

Section	Grow North Statement or Recommendation	Strongly	Moderately	Agree	Moderately	Strongly	Changes Suggested
ATTRACTING INVESTMENT & GROWTH	Develop and implement a Northern Investment Strategy with comprehensive competitive intelligence for each market region, new market action plans for key industries and marketing strategies for niche products and services. This will include an emphasis on early involvement and rapid response for investment decisions.						
	a) Align provincial investment programs with Growth Plan priorities.						
	b) Engage business, community, scientific and Aboriginal leadership in economic development strategies through existing and new industry clusters and by restructuring the Northern Development Councils as technical working groups.						
	c) Focus on existing industry issues, business retention and time-sensitive opportunities for key growth industries.						
	d) Create business development, export, and labour market strategies for emerging sectors with strong growth potential and competitive advantages. Support partnerships among municipalities, Aboriginal communities and businesses to advance these strategies.						
	e) Strengthen relationships in key markets. Expand inbound and outbound trade missions and showcase northern investment opportunities.						

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ATTRACTING INVESTMENT & GROWTH	f) Work with industry, labour, professional associations and communities to identify strategies to attract highly skilled workers for labour shortages.						
	2. Increase business support to sectors with significant competitive advantages and growth potential and to firms aggressively pursuing market expansion, research and development, and introduction of innovative technologies.						
	3. Increase public procurement opportunities through local procurement approaches.						
	4. Expand the role of Small Business Enterprise Centres to increase training and mentoring in business management and entrepreneurship, and to strengthen their networks among industry, economic development organizations, Aboriginal enterprises, and the research and education sectors.						
	5. Strengthen access to venture capital and angel investment through an expanded business angel network linked to northern research and innovation centres and with new mechanisms supporting co-investment and syndication.						
	6. Increase flexibility of business support programs to meet sectoral needs (e.g., access to capital for tourism) and examine alternatives to equity positions for Aboriginal enterprises.						