



President's Award Deline Got'ine Government



This award is bestowed at the discretion of the President and Board of Directors in recognition of major accomplishment by a community, organization or individual. These achievements are specific, and recognize a special effort or a body of work that results in a major contribution to the political and public service life of the NWT.

The recipient this year is the Deline Got'ine Government

On March 12 this year, the citizens of Deline voted overwhelmingly in favor of the Deline Final Self-Government Agreement (FSGA).

The self-government agreement will give Deline residents more control over the decisions that affect their daily lives, including how programs and services will be delivered in their community.

Negotiations on the agreement began in 1997. Working cooperatively, representatives of the Deline First Nation, the Charter Community of Deline and the Deline Land Corporation negotiated an agreement with the federal and territorial governments to fulfill the self-government provisions of the Sahtu Dene and Metis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement of 1993.

With the ratification, the Deline Final Self-Government will see the creation of a new political entity – the Deline Got'ine Government. This agreement is the only one of its kind in Canada and is negotiated on a community rather than regional basis.

Support for the agreement was truly overwhelming. Seventy-five per cent of eligible voters cast ballots, an admirable turn out. Eighty five per cent of voters approved the agreement, or 65 per cent of all eligible voters. The high turn-out and approval is a testament to the ability of the negotiators to capture the aspirations of the citizens in the new agreement.

Over the coming months, the community will continue with its implementation planning process. All parties to the negotiations have committed to a smooth transition to self-government so that all programs and services in the community will continue to run effectively and without interruption during the period leading up to the effective date.

This is an historic, national achievement. In recognition, the 2014 NWTAC President's Award is presented to the Deline Got'ine Government.





Community Builder Awards

Charlie Scarborough

The Community Builder Award recognizes current and past municipal leaders or officials who have provided exemplary service to their communities over the years. This year's recipient is Charlie Scarborough.

Charlie Scarborough moved to Pine Point, NWT with his family in 1963. Growing up in the community, he went on to serve as Pine Point's Mayor for two years, and was the Senior Administrative Officer for three years.

With the closure of Pine Point, he moved on to work with the GNWT's Municipal and Community Affairs department for two years before becoming the Senior Administrative Officer of Hay River. He held this position for 11 years. During that time, he chaired the NWTAC's Insurance Committee for two years. The final 12 years of Charlie's career were spent with Kingland Ford in Hay River.

During his time in municipal government, Charlie Scarborough was a strong supporter of the role and mission of the NWTAC. As Chair of the Insurance Committee, he guided the improvement of insurance services in the years leading up to our NORCIX reciprocal exchange. At Kingland Ford, he remained a strong corporate supporter and advocate for the role of the NWTAC.

In a career spanning elected leadership, community and territorial government service and business, Charlie Scarborough made a lasting contribution to the quality and success of community government in the Northwest Territories.



Community Service Award

John McKee

The Community Service Award recognizes an individual, an organization, or a business that has demonstrated exemplary service to Member Communities in the NWT. The recipient will have made a significant contribution to improving the well-being of an NWT Community in areas including infrastructure development, programming and service through territorial initiatives.

This year's recipient is John McKee.

John began his northern career in the early 1970s in Iqaluit, then Frobisher Bay. He first came to Fort Liard in the 1980s as a territorial government community secretary, providing administrative support and government services. He served as Community Secretary for nine years, before joining the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs in Fort Simpson. He returned to Fort Liard in 1994 as Senior Administrative Officer and served in that role until his departure in 2013.

During his tenure, he guided the municipal administration through its major development of local infrastructure, including construction of a community office and addition, a swimming pool new solid waste site, expansion of the fire hall and the maintenance garage, and chipsealing of many community roads. On behalf of his community, he served on the NWTAC's Insurance Committee during the birth of the NORCIX reciprocal exchange program and served as Chair. He is a Past President and active member of LGANT and Chair of the Northern Employee Benefits Services Board.

John McKee has made a significant contribution to improving the well-being of the citizens of Fort Liard and through his commitment to our Northern Communities Insurance Plan and LGANT. He is a worthy recipient of this year's NWTAC Community Service Award.





Long Service Awards



Councillor Bob Brooks is now in his seventh term of office. He was first elected in 1991 and is the longest serving Councillor in Yellowknife City Council history. In addition to his service to Council, Bob has served on many Boards and Committees. He is a past Vice President of the NWTAC, past Chair of the Northern Communities Caucus of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. Bob is currently serving as Chair of the Smart Growth Implementation Committee and the Special and Core Grants Committee.

Mayor Tina Gargan was first elected as a Fort Providence Councillor in 1996, acclaimed as Mayor in 2011 and re-elected in 2012. She has served on the NWTAC Board of Directors since 2011 and was nominated President this year. She has served as President of the Status of Women Council of the NWT and is a Member of the Judicial Advisory Committee for Northwest Territories. She worked as a Special Needs Assistant with the Dehcho Divisional Board of Education in from 2004 to 2011 and is now a Community Wellness Worker with the Deh Cho Health and Social Services Authority in Fort Providence.

Mayor Raymond Ruben Sr. was first elected to council in 1987 and served since then. He was elected as Mayor in 2004 and continues to serve as Mayor most recently being acclaimed in 2012. He was appointed as an alternate with the NWTAC and elected as director in 2008. He began serving his community in the 1970's as a volunteer, director and chair with the Recreation Committee running into the 80's and 90's. He has served as director and chair of the Local Education Authority, director with Paulatuk Community Corporation and Paulatuk Development Corporation. He currently serves as a director with the Paulatuk Housing Authority, the Adult Jr. Ranger Committee and as Vice President with the Paulatuk Hunters and Trappers Committee.

Ray Ruben has been inspired in his leadership by the memory of his father, Garrett. When Ray received the Queen's Jubilee Medal, he dedicated the award to his father's memory who as the first mayor of Paulatuk served for 24 consecutive years and was a Councillor when Ray became Mayor.

Councillor Clarence Wood is now in his seventh term of office in a municipal leadership career stretching back to the 1990's. The incredible array of his other community service—including 10 year Chair of the Inuvik Housing Authority, Director of Northern Employee Benefits Services, three-time Inuvik District Education Authority Board Member—are too numerous to list. He is now the Board Chairman of the Western Arctic Business Development Corporation and the Inuvik Income Support Appeal Committee. He received the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2013. Councillor Wood has and continues to give a life of service to his community and fellow citizens.

