



May 24, 2024

Her Worship Mayor Rebecca Alty
President
Northwest Territories Association of Communities
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Dear Mayor Alty:

2024 Northwest Territories Association of Communities Resolution Responses

Please find attached the Government of the Northwest Territories' (GNWT) responses to the New and Reaffirmed Resolutions passed by the Northwest Territories Association of Communities at the 2024 Annual General Meeting.

The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA) has coordinated this response on behalf of the GNWT. Please contact Mr. Gary Brennan, Deputy Minister, MACA at (867) 767-9160, ext. 21000, should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R.J. Simpson', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

R.J. Simpson
Premier

Attachment

c. Distribution List

Distribution List:

Honourable Caroline Wawzonek
Deputy Premier
Minister, Finance
Minister, Infrastructure

Honourable Jay Macdonald
Minister
Environment and Climate Change

Michael McLeod, M.P.
Member for the Northwest Territories

Gary Brennan
Deputy Minister
Municipal and Community Affairs

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| 2023-01 | Senior Citizen & Vulnerable People Emergency Services and Shelters | <p>WHEREAS in the vast majority of the communities in the NWT there are significant gaps in the availability of and access to emergency services response for senior citizens and other vulnerable peoples who may find themselves homeless or requiring emergency assistance services to ensure their own wellbeing.</p> <p>AND WHEREAS although the Government of the NWT and the 19th Legislative Assembly identified this issue as one of its priorities, the level of access to services in communities is declining and, in many instances, support facilities and services are being curtailed or shuttered.</p> <p>BE IT RESOLVED that the 20th Legislative Assembly immediately take action to have the appropriate departments undertake a review of service levels and access to services for emergency services offered to senior citizens and vulnerable persons in all NWT communities and that this review will be completed by the end of the term of this government.</p> | MACA/HSS | <p>In August 2023, HSS tabled the GNWT’s Seniors’ Strategic Framework that includes as one of its four pillars safety for senior citizens in their relationships, homes and communities.</p> <p>In addition, the NWT Homeless Strategy, released by HSS in March 2023, includes action items that require an assessment of programs and services in communities, as well as the establishment of functional zero targets for homelessness in each community.</p> <p>MACA continues to administer the NWT 9-1-1 program to enable all residents of the NWT to access emergency services via telephone when needed. The department continues to work to ensure that 9-1-1 is resourced appropriately and is committed to the ongoing improvement of 9-1-1. To this end, MACA has developed a program evaluation framework to ensure that quality of service is maintained going forward.</p> <p>MACA also released an updated NWT Emergency Plan in April 2024 that better clarifies the roles and responsibilities of the GNWT and community governments in responding to emergencies, including providing assistance to senior citizens and other vulnerable peoples. Specifically, Local Emergency Management Organizations, as the lead on local emergency planning, need to identify and incorporate planning for vulnerable populations into Community Emergency Plans. MACA continues to provide support as requested to community governments in preparing and planning for emergencies.</p> |
| 2023-02 | NWT Mental Health Issue Responses | <p>WHEREAS the Minister of Health acknowledged that there is a Mental Health Crisis within the NWT that was further heightened by the Covid-19 pandemic shut-ins and by an extensive gap in counselling services throughout the communities across the NWT.</p> <p>AND WHEREAS in the majority of the cases and more specially in the communities, the initial response to mental health issue calls is by the RCMP or local bylaw enforcement officers whose only tool to respond to these complicated</p> | HSS | The GNWT commits to exploring this issue. |

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| | | <p>mental health issues is incarceration at the detachment or in larger communities' confinement at a health centre.</p> <p>BE IT RESOLVED that the GNWT prioritize the resources and funding solutions to allow for measured responses to mental health issues calls in accordance with new policies and practices such as ride-along by qualified social services/wellness workers and other innovative response tools.</p> | | |
| 2023-03 | Review of MTS | <p>WHEREAS Marine Transportation Services is responsible for the efficient delivery of fuel products and freight to Nunakput communities.</p> <p>AND WHEREAS Nunakput communities are experiencing logistical issues that bring into question the performance of MTS.</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED we request that the GNWT conduct a third- party management review of MTS by a firm experienced in the marine freight industry and that their terms of reference include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Suitability of vessels that are used for both river and sea navigation, b) Scheduling c) Financial consequence to MTS when timely delivery of freight is not carried out, d) Communications to communities, e) Review of senior management personnel particularly as it applies to marine experience and business acumen, f) The potential for contracting out to private | INF | <p>In September 2023, the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) retained KPMG, an independent consultant with business advisory and marine industry experience, to conduct a governance and operational review of Marine Transportation Services (MTS).</p> <p>The purpose of the review is to compare the current operating and governance model of MTS against other model options, including the option of contracting the service to the private sector. The final report will include an assessment of MTS operations since its inception, including detailed analysis of MTS costs and revenues, recruitment and retention of skilled staff, and future operations and maintenance and capital requirements.</p> <p>The GNWT is confident the report, to be completed by the fall, will address the issues raised by NWTAC.</p> |

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| | | sector, g) Comparative analysis of using road transportation to Tuktoyaktuk for furtherance to Nunakput communities (Alaska Highway, Dempster Highway, Highway 10). | |
| 2023-04 | Community Renewable Energy Cap | <p>WHEREAS the Government of the NWT has committed to the 2030 Energy Strategy which outlines long-term secure and sustainable energy outcomes that reduces greenhouse gases allowing communities to reduce fossil fuel dependency realizing renewable energy sources.</p> <p>WHEREAS the utilization of renewable energy sources is crucial for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and mitigating the impacts of climate change;</p> <p>WHEREAS net-metering allows individuals, businesses, and communities to contribute to the local power grid, enhancing the overall resilience and reliability of the electrical system;</p> <p>WHEREAS expanding the net-metering capacity will encourage widespread adoption of renewable energy technologies, fostering sustainable development and supporting local economies;</p> <p>WHEREAS the GNWT along with the utilities have placed a cap of 20% on intermittent renewable generation out of grid stability concern,</p> <p>WHEREAS most of the communities have reached that cap, and expressed this cap and associated conditions to be an impediment in</p> | <p>INF</p> <p>Over the past few years, the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) has conducted extensive research to better understand the impact of intermittent renewables on the grids of communities where electricity is primarily produced by diesel or natural gas generators. This work is being undertaken to better understand how these impacts may be mitigated. Work includes the Microgrid Stability with Intermittent Renewables Study and the Net Metering and Community Self-Generating Policy Study, which both contain recommendations for the GNWT.</p> <p>In 2023, the GNWT engaged with partners, stakeholders, and the public to ask what changes, if any, should be made to the current approach to energy and climate mitigation issues. Changes to the territorial electricity systems overwhelmingly drew the most comment throughout the engagement, and we note this theme was largely covered in NWTAC’s own submission to the GNWT. Feedback largely pertained to the need to increase the existing cap on intermittent generation in remote communities, update rules for the net metering program, and establish a clear independent power production policy. Ultimately, any changes would be designed to support increased Indigenous and community ownership of clean electricity projects across the NWT.</p> <p>The GNWT summarized the findings from the engagement in a What We Heard Report that was released in March 2024. The GNWT will use this feedback to inform its review of the 2030 Energy Strategy and 2030 NWT Climate Change Strategic Framework, including any potential revision to the NWT emissions reduction target. Feedback will also be considered in decision-making around any changes to policy for community-based intermittent renewable electricity generation caps.</p> |

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| | | <p>achieving their energy goals,</p> <p>WHEREAS the GNWT released early 2022 a 'Renewable Energy Penetration Analysis' report, whose first key finding is as follows: "Remote off-grid communities in the NWT can likely accept up to 45% intermittent renewable energy into their electricity grids without compromising their stability."</p> <p>WHEREAS the GNWT 2022-2025 Energy Action Plan has an action item titled "Give policy direction to the PUB to address intermittent renewable generation community capacity limits"</p> <p>WHEREAS this action item comes with associated funding as follow: 30k\$ for 22/23, none for 23/24, and none for 24/25,</p> <p>WHEREAS the availability of federal funding related to renewable energy deployment is time sensitive,</p> <p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 20% cap is revised, according to the Analysis report and to the benefit of community energy autonomy, with no further delay nor further impediment.</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the GNWT prioritize the 2030 Energy Strategy and ensure that there are no infrastructure shortfalls to prevent communities from implementing renewable energy sources.</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the GNWT and the utilities collaborate with local governments, renewable energy organizations, and community stakeholders to identify and address any barriers or challenges hindering the widespread adoption</p> | | |

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| | | <p>of net- metering systems.</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the GNWT allocate sufficient funding and incentives to support the installation of renewable energy systems and facilitate the expansion of net metering capacity.</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the GNWT regularly review and update the net- metering program and renewable energy caps, ensuring its effectiveness and responsiveness to changing technological advancements and community needs.</p> | | |
| 2023-05 | Resources must be included with Increased Engagement and Responsibilities | <p>WHEREAS it is heartening to see the increased engagement of community governments in the design of various strategies of the GNWT</p> <p>WHEREAS many of these strategies recognize the importance of the participation of community governments in order to ensure the success of programs in their respective communities</p> <p>WHEREAS community governments are best positioned to understand the needs of their communities</p> <p>WHEREAS community governments are currently underfunded to the tune of 37%</p> <p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED assigning or downloading responsibilities in GNWT strategies must be accompanied with the resources to complete them.</p> | MACA | <p>MACA acknowledges the important role that community governments play in the lives of NWT residents and understands the concerns regarding funding as it pertains to increased engagement with the GNWT.</p> <p>MACA does not fund 100% of all community government costs; the purpose of the Community Government Funding policies is to ensure that community governments receive the funding necessary to provide core municipal services and deliver municipal programs.</p> <p>MACA encourages community governments to seek out partnerships and other funding sources with other GNWT and federal departments to fund non-core activities.</p> |
| 2023-06 | Call for Public Inquiry – Kakisa/Enterprise/Hay | <p>WHEREAS the Northwest Territories experienced an extraordinary wildfire season during the summer of 2023 that impacted</p> | ECC/ MACA/ EIA | <p>ECC conducts after-action reviews of individual wildfires as a normal part of its business. These individual reviews included an independent assessment of the 2023 wildfire that impacted Kátł'odeeche First Nation, and an independent review of an ignition operation carried out near Samba K'e.</p> |

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| | River (SS-052) Wildfire Response | <p>several communities and over 60% of its population. These impacts resulted in enormous physical, psychological and economical impacts to our residents and communities.</p> <p>AND WHEREAS various agencies and governments involved in the 2023 wildfire season response are conducting after-action reviews - these reviews may provide a valuable platform for internally assessing the performance of each specific agency or government entity, they may fall short in comprehensively addressing inter-agency and inter-government operational, communication, and coordination issues highlighted by the complex, large-scale, and multi- jurisdictional nature of the 2023 wildfire season.</p> <p>AND WHEREAS in support of the numerous calls by Leaders and residents for a Public Inquiry into N.W.T. wildfire response, including a petition signed by over 500 persons, statement by the Hamlet of Enterprise and, the NWT Dene Nation (ex: CBC/North.ca – Oct 19/2023 - “Leaders and residents calling for public inquiry into N.W.T. wildfire response”)</p> <p>- “The Dene Nation released a statement on Oct. 12 [2023] calling for a full independent public inquiry into the management and response to the unprecedented wildfire season.”</p> <p>- “Earlier this week, leaders in Enterprise, N.W.T., were asking how their community was almost completely wiped out. The community of about 100 people lost 80 per cent of its structures.”</p> <p>AND WHEREAS at the Regular Meeting of Council 10-23 – November 21, 2023, a</p> | <p>However, given the unprecedented nature of the 2023 wildfire season, in the fall of 2023 ECC ran a Request for Proposals and MNP LLP is conducting an independent review of the 2023 fire season. The review and findings are anticipated to be completed in June 2024. Once complete, the review will be released publicly including on ECC’s website.</p> <p>ECC staff also conducted engagement meetings with local Indigenous and community governments in early 2024 to review the 2023 wildfire season, update Community Wildfire Protection Plans, and discuss planning for the upcoming 2024 season. ECC is committed to learning everything we can from last year’s fire season and using the results of the review to inform any changes needed for this wildfire season.</p> <p>ECC will continue to support NWTAC in implementing wildfire preparedness work using \$20 million in funding received under the federal Disaster Mitigation and Adaption Program.</p> <p>With regards to the emergency management response led by MACA, a public, independent after-action review is always conducted after a major disaster event to identify lessons learned and improve responses to future events, and there will be a review of the 2023 wildfire season. The Department of Executive and Indigenous Affairs is leading the 2023 Emergency Response After-Action Review.</p> <p>As part of this process, input will be sought from the public, community governments, Indigenous governments, chambers of commerce, non-government organizations, etc. as well as emergency management partners, to identify lessons learned and develop recommendations for improvement.</p> |

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| | | <p>recommendation was brought forward for Council to discuss issuing a letter of support for a public inquiry into the 2023 wildfire response specifically in the Kakisa, Enterprise, Hay River area.</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of the NWT, the Premier and Executive Council with the support of all MLAs, support the calls for a public inquiry into the 2023 wildfire season response efforts with the aim of identifying any inter-agency and inter-government operational, communication, and coordination issues that may have been highlighted by the complex, large-scale, and multi-jurisdictional nature of this wildfire season, and,</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this process be carried out in the spirit of creating forward-looking recommendations that can enhance wildfire prevention, preparedness, and response strategies through changes in legislation, policies, or practices to better ensure the protection of communities and natural ecosystems in the north.</p> | | |
| 2023-07 | Changes to the Electoral Boundaries for the Northwest Territories | <p>WHEREAS, the NWT comprises 33 communities, each with its unique needs and challenges;</p> <p>WHEREAS, Tuktoyaktuk faces distinct concerns related to the presence of a road, setting it apart from the other three communities Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour, and Ulukhaktok currently represented by the MLA for Nunakput;</p> <p>WHEREAS the difference in concerns requires a more targeted and representative approach in addressing the diverse needs of our</p> | EIA | <p>The Electoral Boundaries Commission is an independent body, established by statute. The next Electoral Boundaries Commission will be formed by the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly within the first two years of the 20th Assembly. Once formed, the Electoral Boundaries Commission will develop and undertake their own engagement process, including seeking submissions from interested parties on changes required or sought to the electoral boundaries in the Northwest Territories. The Government of the Northwest Territories does not control the process or output of the Commission. The Legislative Assembly and the Electoral Boundaries Commission Act sets out a broad mandate for the Commission. The Members of the Assembly make decisions on whether or not to accept the recommendations of the Commissioner.</p> <p>We encourage the Northwest Territories Association of Communities, as well as communities in the Nunakput riding to make submissions to the Commission once it is established.</p> |

