



774-2024-213

October 3, 2024

Mr. David Sinclair
Vice-Chair
Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation
deadbrokedave@gmail.com

Dear Mr. Sinclair:

I am pleased to provide our government's 2025-26 priorities for the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC).

Agencies are a part of government and are expected to act in the best interests of the people of Ontario, and to ensure that they provide value for money to taxpayers. Agencies are also required to adhere to government policies and directives.

Per the requirements of the Agencies and Appointments Directive, agencies are required to align goals, objectives, and strategic direction with our government's priorities and direction. As Vice-Chair, you must ensure that the NOHFC business plan demonstrates the agency's plans in fulfilling the expectations and government priorities below, and that progress and achievements are reported through the agency annual report. Compliance with these requirements are reported to Treasury Board / Management Board of Cabinet annually.

This letter sets out my expectations for 2025-26. I expect that NOHFC is innovative, sustainable, and accountable through the following direction:

Innovative

1. Simplify client / customer interactions.
2. Expand and optimize digital service offerings.
3. Improve client / customer satisfaction.
4. Share data with Supply Ontario, when requested, regarding procurement spending and planning, contract arrangements, and vendor relations to support data-driven decision-making.

Sustainable

5. Strengthen public service delivery by optimizing organizational capacity and directing existing resources to priority areas.
6. Use Public Resources efficiently and operate within the agency's financial allocations.

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Accountable

7. Develop and report on outcome-focused performance measures to effectively monitor and measure performance.
8. Protect individual, business, or organization data by actively managing data and cybersecurity and reporting Artificial Intelligence uses.
9. Report all high risks, including effective mitigation plans.

These are the government-wide commitments for board-governed provincial agencies. Please see the attached guide for further details of each priority and the accompanying performance measures that can be utilised if measurements are not currently in place.

I am also outlining several priorities specific to the NOHFC:

1. Supporting broader community and organization participation of NOHFC programming, with an emphasis on increasing the participation of Indigenous communities and partners.
2. Continuing to provide superior client service.
3. Enabling easier, efficient processes that reduce burden to submitting applications.
4. Responding to recommendations identified in the Mandate Review of the NOHFC undertaken in fiscal year 2024-25.

At our next meeting, I would be pleased to discuss these priorities, and I look forward to hearing how they will be reflected in the agency's upcoming business plan and in ongoing agency operations.

Thank you and your fellow board members for your continued commitment and dedication to the NOHFC. Your work and ongoing support are invaluable to our government and the people of Northern Ontario.

Sincerely,



The Honourable Greg Rickford
Minister of Northern Development
Chair, Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation

Attachment: Government Priorities for Agency Sector Chart

- c: David Corbett, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Northern Development
John Guerard, Executive Director, Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation
Helen Mulc, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Northern Development
Scott Mantle, Chief Administrative Officer, Ministry of Northern Development
Richard Scott, Director, Strategic Initiatives Branch, Ministry of Northern Development