21 December 2017

The Hon. Jackson Lafferty  
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly  
of the Northwest Territories  
P.O. Box 1320  
Yellowknife, NT  
X1A 2L9

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Re: Annual Report of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner for 2017

In accordance with section 99 of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, I have the honour of submitting my Report to the Legislative Assembly about the administration of the conflict of interest provisions in the Act for 2017.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

DAVID PHILLIP JONES, Q.C.  
Conflict of Interest Commissioner

/iv

Enclosure
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
CONFLICT OF INTEREST COMMISSIONER

ANNUAL REPORT
TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR 2017

David Phillip Jones, Q.C.

21 December 2017
Northwest Territories
Conflict of Interest Commissioner

ANNUAL REPORT

to the Legislative Assembly
for 2017

Section 99 of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, S.N.W.T. 1999, c. 22 (the “Act”), requires that an annual report be submitted “during each year”.

This is my fourth Annual Report as the Conflict of Interest Commissioner, and covers the period from the end of my last report (December 31, 2016).

A. JURISDICTION OF THE COMMISSIONER

The Conflict of Interest Commissioner receives its authority under Part 3 of the Act.

1. Disclosure Statements

• Section 87 of the Act requires Members of the Legislative Assembly to make an annual private disclosure of their private interests (including the private interests of their immediate families) by filing with me a Disclosure Statement detailing specifics of income, assets, liabilities and financial interests.

• Section 87(1) of the Act specifies the deadline by which a Member must file the Disclosure Statement with me (namely, the anniversary of the 60th day after the commencement of the first sitting of the Legislative Assembly after the election of the Member—the first sitting was on 16 December 2015, so the deadline anniversary was 17 February 2017. I received Disclosure Statements from all Members.

• Section 88 of the Act requires the Members to meet with me following the filing of their Disclosure Statements to ensure that adequate disclosure has been made and to receive advice from me with respect to their obligations under the Act. For health reasons, I was not able to meet personally with the Members in February 2017 in Yellowknife, but I was available for consultation with them by telephone and email, and I reviewed their Disclosure Statements as filed. I am
satisfied that each Member made adequate disclosure in his or her respective Disclosure Statement. I believe the Members have a satisfactory understanding of their obligations under the Act.

I was able to be present in Yellowknife in June 2017 and was available to meet with several Members at that time.

- Section 89 outlines my responsibility to prepare a public disclosure statement for each member who has provided a Disclosure Statement. I prepared the public disclosure statements and filed them in the Registry maintained for this purpose at the Legislative Library in Yellowknife. In addition, section 89 requires the preparation of a supplementary public disclosure statement where a member has provided me with a Supplementary Disclosure Statement. During the course of the year, I received a number of Supplementary Disclosure Statements and prepared the corresponding supplementary public disclosure statements which were filed in the Registry.

- Section 90 provides that the Conflict of Interest Commissioner shall destroy any disclosure statements filed by former Members six years after the person ceased to be a Member (with certain exceptions, none of which is applicable). With the end of the 17th Assembly in October 2015, I have diarized the future destruction of the disclosure statements for 2021 for those Members who were not re-elected in 2015.

- Sections 97 and 98 permit the Speaker, Premier, Members or former members to request written advice and recommendations from the Conflict of Interest Commissioner on any matter respecting conflicts of interest and obligations under Part 3 (Conflict of Interest) of the Act. Because information provided and relating to the requests and any advice and recommendations of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner are confidential, I am not at liberty to provide any details about such requests. However, I am always available to respond to such requests.

2. Authorized Exceptions

- Under section 85(4), the Conflict of Interest Commissioner may authorize a member, corporation owned or controlled by the Speaker or a Minister or his or her immediate family, or former member to accept an appointment, benefit, contract or employment, or to engage in an activity that they may otherwise be prohibited from accepting or engaging in, subject to such conditions as the Commissioner considers appropriate to impose, provided that the Commissioner is satisfied that the contract or activity is fair and reasonable and not contrary to the public interest.
3. **Extensions of time**

No extensions of time for filing Disclosure Statements were required this year.

4. **Complaints**

No member or former member was the subject of a complaint during the period covered by this report.

**B. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

I would like to publicly thank Tim Mercer Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, and Cynthia James, the Members’ Secretary, for their very able, willing, effective and cheerful assistance to me—and to Members and Ministers—in the administration of the conflict of interest legislation.

I would also like to thank my assistant, Linda Volz, in my office in Edmonton for her support to me in performing this function.

Finally, I appreciate the confidence shown in me in performing this task and being re-appointed for a further four-year term.

**C. CONTACT INFORMATION**

I can be contacted as follows:

David Phillip Jones, Q.C.
300 Noble Building
8540 - 109 Street N.W.
Edmonton, Alberta
T6G 1E6

Phone: (780) 433-9000
Fax: (780) 433-9780
Email: dpjones@sagecounsel.com

All of which is respectfully submitted this 21st day of December 2017 by:

[Signature]

David Phillip Jones, Q.C.
Conflict of Interest Commissioner