

News Release

For Immediate Release:

Premier Akeeagok assumes chairpersonship of Northern Premiers' Forum

IQALUIT, Nunavut (February 1, 2024) – Premier P.J. Akeeagok assumed his duties as the chair of the Northern Premiers' Forum in January.

The Northern Premiers' Forum is a platform where territorial premiers meet annually to discuss shared priorities and interests as they engage with federal and provincial governments. The chair is assumed on a rotational basis between the Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut.

“I am excited to take on the role of chair,” stated Premier Akeeagok. “This forum is an excellent opportunity to work together to ensure that our unique and shared northern needs can be brought forward effectively. A united voice is a powerful tool to express the realities of Canada’s northern jurisdictions.”

In a videoconference in advance of an annual in-person gathering, Premier Akeeagok thanked the Northwest Territories for its work as chair last year. He also welcomed Premier R.J. Simpson to the forum following his appointment as Premier of the NWT.

The Premiers discussed their priorities during Nunavut's chairpersonship, which include Arctic security and sovereignty, infrastructure, and housing.

The forum was established in 2003 with the signing of the Northern Cooperation Accord. The intent of the accord is to promote cooperation and collaboration among the three territories on matters of mutual concern and interest, to promote sharing of information on these matters, and to enhance the working relationships among the three governments. The most recent signing of the accord was in 2021.

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