



2016 — 2017

ANNUAL REPORT



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It is my honour this year to be presenting the Northwest Territories Association of Communities' 2016/2017 Annual Report here in the beautiful Beaufort Delta Region of the NWT. This Report summarizes our activities and events over the past 15 months and emphasizes the positive achievements of working together.

Each year, the NWTAC AGM provides an ideal opportunity to meet and engage with leadership and key partners of municipal governments from across the territory. Last year, we celebrated a milestone AGM - 50 years of unifying our NWT communities and working together to achieve all that our members want to be! This year we look forward to the next half of the century supporting and serving the members.

As President of the NWTAC Board of Directors it has been my privilege to work with many great people. In 2016 we expressed our sincere gratitude to Board member Leonard Kenny who left his position. We also extended a warm welcome to Raymond Tutcho from Deline to serve on the Board.

This year our Board, Staff and Members have made such great advancements with our Healthy Communities and Climate Change Programs. These have been fantastic success stories for our northern community development initiatives.

As we look to the future we are indeed stronger than ever in our commitment to serve and support the NWT Association of Community Members. I extend my thanks to our participating members, our committed staff and my colleagues of the Board. I look forward to working with all of you to achieve our goals in the coming year.

**Mayor Charlie Furlong**  
**President**



# CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MESSAGE

I am very proud to present the contents of this year's Annual Report at the 51<sup>st</sup> NWTAC AGM. As I look back on the activities and accomplishments of 2016/2017, the importance of the NWTAC and the benefit of strong communities is evident.

Our goal continues as always to serve our members and support communities in unity, solidarity, and collaboration. To continue to be the unified voice for communities on municipal goals determined by our members is our mission. This year the NWTAC continues to be very busy with a particular focus on Climate Change and Healthy Communities both of which are featured in this report.

In 2016 the Board of Directors had some changes. What has not changed is the outstanding direction that we have had, and continue to have, for our Association. Going forward, Board and Staff will carry on with a shared devotion to the member communities. The willingness to champion communities will continue. It's been a pleasure to serve the Association as CEO and I look forward to an exciting and promising future!

This is your Association – if there is anything we can assist you with please let us know!

**Sara Brown**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

# NWTAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A new board was elected at the May 2016 Annual General Meeting. The Board would like to extend a huge thank you to Councillor Roger Candow and Chief Leonard Kenny for their service to the NWTAC as Directors on the board.



Mayor Charles Furlong  
President

## Charter Communities, Hamlets and Settlements



Mayor Ray Ruben Sr.  
Vice President



Mayor Craig McMaster  
Director



Ekw'atide Ray Tutcho  
Director

## Cities Towns and Villages



Councillor Clarence Wood  
Vice President



Mayor Mark Heyck  
Director



Councillor Donna Lee  
Jungkind  
Director



# NWTAC STAFF AND CONTACTS



Sara Brown  
Chief Executive Officer  
[sara@nwtac.com](mailto:sara@nwtac.com)

Yvonne Fleming  
Senior Financial Officer  
[yvonne@nwtac.com](mailto:yvonne@nwtac.com)

Nicole Spencer  
Communication and Policy Coordinator  
[nicole@nwtac.com](mailto:nicole@nwtac.com)

Chelsey Andrews  
Healthy Communities Coordinator  
[chelsey@nwtac.com](mailto:chelsey@nwtac.com)

Ron Dennill  
Insurance Program Coordinator  
[ron@nwtac.com](mailto:ron@nwtac.com)

Karen Kuronen  
Technical Advisor  
[karen@nwtac.com](mailto:karen@nwtac.com)

Cynthia Horton  
Insurance Program Consultant  
[cynthia@nwtac.com](mailto:cynthia@nwtac.com)

Phone: (867) 873-8359

Toll Free: (866) 973-8359

Fax: (867) 873-3042

[info@nwtac.com](mailto:info@nwtac.com)

[www.nwtac.com](http://www.nwtac.com)

[www.facebook.com/nwtac1966](https://www.facebook.com/nwtac1966)

[www.twitter.com/nwtac](https://www.twitter.com/nwtac)

<https://www.youtube.com/user/NWTAC>

We proudly celebrated  
25 years with the  
Association for Yvonne  
Fleming and 15 years  
for Cynthia Horton at  
our AGM Banquet!



