Territorial Government Leaders

James Antoine Government Leader of the Northwest Territories

James Antoine was born in Fort Simpson in 1949. After studying at the University of Wisconsin, he earned a management certificate from the University of Lethbridge.

Mr. Antoine was chief of the Fort Simpson Dene Band for three terms, totalling 14 years and, since 1972, has been involved in developing the Dene Nation. He also helped develop the Deh Cho Regional Council and the Deh Cho Tribal Council and was executive director of both organizations. Mr. Antoine was President of Nogha Enterprises, owned by the Fort Simpson Dene Band Development Corp. and, in 1987, he co-ordinated the papal visit to Fort Simpson.

First elected to the legislative assembly in 1991 and re-elected in 1995, Mr. Antoine was elected Government Leader on Dec. 10, 1998.

Mr. Antoine and his wife, Celine, have four children.