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| | | <p>constituents;</p> <p>WHEREAS the creation of an additional member of the Legislative Assembly for Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour, and Ulukhaktok will ensure fair and equitable representation;</p> <p>NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Northwest Territories Association of Communities officially supports the creation of an additional member of the Legislative Assembly to represent these three communities, recognizing their unique challenges and opportunities;</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Northwest Territories Association of Communities will communicate this support to the relevant authorities and advocate for the necessary legislative changes.</p> | | |
| 2023-08 | New Electoral District | <p>WHEREAS the Hamlet of Tuktoyaktuk has significantly different concerns and priorities from the 3 off road smaller communities in the Nunakput Riding especially with the addition of a highway to Inuvik;</p> <p>WHEREAS population is a factor during elections as shown over time and it is the wish of all communities that fair and equivalent representation be maintained across the NWT;</p> <p>WHEREAS the Nunakput Rising is situated in the most northern and remote area of the Northwest Territories and it can be very difficult for the MLA to make regular visits;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the three coastal communities of Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour and Ulukhaktok wish to have their own representative within the</p> | EIA | <p>The Electoral Boundaries Commission is an independent body, established by statute. The next Electoral Boundaries Commission will be formed by the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly within the first two years of the 20th Assembly. Once formed, the Electoral Boundaries Commission will develop and undertake their own engagement process, including seeking submissions from interested parties on changes required or sought to the electoral boundaries in the Northwest Territories. The Government of the Northwest Territories does not control the process or output of the Commission. The Legislative Assembly and the Electoral Boundaries Commission Act sets out a broad mandate for the Commission. The Members of the Assembly make decisions on whether or not to accept the recommendations of the Commissioner.</p> <p>We encourage the Northwest Territories Association of Communities, as well as communities in the Nunakput riding to make submissions to the Commission once it is established.</p> |

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| | | Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of the Northwest Territories be asked to consider splitting the Electoral District of Nunakput and add another MLA to best serve the needs of the communities of Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour and Ulukhaktok. | | |

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| RA- 23-22-01 | Expand the Rural and Remote Stream of the Reaching Home Program | <p>WHEREAS approximately 31% of the population of Canada lives in communities of 30 thousand or less and yet the Rural and Remote funding allocation is about 6% of the overall Reaching Home annual budget; and</p> <p>WHEREAS research from Canada and the US indicates that while homelessness is prevalent in rural and remote communities, it remains significantly underfunded; and</p> <p>WHEREAS this chronic underfunding means that the infrastructure is not in place in rural communities to enable them to jump on capital opportunities such as the Rapid Housing Initiative; and</p> <p>WHEREAS the National Housing Strategy has five streams of funding under the Reaching Home program designated for communities with populations above 25k; therefore, be it</p> <p>RESOLVED That the Federal Government increases the amount of the Rural and Remote stream of the Reaching Home program from its current level of \$11 million per year to \$50 million per year; and be it further</p> <p>RESOLVED That the Federal Government gather data on rural housing and homelessness, including via the implementation of a national homelessness count for rural and remote communities; and be it further</p> <p>RESOLVED That the Federal Government ensure that updates to the National Housing Strategy include measures to set aside meaningful funding for the provision of social and affordable housing in rural and remote communities.</p> | Housing NWT | N/A – Resolution was introduced in 2022. | <p>The GNWT supports the request for expanded federal funding, in the form of the rural and remote stream of the Reaching Home Program and continues to advocate for funding directed to benefit the whole of the Northwest Territories.</p> <p>Housing NWT is cognizant of the acute challenges and limited funding available to support members in remote, rural communities who are presently homeless or are at risk of homelessness and welcomes greater support from the federal government for our most vulnerable community members.</p> <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommends RE-AFFIRM.</p> | <p>Advocacy for increased funding through the Rural and Remote Stream of the Reaching Home program continues by the GNWT. Housing NWT has been actively engaged in conversation with the Department of Infrastructure Canada presenting the challenges and limitations in funding to address homelessness in rural and remote communities in NWT.</p> <p>In Northwest Territories, a total of over \$24 million is available through Reaching Home regional streams for the first and second cycles of funding (from 2019 to 2028), to support communities in their efforts to prevent and reduce homelessness.</p> <p>Within the Northwest Territories, the City of Yellowknife is the Community Entity responsible for administering Reaching Home’s Territorial Homelessness (TH) funding in Yellowknife. Outside of the capital, this funding is administered by Infrastructure Canada through a shared delivery model that funds individual projects.</p> |

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| RA-23-22-02 | Canada Community-Building Fund (Gas Tax Fund) Renewal | <p>WHEREAS the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF), which was formerly known as the federal Gas Tax Fund, provides \$2.2 billion in annual capital funding directly to municipalities through a predictable allocation mechanism; and</p> <p>WHEREAS Municipalities of all sizes use the CCBF to deliver direct results for Canadians by building and renewing core public infrastructure, including water infrastructure, local roads, public transit and community, cultural and recreational facilities; and</p> <p>WHEREAS in Budget 2019 and Budget 2021 the federal government leveraged the CCBF as a proven mechanism to deliver infrastructure funding quickly by doubling the value of the fund in those years; and</p> <p>WHEREAS each <i>Administrative Agreement on the Federal Gas Tax Fund (2014-2024)</i> signed between the federal government and the provinces and territories is scheduled for renegotiation and renewal by April 1, 2024; Infrastructure Canada is leading a renewal engagement process with the aim of securing agreements in principle by September 2023; the scope of the CCBF renewal process includes decisions on signatories and program delivery partners, data collection and reporting and public communications, among other important program design considerations; and</p> <p>WHEREAS reforms are needed to ensure that the Fund’s growth and volume maintain pace with Canada’s economic growth, the historic</p> | MACA | N/A – Resolution was introduced in 2022. | <p>A permanent increase to the annual CCBF allocation for the territories is the most reliable and sustainable option to meaningfully address municipal needs in the north.</p> <p>The current Canada-NWT Administrative Agreement for the CCBF (formerly the Gas Tax Fund) expires on March 31, 2024. Canada has not yet initiated any discussions about renewal of the agreements.</p> <p>The GNWT has been engaging the Governments of Nunavut and Yukon to identify common pressures, themes and linkages to Canada’s Arctic and Northern Policy Framework to support strategic engagement and federal funding advocacy, including renewal of the CCBF.</p> <p>In renewal discussions, the GNWT will advocate for an ongoing funding increase for community governments in the NWT under the CCBF in the new agreement.</p> <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommends RE-AFFIRM.</p> | <p>A permanent increase to the annual CCBF allocation for the territories is the most reliable and sustainable option to meaningfully address municipal needs in the north.</p> <p>The current Canada-NWT Administrative Agreement for the CCBF (formerly the Gas Tax Fund) expired on March 31, 2024. While the Federal Government has distributed a draft agreement for negotiation, there is no increase to the budget.</p> <p>Through negotiations of the draft agreement, the NWT continues to ask for flexible funding and reporting, while also advocating for more funding in the NWT. It is anticipated that a revised agreement will be in place in summer 2024.</p> <p>The GNWT continues to engage the Governments of Nunavut and Yukon to identify common pressures, themes and linkages to Canada’s Arctic and Northern Policy Framework to support strategic engagement and federal funding advocacy, including renewal of the CCBF.</p> |

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| | | <p>increase in construction prices, and the historic growth of federal sales tax revenues; and</p> <p>WHEREAS the Government of Canada’s Arctic and Northern Policy Framework acknowledges longstanding inequalities in transportation, energy, communications, employment, community infrastructure, health and education continue to disadvantage people, especially Indigenous peoples, in Canada’s Arctic and North; and</p> <p>WHEREAS Infrastructure Canada’s practice of applying the current 2 percent index at \$100 million increments has caused municipalities to receive less funding than allocated: and</p> <p>WHEREAS Budget 2022 signalled the federal government’s intent to tie CCBF funding to actions by provinces, territories, and municipalities to increase housing supply where it makes sense to do so, marking an important new direction for the Fund; now, therefore, be it</p> <p>RESOLVED that the federal government ensure that municipalities are meaningfully engaged in the development of the 2024-2034 Canada Community-Building Fund agreements through FCM and provincial and territorial municipal associations; and be it further</p> <p>RESOLVED that the 2024-2025 Canada Community-Building Fund agreements modernize this critical municipal funding program by increasing the indexation from 2 percent to 3.5 percent annually, by eliminating the current practice of applying the index at</p> | | | | |

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| | | \$100 million increments, and permanently triple the current funding allocation for the three Territories. | | | | |
| RA-23-21-01 | Amendment to Disaster Assistance Policy – Solid Waste Management Facility Fires | <p>\$100 million increments, and permanently triple the current funding allocation for the three Territories.</p> <p>WHEREAS NWT communities that are responsible for operation and management of a municipal solid waste management facility will not have adequate financial resources to support the cost of extraordinary, emergency firefighting and associated environmental protection related activities during a community solid waste management facility fire.</p> <p>WHEREAS the cost of firefighting and environmental protection activities associated with a solid waste management facility fire will not be adequately covered through Northern Communities Insurance Program.</p> <p>WHEREAS increasing environmental regulations are equating to significant costs associated with emergency firefighting and associated air quality and water quality monitoring and mitigation.</p> <p>WHEREAS the GNWT has recently ruled that a disaster classification requires proof of widespread damage that affects a significant number of people’s properties.</p> <p>WHEREAS the GNWT has recently ruled that environmental contaminants resulting from a significant solid waste management facility fire do not represent a risk to the health, safety and welfare of residents.</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NWT Association of Communities urge the Government of the Northwest Territories to recognize extraordinary, emergency fires at solid waste management facilities as a</p> | MACA | <p>GNWT policies are designed to ensure that our decisions are consistent and fair, while taking into account the needs of residents and communities across the Northwest Territories. It is important that we follow our own policies when we make our decisions.</p> <p>The Disaster Assistance Policy provides guidance to how the GNWT may provide financial assistance to community governments, small businesses, or residents of the Northwest Territories who have suffered widespread damage as a result of a disaster. The intent of the Disaster Assistance Policy is to ensure overall community recovery in terms of infrastructure, essential services and functioning after a disaster. It is not a compensation program and it is not an insurance policy to recover actual losses.</p> <p>The Policy outlines that appropriate and reasonable measures to prevent and minimize damage should be taken by community governments, small businesses and residents. As part of the policy changes made by the</p> | <p>The GNWT remains committed to developing policies that ensure that decisions are consistent and fair, while taking into account the needs of residents and community governments. It is important that the GNWT follow its own policies when decisions are made.</p> <p>The Disaster Assistance Policy has been in place since 1981 and was updated in 2022 to help the GNWT better meet the intent of the Policy, which remains unchanged.</p> <p>Amendments to the “Definitions” section align with the Policy’s principles and provide clarification as to what constitutes an eligible emergency and what is excluded. They exclude emergencies that affect a single sector or property; as such solid waste management facility fires are not eligible under the DAP.</p> <p>Community governments should take appropriate and reasonable measures to plan for, and to prevent and</p> | <p>The GNWT remains committed to developing policies that ensure that decisions are consistent and fair, while taking into account the needs of residents and community governments. It is important that the GNWT follow its own policies when decisions are made.</p> <p>The GNWT will be updating the Disaster Assistance Policy alongside the update to the federal Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements anticipated by March 2025. It is expected that the policy principles will remain the same with regards to excluding costs that are insurable/insured and excluding emergencies that affect a single sector or property, such as solid waste management facility fires.</p> <p>It is recommended that communities take a proactive approach to identify and address issues within their solid waste facilities to reduce the likelihood of future incidents occurring. Most recently, through the Investing</p> |

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| | | <p>potential disaster that can lead to significant municipal property destruction, significant environmental damage, and put peoples' health, safety and welfare at risk.</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the GNWT's Disaster Assistance Policy be updated to include the specific indication that extraordinary, emergency solid waste management facility fires can be considered a disaster.</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the GNWT's Disaster Assistance Policy's maximum assistance payable be increased from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000 to more appropriately cover the costs associated with or prevention of a community disaster.</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the fiscal status of the community should have no bearing on the eligibility or amount of coverage under the GNWT Disaster Assistance Policy.</p> | <p>Department effective April 1, 2007, communities are expected to establish a reserve to provide for unanticipated events; and were given additional authority and increased resources through the Community Public Infrastructure Fund and the Gas Tax Program to provide additional capacity to deal with emergency situations.</p> <p>The Policy has been in place since 1981, and was last reviewed in 2005 with no change in the definitions since that time.</p> <p>The GNWT carefully considered the request by the Town of Hay River. A review of the circumstances of the Hay River landfill fire concluded that the event did not meet the criteria as set out in the Policy.</p> <p>Dump fires are not typically covered by disaster assistance in other jurisdictions and are not eligible under the federal Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements. There is no history in the Northwest Territories of the Disaster Assistance Policy being used for this type of incident. A review and modernization of the Disaster Assistance Policy by the department is being considered in the context of the 2021 flooding</p> | <p>minimize damage.</p> <p>It is recommended that communities take a proactive approach to identify and address issues within their solid waste facilities to reduce the likelihood of future incidents occurring. Most recently through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program 28 communities are receiving funding to improve their solid waste facilities and incorporate best practices for solid waste management.</p> <p>MACA also continues to support community governments by providing training on solid waste management and can provide specialized expertise and is available to work with community governments upon request. MACA encourages community governments to participate in other training and educational opportunities such as those offered through the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA)'s Northern Lights Chapter (e.g. Landfill Fire Training). MACA will continue to work with community governments to explore opportunities to support their ongoing solid</p> | <p>in Canada Infrastructure Program, 28 communities are receiving funding to improve their solid waste facilities and incorporate best practices for solid waste management.</p> <p>MACA also continues to support community governments by providing training on solid waste management, through specialized expertise, and is available to work with community governments upon request. MACA encourages community governments to participate in other training and educational opportunities such as those offered through the Solid Waste Association of North America's Northern Lights Chapter (e.g. Landfill Fire Training). MACA will continue to work with community governments to explore opportunities to support their ongoing solid waste program needs and proactively find solutions for preventing future solid waste site incidents.</p> | |

