

# Report for Councils

## 2017 NWTAC Annual General Meeting

May 11 to 14, 2017  
Inuvik



Northwest Territories Association of Communities

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## SUMMARY

The 51st NWTAC Annual General Meeting (AGM), the largest gathering in the NWT, saw more than 100 delegates and observers participating, with representation from 25 communities. This year, the AGM was held in Inuvik from May 11-14<sup>th</sup> 2017 and included the opportunity for all delegates to meet and discuss important issues with those individuals that play a key role in decision making.

The NWTAC was privileged to have the Premier and all members of Cabinet attend the meetings this year. The Bear Pit, an open discussion with GNWT Cabinet members, was a rare opportunity for community representatives to voice their concerns and ask questions on behalf of their municipality.

This year an Elected Officials Training was held on the first day and focused on Recognizing Your Risk. This half day session allowed attendees to spend time learning about the many risks that they may be exposed to and how the community and individuals can be affected.

Delegates also had the chance to hear presentations from GNWT Health and Social Services, Municipal and Community Affairs as well as the President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) which gave updates and overviews. New this year were interactive sessions which allowed small groups to have conversations with various departments and organizations. This more intimate setting was effective and engaging allowing a less intimidating environment for discussions.

In addition to official Board business and election, each NWTAC AGM allows administrators and representatives a great opportunity to network and learn how to serve the communities in the best way possible. It is an important set of meetings that is invaluable for the communities of the NWT.

### **Elections:**

After three calls for nominations over three day, NWTAC members had a chance to vote and a new Board of Directors was elected.

Members voted to elect the following Board of Directors:

President: **Charlie Furlong (acclaimed)**

Vice President, Hamlets/Charter Communities/Tlicho Governments/Community Governments: **Ray Ruben**

Vice President of Cities/Towns/Villages: **Brenda Tuckey**

Director, Hamlets/Charter Communities/Tlicho Governments/Community Governments: **Ryan Yakeleya (acclaimed)**

Board Members serving the remaining term on the Board:

Director: Cities, Towns and Villages: Mark Heyck

Director: Cities, Town and Villages: Donna Lee Jungkind

Director: Hamlets/Charter Communities/Tlicho Government/Community Governments: Craig McMaster

### **Resolutions:**

The Resolution Committee met on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and made recommendations to the 2017 Prior Year Resolutions. A number of resolutions were presented to Members during the Resolution Session on May 13<sup>th</sup>. There were 9 standing resolutions, 38 re-affirmed, 6 deleted, and 25 new resolutions.

Copies of the New, Re-Affirmed, Standing and Deleted Resolutions are posted on the Resolutions page of the NWTAC website.

### **Awards:**

Each year the NWTAC presents a number of Awards to its Membership to those that have contributed to the community in a significant way.

The *Community Service Award* recognizes an individual, an organization, or a business that has demonstrated exemplary service to Member Communities in the NWT. This could be in the area of infrastructure development, volunteerism, youth development or other significant contributions. The 2017 Community Service Award was presented to **Kopy Kat North**.

Roll of Honour (Long Service) award honours Elected Officials who have served for 15 years or longer on a Member Community Government. The 2017 Member recognized for their long service was **Tony Green** from the Hamlet of Paulatuk with 15 years of service.

Healthy Community Award was presented to **Aklavik**. This award is new this year and recognizes a community that demonstrates leadership in their community for Healthy Living.

*A backgrounder on the awards is available on the NWTAC website.*

The GNWT Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA) sponsored the NWT Outstanding Volunteer Awards Ceremony and Luncheon.

Recipients of the 2017 NWT Outstanding Volunteer Awards are:

Outstanding Elder Award	– Sheila O’Kane, Inuvik
Outstanding Youth Award	– Nigel Koplomik, Ulukhaktok
Outstanding Individual Award	– Sudhir Jha, Yellowknife
Outstanding Group Award	– Food Rescue, Yellowknife

### **Elected Officials Session May 11th**

Northern Communities Insurance Program (NCIP) Manager Ron Dennill and WSCC representative Patrick McLaughlan presented at the Elected Officials Session on Thursday May 11<sup>th</sup>. Recognizing Your Risk was a half-day session that allowed attendees to spend time learning about the many risks that Mayors and Councilors may be exposed to and how the community and individuals can be affected.