# FEDERAL ADVOCACY



President Furlong meets with Prime Minister Trudeau



Making important connections with Minister Sohi, Minister of Infrastructure



President Furlong chairing the Northern and Remote Forum of the FCM



Proudly presenting our Member of Parliament, Michael McLeod with the NWTAC Community Builder Award

In addition to meeting with all Territorial Members of Parliament and Senators, the NWTAC also participated in meetings with:

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau
- The Honourable Amarjeet Sohi, Minister of Infrastructure & Communities
- The Honourable Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development
- The Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change

## Federation of Canadian Municipalities

The NWTAC was represented strongly at FCM, undertaking work around:

- Infrastructure
- Housing
- Broadband Connectivity
- Asset Management
- Public Safety

Other Federal Meetings and consultations made by the NWTAC:

- CRTC Consultation on Basic Service
- CMHC on Climate Change
- Review of Canada Post
- Infrastructure Challenges with the Centre for the North
- Identification of Climate Change Gaps for AANDC

# TERRITORIAL ADVOCACY

In addition to the advocacy work done at the AGM, the NWTAC advocates on behalf of their member communities by working with various departments, attendance at the NWT Legislative Assembly and Standing Committee Meetings. By fostering relationships with the various departments at all levels, the NWTAC can have the impacts that its communities need.

## MACA

Meetings by the Board with the Minister  
 Regular Meetings with the Deputy Minister  
 Legislation Amendments  
 Building Canada Fund Advisory Committee  
 Gas Tax Oversight Committee  
 Occupational Health and Safety Committee  
 ATIP Review Comments  
 NWT Community Fire Protection Plan  
 Community Fire Protection Advisory Committee  
 Derelict Buildings  
 Asset Management Working Group  
 Funding Review Implementation  
 Public Sector Capacity Initiatives – Steering and Working Committees  
 Tri-Party  
 Ground Ambulance  
 911 Review Committee  
 Disaster Mitigation Funding  
 Exploring Opportunities to use Remote Sensing to do

- Flood Mapping
- Shorelines
- Permafrost
- Forest Fires



## HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Weaving our Wisdom  
 On-the Land Summit  
 Disability Service Review  
 Healthy Communities Project  
 Traditional Foods Colouring Book

## ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

Hazardous Waste Strategy - Clean-Up Clean-Start  
 Waste Reduction Advisory Committee  
 GNWT Waste Strategy Advisory  
 Climate Change Framework and Energy Strategy

## INDUSTRY TOURISM & INVESTMENT

Agricultural Strategy  
 Economic Opportunities Strategy

## EDUCATION CULTURE & EMPLOYMENT

Recruitment and Retention Working Group for the Skills for Success Initiative

## OTHER

Aurora Research Institute Strategy Consultation  
 Office of the Auditor General – MACA/Climate Change  
 Housing  
 Arctic Energy Alliance Board of Directors  
 Band Managers Meeting hosted by AANDC – promoting policies  
 Fire Chief's AGM and Professional Development  
 PUB – Intervention on various applications for rate increases



# NWTAC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The NWTAC's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual General Meeting was hosted in Yellowknife from May 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

We were fortunate to be joined at the Explorer Hotel by political leaders including:

Michael McLeod – Member of Parliament

Honourable Robert C. McLeod - Minister of MACA, Finance, Lands

Honourable Caroline Cochrane – Minister of Housing Corp, Public Works, Status of Women, Homelessness

Honourable Glen Abernethy – Minister of Health & Social Services, Humans Resources, Seniors, Persons with Disabilities

Honourable Wally Schumann – Minister of Transportation, Environment & Natural Resources