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| | | | | season. | waste program needs and proactively find solutions for preventing future solid waste site incidents. NWTAC Resolutions Committee Recommendation: RE-AFFIRM – Some recent improvements in terms of amounts allocated for flooding to be in alignment with federal policy. | |
| RA-23-21-02 | Property Tax Forgiveness When Property is Destroyed by Fire | <p>WHEREAS in the event that an improvement is damaged or destroyed by fire and the damage or destruction is so significant as to render the taxable property unfit for further use or occupation, the Property Assessment and Taxation Act grants the Council of a municipal taxing authority to enact a by-law to reduce or rebate a portion of the property taxes, upon application by the assessed owner;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the ability to reduce or rebate a portion of the property taxes when fire damages or destroys an improvement and renders it unfit for further use is a reasonable action;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the current requirement to enact a by-law to effect the reduction or rebate of a portion of the property taxes under these circumstances introduces additional burden and potentially significant time delays, and unnecessarily brings public attention to what can be a very personal tragedy;</p> | MACA/FIN | <p>MACA is undertaking a review of the <i>Property Assessment and Taxation Act</i> legislation and its corresponding policies and procedures in order to bring forward a Legislative Proposal during the 19th Legislative Assembly. A number of issues have long been identified with the Act, which have led to a lack of clarity, administrative challenges, inconsistent application and potential complaints. This issue was brought forward by the municipal taxation authorities. Senior Administrative Officers identified this during stakeholder engagement.</p> <p>A phased approach to amend the Act is planned, in order to prioritize some of the less complex administrative issues before other more complicated or technical</p> | <p>MACA is using a phased approach to advance amendments to the <i>Property Assessment and Taxation Act</i> (PATA).</p> <p>The first phase is addressing known administrative issues such as increasing the terms of appointments for members of both the Municipal and Territorial Boards of Revisions, while the second phase is intended to address more complex issues of property taxation and authorities such as the writing off property tax debt.</p> <p>Bill 66, <i>An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act</i> addresses the first phase amendments, and was introduced and received First and Second Reading in the Fall</p> | <p>MACA amended the Property Assessment and Taxation Act (PATA) in the 19th Assembly to address known administrative and operational issues specific to the assessment side of PATA.</p> <p>Phase 2 of PATA is a GNWT priority for the 20th Assembly and will examine more complex issues of property taxation and authorities.</p> <p>As part of the review, the GNWT will engage with stakeholders, such as the NWTAC and the public to inform amendments.</p> |

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| | | <p>AND WHEREAS the reduction or rebate of a portion of the property taxes on a specific property under these conditions is largely prescriptive and can be achieved administratively without requiring policy direction from the Council of a municipal taxing authority;</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Northwest Territories Association of Communities urge the Government of the Northwest Territories to consider amending the Property Assessment and Taxation Act to enable the Senior Administrative Officer of a municipal taxing authority to approve, upon application by the assessed owner, the reduction or rebate of a portion of the property taxes when an improvement is damaged or destroyed by a fire that has rendered it unfit for further use or occupation.</p> | | <p>areas of the legislation.</p> <p>As part of the legislative review process, MACA will be taking into consideration those areas of the Act that may present regulatory hardship to affected community governments. MACA is completing preliminary research to further determine issues related to assessment which may require legislative or administrative solutions.</p> <p>MACA is also reviewing other property assessment legislation in Canada to identify common practices in property assessment and taxation and how these practices can be adapted to best fit our unique challenges and needs.</p> | <p>sitting of the 19th Legislative Assembly (November 2022). MACA anticipates that Bill 66 will receive Third Reading in the Winter session (February/March 2023).</p> <p>MACA has established a Working Group to advance phase 2 that includes the departments of Lands and Finance, Local Administrators of Government of the NWT and the NWT Association of Communities. Given the complexity of taxation law, MACA has contracted a lawyer with expertise in taxation law to conduct research on the identified issues and propose recommendations for legislative amendments.</p> <p>NWTAC Resolutions Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>RE-AFFIRM – NWTAC has been contacted to begin review of amendments of the Act. City of Yellowknife recommends affirmation.</p> | |
| RA-23-21-03 | Accessibility Legislation | <p>WHEREAS accessibility in Canada is about creating communities, workplaces and services that enable everyone to participate fully in society without barriers.</p> <p>WHEREAS according to the 2017 Canadian Survey on Disability, more than 6 million</p> | MACA/INF | The Standing Committee on Government Operations (SCOGO) Report on the Review of the 2018-19 Human Rights Commission Annual Report referred to the National Building Code concerning | MACA established a Working Group consisting of representatives from the Department of Infrastructure and Housing NWT to advance amendments to the <i>Fire</i> | The <i>Fire Prevention Act</i> does not directly address accessibility; however, the <i>Fire Prevention Regulations</i> adopt the National Model Construction Codes. The latest |

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| | | <p>Canadians aged 15 and over (22% of the population) identify as having a disability</p> <p>WHEREAS the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms protects a number of our rights and freedoms, including banning the discrimination of people with a mental or physical disability.</p> <p>WHEREAS the Canadian <i>Human Rights Act</i> and the Northwest Territories <i>Human Rights Act</i> prohibits the discrimination or harassment of people on a number of grounds, including disability.</p> <p>WHEREAS the provinces of Ontario, Nova Scotia and Manitoba have provincial accessibility legislation and British Columbia has introduced provincial accessibility legislation;</p> <p>WHEREAS the <i>Accessible Canada Act</i> received Royal Assent on June 21, 2019 and came into force on July 11, 2019 and many provinces are expected to adopted mirroring legislation;</p> <p>WHEREAS Canada joined the United Nations (UN) <i>Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</i> in 2010. The Convention protects and promotes the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities without discrimination and on an equal basis with others.</p> <p>WHEREAS Courts and Human Rights Tribunals have determined that meeting the <i>National Building Code</i> is not always adequate for individuals and building owners to ensure they are meeting accessibility requirements under Human Rights Acts.</p> | | <p>accessibility. The Commission is concerned about the lack of requirements set out in the National Building Code and what is considered an accessible space.</p> <p>SCOGO recommended that the GNWT investigate and take the necessary steps to solve the issues and remove the steps between the NBC and the <i>Human Rights Act</i>. The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA) worked with the Department of Infrastructure to develop a response to the SCOGO recommendation.</p> <p>The GNWT response to all the recommendations was tabled in the Legislative Assembly during the February-March 2021 session.</p> <p>MACA is advancing its review of the <i>Fire Prevention Act</i> and Regulations, which will include a discussion on which code compliance measures are most appropriate to protect residents. Within the current legislative environment, the GNWT is not mandated or resourced to provide incentives to developers to incorporate accessible designs. Should the discussion about the <i>Fire Prevention Act</i> shift towards broader building</p> | <p><i>Prevention Act</i>. In May 2022, MACA released the <i>Fire Prevention Act Discussion Paper: Review of the Fire Prevention Act and Consideration of Building Standards Framework</i> and a 'What We Heard Report' following analysis of the engagement on the discussion paper in August 2022.</p> <p>This report was used to develop Bill 67, <i>An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act</i> that is before the Legislative Assembly for review. Bill 67 was introduced and received First and Second Reading in the Fall sitting of the 19th Legislative Assembly (November 2022). MACA anticipates that Bill 67 will receive Third Reading in the Winter sitting of the 19th Assembly (February/March 2023).</p> <p>Although the Bill does not include specific amendments focused on accessibility, the GNWT anticipates adopting the 2020 Nation Building Code (NBC) via regulations in 2023. 2020 NBC makes several improvements with respect to accessibility.</p> | <p>edition of the building code, the 2020 National Building Code of Canada (NBC 2020), incorporates several improvements for accessibility; requirements are updated to reduce barriers related to anthropometrics, plumbing facilities, signage, entrance and elevators.</p> <p>The GNWT plans on adopting NBC 2020 through an update to the <i>Fire Prevention Regulations</i> in June 2024.</p> <p>Additionally, the GNWT continues to show leadership on this topic through the planning, design and construction of GNWT-owned infrastructure incorporating accessibility requirements.</p> |

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| | | <p>WHEREAS there is no clear guidance for in the Northwest Territories on how to address accessibility in facilities and services.</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Government of the Northwest Territories establish comprehensive accessibility legislation that enables all persons to participate fully in society without barriers by providing clarity of requirements and standards to be met throughout the Northwest Territories.</p> | | <p>standards legislation, issues regarding accessibility and other Human Rights considerations in the context of the National Building Code would be considered.</p> <p>In addition to MACA, the review of the <i>Fire Prevention Act</i> will involve multiple other departments, including Infrastructure (INF), Education, Culture and Employment (ECE), Health and Social Services (HSS), the NWT Housing Corporation (NWTAC), and others who build and operate public infrastructure. There is no simple or quick solution for the issue of accessible design, and it remains a challenge faced by all Canadian jurisdictions. Implementation of accessible design in our current environment would include many stakeholders and decision makers and will require a cultural shift in the way our society approaches design and responsibilities for inclusive facilities.</p> <p>The GNWT aims to show leadership on this topic through the planning, design and construction of GNWT-owned infrastructure, but does not currently have a mandated role to play in the accessibility standards</p> | <p>The accessibility of buildings is improved by revising the minimum dimensions of building elements to accommodate persons using various types of mobility devices and by increasing the visibility, detectability and ease of use of building elements by persons with reduced dexterity, vision or hearing. 2020 NBC introduces requirements for universal washrooms and shower rooms, for visible and audible feedback signals, and for tactile safety signage. More pedestrian entrances and floor levels are also required to be accessible.</p> <p>NWTAC Resolutions Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>RE-AFFIRM – Above referenced review of the Fire Prevention Act did not include any amendments focused on accessibility.</p> | |

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| | | | | for private and municipal infrastructure. | | |
| RA 23-20-06 | Water and Sewage Policy | <p>WHEREAS at the last LGANT meeting in Yellowknife, MACA officials presented its paper “Environmental Services Backgrounder”;</p> <p>WHEREAS the conversation between MACA officials and some SAOs revealed the possibility of major changes to MACA’s Water Sewage Policy;</p> <p>WHEREAS the conversation between the MACA officials and some SAOs at LGANT does not constitute proper or sufficient consultation with LGANT members;</p> <p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that MACA arrange for full consultation and disclosure of changes prior to implementing its proposed changes to its Water Sewage Policy;</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NWT Association of Communities immediately petition the GNWT Department of MACA to fully disclose its intention to amend its Water Sewage Policy and to consult with LGANT members prior to implementing its proposed changes to its Water Sewage Policy.</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NWT Association of Communities immediately petition the GNWT Department of MACA to fully disclose its intentions to immediately increase O&M funding to all NWT municipal governments.</p> | MACA | <p>The Department routinely engages with community officials on all policies to review and address issues.</p> <p>As part of the 19th Assembly’s Mandate commitment to address the municipal funding gap, MACA will be updating the Community Government Funding Policies. The Department will continue to work with the NWT Association of Communities (NWTAC) and LGANT to discuss policy options and details and will engage before any final policy decisions are made.</p> | <p>MACA engages the NWTAC to obtain feedback on community government funding, including the preferred split for the \$5 million mandate investment between the three core funding pots (Operations and Maintenance, Water & Sewer, and Community Public Infrastructure).</p> <p>To date \$4.17 million has been approved, with the remainder pending the review of the 2023-24 Main Estimates.</p> <p>The GNWT is currently working with an Advisory Group comprised of members nominated by the NWTAC and LGANT to update the Community Government Funding policies and remains committed to amending these policies in 2022-23.</p> <p>NWTAC Resolutions Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>RE-AFFIRM – work of committee is underway.</p> | <p>The GNWT worked with an Advisory Group comprised of members nominated by the NWTAC and LGANT to update the Water and Waste Services Funding Policy and amendments were approved in October 2023.</p> <p>The amendments are in line with the recommendations from the NWTAC and change the Water and Waste Services Funding Policy to provide funding equitably and fairly.</p> |

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| RA-23-20-07 | O & M Funding Levels | <p>WHEREAS the GNWT MACA has been reviewing its funding formula;</p> <p>WHEREAS there is still a wide gap between funding needs and funding levels;</p> <p>WHEREAS most, if not all, municipal governments have been struggling with less than adequate funding from the GNWT;</p> <p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that GNWT MACA arrange for full consultation and disclosure of its progress in finalizing the review of its funding formula;</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NWT Association of Communities immediately petition the GNWT Department of MACA to fully disclose the results of the review of its funding formula.</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NWT Association of Communities immediately petition the GNWT Department of MACA to fully disclose its intentions to immediately increase O&M funding to all NWT municipal governments.</p> | MACA | <p>MACA has engaged with the NWTAC to obtain their feedback on all additional community government funding, including the preferred split for the \$5 million mandate investment between the three core funding pots (Operations and Maintenance, Water & Sewer, and Community Public Infrastructure).</p> <p>\$3.3 million has been added to Community Government Funding to date plus an increase of \$750,000 in Gas Tax Funding.</p> <p>MACA, along with the Federal Government has distributed over \$8 million, to community governments to support costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>MACA will continue to work with all levels of government through established budget processes to seek funding opportunities to address the gap as well as continue to support communities to increase revenue generation and reduce operating costs.</p> | <p>MACA engages the NWTAC to obtain feedback on community government funding, including the preferred split for the \$5 million mandate investment between the three core funding pots (Operations and Maintenance, Water & Sewer, and Community Public Infrastructure).</p> <p>To date \$4.17 million has been approved, with the remainder pending the review of the 2023-24 Main Estimates.</p> <p>The GNWT is currently working with an Advisory Group comprised of members nominated by the NWTAC and LGANT to update the Community Government Funding policies and remains committed to amending these policies in 2022-23.</p> <p>NWTAC Resolutions Committee Recommendation: RE-AFFIRM - work of committee is underway.</p> | <p>The GNWT worked with an Advisory Group comprised of members nominated by the NWTAC and LGANT to update the O&M Funding Policy and amendments were approved in October 2023.</p> <p>The amendments are in line with the recommendations from the NWTAC and change the O&M Funding Policy to provide funding equitably and fairly.</p> |
| RA-23-20-09 | Infrastructure Shortfall | <p>WHEREAS the 19th Legislative Assembly has tabled document 1-19(1) titled “Priorities of the 19th Legislative Assembly” wherein it directs Cabinet to work in partnership with governments to implement its 22 priorities which explicitly includes “Reduce the</p> | MACA | <p>The Department has engaged with the NWTAC to obtain their feedback on all additional community government funding, including the preferred split for the \$5 million mandate investment between the three core funding</p> | <p>MACA engages the NWTAC to obtain feedback on community government funding, including the preferred split for the \$5 million mandate investment between the three core funding pots (Operations and</p> | <p>The GNWT worked with an Advisory Group comprised of members nominated by the NWTAC and LGANT to update the Community Government Funding policies and amendments to all three</p> |

