



**Government of the Northwest Territories Response to Committee Report
25-20(1): Report on the Review to Date of Bill 26: An Act to Amend the
Public Service Act**

Background

The 20th Legislative Assembly Standing Committee on Government Operations (SCOGO) tabled Report 25-20(1) Report on the Review to Date of Bill 26: An Act to Amend the Public Service Act (Report) on October 20, 2025. SCOGO has requested that the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) respond to the sole recommendation in the Report within 120 days.

Recommendation 1

The Standing Committee on Government Operations recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories complete the engagement and work necessary to bring forward a legislative proposal no later than the May 2026 session and introduce a bill to support Phase II amendments to the *Public Service Act* no later than the October 2026 Session, in line with the timelines previously communicated.

GNWT Response

The Government of the Northwest Territories can confirm it is on track to meet the commitments made during the public briefing on the Department of Finance's perspective on Bill 26. This includes a legislative proposal being complete by the May 2026 session and introduction of a Bill for Phase II in Fall 2026.

The Department of Finance engaged with our current bargaining partners through a series of in-person sessions. Engagement sessions with the Union of Northern Workers (UNW) and the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) took place on October 27, November 13, and December 9, 2025. Sessions with the Northwest Territories Teachers Association (NWTTA) were held on November 3, November 14, and December 16, 2025. While these formal engagement sessions are now complete, the Department will continue to consult with our bargaining partners throughout the legislative process.

Additionally, the Department provided the public with an opportunity to give feedback on Phase II through the GNWT's 'Have Your Say' website from December 10, 2025 to January 11, 2026. A What We Heard report summarizing the feedback received is currently being prepared.