Michael Coombs of Brownlee presented a paper called *Review of Conflict of Interest Issues for Municipal Councils* which discussed certain legal aspects of being a municipal councilor and the rules regarding conflict of interest.

Occupational Health and Safety which focused on understanding and compliance was also reviewed in detail.

NCIP Manager Ron Dennill discussed topics such as risks communities face, loss prevention, Incentive programs, insurance coverage and an overview of Tools to Help.

## **Presentations**

A copy of the AGM MACA Agenda and Program is on the NWTAC website. Copies of PowerPoint presentations delivered by presenters are available on the website. The following are the opening remarks and presentations throughout the AGM.

- Delegates were welcomed with opening addresses from NWTAC President Charles Furlong, a prayer from the Inuvik Drummers and greetings from Deputy Commissioner Kisoun.
- Welcome from MACA Representative Deputy Minister Eleanor Young
- Welcome from Inuvik Mayor Jim McDonald
- Welcome from IRC Wayne Smith
- Presentation of the 2017 Budget by Board member Mark Heyck

## **Group interactive sessions (Speed Dating)**

Small groups were set up at 6 tables to have conversations with various departments and organizations. This set up was effective and engaging allowing a less intimidating environment for discussions. The following involved approximately 8 people to a table with a representative from each organization to present and answer questions.

### ***INTERACTIVE SESSIONS (Speed Dating) May 12th***

- 911 Update – Municipal and Community Affairs
- Healthy Communities
- Waste Management – Environment & Natural Resources
- Purchasing Program – AAMD&C
- NorthwesTel Update
- NTPC Update

### ***Funding Interactive Sessions May 13th***

- Climate Change & Clean Energy Directorate, INAC
- Arctic Energy Alliance
- Infrastructure Funding – MACA
- Green Funds, Asset Management, Climate Change - FCM
- Small Community Employment Support Program – EC&E
- Loss Prevention Funding - NCIP

There were several more informative presentations and updates on the agenda during the 2017 NWTAC AGM. The following were on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

- Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) President Clarke Sommerville delivered an update
- Asset Management update- Karen Kuronen and Lori Fyfe
- NWTAC Chief Executive Officer Sara Brown presented the NWTAC 2016 Annual Report
- The Hon. Glen Abernethy, Minister of Health and Social Services, and Deputy Minister Debbie Delancy presented a Health and Social Services Update
- Local Government Administrators of the NWT update presented by Grant Hood, President and Eric Bussey, Executive Director
- Updates were given by representatives of Municipal and Community Affairs including Honourable Caroline Cochrane, Eleanor Young, Deputy Minister and Robert Tordiff, Assistant Deputy Minister

#### **GNWT Cabinet - Open Discussions with participants – The BEAR PIT - May 13<sup>th</sup>**

Premier McLeod and all members of Cabinet attended the AGM this year. There was an open discussion with GNWT Cabinet members and Community Member representatives. This was an opportunity to voice concerns and ask questions directly to the Ministers on behalf of their municipality. Present at the discussions were:

- Honourable Robert R. McLeod (Premier, Executive and Indigenous Affairs)
- Honourable Robert C. McLeod (Deputy Premier, Finance, Environment & Natural Resources)
- Honourable Caroline Cochrane (MACA, Housing Corp, Status of Women, Homelessness)
- Honourable Glen Abernethy (Health & Social Services, Seniors, Persons with Disabilities, PUB, WSCC)
- Honourable Wally Schumann (Industry Tourism & Investment, Infrastructure)
- Honourable Louis Sebert (Justice, NTPC, Lands, Public Engagement & Transparency)
- Honourable Alfred Moses (Education, Culture & Employment, Youth)