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| | | <p>municipal funding gap”.</p> <p>Within the Cabinet’s Guiding Principles, tabled document 3-19(1) titled “Cabinet’s Guiding Principles – 19th Legislative Assembly”, among the six guiding principles it states;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>We will promote personal and community self-sufficiency.</i> <p><i>We recognize that being able to make and implement decisions for ones’ self is a fundamental part of individual dignity and self-confidence. When we make decisions about GNWT policies, programs and services, we will choose those options that give people and communities the support they need to develop their own capacity and skills to choose and direct their own futures.</i></p> <p>WHEREAS GNWT Department of Municipal and Community Affairs identified a \$39.2 million Community Infrastructure Funding shortfall in 2014, and more recently for the 2019 fiscal year end, identified the gap to be about \$30 million;</p> <p>WHEREAS the 18th Legislative Assembly tabled the 2020/2021 Capital Estimates, <i>Aug 2019 – TD-511-18(3)</i> with approved infrastructure investments of \$398.6 million for the 2020-21 fiscal year.</p> <p>WHEREAS less than 10% of the budgeted infrastructure expenditure (capital estimates) would fund the identified Community Infrastructure funding shortfall for municipalities, thus allowing community governments to invest in maintaining local</p> | | <p>pots (Operations and Maintenance, Water & Sewer, and Community Public Infrastructure).</p> <p>\$3.3 million has been added to Community Government Funding to date plus an increase of \$750,000 in Gas Tax Funding.</p> <p>MACA has also distributed over \$8 million to community governments to support costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>MACA will continue to work with all levels of government through established budget processes to seek funding opportunities to address the gap as well as finding other ways to either increase revenue generation or reduce operating costs.</p> | <p>Maintenance, Water & Sewer, and Community Public Infrastructure).</p> <p>To date \$4.17 million has been approved, with the reminder pending the review of the 2023-24 Main Estimates.</p> <p>The GNWT is currently working with an Advisory Group comprised of members nominated by the NWTAC and LGANT to update the Community Government Funding policies and remains committed to amending these policies in 2022-23.</p> <p>NWTAC Resolutions Committee Recommendation: RE-AFFIRM – work of committee is underway.</p> | <p>policies were approved in October 2023.</p> <p>The amendments are in line with the recommendations from the NWTAC and change MACA’s funding polices to provide funding equitably and fairly.</p> <p>The “gap” is the calculated difference between the funding that MACA provides and total territorial calculated costs.</p> <p>The gap is currently estimated at \$52 million:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$18 million – Operations and Maintenance \$19 million – Water and Waste \$15 million – Community Public Infrastructure <p>It is important to remember that the GNWT is not the only source of revenue for community governments, and the GNWT should not be the sole funder.</p> <p>The calculation of a “gap” is a planning tool that community governments should be using to determine how it can get other sources of funding or</p> |

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| | | <p>infrastructure necessary to sustain and support basic community living requirements, promote long-term sustainability of community infrastructure and, to provide critical local economic stimulus.</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 19th Legislative Assembly prioritize its 2020/2021 and future years funding to eliminate the municipal Community Infrastructure shortfalls as identified by GNWT Department of Municipal and Community Affairs.</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the GNWT Department of Municipal and Community Affairs provide the members of the 19th Legislative Assembly with updated reporting that identifies the underfunding of critical infrastructure funding for municipalities.</p> | | | | <p>reduce its expenditures.</p> <p>The policy revisions are not intended to close any perceived gap – there is no new funding associated, however MACA continues to prioritize funding for community governments.</p> |
| RA-23-20-16 | Building Code Act | <p>WHEREAS at this time, the Northwest Territories (NWT) is the only jurisdiction within Canada without a regulatory building regime framework. Compared to our sister territories, the Yukon Territory and Nunavut, the NWT does not have any legislation that regulates construction in detail. The Yukon Territory has a <i>Building Standards Act</i> and Nunavut has a <i>Building Code Act</i>. The NWT does not have similar legislation, leading to an absence of clear building-related responsibilities for municipalities.</p> <p>WHEREAS through the <i>Cities, Towns, and Villages (CTV) Act</i>, CTV's can choose to adopt by-laws to regulate the safety, health and welfare of people and the protection of people and property. Pursuant to this, the City of</p> | INF/MACA | <p>Concerns about the absence of a robust code compliance system in the NWT to verify building safety for public occupancy in relation to the National Building Code & National Fire Code have been raised on several occasions, by municipal authorities, professional associations and the NWTAC.</p> <p>The GNWT is supportive of examining this issue with a view to improving harmonization among related regulatory functions and clarifying roles and responsibilities.</p> <p>MACA is undertaking a review of the Fire Prevention Act during the 19th Legislative Assembly.</p> | <p>In May 2022, MACA released the <i>Fire Prevention Act (FPA) Discussion Paper: Review of the FPA and Consideration of Building Standards Framework</i> and a 'What We Heard Report' was released in August 2022 following analysis of the engagement on the discussion paper.</p> <p>MACA recognizes that updates to the FPA do not fully address the need for a building standards framework, and there is strong support from the 'What We Heard Report' to advance building standards</p> | <p>Advancing development of a Building Standards Framework for the Northwest Territories is a large, multi-departmental initiative requiring dedicated funding, resources, coordination and a substantive engagement process. The Departments of Infrastructure Municipal and Community Affairs, and Housing NWT will continue to work together to develop the scope, resource plan and a schedule in 2024-25.</p> |

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| | | <p>Yellowknife has chosen to create the Building By-law, that regulates local construction; however, the <i>CTV Act</i> does not formally define the building-related responsibilities and interconnection between the function of the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) and tax based municipalities.</p> <p>WHEREAS a <i>Building Code Act</i> is different than a <i>Fire Prevention Act (FPA)</i>, and work on a <i>Building Code Act</i> should not be tied to the completion of the <i>FPA</i> review and update. Both Yukon and Nunavut have legislation regarding building codes and fire prevention.</p> <p>WHEREAS individuals and developers are often frustrated because they need to deal with multiple regulatory offices for building plans, electrical permits, construction, inspections and occupancy. By having a <i>Building Code Act</i>, the clarity on who is the ultimate authority and how regulatory requirements are interpreted would improve the terms for development considerably.</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT that the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) establish a comprehensive building regime for the purpose of providing regulatory clarity throughout the Northwest Territories.</p> | | <p>Stakeholder engagement conducted in 2017 on the Act identified the plan review function as a topic requiring a focused dialogue.</p> <p>In considering the Act, consideration is being given to the scope of the review - particularly with regards to broader building standards and the NWT regulatory compliance framework.</p> | <p>legislation as a legislative priority for the 20th Legislative Assembly.</p> <p>Further research and engagement with industry stakeholders and community governments, as well as a discussion on the GNWT’s mandate related to building standards legislation, will be needed before advancing this work.</p> <p>The GNWT will form a working group to determine whether building standards and inspections legislation can be introduced in the 20th Legislative Assembly.</p> <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>RE-AFFIRM: The absence of these Acts was flagged again for discussion under the Fire Protection Act Review.</p> | |
| RA-23-20-17 | Presumptive Coverage for Work-Related Psychological Injury (including PTSD) | <p>WHEREAS Nunavut, Northwest Territories (NWT) and Quebec are the only jurisdictions in Canada without presumptive coverage for work-related psychological injury (including PTSD).</p> <p>WHEREAS in all jurisdictions with a PTSD presumption, the legislation states that, for</p> | WSCC | <p>No change: The coverage provided by the WSCC for psychiatric and psychological disorders is not restricted to any category of worker but is equally provided to all workers under the Workers’ Compensation Act. Our coverage,</p> | <p>The coverage provided by the WSCC for psychiatric and psychological disorders is not restricted to any category of worker but is equally provided to all workers under the Workers’ Compensation Act.</p> | <p>The WSCC has been directed by its Minister in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut to develop a legislative proposal to expand presumptive coverage for firefighters. This will include increasing the</p> |

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| | | <p>eligible workers diagnosed with PTSD, their condition will be presumed to be related to their employment, unless the contrary is proven.</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the GNWT work with relevant stakeholders, including community governments, to update legislation to have presumptive coverage for work-related psychological injury (including PTSD).</p> | | <p>like other jurisdictions, is dependent on the psychiatric or psychological disorder being work-related and diagnosed through the DSM. These coverage factors already exist within WSCC policy regardless of the specific title “presumptive coverage”.</p> <p>Policy 03.09 Psychiatric and Psychological Disorders is again set to be reviewed by the Governance Council in September of 2022.</p> | <p>Our coverage, like other jurisdictions, is dependent on the psychiatric or psychological disorder being work-related and diagnosed through the DSM. These coverage factors already exist within WSCC policy regardless of the specific title “presumptive coverage.”</p> <p>In 2022, Policy 03.09 Psychiatric and Psychological Disorders was reviewed and will be going forward to the Governance Council in December for approval.</p> <p>There are no anticipated changes in the policy in regards to coverage for work-related psychiatric or psychological disorders diagnosed through the most current version of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM).</p> <p>Looking forward, the WSCC will be reviewing PTSD for firefighters as a part of its review of Firefighters’ Presumption Regulations.</p> <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>RE-AFFIRM: NWTAC will continue to monitor.</p> | <p>types of presumptive cancers and adding presumptive PTSD coverage for firefighters.</p> <p>The legislative proposal will be drafted in 2024.</p> |

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| RA-23-20-20 | REVIEW AND AMENDMENT OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS AND DISABLED PERSONS PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT, R.S.N.W.T. 1988,c.50 (Supp.), as amended | <p>WHEREAS the <i>Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Act</i> grants municipalities the authority to exempt the eligible property of a senior citizen or a disabled person from part of the property taxes;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the <i>Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Act</i> requires other property owners to be dependent on the senior or disabled owner in order for the relief to apply;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the definition of dependent within the <i>Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Act</i> is vague and allows for a wide range of diverse and potentially conflicting interpretations;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the vagueness of this definition can create confusion and misunderstanding;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS this confusion and misunderstanding may inhibit fair and consistent application of the tax relief provisions; determines eligibility strictly on the basis of age and/or disability;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the <i>Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Act</i> does not provide any mechanism for municipalities to consider financial need when considering eligibility for property tax relief;</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Northwest Territories Association of Communities urge the Government of the Northwest Territories to consider: (i)</p> | MACA | <p>During the 18th Assembly, MACA advanced and completed four significant pieces of legislation and Regulations; an updated Western Canada Lottery Act, the new Northwest Territories 9-1-1 Act, an updated Cities, Towns and Villages Act and a new Emergency Management Act, in addition to completing an initial legislative review of the Fire Protection Act.</p> <p>MACA has identified three large pieces of legislation to prioritize for review and significant amendment during the 19th Assembly. These are the Fire Prevention Act, the Property Assessment and Taxation Act, and the Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Act.</p> <p>MACA intends to finalize the reviews of these acts in the 19th Legislative Assembly, before considering the addition of another large legislative project.</p> | <p>The <i>Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Act</i> has not been comprehensively reviewed since it was enacted and it needs to be updated to address identified concerns.</p> <p>Resource constraints due to COVID-19 and flooding in 2021 and 2022 led MACA to defer this legislative review. MACA intends to advance the Act as a legislative priority in the next Assembly.</p> <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>RE-AFFIRM: More work is required on this. MACA is in the process of forming working group for PADA (PATA) review.</p> | <p>The <i>Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Act</i> has not been comprehensively reviewed since it was enacted and it needs to be updated to address identified concerns.</p> <p>Resource constraints due to COVID-19, flooding in 2021 and 2022 and wildfires in 2023 led MACA to defer this legislative review. MACA intends to advance the Act as a legislative priority in the 20th Legislative Assembly.</p> |

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| | | Amending the <i>Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Act</i> to allow municipalities to determine how dependency is defined and determined in situations where not all owners are seniors and/or disabled; and (ii) Amending the <i>Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Act</i> to allow municipalities to define and apply a financial means test to ensure that property tax relief is directed at property owners who need it. | | | | |
| RA-23-20-21 | Winter Roads | <p>WHEREAS Climate Change is occurring in the North at more than twice the rate of the rest of Canada;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS The transportation network connecting communities in the NWT is particularly vulnerable to climate change due to its reliance on temperature sensitive systems such as winter roads and bridges;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the winter road network is a critical transportation link for nine NWT communities who rely on winter roads to bring in food, fuel, building supplies, and other essential goods and services plus many others that rely on ice bridges</p> <p>AND WHEREAS climate warming and increasing variability in temperatures has generally shortened the winter road season and increased uncertainty resulting in delays and cancellations, increased costs, and increased safety risks for travellers.</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the winter roads are GNWT</p> | INF | <p>The GNWT is continuing to work with federal partners on northern research projects and with national organizations on design and maintenance standards, to adapt and build in resilience to the effects of climate change.</p> <p>One initiative INF is working on with Transport Canada is a winter road portage road base and resiliency study. The study is complete for the first phase of investigations.</p> <p>The study placed temperature instruments along a section of northern winter road portages (which are the most vulnerable sections of winter roads due to rising temperatures) and the respective portages characterized for vulnerability. These instruments will be monitored</p> | <p>The GNWT is working with Canada to make investments into the NWT transportation system to address impact of climate change.</p> <p>Climate change considerations will also be made as the Department will be undertaking a review of the 25-year Transportation Strategy, which will include engagement with Indigenous governments, community governments, stakeholders and public.</p> <p>The GNWT continues to work with federal partners on northern research projects and with national organizations on design and maintenance standards, to adapt and build in resilience to the effects of climate change.</p> | <p>Understanding, monitoring and adapting to the impacts of climate change is a priority for the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) as climate change has the potential to impact public infrastructure, including winter roads.</p> <p>The GNWT continues to work with the federal government, investing in projects aimed at generating better knowledge and solutions to mitigate potential impacts of climate change to the NWT transportation system. We are also actively collaborating with other jurisdictions and academic institutions to address climate change challenges. Examples are our work with the Yukon and Alaska</p> |

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| | | <p>assets, and the GNWT bears the responsibility for the planning and maintenance necessary to keep the transportation network operational and viable.</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the total costs of permafrost degradation on public assets is estimated to be in the order of \$1.3 billion.</p> <p>AND WHEREAS taking proactive tactics to addressing climate change adaptation is the preferred approach;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS We will see the best success by working collaboratively with our many partners;</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of the Northwest Territories to acknowledge the urgency and immediacy of the threat climate change poses to the winter road network and make the development of strategic adaptation measures a top priority;</p> <p>AND FURTHER THAT the GNWT take a strategic approach to research and planning that considers the vulnerability of communities.</p> <p>AND FURTHER THAT the GNWT lead a collaborative approach to transportation planning and research that is inclusive of every level of government and explores innovative partnerships with indigenous, federal and community governments, development corporations, and researchers.</p> <p>AND FURTHER THAT the GNWT take a leadership role and work in partnership with</p> | | <p>annually. The information will be used to develop a portage decision-making tool to allow for more accurate predictions of winter road closures, and to develop construction techniques that create more resilient portages.</p> <p>Another initiative recently started involves integrated water and ice monitoring and risk mitigation for northern Canada’s high impact and low frequency events due to climate change. Specifically, the initiative aims to provide technology-based products and tools to help adapt to the consequences of climate change, including a focus on ice road hazards. This is a federal program in collaboration with several universities, and in partnership with the Dept. of ENR and INF. Work is expected to continue until 2024.</p> <p>This work, along with ongoing related studies by INF and academic institutions, are helping us to better understand the impact of climate change, and the options and limitations we have available to deal with the impacts.</p> <p>This is not just an NWT issue, but a northern issue. We are more than</p> | <p>Initiatives include an INF-Transport Canada collaboration on a winter road portage road base and resiliency study. The study is complete for the first phase of investigations.</p> <p>The study placed temperature instruments along a section of northern winter road portages (which are the most vulnerable sections of winter roads due to rising temperatures) and the respective portages characterized for vulnerability. These instruments will be monitored annually. The information will be used to develop a portage decision-making tool to allow for more accurate predictions of winter road closures, and to develop construction techniques that create more resilient portages.</p> <p>Another initiative involves integrated water and ice monitoring and risk mitigation for northern Canada’s high impact and low frequency events due to climate change. Specifically, the initiative aims to provide technology-based products and tools to help adapt to the consequences of climate change, including a focus on ice road hazards. This</p> | <p>governments, and universities in Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia.</p> <p>Other initiatives include a Department of Infrastructure (INF)-Transport Canada collaborative study on winter road resiliency, and an INF vulnerability assessment of potential impacts of warmer weather, increased precipitation, and permafrost degradation on GNWT infrastructure, including on the NWT highway system. INF also coordinates its work and exchanges knowledge with other GNWT Departments, such as Environment and Climate Change and the NWT Geological Survey.</p> <p>INF highways maintenance staff, contractors and industry continue to work collaboratively to make public roads as safe as possible and provide the level of service required by NWT residents and communities.</p> <p>All this work is helping the GNWT and Department of Infrastructure to better understand and mitigate the potential impacts of climate</p> |

