



May 19, 2020

MR. KEVIN O'REILLY  
MLA, FRAME LAKE

**ORAL QUESTION 70-19(2): THAIDENE NĚNĚ STATUS**

This letter is in follow up to the Oral Questions raised on February 25, 2020, regarding the establishment of Thaidene NĚnĚ as a national park and territorial protected area in August 2019.

In June 2019, shortly after the *Protected Areas Act* came into force, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) website was updated to include a Protected Areas Registry (the Registry).

The GNWT recognizes that existing establishment agreements need to be posted on the Registry; however, in the spirit of reconciliation and the co-governance arrangements that the establishment agreements create, the GNWT sought endorsement from all signatories to the establishment agreements prior to posting them on the Registry. As of May 25, the Registry will contain all the required information identified in legislation.

The GNWT recognizes that with additional territorial protected areas and the management and monitoring activities related to these areas, considerably more information will need to be posted to the Protected Areas Registry over time. As the volume of information grows and other ENR legislation requires a public registry, the GNWT will reassess the current registry model to determine if a different system is required. Should a stand-alone registry be needed, it would be designed based on the needs of Northwest Territories (NWT) residents and in keeping with the Open Government Policy.

I trust this response addresses your questions regarding Thaidene NĚnĚ.

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Environment and Natural Resources

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