



The Arctic Institute of North America presents the 2018 – 2019

Arctic Speaker Series

Solutions for Northern Canadians - one northerner's vision

Speaker:

Senator
Dennis Patterson

Date:

Tuesday,
March 12, 2019

Time:

6:00 – 7:00 pm

Location:

University of Calgary
Hotel Alma - Senate Room



Inhabitants of Canada's North face unique challenges every day. In order to both meet these challenges and harness emerging opportunities, any federal policies moving forward must reflect the priorities of northerners and lead to a cohesive and comprehensive whole-of-government approach.

This presentation will look at the current reality in Canada's North, and will provide insight on a proposed way forward to securing the economic and socio-cultural prosperity of a region that makes up 40% of our great country.

Based on his experience as a legislator both federally and territorially, his work in the North as a consultant and lawyer, and as Chair of a Senate committee currently studying these issues, Senator Dennis Glen Patterson will provide one northerner's vision of how Canada can help foster a strong, vibrant, and healthy North.

Biography: Dennis Patterson (Nunavut) is a former Premier of the Northwest Territories who has dedicated his career to bettering the lives of people throughout Canada's North.

In his distinguished 16-year career as a member of the Legislative Assembly in the Northwest Territories Mr. Patterson served in many capacities including Minister of Education, Minister of Health and Social Services and Minister of Justice, culminating in his service as Premier between 1987 and 1991.

During his time in public office Mr. Patterson played a key role in the settlement of the Inuvialuit final agreement and the Nunavut final land claim agreement. Mr. Patterson also served as a leader of the more than twenty-year campaign which led to the establishment of Nunavut as Canada's newest territory in 1999. Prior to entering politics, Mr. Patterson practised law and was appointed founding Executive Director of the Legal Services Centre, Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik Society, in Iqaluit.

After serving as Premier, Mr. Patterson established a private consulting firm, was admitted to the Law Society of Nunavut in 2001 and since 2003 has been a Trustee and, until September, 2015, was the Chair of Governance, Compensation and Nomination Committee of the Northern Property Real Estate Investment Trust.

The Senator currently serves as the Chair of the Special Senate Committee on the Arctic, the first and only parliamentary committee wholly focused on issues pertaining to the Arctic. He also sits on the Standing Senate Committees on Aboriginal Peoples; Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources; and Conflict of Interest and Ethics.

This event is **free and open to the public**

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