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| | | <p>community governments to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research, develop and implement adaptation measures to respond to the increasingly uncertain winter road season; • Ensure that transportation infrastructure is developed to be resilient to the changing climate; and • Build the resilience of communities so they are better able to withstand and adapt to the impacts of climate change on the transportation network. <p>AND FURTHER THAT the GNWT to provide information to winter road dependent communities in a transparent and timely manner.</p> | | <p>ever collaborating, and sharing information and experience, with many jurisdictions and academic institutions who are addressing this challenge. Examples are the Yukon and Alaska governments, and Laval, Carleton, Toronto, and Alberta universities.</p> | <p>is a federal program in collaboration with several universities, and in partnership with the Dept. of ENR and INF. Work is expected to continue until 2024.</p> <p>This work, along with ongoing related studies by INF and academic institutions, are helping us to better understand the impact of climate change, and the options and limitations we have available to deal with the impacts.</p> <p>This is not just an NWT issue, but a northern issue. Increasingly, we are collaborating, and sharing information and experience, with many jurisdictions and academic institutions that are addressing this challenge. Examples are our work with the Yukon and Alaska governments, and Laval, Carleton, Toronto, and Alberta universities.</p> <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>RE-AFFIRM: NWTAC will continue our work with GNWT on climate change. More action is required on this resolution.</p> | <p>change in the short and long term.</p> <p>The GNWT will continue to share information and experiences in a transparent and collaborative manner.</p> |

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| RA-23-20-22 | United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Implementation | <p>WHEREAS the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was adopted by the General Assembly in 2007 to establish minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the Indigenous Peoples of the world;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories resolved in 2008 to recognize and support the Declaration;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the NWT Association of Communities has also supported the Declaration;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS Canada committed in 2016 to fully implement the Declaration without qualification; and</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the Mandate of the Government of the Northwest Territories states that implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples within the constitutional framework of Canada will advance reconciliation;</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NWT Association of Communities call on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the Government of the Northwest Territories implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples through territorial legislation co-developed with Indigenous Governments within the calendar year 2020; and 2. the Government of the Northwest Territories to work in consultation and collaboration with Indigenous Governments to: a. ensure that territorial laws, policies, | EIA | The GNWT is establishing a multilateral forum with all Indigenous governments to discuss and collaborate on common issues, including the implementation of the UN Declaration, with the forum’s inaugural meeting which took place in June 2021. | <p>A legislative Framework to guide the drafting of legislation to implement the UN Declaration and a Memorandum of Understanding are expected to be reviewed and approved by NWT Council of Leaders by Winter 2023.</p> <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>RE-AFFIRM: NWTAC will continue to work on this resolution.</p> | The <i>United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Implementation Act</i> is now in place and the GNWT is collaborating with Indigenous government through the action plan committee on an action plan as provided for in the legislation. The committee expects to meet the October 2025 deadline for the tabling of the action plan that will describe the measures to be taken to help advance the implementation of the UN Declaration in the NWT. |

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| | | <p>mandates and measures comply with the Declaration; and</p> <p>b. co-develop and implement territorial action plans to achieve the objectives of the Declaration.</p> | | | | |
| RA-23-19-03 | Alternative Voting Methods | <p>WHEREAS Section 52.1 (1) of the Local Authorities Elections Act authorizes a local authority, that is a municipality, to pass a by-law to provide for voting by way of mail-in-ballot or the casting of ballots at the office of the returning officer;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS other jurisdictions within Canada allow for Alternative Voting Methods such as telephone voting and internet voting;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the acceptance of digital technology in society is increasing exponentially;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the use of technology can improve accessibility, enhance voter privacy and convenience, reduce ballot errors and increase efficiency of elections;</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Northwest Territories Association of Communities lobby the Government of the Northwest Territories to amend the Local Authorities Elections Act to incorporate technological advancements and alternative voting methods such as, but not limited to telephone voting and internet voting.</p> | MACA | <p>A legislative review of the <i>Local Authorities Elections Act</i> (LAEA) has not been identified as a priority during the 19th Legislative Assembly. Most Canadian jurisdictions do not have online voting, with the exception of some municipalities. Phone voting in municipal elections has not been common in many Canadian jurisdictions, but with the impacts of COVID-19, the perception of the need for more accessible and safe digital systems may change the future of online and telephone voting nationwide. MACA is monitoring and reviewing how and where on-line voting is used throughout Canada and how this has evolved throughout the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and will refer to this Resolution when the LAEA is up for review in the future.</p> <p>Elections in the NWT and other jurisdictions provincially and globally have successfully taken place during the pandemic. The LAEA allows for various voting</p> | <p>The <i>Local Authorities Elections Act</i> (LAEA) was last amended in 2015. It is not identified as a priority for the 19th Legislative Assembly.</p> <p>MACA is moving its legislative agenda forward in line with current commitments of the 19th Legislative Assembly and has begun work on identifying legislative priorities for the 20th Legislative Assembly</p> <p>The LAEA currently allows community governments to provide various alternative voting options leading up to an election day, including advance voting, mail-ballots, voting in the office of the returning officer, proxy voting, and mobile voting.</p> <p>To conduct elections through other means such as mail-ballots, community governments first need to have passed a bylaw allowing them to do so.</p> <p>The GNWT recognizes that safe</p> | <p>The <i>Local Authorities Elections Act</i> (LAEA) was last amended in 2015. It is not identified as a priority for the 20th Legislative Assembly.</p> <p>The LAEA currently allows community governments to provide various alternative voting options leading up to an election day, including advance voting, mail-ballots, voting in the office of the returning officer, proxy voting, and mobile voting.</p> <p>To conduct elections through other means such as mail-ballots, community governments first need to have passed a bylaw allowing them to do so.</p> <p>The GNWT recognizes that safe and accessible digital voting options support the participation of all citizens in democratic processes. When the LAEA is identified as a legislative priority, a review of the legislation will include consideration of digital voting</p> |

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| | | | | <p>opportunities leading up to election day, which lessens the number of people in the voting station on election day: advance voting, mail-in ballots via bylaw, voting in the office of the returning officer via bylaw, proxy voting, and mobile voting. Voters are encouraged to vote prior to Election Day.</p> | <p>and accessible digital voting options support the participation of all citizens in democratic processes. When the LAEA is identified as a legislative priority, a review of the legislation will include consideration of digital voting options, and consultation considerations with the NWTAC will be coordinated with the review process.</p> <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>RE-AFFIRM: In a year where COVID 19 tested our ability to work from home and communicate with others, communications, and the ability to use options such as those for voting is important. NWTAC will continue to advocate to amend the Local Authorities Election Act to incorporate these voting methods.</p> | <p>options, and consultation considerations with the NWTAC will be coordinated with the review process.</p> |
| RA-23-18-03 | Wildfires | <p>WHEREAS Localized drought conditions seem to cause more and more severe fire seasons;</p> <p>WHEREAS Many NWT communities are surrounded by old-growth coniferous forests that are ready to burn;</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That the GNWT’s department of Municipal and Community Affairs bring more resources and focus more</p> | MACA/ECC | <p>ENR, MACA and communities continue to update the status of wildfire risk and occurrence to support emergency management organizations’ planning and preparedness activities.</p> <p>ENR continues to provide advice and recommendations to</p> | <p>ENR continues to provide advice and recommendations to communities to assist to reduce risk from wildfire. All 29 forested communities in the NWT have updated their community wildland fire protection plans, and</p> | <p>ECC, MACA, and communities continue to monitor and update the status of wildfire risk and occurrence to support emergency management organizations’ planning and preparedness activities.</p> <p>MACA continues to help</p> |

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| | | <p>on ways to safeguard our communities from wildfires and at the same time put a higher priority on bolstering emergency measures organizations in the community so they can better deal with the imminent threat from a fire threatening their community.</p> | | <p>communities to assist to reduce the risk from wildfire. 29 Community Wildfire Protection Plans have been updated.</p> <p>ENR has met with most communities to talk about their updated plans, and continues to engage communities to implement the recommendations. ENR also provides available FireSmart funding to support community protection. Information on available funding and the application process is available from regional ENR offices and on the ENR website.</p> <p>MACA helps community governments improve community emergency management capacity, through emergency planning workshops and table top exercises, which consider hazards relating to wildfires.</p> <p>Work is underway to improve integration of wildfire hazard assessment and community emergency planning with a view to better safeguarding municipal infrastructure and residents, and ensuring effective response measures.</p> <p>Community governments may also use federal gas tax funds, as well as Community Public Infrastructure</p> | <p>recommendations are being implemented in communities as part of ENR's standard business operations.</p> <p>Thanks to a strong collaboration between ENR and NWTAC, over \$20 million of federal funding was secured to create fire breaks and implement fire fuel reduction strategies for over 1,200 hectares of land across the 29 NWT communities exposed to wildfire. The development work done by the ENR with community governments to produce Community Wildfire Protection Plans was the needed background work.</p> <p>ENR completed a wildfire landscape analysis. This community-centric landscape analysis provided information on the likelihood of a fire to occur and spread in the medium term.</p> <p>ENR, MACA and communities continue to update the status of wildfire risk and occurrence to support emergency management organizations' planning and preparedness activities.</p> <p>MACA continues to help</p> | <p>community governments improve community emergency management capacity, through emergency planning workshops and tabletop exercises, which consider hazards relating to wildfires. This also includes an online Emergency Management Organizations Portal available to community governments and Local Emergency Management Organizations, where information, resources and templates are available for emergency planning purposes.</p> <p>Over this past winter, ECC staff conducted engagement meetings with local Indigenous and community governments to review the 2023 wildfire season, update Community Wildfire Protection Plans and carry out local planning for the 2024 wildfire season. By the end of April 2024, ECC will have completed engagement with all forested communities in the NWT.</p> |

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| | | | | Funding to undertake new firebreak initiatives which are supported by a FireSmart Plan. | community governments improve community emergency management capacity, through emergency planning workshops and tabletop exercises, which consider hazards relating to wildfires. NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation: RE-AFFIRM – more work is needed on this resolution. NWTAC will work with the GNWT to further action on this resolution. Also working to see if fire breaks create an agricultural opportunity. | |
| RA-23-18-10 | Highway Rescue and Ambulance Services | <p>WHEREAS the City of Yellowknife operates a full-time fire and ambulance service through the City of Yellowknife Fire Division;</p> <p>WHEREAS the City of Yellowknife Fire Division also responds to calls for service outside of the municipal boundary;</p> <p>WHEREAS the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) has initiated a review of highway rescue and ground ambulance services within the territory;</p> <p>WHEREAS community governments across the territory must prioritize their services with the funding available to them;</p> <p>WHEREAS the cost recovery for emergency services provided outside of municipal boundaries may be difficult for a number of</p> | MACA/HSS | <p>Since fall 2017, the GNWT has been working with key stakeholders through an interdepartmental committee to develop an action plan to build capacity and support for GAHR services in the NWT.</p> <p>Research and consultation completed to date confirms that solutions to gaps and challenges with the current system will not be attained without longer-term collaboration involving the GNWT, key communities and other stakeholders. Priorities identified moving forward include developing and gaining consensus on options for governance and</p> | <p>A full review of the Ground Ambulance and Highway Rescue Services policy is anticipated in the 20th Legislative Assembly, which will contribute to a whole-of-government funding approach for these services.</p> <p>The GNWT working group on Ground Ambulance and Highway Rescue has been re-engaged and will be working to determine the appropriate framework for ambulance services in the NWT, both within and outside of municipal boundaries.</p> | <p>MACA provides \$185,000 of annual funding for communities that provide Ground Ambulance or Highway Rescue Services. In 2023-24, an additional \$400,000 one-time funding was allocated for special projects as identified by the communities providing these services.</p> <p>The GNWT working group on Ground Ambulance and Highway Rescue continues to work to determine an appropriate framework for ambulance services in the NWT, both within and outside</p> |

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| | | <p>NWT community governments;</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that until such time as the GNWT has reviewed the strategy for Highway Rescue Services (RA-17-13-05} and conducted a feasibility study towards a Territorial Ground Ambulance Service (RA-17-15-03}, that the GNWT should adequately fund those communities conducting ground ambulance or highway rescue services outside of their respective community boundaries.</p> | | <p>establishing an acceptable fiscal arrangement between the GNWT and community governments.</p> <p>Work continues to define priorities and develop a way forward through action planning and collaboration with key stakeholders.</p> <p>Service expansion is a key component of the GAHR Action Plan. In its environmental assessment of the Tłı̄ch̄q All-Season Road (TSAR), the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board recommended in Measure 5-6 that the GNWT develop and implement an effective GAHR action plan for the TASR in collaboration with the Tłı̄ch̄q Government (TG), Tłı̄ h̄q Community Services Agency (TCSA), Community Government of Whatì, and Community Government of Behchokò.</p> <p>Work that has been progressing on the TASR that will feed into the larger GAHR project.</p> <p>Moving forward, the GNWT (MACA, HSS) will continue to work closely and collaboratively with the TG, TCSA, and all Community Governments providing Highway Rescue and Ambulance Services.</p> | <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>RE-AFFIRM: highway rescue is still a concern for our communities. NWTAC will continue our work on this issue. City of Yellowknife recommends affirmation.</p> | <p>of municipal boundaries.</p> |

