth and investment certainty by improving the efficiency, predictability, and consistency of regulatory systems and administrative processes. At the same time, the GNWT recognizes that regulations, policies, and administrative requirements play an important role in protecting the public's interests, including public health and safety, environmental sustainability, social wellbeing, and education and training standards. Red tape reduction is therefore focused on eliminating requirements that are excessive, duplicative, or unnecessary, while maintaining appropriate safeguards and accountability measures.

To support this work, the GNWT maintains a centralized intake function through the dedicated red tape email address, **redtape@gov.nt.ca**, which enables residents, businesses, organizations, communities, and GNWT employees to identify processes, requirements, or administrative practices they believe create unnecessary burden. Feedback from residents and businesses helps the GNWT better understand regulatory irritants, service delivery challenges, and opportunities for continuous improvement.

All submissions are assessed against the GNWT's definition of red tape:

> The GNWT defines red tape as a systemic business practice characterized by a formal (enforced) set of rules, regulations, policies, guidelines, procedures or forms that are excessive, duplicative, or unnecessary and create financial, operational or time-based compliance costs for individuals, businesses, organizations or GNWT staff.

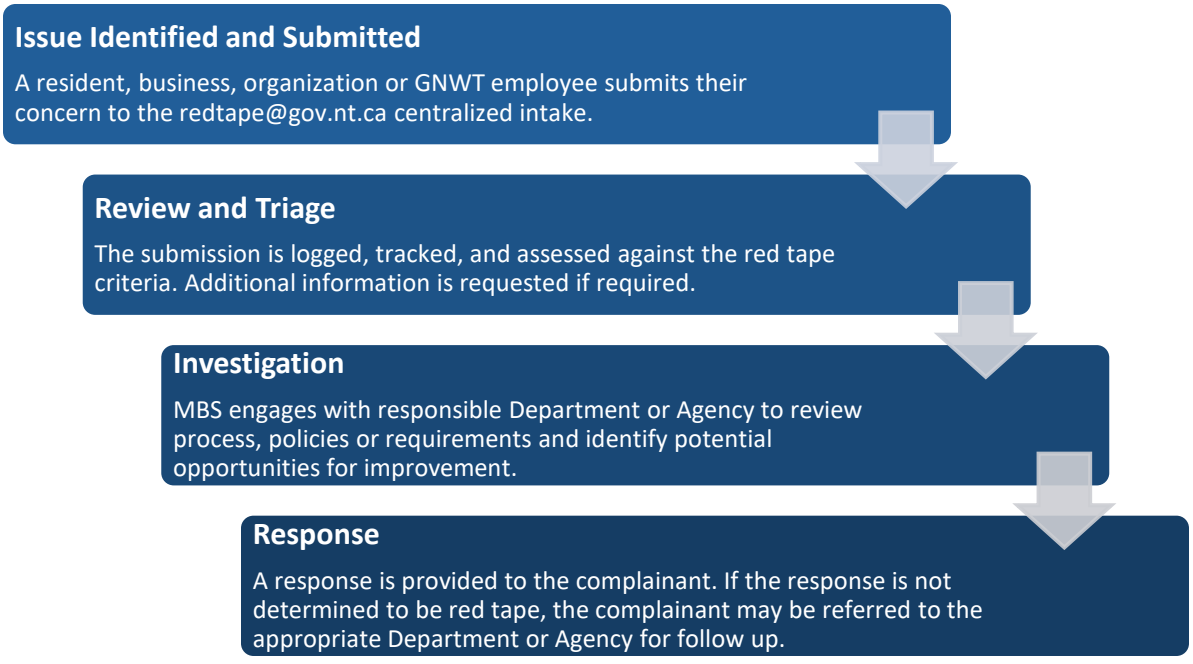
The GNWT assesses each submission against three red tape criteria: Purpose and Necessity, Stakeholder Impact, and Efficiency and Complexity. To be classified as red tape, an issue must meet all three criteria. Figure 1 summarizes the three assessment criteria and their application in determining whether an issue meets the definition of red tape. This approach helps ensure that red tape reduction efforts remain focused on genuine administrative barriers while preserving necessary regulatory, policy, and accountability requirements.

Figure 1: GNWT Red Tape Criteria

Purpose and Necessity	Stakeholder Impact	Efficiency and Complexity
The requirement lacks a clear rationale, no longer serves its original purpose, or is misaligned with current needs.	The requirement or process creates frustration, adds little value, or introduces unnecessary complexity for users.	The requirement involves excessive steps, unnecessary approvals, duplication, delays, or avoidable costs.