Honourable Louis Sebert - Minister of Justice, NTPC, WSCC, Public Engagement & Transparency

Raymond Louie – President of Federation of Canadian Municipalities



After kicking off the meeting with an Elected Officials Training session on Emergency Communications, in addition to Official Business like President's Reports, Budgets and Financial Statements, presentations were made on the following:

- Ecology North – Summer of Smoke
- Environment & Natural Resources Update
- NWT SPCA
- LGANT
- Health & Social Services – System Transformation
- National Energy Board
- Asset Management
- Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
- Healthy Living Fair
- Landfill / Recycling Depot Tours
- Municipal and Community Affairs Update
- Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations
- NTPC
- NorthwesTel
- Don Burnstick



Delegates were particularly honoured to be joined by the Youth Ambassadors. In addition to learning about leadership and politics, the Ambassadors greatly enhanced the NWTAC meeting through active participation in the meetings, presentations and demonstrations.

Thank you to MACA for facilitating such a wonderful program.

Thank you Ambassadors! You made your communities proud!



#### NTPC Community Builder Award Winners

Community Builder Award – Michael McLeod, MP

Community Service Award – Up Here Magazine

Long Service/Roll of Honour

- Jimmy Rabesca
- Tom Wilson



In order to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the NWT Association of Communities a colouring book featuring the history and stories of all 33 communities was created.



# NWT HEALTHY COMMUNITIES Toolkit

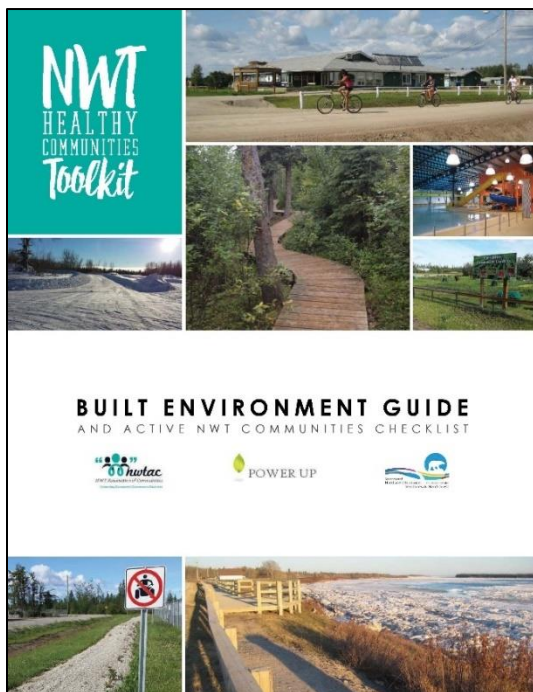


[WWW.POWERUPFORHEALTH.CA](http://WWW.POWERUPFORHEALTH.CA)



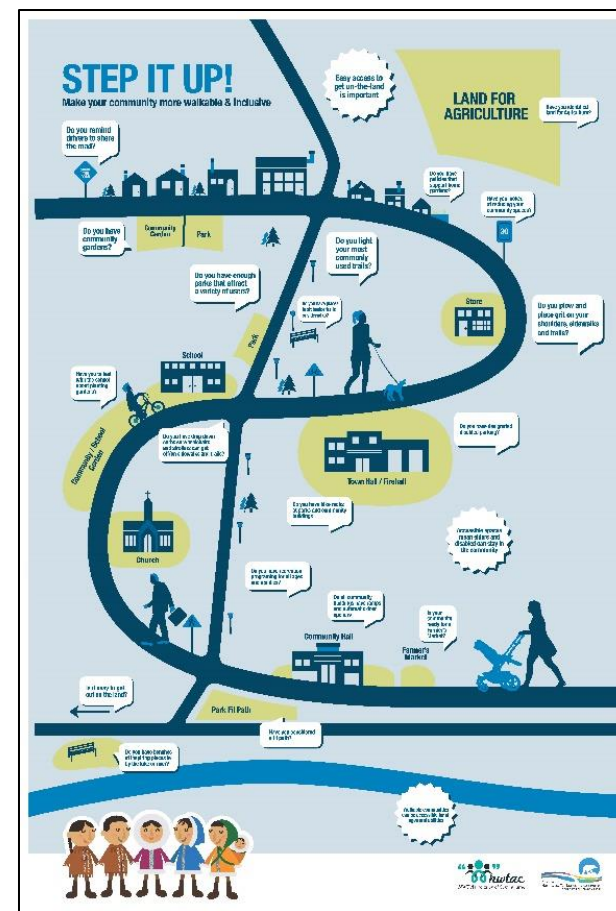
# HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