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| RA-23-18-12 | Transfer of Lands to Community Governments | <p>WHEREAS the City of Yellowknife is seeking ownership and regulatory control of lands within the municipal boundary;</p> <p>WHEREAS there are outstanding land applications on Commissioner's lands within the municipal boundary;</p> <p>WHEREAS the City of Yellowknife is beginning a statutory review of the General Plan pursuant to <i>the Community Planning & Development Act</i>,</p> <p>WHEREAS the City is required to accommodate for land, growth and facilities over the next 10 years during this review;</p> <p>WHEREAS the uncertainty around land prevents the City from taking a comprehensive approach to land use, infrastructure, utilities and zoning;</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the GNWT expedite and prioritize land transfers to community governments for the purpose of comprehensive and sustainable community planning and development.</p> | <p>ECC / MACA / EIA</p> | <p>The Department of Lands encourages community governments to reach out so we can better understand their needs and interests to administer and manage land within community boundaries. Each capacity to administer and manage land is different.</p> <p>At the same time, the GNWT wants to make sure land is available when negotiating Aboriginal rights agreements, which has implications when transferring land to community governments. For this reason, the Department relies on Interim Land Withdrawals to protect land selection interests.</p> <p>The Department is actively working with the Departments of Municipal and Community Affairs and Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs to create a process guide for the bulk transfer of land within municipal boundaries, in support of the Mandate commitment to reduce the municipal funding gap.</p> <p>A draft of the process guide was shared with the City of Yellowknife, EIA, and MACA in February 2020. Formal comments from the City were provided in January 2021 and a revised process document was</p> | <p>The Department of Lands provides fee simple title to community governments that have an interest and a need to support their growth and future development. Land transfers to community governments can be done under the existing regulations and are not dependent on or linked to the regulations being developed under the Public Land Act.</p> <p>At the same time, the GNWT wants to make sure land is available when negotiating Aboriginal rights agreements, which has implications when transferring land to community governments. For this reason, the Department relies on Interim Land Withdrawals to protect land selection interests.</p> <p>Lands is currently working through an application from the City of Yellowknife for bulk land transfers of public land in fee simple. In addition, a Memorandum of Agreement between the City and the Department is expected to be completed in early 2023.</p> <p>In August 2022, Lands shared a</p> | <p>The GNWT remains committed to supporting community governments access and manage lands within their boundaries.</p> <p>ECC is able to transfer land to community governments at minimal expense, which supports communities to realize economic opportunities and develop sustainably.</p> <p>ECC has been prioritizing land transfers to communities for housing when applications are received. These applications are subject to consultation. ECC contacted Municipal Taxation Authorities to gauge their interest in participating in bulk land transfers within their communities. However, this must also be done at the same time as considering ongoing land, resources, and self-government rights agreements, as well as any current or future land needs for the territorial and federal governments.</p> <p>ECC will continue to work with the City of Yellowknife on an MOU to support a bulk land transfer, including which lands would be subject to transfer.</p> |

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| | | | | <p>updated and shared on May 1, 2021. A draft will be shared with the NWTAC for feedback once a revised draft is more complete.</p> <p>The Department of Lands will continue to manage land tenure requests according to the process outlined in the land transfer process guide. The value of land transferred from GNWT to community governments for nominal value is one way of helping bridge the municipal funding gap. In 2020-21, the assessed values of land transferred to community governments was \$265,400, and from 2017- 18 to 2019-20 was \$4,928,079.</p> | <p>process guide on transferring land within municipal boundaries with the NWT Association of Communities. The purpose of this guide is to make land transfer processes clearer for all communities.</p> <p>In 2021-22, 16 parcels were transferred to municipal governments, totaling 60.39 hectares of land, and valued at \$1,431,000.</p> <p>MACA continues to work with communities interested in acquiring land tenure under community public infrastructure or land required for future CPI and future growth areas to support the submission of land applications to the Department of Lands where required and the alignment to the administration of community governance tools (bylaws) related to land management.</p> <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>RE-AFFIRM – more work is needed on this resolution. NWTAC will work with the GNWT to further action on this resolution.</p> <p>Reminder – these issues are</p> | <p>Should other communities require bulk transfers of land, the GNWT would consider these requests and follow similar processes for those communities. In the meantime, ECC will continue to review individual applications for land transfer from communities, even in absence of any overall agreement regarding bulk land transfers consistent with the process guide for transferring public lands to communities which was previously shared with NWTAC.</p> <p>MACA strongly encourages community governments to engage with Indigenous governments and organizations throughout their community land use planning processes to ensure that community plan bylaws are developed in consideration of land requirements for municipal and public purposes (community public infrastructure and future growth areas) and these prospective land uses are shared with Aboriginal rights holders and any concerns that may be raised through engagement can be proactively</p> |

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| | | | | | not exclusive to the City. This matter will be included in the work being done with the Department of Lands under the Public Lands Act Regulations. | addressed. |
| RA-23-13-02 | Review and Amendment of the Property Assessment and Taxation Act and the Grants-in- Lieu of Property Taxes Policy | <p>WHEREAS the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Commissioner are not liable to taxation pursuant to Section 73(2) of the <i>Property Assessment and Taxation Act</i>;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the Government of the Northwest Territories makes grants in lieu of taxes pursuant to the Grants-In-Lieu Of Property Taxes Policy 21.09 in recognition of the services it receives from municipal governments and to pay its share of the costs to municipalities where territorial property is located; and</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the Government of the Northwest Territories does not pay Grants-In-Lieu of Property Taxes on property it leases to third parties;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS municipal governments cannot sell territorial property to recover unpaid taxes against defaulting tenants and are forced to take other measures, including making court applications, to recover unpaid taxes and such actions often never allow a municipality to recoup the loss;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the Government of Canada is exempt from taxation pursuant to Section 125 of the Constitution Act, 1867 but makes payments in lieu of property taxes to local</p> | MACA/FIN | <p>The current <i>Property Assessment and Taxation Act</i> was enacted in 1988 and has not had a comprehensive review since coming into force.</p> <p>MACA has identified some issues with the <i>Property Assessment and Taxation Act</i> legislation and the corresponding policies and procedures that lead to confusion, administrative challenges, and potentially complaints.</p> <p>MACA has initiated preliminary research to identify issues related to assessment that may require legislative or administrative solutions. This research will support the basis of a Legislative Proposal later in the 19th Assembly.</p> <p>The preliminary research includes engagement with a number of stakeholders including GNWT staff who are responsible for the implementation of the Act, the NWTAC and the public. MACA is also reviewing other property assessment legislation in Canada.</p> <p>MACA had identified three large</p> | <p>MACA is using a phased approach to advance amendments to the <i>Property Assessment and Taxation Act</i> (PATA).</p> <p>The first phase is intended to address known administrative issues such as increasing the terms of appointments for members of both the Municipal and Territorial Boards of Revision, while the second phase is intended to address more complex issues of property taxation and authorities such as the writing off of property tax debt.</p> <p>Bill 66, <i>An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act</i>, which implements the first phase amendments, was introduced and received First and Second Reading in the Fall sitting of the 19th Legislative Assembly (November 2022). MACA anticipates that Bill 66 will receive Third Reading in the</p> | <p>MACA amended the Property Assessment and Taxation Act (PATA) in the 19th Assembly to address known administrative and operational issues specific to the assessment side of PATA.</p> <p>Phase 2 of PATA is a GNWT priority for the 20th Assembly and will examine more complex issues of property taxation and authorities.</p> <p>As part of the review, the GNWT will engage with stakeholders, such as the NWTAC and the public to inform amendments.</p> <p>In addition, substantive review of the Grants-in-Lieu Policy has been identified as a priority during the 20th Assembly.</p> |

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| | | <p>governments;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the Government of Canada recognized that the term "grant" for the payments made in lieu of property taxes did not reflect the value of the services provided by municipal levels of government to federal properties and proceeded to amend the name of the act to "Payments in Lieu of Taxes";</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the Government of Canada recognized the difficulty encountered by municipal governments in recovering unpaid taxes against tenants of federal property and beginning in the 2000 tax year included a provision in the Property in Lieu of Taxes Act for municipalities to request a payment in lieu of taxes on federal property occupied by a defaulting tenant, after demonstrating that every reasonable attempt has been made to collect the taxes from the tenant without success;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS various provincial governments have recognized the difficulty encountered by municipal governments in recovering unpaid taxes against tenants of provincial property and have included provisions in the applicable legislation to allow municipal governments to request a payment in lieu of taxes if all reasonable attempts to collect the outstanding taxes have not been successful;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS there have been instances where municipal governments have not been able to collect unpaid property taxes from tenants of territorial property and have not</p> | | <p>pieces of legislation to prioritize for review and significant amendment during the 19th Assembly. These are, in order of anticipated priority: the <i>Fire Prevention Act</i>, the <i>Property Assessment and Taxation Act</i>, and the <i>Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Act</i>.</p> <p>The capacity of MACA to bring forward legislative amendments is restricted and must always consider the level of engagement required to bring forward any legislative change that will affect community governments. The pace at which these changes are advanced is carefully considered to ensure that community governments can provide MACA with meaningful input to both issue identification and potential solutions. Accordingly, to update all legislation under the mandate of the department would exceed both the capacity of MACA, as well as the community governments that the legislation serves.</p> | <p>Winter sitting of the 19th Assembly (February/March 2023).</p> <p>MACA has established a Working Group to advance the second phase consisting of members from the departments of Lands and Finance as well as Local Administrators of Government of the NWT and the NWT Association of Communities. The feedback from this Working Group will be incorporated into the development of a legislative proposal and the Bill.</p> <p>Given the complexity of taxation law, MACA has contracted a lawyer to conduct research on the identified issues and propose recommendations for legislative amendments. Engagement with community governments, identified stakeholders, and the public is expected to occur in April 2023. MACA anticipates introducing a Bill early in the 20th Assembly.</p> <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>RE-AFFIRM – this legislation is being worked on. NWTAC will</p> | |

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| | | <p>received any grant in lieu of taxes; and</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the purpose of the grants made in lieu of taxes is to deal equitably and fairly with municipalities;</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Northwest Territories Association of Communities urge the Government of the Northwest Territories to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. amending the <i>Property Assessment and Taxation Act</i> and the Grants-In-Lieu of Properties Policy to allow municipal governments to request a payment in lieu of taxes if all reasonable attempts to collect the outstanding taxes have not been successful in accordance with what the federal and other provincial governments have already done; and ii. (ii) changing the name of the ‘Grants-In-Lieu of Properties Policy’ to the ‘Payments-In-Lieu of Properties Policy’ to emphasize the territorial government’s responsibility as a property owner to share in the cost of local government, rather than its generosity in making a payment which it is not legally obliged to make. | | | continue our work on this resolution. | |

STANDING (ST) - Refers to a resolution that reflects a standing policy of the NWTAC. The objective may have been achieved once, but may have to be restated because of a change in government ministers or department personnel. It also refers to a resolution not requiring active pursuit for one reason or another. **PLEASE NOTE: A response is not required for Resolutions in this section. It is provided only for context and general information.**

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| ST-23-20-10 | NWT Education Reform | <p>WHEREAS education is a powerful agent of change that can improve health and livelihoods, contributes to social stability and long-term economic growth and is essential to community well-being. And by recognising the power of education, policy makers can better address diverse societal challenges, which municipal governments increasingly have to contend with.</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the three-year education renewal action plan entitled "Education Renewal and Innovation Framework, Directions for Change" published in 2015 states,</p> <p>"The current approach to education is not producing the overall levels of student achievement that we need and should reasonably expect for the investments that are being made.";</p> <p>WHEREAS it was recognized in NWTAC Resolution 2019-14 that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECE has responsibility to provide essential and basic educational programming in the NWT to all communities; It is recognized/acknowledged that there are deficiencies and lack of adequate programming and resources in many communities; GNWT has identified a desire to improve public education in the NWT via Education Renewal and "Early Childhood Framework;" | ECE | <p>In 2018-2019, the Department of Education, Culture and Employment (ECE) conducted a Formative Evaluation of the Education Renewal and Innovation Framework (ERI Evaluation). During the same time, the Office of the Auditor General of Canada (OAG) conducted a performance Audit (OAG Audit) of early childhood to Junior Kindergarten to Grade 12 (JK-12) education in the Northwest Territories (NWT).</p> <p>ECE has created a revised Action Plan for ERI that follows ECE’s approach to improving student outcomes; first starting with actions that focus on quality early learning and child care, through to those actions that support a quality JK-12 education system.</p> <p>The actions are categorized into the following seven themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theme 1: Quality Early Learning and Child Care Theme 2: Workforce Development and Capacity Building Theme 3: Curriculum and Student Assessment Theme 4: Student Supports Theme 5: Training, Developing and Support for School Employees Theme 6: Governance Theme 7: Monitoring and Evaluation | <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>RE-AFFIRM – COVID- 19 surely brought to our attention how we educate people to the forefront. NWTAC will continue to work with the GNWT to ensure everyone in the NWT is offered the highest level of education. Due to COVID the Action Plan of ECE changed everything.</p> <p><u>Action Plan to Improve JK-12 Student Outcomes</u></p> <p>The Action Plan to Improve JK-12 Student Outcomes includes actions that focus on quality early learning and child care, through to actions that support a quality JK-12 education system. Each identified action includes associated deliverables and timelines. This Action Plan has been the focus of ECE’s work over the last two years, with an online Action Tracker providing the real-time status of each action.</p> <p>Two key actions within the Action Plan include: modernization of the <i>Education Act</i> and renewal of JK-12 school curriculum.</p> <p>1. Education Act Modernization</p> <p>The approach to Education Act Modernization is collaborative and every effort is being made to be inclusive and responsive as changes to the legislation are considered. Based on what we heard through engagement with Indigenous</p> |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many residents of the NWT may lack the capacity to succeed at education, that the GNWT look at alternate programing; • Be it resolved that the Auditor General of Canada review education to ensure that all NWT residents have the capacity to successfully enter post-secondary upon graduation. <p>WHEREAS the NWT’s Bureau of Statistics for “Highest Level of Schooling Attained” for the period of 2009 compared to 2019, do not show significant improvements in educational achievement for residents living outside of the NWT’s major centres.</p> <p>WHEREAS the GNWT expends 18.4% (\$ 332.1 million) of its annual operating budget on the delivery of educational programs across the NWT.</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the GNWT take immediate steps to undertake a comprehensive evaluation of the NWT’s educational programs delivery model by conducting an Institutional and Organizational Assessment (1) (IOA) encompassing but not limited to, early childhood development, primary and secondary education (JK to grade 12) and, post-secondary education to assess the overall program efficiency, effectiveness and delivery.</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the IOA be undertaken by an independent party prior to any further significant reorganization of educational program delivery or</p> | | <p>For each of the relevant actions listed within these themes, the associated deliverables and timelines expected to complete those actions are included.</p> <p>Two key actions within the Action Plan are the modernization of the Education Act and the renewal of NWT JK-12 school curriculum.</p> <p>1. Education Act Modernization</p> <p>A modernized Education Act has the goal of increasing student education outcomes to the same level as the rest of Canada by providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity about the Minister’s authority to ensure appropriate accountability for student outcomes through the education system; • Clarity about the education bodies’ accountability for improving student outcomes; • An appropriate governance structure for the JK-12 system that recognized the rights of Indigenous governments, and supports the future delivery of education programs by Indigenous governments; • A balance between coordinated education system requirements, and the need for communities to have a voice in the delivery of education programs; | <p>governments, education bodies, stakeholders and the public, the Education Act Modernization Project is continuing as a two-phased project.</p> <p>Phase 1 will address technical challenges in the education system, clarifying authorities and enabling Ministerial access to education system information to evaluate student outcomes. This phase is committed to address issues that were acknowledged as needing immediate attention or received no significant comments of concern during the engagement period, and that have been identified during past OAG audits as impeding the ability of the current education system to improve student outcomes. Amendments will be brought forward in 2023.</p> <p>Phase 2 will take more time and will continue into the 20th Legislative Assembly. Through the first round of engagement, it was clear that more conversation and collaboration is needed about how Indigenous governments and communities across the NWT can lead and participate in the governance of a system that will educate future generations.</p> <p>2. JK-12 Curriculum Renewal</p> <p>In December 2021, the NWT made the decision to transition to the use of the British Columbia’s curriculum and assessment tools.</p> <p>In October 2022, the timeline for Implementation was released to outline when the curriculum will be introduced to students</p> |

