



# Municipal and Community Affairs Update

## NWT Association of Communities AGM

September 15-17, 2022

Government of  
Northwest Territories

## Presentation provides information on.....

- 19<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly Mandate
- Emerging Stronger
- 2022-23 Budget Changes
- Legislative Priorities and Policy Updates
- Climate Change
- School of Community Government: Strategic Plan
- Safe Sport
- Federal Infrastructure Projects



Government of  
Northwest Territories

# Mandate

- Reducing the Municipal Funding Gap:

*Community Governments are essential partners in delivering programs and services to meet the needs of NWT residents, and they require adequate resources for this vital work.*

- Specific commitments:
  - Reduce the funding gap by \$5 million
  - Refine funding model to ensure continued fairness and transparency
  - Provide communities with new opportunities to raise additional revenue and reduce or stabilize the cost of delivering core programs and services



# Mandate continued

- MACA's progress on the mandate:
  - Seeking new funding to reduce the gap
    - \$4.167 million received between 2019-20 and 2022-23
  - Undertaking actions through the GNWT Waste Management Strategy, Asset Management Strategy and Climate Change Strategy; and
  - Supporting the transfer of land to community governments for those that are interested and have the capacity to administer through process documents and guidelines.



# Emerging Stronger

- Advance emergency response work based on lessons learned from the initial stages of the pandemic.
- Activities
  - Developing tools and resources to help communities with emergency, pandemic and business continuity planning.
  - Working more closely with communities to review Emergency Plans annually and resume emergency planning workshops.
  - Reprofiled regional positions to establish dedicated regional EMO staff in each regional office.



# 2022-23 Budget Changes

- Budget 2022-2023 included \$1.253 million in increases to community governments
  - \$833,000 targeted at the municipal funding gap identified through the funding gap that went to all communities except Deline;
  - \$89,000 in grants provided to the Deline Self Government under the Deline Self-Government Agreement.
  - \$331,000 to provide for projected increases in in property taxes owed by the GNWT to the Municipal Taxation Authorities through the Grants-in-Lieu of Property Taxes.



# Legislative Priorities and Policy Updates

## Advancing the Legislative Agenda

- The Fire Prevention Act
  - May-June 2022 engagement informed the “What We Heard” report released in August 2022. MACA anticipates a Bill being introduced in the Fall Sitting.
- The Property Assessment and Taxation Act
  - MACA will update the Act in two phases. MACA anticipates a Bill for first phase amendments in fall 2022 and a Bill for second phase amendments in spring 2023.



# Legislative Priorities and Policy Updates

- Access to Information and Privacy of Protection Act
  - A working group will engage with communities on implementation planning to ensure resource requirements and training needs are considered.
- Western Canada Lotteries Regulations
  - Regulations came into force in June 2022, that establish a minimum age of 18 years for the purchase of Western Canada Lottery products and a minimum age of 16 years for the sale of these products.
- Community Government Funding policies
  - Advisory Panel established with NWTAC and LGANT representatives
  - Work to be completed by the end of 2022-23





# Climate Change

- MACA is advancing work on the Climate Change Strategic Framework
  - Emergency and Hazard Identification and Response;
  - Community Infrastructure Risk Assessments;
  - Supporting Community Hazard Mapping in Land Use Plans; and
  - Climate Change focused training through the School of Community Government.



## School of Community Government: Strategic Plan

- The School of Community Government (SCG) supports capacity development for community government elected officials and staff.
- A Strategic Plan is being developed to help the School of Community Government keep their programs up to date and relevant to the needs of learners.
- Training and development supports will be more responsive to the needs of community governments and elected officials.



# Safe Sport

- In 2019, the GNWT endorsed the Red Deer Declaration for the Prevention of Harassment, Abuse and Discrimination in Sport in Canada.
- MACA is advancing work to implement a Safe Sport Program within the NWT sport, recreation, and physical activity community.



# Federal Infrastructure Engagement

- MACA advocates for funding programs to be flexible and responsive to the needs of our communities using information from:
  - Capital Plans,
  - Asset Management Data
  - Climate Change forecasting and adaptation requirements



# Federal Infrastructure Programs

- \$117M in federal Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) funding is now fully allocated and will fund:
  - 24 Solid waste and water projects,
  - 26 Community Road projects, and
  - 34 Culture Spaces projects
- Small Communities Fund
- Canada Community Building Fund



# Questions or Comments

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