One of the major initiatives of 2016 is the on-going Healthy Communities Project. Many strong tools were completed over the past year that should assist NWT communities to help their residents to be healthier. This project was funded by the Canadian Partnership against Cancer and Health & Social Services.



The Built Environment Guide is written as a series of checklists that will assist your community in becoming more encouraging of walking and other physical activity as well as more inclusive.

The Step it Up! Infographic is a graphical representation of the Guide.

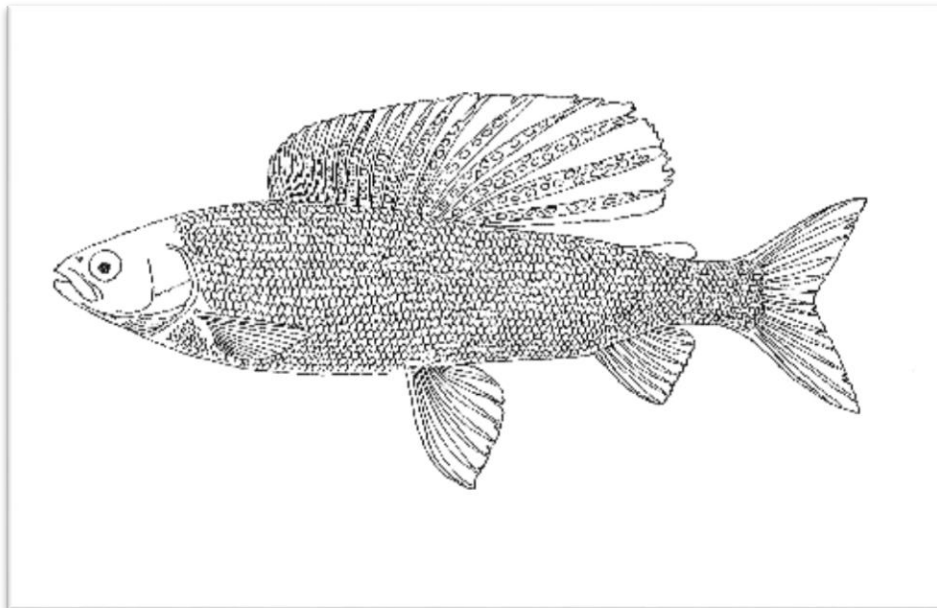
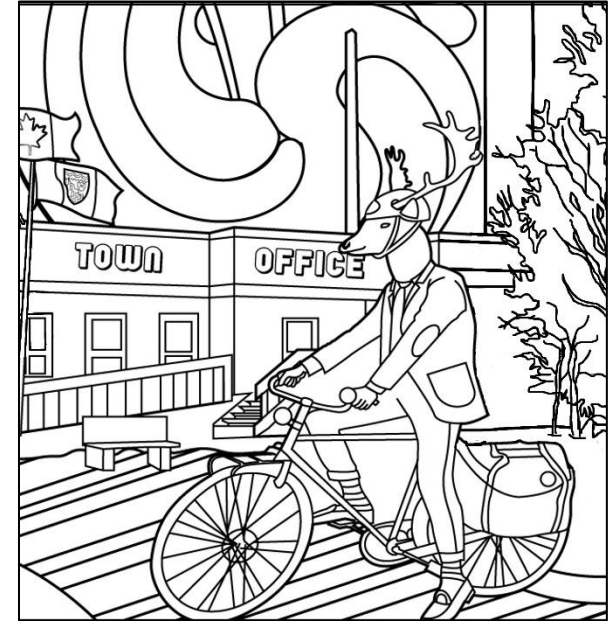