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| | | <p>significant investments in new infrastructure for educational program delivery.</p> <p>(1): Institutional and Organizational Assessment (IOA) model, developed by International Development Research Centre (IDRC Canada)</p> <p>In the IOA model, performance is defined in terms of the organization’s effectiveness (mission fulfillment), efficiency (accuracy, timeliness and value of service and program delivery), ongoing relevance (the extent to which an organization adapts to changing conditions and its environment), and financial viability. The model also presents an approach to assessing the three underlying forces that drive performance: the capacities of an organization, its external environment, and its internal context or motivation.</p> | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structure, resources, and necessary flexibility for the provision of language and cultural programming. <p>ECE has begun engagement with Indigenous Governments, other education partners, stakeholders and the public between mid-March and June 30, 2021 toward the development of a Legislative Proposal for a new or revised Education Act.</p> <p>2. JK-12 Curriculum Renewal</p> <p>The current JK-12 curriculum is becoming out of date and is in need of renewal. Currently, the NWT uses curriculum from a variety of western provinces, but the high school curriculum is predominantly from Alberta with ECE producing specific northern-based curriculum.</p> <p>With Alberta changing their direction in curriculum development, ECE has begun formal engagement with key NWT education partners, including Indigenous governments, education bodies, and the NWT Teachers’ Association (NWTTA), to gather feedback and input of the renewal of the NWT JK-12 school curriculum and the possibility of exploring a new provincial partnership.</p> <p>ECE remains cognizant that the development and implementation of this Action Plan is just one step toward improving student outcomes. If this Action Plan is to be successful, education bodies, Indigenous governments and organizations,</p> | <p>over the subsequent five years, beginning in the 2023-2024 school year.</p> <p>ECE staff have begun to form working groups with education body staff, including teachers where appropriate, to tackle the next steps in the renewal of the school curriculum.</p> <p>The focus of the work of Curriculum Renewal in the 2022-2023 school year is planning for implementation and transition to the new curriculum.</p> <p>Key pieces of this work include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum Graduation Requirements – to be completed by February 2023 Teacher Training Plan – to be completed by March 31, 2023 Adaptation of the BC curriculum – drafts for Grades 4-6, and 9 to be completed May 2023 Student Assessment Renewal Plan - to be completed by June 2023 Student Information Systems and Operations Updates – ongoing throughout the entirety of the project. <p>ECE is currently engaging with key education partners and Indigenous Governments for their feedback on the implementation planning topics above, which are required to support a successful transition.</p> |

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| | | | | <p>communities, educators, families, and students themselves must have a role to play in improving student outcomes in the NWT.</p> | <p>A detailed communications plan has been developed to provide information territory-wide that coincides with the completion of key pieces of work, as well as targeted communications to provide important information specific to key education stakeholders as and when necessary.</p> <p>ECE remains cognizant that the development and implementation of this Action Plan is just one step toward improving student outcomes. If this Action Plan is to be successful, education bodies, Indigenous governments and organizations, communities, educators, families, and students themselves must have a role to play in improving student outcomes.</p> <p><u>Post-COVID Support for JK-12 Education</u></p> <p>As education systems move from a state of emergency response to a lengthy period of recovery, the focus in the education system is shifting to helping students recover from disruptions to instruction that occurred during the pandemic. As with other Canadian jurisdictions, there are substantial data gaps in assessing COVID-19's impact on NWT students, as attendance and attainment levels were hampered during the pandemic. The GNWT continues to assess and support the needs of educators and students, including needs directly related to the impacts of the pandemic.</p> <p>Since August 2022, ECE has been maintaining a COVID-19 Impact Indicators Report on the JK-</p> |

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| | | | | | 12 Education System: a living document that provides a comprehensive assessment of the pandemic impact on the NWT JK-12 education system and guides the system’s shift to helping students recover from COVID-19-related disruptions. In the coming years, ECE anticipates that grades, test results, and graduation rates will be lower than in pre-pandemic years. Further research is required to provide a more comprehensive analysis of the impact of the pandemic on the education system. |
| ST-23-19-06 | Carbon Pricing | <p>WHEREAS fossil fuel use contributes to climate change inducing greenhouse gas emissions;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the Government of the Northwest Territories is a signatory to the Pan- Canadian Framework for Clean Growth and Climate Change and is committed to meeting Federal benchmark for carbon pricing by 2019;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the Government of the Northwest Territories has implemented Pan- Canadian Carbon Pricing in the Northwest Territories;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the Government of the Northwest Territories has adopted a Carbon Tax as the preferred option for carbon pricing;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS communities in the NWT and their residents will see a direct increase in costs as a result of the carbon tax;</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Northwest Territories Association of Communities lobby the Government of the Northwest Territories to ensure:</p> | FIN | <p>The GNWT’s proposed approach to recycling carbon tax revenue was approved in the 2019-20 Budget and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heating Fuel Rebate - for residents, governments and business entities with less than 50 kilotonnes of annual greenhouse gas emissions, heating fuel will be 100 per cent rebated at the point of purchase. • Electrical Power Producers Rebate - Northwest Territories Power Corporation and other power producers will be provided with an annual rebate of carbon tax paid on non-motive diesel purchased for generating electricity for distribution. This rebate will insulate municipalities from increased electricity costs that would otherwise result from the carbon tax on diesel used to generate electricity. • Cost of Living Offset (COLO) – this tax-free benefit would be provided quarterly to all NWT residents. This benefit would increase | <p>The NWT Carbon Tax and rebates were introduced September 1, 2019. Cost of Living Offset (COLO) payments were issued in October 2019 and April 2020. Each payment was \$52 for individuals and \$60 for each child.</p> <p>Starting in July 2020, annual COLO amounts will increase to \$156 for an individual and \$180 per child and payments will be issued quarterly. Single individuals in the NWT will receive their full annual payment in July, because their quarterly payments would be less than \$50.</p> <p>Rebates are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heating Fuel Rebate – 100 % rebate for residents, governments and business entities • Electrical Power Producers Rebate – 100% rebate of carbon tax paid for generating electricity for distribution. This rebate will insulate municipalities from increased electricity costs that would otherwise result |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That 100% of the carbon tax revenue be recycled into the economy through transfers to households, business, industry and municipalities; • That support regarding the implementation of the carbon tax is addressed to the satisfaction of the communities; • That communities are proportionally funded to offset increased cost of municipal operations as a result of the carbon tax implementation; • That it commits to the advancement of sustainable initiatives to reduce the reliance on non-renewable fuels; and • That the implementation and reporting processes related to the carbon tax initiative are presented in a transparent manner. | | <p>annually as NWT carbon tax rates are increased.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large Emitters (50 kilotonnes or more annual greenhouse gas emissions) Offset in two parts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o an annual rebate for 75 per cent of the carbon tax collected on non-motive diesel and heating fuel and o 25 per cent of the carbon tax collected on non-motive diesel and heating fuel held in individualized trust accounts that will be able to be accessed for investments by each entity that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. • The GNWT continues to prioritize investments in alternative energy options to provide reliable, affordable alternatives to carbon-intensive fuels for communities and businesses. <p>The Department of Finance intends to provide an annual report on carbon pricing: raised revenues, rebate expenditures, and the investments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This report will also be included in the Climate Change Strategy action plan reporting requirements.</p> | <p>from the carbon tax on diesel used to generate electricity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large Emitters: 72% rebate of carbon tax paid and 12% in individual accounts for GHG reducing investments. • The GNWT continues to prioritize investments in alternative energy options to provide reliable, affordable alternatives to carbon-intensive fuels for communities and businesses. • The Department of Finance intends to provide an Annual Report on carbon pricing, including: raised revenues, rebate expenditures, and the investments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This report will be included in the Climate Change Strategy Action Plan Report. <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>STANDING – NWTAC will continue to monitor this resolution.</p> |
| ST-23-19-10 | Climate Change Adaptation | <p>WHEREAS Climate Change is occurring in the North at more than twice the rate of the rest of Canada;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS The North is particularly vulnerable to climate change due to its reliance on temperature sensitive systems such as permafrost;</p> | ECC | <p>Building resilience and adapting to a changing climate is a priority for the GNWT and is reflected in the GNWT Mandate 2019-2023.</p> <p>All GNWT departments are cooperating to</p> | <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>RE-AFFIRM: NWTAC will continue to work with GNWT on this resolution.</p> |

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| | | <p>AND WHEREAS All NWT communities are experiencing the impacts of climate change;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the 2018 NWT Climate Change Forum and Charrette was an important gathering where communities voiced their concerns and the challenges they face in addressing vulnerabilities caused by the climate change.</p> <p>AND WHEREAS taking proactive tactics to addressing climate change adaptation is the preferred approach;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS We will see the best success by working collaboratively with our many partners;</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the NWT Association of Communities enact the following suite of climate change adaptation resolutions (see 2019-10-A through 2019-10-I)</p> | | <p>implement the 2019-2023 Action Plan, which is in its third year of implementation.</p> <p>Communities are on the frontlines of climate change and ENR continues to work closely with the NWTAC on climate change adaptation actions.</p> <p>ENR continues to partner with NWTAC to fund an annual Community Climate Change Award valued at \$5,000.</p> <p>In 2021, Tuktoyaktuk was awarded for their work on risk assessments, adaption planning, monitoring informed decision-making and youth engagement.</p> <p>In January 2020, the GNWT released its first integrated <i>NWT Climate Change Action Plan: Annual Report 2019/20</i> to report on progress towards implementing the Climate Change Strategic Framework Action Plan, the 2030 Energy Strategy and the carbon tax. The 2020-21 annual report is expected to be available in fall 2021.</p> | <p>Building resilience and adapting to a changing climate is a priority for the GNWT and is reflected in the GNWT Mandate 2019-2023 as well as in the NWT Climate Change Strategic Framework.</p> <p>ENR is developing a territory-wide Climate Change Risks and Opportunities Assessment to build a shared understanding across the NWT of climate change adaptation priorities. Identification of these shared priorities should enable the GNWT and its partners to more effectively seek and secure climate change adaptation funding and resources and will inform the development of the GNWT’s next Climate Change Action Plan (2025-2029).</p> <p>ENR has started engagement activities to inform the Assessment, including the launch of a public survey, engagement at NWTAC AGM and LGANT AGM.</p> <p>All GNWT departments are cooperating to implement the 2019-2023 Climate Change Strategic Framework Action Plan, which is in its fourth year of implementation.</p> <p>Communities are on the frontlines of climate change and ENR continues to work closely with the NWTAC on climate change adaptation actions.</p> <p>ENR hosted the 2nd Annual NWT Climate Change Gathering on Oct 26-27th, 2022 in Dettah. The gathering focused on sharing updates on the on-going implementation of the</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>NWT Climate Change Strategic Framework and highlighting GNWT-led adaptation initiatives.</p> <p>The Climate Change Resilience Award, funded by the GNWT, was awarded to Kakisa (Ka'a'gee Tu First Nation) for their proactive approach to overcoming climate change challenges.</p> <p>The 2021-2022 Climate Change Annual report presents key achievements to date on the <i>2019-2023 Climate Change Action Plan</i>. Of the 132 Action Items that comprise the Action Plan, 64 Actions have been completed and the other 68 are on track.</p> <p>The GNWT and its partners invested about \$73 million last year to implement the Action Plan.</p> <p>On July 2022, the carbon pricing regime was strengthened to \$50/tonne in compliance with federal requirements.</p> <p>The GNWT continues to contribute to the development of Standards Council of Canada's (SCC) Northern Infrastructure Standardization Initiative (NISI) Standards.</p> <p>ENR continues to serve on the Climate Change Adaptation Committee (CCAC) to represent the GNWT as an advisory member.</p> <p>In terms of advocacy, the <i>Pan-Northern Leaders' Statement on Climate Change</i> was released in May 2022 to reiterate that climate change is a top priority for the three territories, outline climate action priorities and call for</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>more federal funding, with strong alignment with NWTAC resolutions.</p> <p>The GNWT also sent a submission to the federal government to inform the upcoming National Adaptation Strategy and ensure it acknowledges northern-specific considerations, reflecting northern values and themes.</p> |
| ST-23-19-10-B | Permafrost | <p>WHEREAS Permafrost thaw poses significant risks to community and privately owned infrastructure, the transportation network, access to the land, food security, waste management, and many other issues affecting residents;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the total costs of permafrost degradation on public assets is estimated to be in the order of \$1.3 billion.</p> <p>AND WHEREAS Surface water has a significant impact on permafrost and the development and implementation of Community Drainage Plans is critical;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the Housing Corporation is an important partner with the communities in meeting the climate change adaptation challenge;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS Communities wish to support their ratepayers by educating them about permafrost and climate change and how best to protect their properties;</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the GNWT provide adequate funding and resources to assist municipalities in completing and implementing Community Drainage Plans;</p> | Housing NWT/MACA | <p>MACA</p> <p>MACA will continue to work with other GNWT departments to promote awareness and education regarding impacts of permafrost loss.</p> <p>MACA supports the Northern Infrastructure Standards Initiative which does create a standard for drainage.</p> <p>MACA will continue to work with Public Safety Canada to support changes in funding programs that support planning efforts for disaster mitigation and adaptation.</p> <p>The GNWT Climate Change Action Plan has a number of initiatives related to supporting communities and infrastructure address the effects of climate change, including completing community infrastructure risk assessments and developing training material.</p> <p>MACA will continue to work with the NWTAC to improve information for communities.</p> | <p><i>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</i></p> <p>RE-AFFIRM: NWTAC will continue to work with GNWT on this resolution. NWTAC hired consultant to review buildings of 7 most vulnerable communities.</p> <p>The GNWT continues to advance initiatives under the 2030 NWT Climate Change Strategic Framework and Action Plan that address the impacts of climate change on communities and infrastructure. This includes ongoing efforts to support the Northern Infrastructure Standards Initiative (NISI) and promote awareness and education regarding impacts of permafrost loss. The GNWT has advocated for the importance of NISI to continue to create plain-language documents to accompany these standards.</p> <p>MACA is advocating for Infrastructure Canada and the federal government to develop and improve funding programs that support planning efforts for disaster mitigation and adaptation, including funding for relocation of critical assets. MACA has also completed</p> |