Upon receipt of a submission, MBS undertakes a structured process to track, triage, and investigate the concern. Submissions are logged and reviewed to determine whether they appear to meet the GNWT's red tape criteria. Concerns that warrant further review are investigated in collaboration with departmental officials to better understand the issue, identify potential solutions, and determine whether changes to policies, procedures, forms, systems, or service delivery practices may be appropriate. Departments are expected to provide information and responses within five business days to support timely resolution. Figure 2 provides an overview of the GNWT's red tape intake and resolution process.

Figure 2: GNWT Red Tape Intake and Resolution Process



Following the investigation, MBS communicates the outcome directly to the complainant and tracks the status of issues and resolutions. Where opportunities for improvement are identified, MBS works with departments to support corrective actions and process improvements. In cases where a submission does not meet the definition of red tape, or where the matter falls within the responsibility of another organization, the issue may be referred to the appropriate department or agency for follow-up. This approach supports timely issue resolution while ensuring red tape reduction efforts remain focused on addressing unnecessary administrative burden and improving government services. Information collected through this process also helps identify broader trends and opportunities to improve regulatory and administrative processes across the GNWT.

The GNWT also identifies and advances red tape reduction initiatives through departmental process reviews, regulatory and policy modernization, digital service improvements, client feedback, employee suggestions, and broader organizational improvement initiatives.

Red Tape Submissions and Responses

Since assuming responsibility for the red tape reduction function in March 2025, MBS has continued to receive and assess submissions from residents, businesses, organizations and GNWT employees through the centralized intake process. Table 1 summarizes the submissions received and assessed since 2024-2025.

The statistics below reflect issues raised through the centralized intake process and represent one component of the GNWT's broader red tape reduction efforts. Additional initiatives undertaken across departments and agencies are described later in this report.

Table 1: Red Tape Submissions Received and Assessed by Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year	Submissions Received	Confirmed Red Tape Issues	Resolution Rate
2024-2025	1	1	100%
2025-2026	6	1	100%
2026-2027	2	0	N/A
Total	9	2	100%

Note: Confirmed red tape issues are submissions assessed against the GNWT's red tape criteria and determined to represent unnecessary administrative burden.

Submissions related to matters such as application and approval processes, digital service challenges, policy interpretation and specific service delivery irritants. Each submission was assessed against the GNWT's red tape criteria and, where appropriate, referred to the responsible department or agency for investigation and response. Table 2 provides a summary of the confirmed red tape issues and their responses.

Table 2: Confirmed Red Tape Issues and Responses

Fiscal Year	Issue Identified	Action Taken	Outcome
2024-2025	A resident raised concerns that the online Driver and Vehicle Services Online System automatically deactivates accounts inactive for two years. When attempting to create a new account, they were unable to use their existing e-mail address, forcing them to create a new e-mail address. The issue was identified as creating an unnecessary barrier to accessing online Driver and Vehicle Services.	The Department of Infrastructure reviewed the concern and committed to improving transparency regarding NTKey account expiry requirements. Infrastructure also worked with NTKey Support to clarify procedures for reusing existing email addresses and to ensure support staff provide consistent information to clients.	The Department confirmed that creating a new email address is not required to access eServices after account expiry. Improvements to client information and staff guidance were identified to reduce confusion and improve access to online services. Executive and Indigenous Affairs also committed to exploring how Government Service Officers can support residents in accessing Driver and Vehicle Services.
2025-2026	A licensed childcare provider identified ongoing issues with a required quarterly reporting form used to access GNWT funding. Issues identified with the fillable PDF, including incorrectly formatted fields and linked data entry fields, created additional administrative effort and reduced the effectiveness of the electronic reporting process. The issues had previously been raised with the department but could not be replicated by the vendor and had not yet been resolved.	The Department of Education, Culture and Employment (ECE) reviewed the concerns, confirmed that similar feedback had been received from other program partners, and identified that it was likely out of date software being used externally that was causing the issue. In response, ECE worked with its vendor to redesign the reporting tools and developed both an updated fillable PDF and an Excel reporting option. The revised forms were advanced for final approval and release.	The submission prompted further review of reporting tools used by licensed childcare providers. ECE committed to implementing updated reporting forms, including an Excel option, to improve usability and reduce administrative burden associated with quarterly reporting requirements.

While the centralized intake process provides an important mechanism for identifying specific barriers experienced by residents and businesses, it is not the singular source of red tape reduction activity within the GNWT. Much of the work to reduce administrative burden occurs through ongoing departmental reviews, modernization initiatives, service improvements, feedback from program users, and government-wide improvement efforts. The initiatives outlined in the next section describe the broader range of actions departments and agencies are undertaking to improve efficiency and reduce unnecessary burden across government.