The NWT Healthy Communities Toolkit features numerous Best Management Practices and sample policies in five main thematic areas:

- Healthy Eating
- Physical Activity
- Alcohol Moderation
- Smoking Cessation
- Mental Health

Focus is on areas of community life that communities can impact change.



In order to promote the project and assist with education of the Healthy Communities Project, through funding from Health and Social Services' Healthy Choices Fund, the NWTAC has developed two colouring books – Healthy Communities and Traditional Foods.



# CLIMATE CHANGE & COMMUNITIES

With numerous resolutions and concerns expressed about the impacts of climate change on NWT

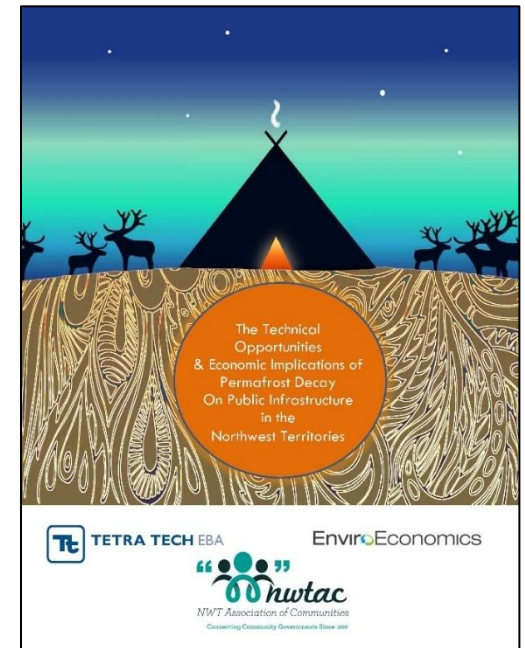
Communities, the NWTAC has been making this one of their areas of focus.

We have been working with numerous partners on this file but would highlight the larger initiative completed recently.

Working with Geotechnical and Environmental Economists, with funding from CANNOR, NWTAC completed a study to look at "The Technical Opportunities and Economic Implications of Permafrost Decay on Public Infrastructure in the Northwest Territories.

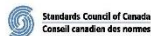
This work showed the economic impacts of permafrost decay on public infrastructure will be in the order of \$ 1.3 billion.

This document will play an important role as we work with the Territorial and Federal Governments as we attempt to secure this funding.



CAN/CSA-S503-15  
National Standard of Canada

**Community drainage system planning,  
design, and maintenance in northern  
communities**



Standards Council of Canada  
Conseil canadien des normes

The NWTAC has been actively participating in the development of standards through the Northern Infrastructure Standards Initiative. Those completed to date include:

- Thermosyphons
- Existing Buildings
- Storm water Management
- Snowloads
- Geotechnical Site Evaluation in Permafrost Zones

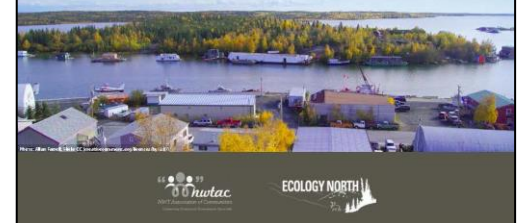
Using the Climate Change Guide for Communities already developed by the NWTAC and Ecology North, a Climate Change Course was developed for the School of Community Government.

The course was further distilled to be a chapter that can be added to other courses and programs at the School. This was made possible through funding from the School and ENR.

