

AMC – Manitoba Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Towards Reconciliation - NAMO Transformation

Goal:

The Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) and Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Manitoba (“Manitoba”) (The Parties) agree, through open negotiations, to strive towards an Agreement to transition the ownership and operation of Manitoba’s Northern Airports and Marine Operations (NAMO) assets to the jurisdiction of First Nations in Manitoba through the AMC, and/or its designated affiliates, for the long term sustainability of serving First Nations in northern Manitoba and Northern communities.

Principles:

1. AMC and Manitoba enter into these discussions in good faith and in the spirit of openness, cooperation and mutual respect;
2. AMC and Manitoba recognize that the Northern Airports and Marine Operations facilities are critical to the delivery of essential goods and services to First Nations and Northern communities;
3. AMC and Manitoba agree that a successful Agreement will include placing the utmost importance on providing continuity of service during the transition of NAMO assets; and
4. AMC and Manitoba have co-developed the following honourable process and commit to executing it in the interest of both thoroughness and time.

Process:

1. Consultation with First Nations – the Parties shall undertake to obtain feedback from First Nations in northern Manitoba on the NAMO transformation initiative;
2. The Parties will gather and share current and historical information, such as operational, regulatory and financial data and strategic information about NAMO and the First Nations, to create mutual understanding and knowledge;
3. Manitoba will provide information to AMC on the results of Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) previously conducted at NAMO facilities and identify where additional EIAs are under way to ensure both parties are aware of any potential environmental risks associated with specific facilities so they can be properly understood and addressed with terms of the final Agreement;
4. First Nations will develop a business model and associated detailed business plan(s) for NAMO assets based their vision – the Parties shall review the model and business plan(s) to ensure sustainability and continuity of service to First Nations and Northern communities;
5. The Parties will strive to negotiate fair and detailed terms in an Agreement for transitioning the ownership of all NAMO assets to First Nations; and
6. The Parties will cooperate in jointly preparing and executing a comprehensive and detailed transition plan to ensure the effective transfer of knowledge and continuity of service.

Anticipated Timeframe:

The Parties agree to work through the process with a goal of achieving an Agreement prior to June 30, 2020 with a transition plan to begin no later than July 2020.