Activities Across the GNWT

Since 2023, departments and agencies have introduced a range of measures to simplify requirements, expand online services, modernize legislation, streamline licensing and permitting processes, improve intergovernmental coordination, and reduce administrative burden for residents, businesses, Indigenous governments, municipalities, and GNWT employees.

Collectively, these initiatives support the GNWT's objective of delivering programs and services that are easier to access, more responsive to the needs of residents and businesses, and more efficient to administer. Current efforts are focused on reducing administrative burden, modernizing regulatory frameworks, improving digital service delivery, and strengthening coordination across governments and regulatory partners. They also support economic development, improve transparency and predictability, and help ensure that government resources are used effectively while maintaining necessary protections and oversight.

Direct Burden Reduction	Initiatives that eliminate or simplify administrative requirements, reduce reporting obligations, streamline approvals, and make it easier for residents, businesses, municipalities, Indigenous governments, and organizations to interact with government.
Regulatory Modernization	Initiatives that update legislation, regulations, and regulatory frameworks to improve clarity, predictability, efficiency, and alignment with current economic, social, and operational realities.
Digital Service and Process Improvement	Initiatives that use technology, online services, automation, and digital tools to improve service delivery and reduce manual effort.
Regulatory Coordination	Initiatives that improve collaboration and alignment among territorial, federal and co-management partners to reduce duplication, improve regulatory certainty, and support more efficient project and program delivery.

To support monitoring and reporting, initiatives are organized into four broad themes:

Direct Burden Reduction

Direct burden reduction initiatives focus on removing unnecessary administrative requirements, reducing reporting obligations, streamlining approvals, and making it easier for residents, businesses, municipalities, Indigenous governments, and organizations to interact with government.

The following initiatives described in Table 3 are reducing administrative burden by simplifying requirements, improving client experience, and eliminating unnecessary steps in government processes. Key highlights of direct burden reduction initiatives include:

- Reduced reporting, paperwork, and administrative requirements for residents, businesses, municipalities, and community governments.
- Simplified access to benefits, education supports, licensing services, and other government programs.
- Improved client experience through streamlined processes, clearer information, and more responsive service delivery.
- Removed barriers that limit participation in economic and community opportunities.

Table 3: Direct Burden Reduction Initiatives

Initiative	Department	Key Benefit/Outcome	Status
Inclusive Schooling Renewal – Clearer Information and Protocols	ECE	Provides clearer guidance and tools to make the system easier to navigate for families and schools, including plain language information, improved transition supports, and stronger coordination with health partners to help families navigate the education system.	In progress
Electronic Notices of Assessment for Apprenticeships	ECE	Improves timeliness, transparency and client experience by simplifying processes and reducing processing times for apprentices and employers.	In progress
Electronic Notices of Assessment for Property Tax Administration	FIN	Allows property owners to opt into electronic delivery of assessment notices, reducing paper-based administration for municipalities.	In progress
Electronic Bonding Options for Procurement	FIN	Eliminates the need for bidders to submit paper bid bonds while maintaining verification requirements.	Complete

Initiative	Department	Key Benefit/Outcome	Status
Simplified Business Incentive Policy (BIP) Requirements	FIN/ITI	BIP Interpretive Bulletin #4 and the simplified Substantiation of BIP Adjustment Form reduces documentation requirements for vendors and simplifies procurement submissions.	Complete
Enhanced GNWT Employee Medical Travel Process	FIN	Streamlines travel booking and reimbursement processes while reducing administrative effort.	In progress
Reducing Barriers for Social Housing Tenants to be Entrepreneurs	HNWT	Examines and addresses barriers that limit entrepreneurship opportunities for social housing tenants, to allow social housing tenants to become entrepreneurs.	In progress
Streamlining Access to Health Benefit Programs	HSS	Simplifies access to health-related benefits by reducing duplication and improving program integration, allowing residents to access healthcare benefits under one program in a consistent way.	In progress
Driver and Vehicle Licensing Program Review	INF	Reduces client burden by streamlining access to online driver and vehicle services through an improved sign-in process. For example, clients can now use Multi-Factor Authentication instead of banking credentials or NTKey, reducing the number of steps required to access their online account. The review also removed the fee for downgrading a driver's licence, eliminating a financial barrier for clients who need to move from a higher licence class to a lower class.	Complete
Pathways to Entrepreneurship and Employment	ITI/ECE	Mapping the continuum of GNWT business and employment support programs based on the type of support required and creating single window access to these supports.	In progress
Streamlined Community Government Funding Agreements	MACA	Consolidates multiple funding agreements into a single agreement, reducing reporting requirements and administrative burden.	Complete

Regulatory Modernization

Regulatory modernization initiatives focus on updating legislation, regulations, and regulatory frameworks to reflect current realities while improving clarity and predictability.

