



March 3, 2022

The Honourable John Horgan
Premier of British Columbia
Chair, Council of the Federation
PO Box 9041
Station Provincial Government
Victoria BC V8W 9E1

Dear Premier Horgan:

Northerners have been watching with horror and shock as the unprovoked Russian invasion of Ukraine has unfolded. Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut stand by the sanctions that Canada has imposed on Russia in response to this unjustified violation of international law.

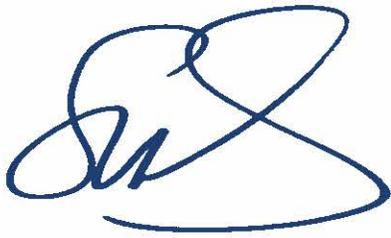
Russia's actions threaten global security, and importantly for us Arctic security. This aggression will affect collaboration and dialogue in the Arctic, which has been considered a region of peace and cooperation. Such stability is critical for communities across the circumpolar world that are pursuing healthy, vibrant growth.

Russia has carried out an ambitious program to strengthen its position in the Arctic over many years, including construction of new ports and infrastructure, and expansion of its icebreaker fleet and military presence. Given recent developments, Northern Premiers are growing increasingly concerned with Arctic defence and security.

Canada is a member of the Arctic Council, which includes all circumpolar nations, and meets regularly to address issues faced by the Arctic governments and international Indigenous organizations. Russia's current role as Chair of the Arctic Council raises concern since its recent military actions disrupt the longstanding spirit of peace and cooperation at the Council table.

In light of this growing concern, Northern Premiers are seeking support from the Council of the Federation to consider Arctic Sovereignty and Security as an agenda item for our upcoming Council of the Federation meeting. Clearly this issue is taking on greater significance and we would be best served as a nation by stronger dialogue on this issue.

Sincerely,

A stylized, cursive handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

Sandy Silver
Premier
Yukon

A cursive handwritten signature in blue ink, clearly legible as 'Caroline Cochrane'.

Caroline Cochrane
Premier
Northwest Territories

A cursive handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'P.J. Akeeagok'.

P.J. Akeeagok
Premier
Nunavut

cc: All Premiers