## Integrating Climate Change Measures into Municipal Planning and Decision-Making

**A Guide for Northern Communities**

Prepared for Northwest Territories Association of Communities  
by Ecology North with support from the Pembina Institute.  
Written by: Christine Wenman, Ellen Pond, Craig Scott, Mike Filipowicz, Shawana Morgan  
March 2014



# MEMBER SERVICES

The NWTAC provides a number of services and resources to its members including:

- Member Advisory Services
- Purchasing Program
- SAO Hiring and Managing Toolkit for Mayors and Councils
- Human Resources Policy Suite
- Election Posters
- Pothole Advertising
- Anti-Littering Poster
- Anti-Vandalism Poster
- Sample By-Laws
- Sample Tenders and Contracts
- Sample RFP's
- Contract Reviews

Watch for soon to be developed electronic Toolkits!

## MEMBER ADVISORY SERVICES

NWTAC members have access to three advisory services:

### Legal Support Services

Unlimited verbal advice and 3 hours free written advice

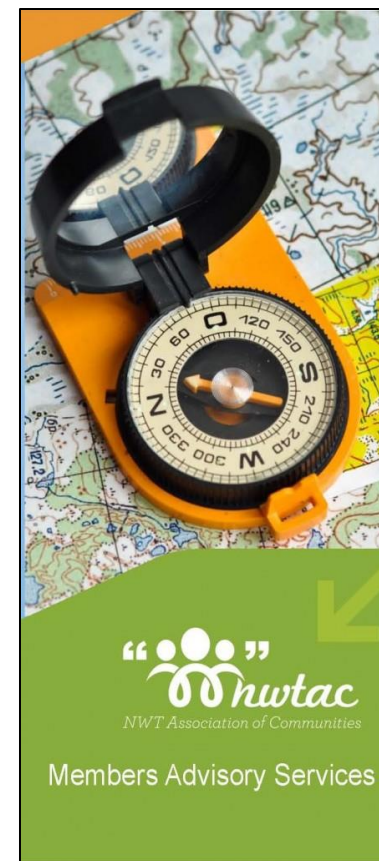
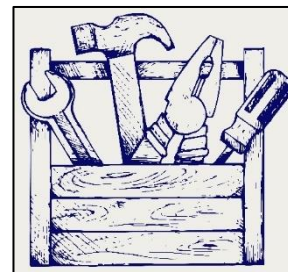
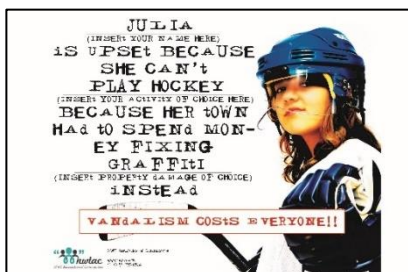
Call the Toll Free Municipal Helpline 1-800-661-9069

### Human Resources Advisory Services

Contact Allan Twissell at Northways Consulting in Yellowknife at [allan@nwtac.com](mailto:allan@nwtac.com) or 867-873-5444.

### Procedural and Governance Advice

Call David Kravitz 867 688 9415 or email [david@nwtac.com](mailto:david@nwtac.com)



## PURCHASING PROGRAM

NWTAC members have access to the largest purchasing program in Canada. For information on how your community government can join in the savings, see the AAMDC Trade Division website, and contact:

Ryan Yavis

Client Relationship Manager

1 780 955-4090 or Toll Free 1 855 808 7233

[ryan@aaamdc.com](mailto:ryan@aaamdc.com)

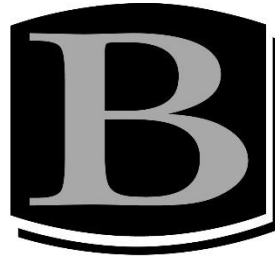


2016 / 2017

**NWT ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITIES  
SUPPORTIVE MEMBERS**



Government of  
Northwest Territories



**BROWNLEE  
LLP**



*Northern Communities Insurance Program*



**NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
POWER  
CORPORATION**

*Empowering Communities*





**MY COMMUNITY  
MATTERS!**