The following initiatives described in Table 4 are helping modernize the GNWT's regulatory framework by improving clarity, predictability, efficiency, and ease of compliance. Key highlights of regulatory modernization initiatives include:

- Modernizing land, resource development, labour, liquor, and technical safety legislation to better reflect current needs and provide clearer, more predictable regulatory requirements.
- Simplifying and streamlining regulatory processes and improving ease of compliance for businesses, workers, industry, and the public.
- Introducing more consistent, risk-based, and transparent approaches to permitting, licensing, compliance, and enforcement.
- Strengthening regulatory design by requiring departments to assess potential burden and implementation impacts before introducing new regulations.
- Supporting long-term economic growth and investment certainty through modernized regulatory frameworks that improve clarity and reduce complexity.

Table 4: Regulatory Modernization Initiatives

Initiative	Department	Key Benefit/Outcome	Status
***Public Land Act* Regulations and Improvements to Waters Regulations**	ECC	Modernizes the public land management framework through standardized application processes, risk-based authorizations, improved transparency, and streamlined land and water permitting requirements. Provides clearer and more consistent land and water management requirements, improving transparency and making regulatory processes easier for residents, Indigenous governments, communities, and businesses to understand and navigate.	In progress

Initiative	Department	Key Benefit/Outcome	Status
Employment Standards Act Modernization	ECE	Clarifies employer and employee obligations, improves compliance, streamlines complaint and enforcement processes, and aligns legislation with modern labour market realities. Makes workplace rights and responsibilities easier for workers and employers to understand, improving access to information, consistency of service, and ease of compliance.	In progress
Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Regulations Review	ECE	Supports greater access to careers in skilled trades by reducing barriers to apprenticeship participation through increased program accessibility, flexible recognition of prior learning, and more efficient program administration.	Planning
Cabinet Operational Guidelines for Regulation Projects	EIA	Establishes a government-wide process for assessing regulatory burden and implementation impacts before new regulations are introduced.	Complete
Updates to Regulations for the *Liquor Act*	FIN	Simplifies licensing and permitting processes for businesses, introduces more flexible licensing options and terms, and reduces administrative complexity while maintaining regulatory oversight.	In progress
Technical Safety Act Implementation	INF	Creates a clearer and more consistent regulatory framework for residents, businesses, and industry by bringing multiple technical safety requirements under a single modern legislative framework to streamline processes for electrical and mechanical equipment licensing, inspections, compliance and enforcement.	In progress
***Mineral Resources Act* Regulations**	ITI	Supports economic development by creating a clearer and more modern regulatory framework for mineral development, including streamlined administration, automated processes, online map staking, and providing greater certainty for Indigenous governments, communities, and industry.	In progress

Digital Service and Process Improvement

Digital service and process improvement initiatives focus on technology, automation, online access, digital approvals, service modernization, and client experience improvements.

The following initiatives described in Table 5 are helping create a more efficient, accessible, and responsive government by reducing manual processes, expanding online services, and improving client experience. Key highlights of digital service and process improvement initiatives include:

- Expanding digital services and online application systems to make it easier for residents, businesses, and organizations to access government programs and services.
- Replacing paper-based processes with electronic approvals, signatures, payments, and document management solutions to improve efficiency and reduce processing times.
- Improving access to information and services through enhanced digital tools, online platforms, and service delivery systems.
- Leveraging emerging technologies and process improvements to reduce administrative effort, improve productivity, and support better decision-making.
- Modernizing internal government processes to improve responsiveness, strengthen service delivery, and create a more efficient client experience.

Table 5: Digital Service and Process Improvement Initiatives

Initiative	Department	Key Benefit/Outcome	Status
AI Use and Governance in the GNWT	FIN	Supports more efficient and responsive government services by exploring the use of artificial intelligence tools that improve productivity, enhance service delivery, and reduce time spent on routine administrative tasks.	Ongoing
Digital Signing, Tracking and Retention of Documents - Guideline	FIN	Provides clear direction on approval and signature methods to reduce unnecessary printing, scanning, processing delays, and administrative effort.	In progress
DIIMS Core Sign Service Offering	FIN	Enables secure electronic document signing, tracking, and retention. Makes it easier for residents, businesses, and partners to access government services by reducing the need to print, scan or mail signed documents.	In progress
Electronic Signatures for Procurement Documents	FIN	Streamlines contract approvals by replacing manual signatures with electronic signing solutions, reducing delays for vendors and departments.	In progress

