

New Northern Borders: Analyzing the Growth of Aboriginal Public Administration in Yukon and its impacts on the economy and self-determination

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Governments are generally so busy managing programs and resolving problems that they forget to celebrate their successes. One of Yukon's greatest successes and one which the region is becoming recognized for is the evolution of First Nations' self-governance which flows from modern treaty negotiations. This has had wide-ranging legal, political and economic effects. For example, Yukon has been rated as one of the best places for mineral investment for the past few years by the Fraser Institute *Survey of Mining Companies*, with a rating of over 80%. First Nation self-government has created new borders, new legal challenges and a new civil service. This paper looks at the some 1400 to 1600 people employed monthly in these seventeen governments and the income they contribute to the Territorial economy using urban/region and comparative jurisdictional breakouts acquired from the Statistics Canada *Survey of Employment and Payroll Hours*. Our future work looks to add qualitative data analysis through interviews with First Nation government executives to assess the level of citizen's participation in government employment as well as training and educational gaps and challenges the face in building a First Nations civil service, as well as their dependency on outside hires and consultants.