Initiative	Department	Key Benefit/Outcome	Status
Moneris Payment System for Insurance Licensing Fees	FIN	Replaces paper-based payment processes with a secure online transaction system, providing a faster and more secure payment experience while reducing paperwork and protecting client information.	Complete
Online Visa One Expenditure Approvals	FIN	Improves government efficiency by eliminating paper-based approval processes for corporate credit card transactions, supporting more timely financial administration and stronger record management.	Complete
Environmental Health Premises Online Application Submission and Approval System	HSS	Makes it easier for regulated businesses to apply for permits and approvals online, improving accessibility and reducing manual processing effort.	In progress
Online Permitting System for Gas, Electrical, Boiler and Pressure Vessel Permits	INF	Provides industry and the public with faster, more convenient access to permitting services through online applications and processing.	In progress
DriveNWT Improvements	INF	Enhances public access to real-time road conditions, travel advisories, construction updates, and transportation information, helping residents make safer and more informed travel decisions.	Ongoing

Regulatory Coordination

Regulatory coordination initiatives focus on improving collaboration and alignment among territorial, federal and co-management partners to reduce duplication, improve regulatory certainty, and support more efficient project and program delivery.

The following initiatives described in Table 6 are strengthening coordination across regulatory systems and governments to improve transparency, streamline processes, and create a more predictable experience for residents, businesses, Indigenous governments and project proponents. Key highlights of regulatory coordination initiatives include:

- Improving coordination between territorial, federal and co-management partners to reduce duplication and support more efficient regulatory processes.
- Strengthening pathfinding and navigation supports to help proponents better understand and move through regulatory systems.
- Advancing coordinated approaches to environmental assessment, permitting, consultation, and major project development.

- Supporting greater participation by Indigenous governments and organizations in regulatory processes.
- Improving regulatory certainty and predictability to support responsible economic development and investment.

Table 6: Regulatory Coordination Initiatives

Initiative	Department	Key Benefit/Outcome	Status
Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) on Regulatory Coordination	ECC	Supports more predictable and efficient environmental assessment and permitting processes by improving coordination across governments, regulators and Indigenous partners, helping to reduce delays and improve transparency for project proponents and communities.	In progress
MOU with Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency on Joint Crown Consultation	ECC	Facilitates meaningful, effective, and efficient consultations by the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada with Indigenous governments and Indigenous organizations with asserted or established Aboriginal and/or Treaty rights in the Northwest Territories, to support timely and legally robust decisions on environmental assessment reports.	In progress
Collaboration with Canada on NWT Major Projects	INF	Improves coordination among governments and Indigenous partners to support timely decision-making and advancement of major infrastructure projects across the Northwest Territories, including the Mackenzie Valley Highway, All-Season Energy Corridor, and Taltson Hydro Expansion.	In progress
Interprovincial/ Territorial Trucking MOU	INF	Supports and facilitates more efficient movement of goods across Canada by aligning trucking standards, streamlining interjurisdictional crossings, and developing shared rest, refuelling and maintenance facilities.	In progress
MOU with Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor)	ITI	Improves federal-territorial coordination on critical mineral and infrastructure projects and strengthens pathfinding supports to help partners and stakeholders navigate these regulatory processes.	In progress
Mutual Recognition of Goods and Services Across Canadian Provinces and Territories	ITI	Supports provincial-territorial collaboration through the Committee on Internal Trade to mutually recognize the movement of certain goods and services to reduce barriers to business, trade, and employment.	In progress

Together, the initiatives highlighted in this report demonstrate how departments and agencies are working to reduce unnecessary burden, improve service delivery, modernize regulatory frameworks, and strengthen coordination across government and regulatory systems. Departments and agencies will continue advancing these efforts throughout the remainder of the 20th Legislative Assembly, with a focus on reducing administrative burden, improving service delivery, modernizing regulatory frameworks, enhancing coordination across government systems, and creating better outcomes for residents, businesses, Indigenous governments, communities and stakeholders across the Northwest Territories.

Conclusion

Reducing unnecessary administrative burden is an ongoing responsibility shared across the GNWT. Through direct burden reduction measures, regulatory modernization, digital service and process improvements, and strengthened regulatory coordination, departments and agencies are working to reduce unnecessary barriers and improve how residents, businesses, Indigenous governments, communities, and organizations interact with government. While regulations, policies, and administrative requirements remain essential to protecting public interests and ensuring accountability, the initiatives outlined in this report demonstrate meaningful progress toward a more efficient, transparent, and responsive government. The GNWT will continue to monitor progress to ensure red tape reduction remains aligned with broader objectives for economic growth, investment certainty, and effective public service delivery.