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| | | <p>AND FURTHER THAT the Housing Corp. adequately consult with communities about their development plans and ensure that they comply with all land use and adaptation plans;</p> <p>AND FURTHER THAT the GNWT develop requirements to ensure the consideration of permafrost thaw in all development and adaptation planning for NWT infrastructure.</p> <p>AND FURTHER THAT the GNWT work with the NWT Association of Communities and other partners to develop plain language materials to educate the public about permafrost thaw and assist owners of privately-owned homes and other infrastructure in protecting their properties from the impacts of permafrost thaw.</p> <p>AND FURTHER THAT the GNWT take a leadership role in conducting a vulnerability assessment of all community assets.</p> | | <p>NWTHC</p> <p>As the NWTHC is completing each of the community housing plans, the NWTHC is engaging with community proponents on their knowledge of known areas of soil erosion or permafrost degradation.</p> <p>The NWTHC also continues to work with other GNWT departments as well as scientific agencies that may have information on known erosion or permafrost degradation areas to determine possible solutions when constructing or repairing NWTHC assets.</p> <p>The NWTHC continues to utilize adjustable foundation designs such as space frames, pads and wedges and screw jack systems where appropriate.</p> <p>In terms of adaptation, the NWTHC utilizes where appropriate, adjustable foundation designs such as space frames, pads and wedges and screw jack systems.</p> | <p>O&M Drainage Manuals for communities considering northern climate change and drainage practices. Manuals were distributed in September 2021.</p> <p>The Department has hired a Climate Change Coordinator and will continue to work with the NWTAC to improve information sharing for communities.</p> <p>Housing NWT continues to support the completion of community housing plans, for those communities who express an interest, and engages with community proponents on their knowledge of known areas of soil erosion or permafrost degradation.</p> <p>Housing NWT also continues its collaboration with other GNWT departments as well as scientific agencies that may have information on known erosion or permafrost degradation areas to determine possible solutions, when constructing or repairing Housing NWT assets and to inform future planning.</p> <p>As part of its ongoing renewal, Housing NWT is improving the way that it engages with local and Indigenous Governments.</p> <p>Housing NWT provides notice of new construction and ensures the building and sitework, including drainage, complies with local bylaws, community zoning bylaws, building bylaws and general community plans. Housing NWT will continue to proactively engage communities as part of the delivery of</p> |

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| | | | | | all new construction projects, continues to implement new technologies and design in new construction projects, and supports the process of adaptively managing potential impacts related to climate change. |
| ST-23-19-10-C | Hazard Mapping | <p>WHEREAS Hazard mapping is a critical element in climate change adaptation and building the resiliency of communities;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS Hazard mapping is not a one size fits all type of undertaking and requires collaboration across many disciplines and organizations;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS securing funding to develop and apply Hazard Mapping is critical to their completion;</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the GNWT work with the NWTAC and other partners to ensure that hazard maps are developed by the GNWT in a timely and strategic manner.</p> <p>AND FURTHER THAT the federal government should ensure that adequate funding is available to complete hazard mapping for all NWT communities;</p> <p>AND FURTHER THAT the NWT Association of Communities work with the GNWT and other partners to identify opportunities to support communities in participating in the development of hazard maps and their application to community planning by developing tools for outreach, communication, education and training.</p> | ECC/ MACA | <p>As outlined in action items 3.12A of the 2019-2023 Action Plan, ENR is the lead for the design of a community hazard mapping program. NWTAC is a key partner along with MACA and other GNWT departments, community governments and the federal government.</p> <p>An advisory team is in place to guide the development of the hazard mapping program and the NWTAC's participation on this advisory team is extremely valuable.</p> | <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>RE-AFFIRM: NWTAC will continue to work with GNWT on this resolution.</p> <p>As severe weather events and climate change hazards (flooding, wildfire, permafrost thaw, coastal erosion, shortened ice road seasons, etc.) continue to occur in the NWT, the GNWT recognizes the need for Community Hazard Maps to support sound economic, social, and environmental decision-making.</p> <p>Several GNWT departments including MACA, ENR, Lands, ITI (NWT Geological Survey), and the NWT Centre for Geomatics, continue to collaborate on hazard mapping activities. NWTAC will be engaged as this work progresses.</p> <p>Northwest Territories Geological Survey (NTGS) and the Centre for Geomatics advanced surficial mapping (a key component needed for hazard mapping) in communities across the NWT. NTGS led a community geotechnical and geospatial libraries project</p> |

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| | | | <p>Securing funds to support this program is a priority for ENR. Federal funding will be pursued to support the capacity of the GNWT to better prepare the territory to adapt to climate change will enable the design of the community hazard mapping program.</p> <p>Although COVID-19 has impacted the ability for MACA to conduct tabletop exercises and workshops, MACA recognizes the value of providing relevant hazard mapping outreach and training tools, and opportunities to support communities with their hazard mapping priorities. The advisory team can further discuss and plan for the development and dissemination of such outreach and training tools and discuss appropriate community engagement mechanisms to determine specific hazard mapping needs.</p> <p>MACA will continue to work with Public Safety Canada to encourage changes in funding programs that support planning efforts for disaster mitigation and adaptation.</p> <p>Federal funding continues to be pursued to support the capacity of the territory to better adapt to climate change.</p> <p>A pilot hazard mapping project for Tuktoyaktuk is in place. This pilot will provide a resource for Tuktoyaktuk and will provide the GNWT with information to understand the approach and scope what is needed to</p> | <p>that supported the compilation of geotechnical, permafrost and spatial datasets for seven communities in the NWT: Inuvik, Fort McPherson, Norman Wells, Tulita, Whatì, Behchokò and Yellowknife/Dettah.</p> <p>NTGS also completed a permafrost thaw sensitivity analysis in the surrounding areas of all NWT communities. Results were circulated, including during the NWTAC AGM.</p> <p>NRCan has developed a series of guidelines to help advance flood mapping activities across Canada. As a result of funding received through the Federal Hazard Identification and Mapping Program, ENR and the Centre for Geomatics are working with NRCan and Environment and Climate Change Canada to develop more specific flood mapping method guidelines that will be applicable in potentially data-poor locations prone to ice-jam flooding. These draft guidelines are to be completed by March 2023, and will facilitate the development of NWT-specific guidelines.</p> <p>Next steps include the development of flood inundation maps for NWT communities at risk of flooding.</p> <p>Federal funding continues to be pursued to support the capacity of the territory to better adapt to climate change.</p> |
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| | | | | <p>deliver hazard mapping in other communities.</p> <p>Preliminary work has been completed for the Tuktoyaktuk hazard map, such as a geotechnical desktop study. Next steps are being scoped and will be discussed at the Hazard Mapping Committee in which the NWTAC is a member. A partnership with Natural Resources Canada is being established to acquire coastal erosion and sea level rise data.</p> <p>The Northwest Territories Geological Survey has successfully applied for CIRNAC funds to conduct additional surficial mapping that can be used as a critical base layer to community hazard maps.</p> <p>The GNWT and NWTAC are participating in a national working group to develop a National Standard for Land Development Suitability Mapping. This standard is being developed by the Standards Council of Canada (SCC) and will be a component of the Northern Infrastructure Standardization Initiative.</p> | |
| ST-23-19-10-F | Research | <p>WHEREAS Most communities have not been involved in setting the research agendas in their communities;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS Communities are often not made aware of the outcomes of the research being</p> | ECC | <p>The GNWT will engage with NWTAC on renewal of the Knowledge Agenda. Opportunities for NWTAC and communities to present research needs will occur over the</p> | <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>RE-AFFIRM – more work is needed on this resolution. NWTAC will work with the GNWT</p> |

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| | | <p>AND WHEREAS The lack of a northern university means that the academic knowledge base relating to Arctic issues is scattered throughout the country;</p> <p>BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the GNWT and Federal Government work with the NWT Association of Communities, communities, and with its various partners to ensure that the research needs of the communities are being promoted and supported when setting research agendas;</p> <p>AND FURTHER THAT communities engage the researchers who are already working in their communities to assist them in addressing their research needs.</p> | | <p>next year including through:</p> <p>The GNWT /Wilfrid Laurier University partnership annual research planning session</p> <p>National Research Council’s Arctic Challenge Program developers, as they present new funding opportunities</p> <p>Polar Knowledge Canada, as they develop future calls for research proposals, and</p> <p>The GNWT annual research needs meeting in late 2021.</p> <p>The GNWT will share updated lists of departmental contacts who can provide information to communities on various areas of research supported by the GNWT.</p> | <p>to further action on this resolution. While there have been improvements there is still much more progress needed. NWTAC has been engaged in dialogues with other supportive agencies on this front.</p> <p>The renewal of the GNWT Knowledge Agenda began in 2022. As part of the renewal, the NWTAC will be asked for input. In the longer term, the goal is to transition to an NWT Knowledge Agenda rather than a GNWT Agenda and this is the first step in that process.</p> <p>Many community-based programs monitor wildlife populations, country foods and water quality in the NWT. For instance, the NWT Community Based Monitoring Program (CBM) and Transboundary Rivers Monitoring programs were developed and continue to be delivered with Indigenous partners in many NWT communities. Data management improvements for the CBM are in progress.</p> |
| ST-23-19-10-G | Bridging the Community Capacity Gap | <p>WHEREAS NWT communities are chronically underfunded by 37% and this funding shortfall limits their ability to be resilient in the face of climate change.</p> <p>AND WHEREAS Lack of capacity was a recurring concern voiced by participants from every region at the 2018 Climate Change Forum and Charrette. Limited financial and human capacity, and difficulty accessing information, expertise and other resources is hampering progress to adapt to a changing climate.</p> <p>AND WHEREAS Collaboration with communities on the development of Climate Change Strategic Framework</p> | ECC/MACA | <p>In November 2019, ENR and MACA co-delivered a climate change course through the School of Community Government for Indigenous and community government staff. The course can be delivered online or in person. SCG and ENR will collaborate to review and revise the online asynchronous course: <i>Integrating Climate Change Measures into Municipal Planning and Decision Making</i>.</p> <p>As follow-up to the federal budget, ENR is coordinating among GNWT department in order to pursue federal funding</p> | <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>RE-AFFIRM – more work is needed on this resolution. NWTAC will work with the GNWT to further action on this resolution.</p> <p>The GNWT is aware of the capacity challenges communities face in general, and in relation to climate change. The GNWT is advancing initiatives under the 2030 NWT Climate Change Framework and continues to develop and prioritize tools, resources and initiatives that</p> |

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| | | <p>Action Plans will support transparency in priority-setting and accountability for actions.</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the GNWT allow for the creation of Sustainability Coordinators for every community government in the NWT and adequately resource these positions.</p> <p>AND FURTHER THAT the GNWT to create and adequately resource Pathfinder positions at a regional level to mobilize resources and support community and regional climate change adaptation efforts.</p> <p>AND FURTHER THAT the GNWT provide funding and support to enable communities to participate in CCSF action plan development.</p> | | <p>opportunities to address climate change. The GNWT recognizes capacity is needed to support and sustain the implementation of the <i>2019-2023 Climate Change Action Plan</i>, and subsequent action plans, both within the GNWT and within Indigenous and community governments.</p> <p>The GNWT has communicated its climate change funding priorities to the federal government including the need for funding to build community capacity to help NWT communities identify emerging threats, plan for and respond to those threats, and increase resilience. The need for jobs in communities was emphasized, especially in light of the impacts of COVID-19 and a green economic recovery.</p> <p>The GNWT continues to develop and prioritize tools, resources and initiatives that will build capacity to support communities with their climate change adaptation efforts.</p> | <p>will build capacity to support communities with their climate change adaptation efforts.</p> <p>The GNWT has recently increased the number of dedicated staff working on climate change. For instance, in 2022, MACA filled the Climate Change Coordinator position and ENR filled the Climate Change Analyst position. The Consideration of potential climate change impacts on communities is increasingly factored into decision making and planning activities, such as development of community plans.</p> <p>These efforts will provide additional support to communities on climate adaptation and will increase GNWT capacity to look for funding opportunities and advocate the federal government for more funding.</p> <p>Efforts to communicate climate change funding priorities to the federal government are ongoing.</p> <p>The NWT Climate Change Council will be used to further guide capacity needs and implementation.</p> <p>GNWT’s feedback to the federal government on the upcoming National Adaptation Strategy highlights the need for the federal government “to develop funding programs that are designed for the North with a series of specific recommendations to make funding stable and accessible to communities.”</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>MACA continued offering three pre-recorded webinars: Climate Change for Councillors, Mainstreaming Climate Change for Community Planning, and Climate Change, along with the online course “Integrating Climate Change Measures into Municipal Planning and Decision Making”</p> <p>MACA is working with ENR to revise and refresh an existing climate change course. The material will be targeted to different audiences in NWT communities (i.e. Council, senior staff, junior staff).</p> <p>MACA will incorporate Climate Change into workshop and course material where appropriate.</p> <p>\$4.167 million has been added to Community Government Funding since 2020-21 to support the reduction in the funding gap to meet municipal core needs</p> <p>It is anticipated that community governments will put some of this funding towards infrastructure impacted by climate change. The federal Investing in Canada Infrastructure Fund for Community governments continues to target community roads and solid waste sites.</p> |
| ST-23-19-10-H | Emergency Management Plans | <p>WHEREAS Extreme weather events are becoming more frequent</p> <p>AND WHEREAS This makes the importance of emergency planning and status of emergency plan completion and implementation in communities more critical</p> | MACA | The territorial <i>Emergency Management Act</i> requires communities to update their emergency plans annually. MACA supports community governments to update plans and to improve their capacity through workshops and table-top-exercises at a community’s request. The GNWT’s | <p><i>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</i></p> <p>RE-AFFIRM: more work is needed on this resolution. NWTAC will work with the GNWT to further action on this resolution.</p> |

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| | | <p>AND WHEREAS It is critical that emergency plans incorporate the consideration of climate change forecasting and predicted impacts into planning</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT GNWT allocate adequate funding and support to update emergency management plans to include climate change and provide resources to fully implement plans for every community in a timely and strategic manner.</p> | | <p>emergency management approach incorporates key considerations associated with climate change.</p> <p>The GNWT supports community governments who are developing projects to address specific climate changes risks by supporting specific mitigation options.</p> <p>MACA continues to work with Public Safety Canada by encouraging changes in funding programs that support planning efforts for disaster mitigation and adaptation.</p> <p>MACA continues to support implementation of the 2030 NWT Climate Change Strategic Framework. Related activities in the Strategy include, support for improved community participation in research and monitoring initiatives, the completion of hazard mapping for vulnerable communities, increased monitoring of climate change impacts on community shorelines, transportation system assets and building foundations, and improved wildfire suppression planning and adoption of FireSmart principles in communities.</p> | <p>The territorial <i>Emergency Management Act</i> requires communities to update their emergency plans annually.</p> <p>In recent years, the Emergency Management Organization (EMO) has had limited capacity to assist community governments to update their community emergency plans. Lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic and the 2021 and 2022 flood seasons have prompted some improvements to the EMO.</p> <p>Historically, MACA’s EMO has had limited capacity, with only two dedicated positions located at headquarters in Yellowknife and no dedicated staff in the regional offices.</p> <p>MACA has increased EMO capacity by establishing one Regional Emergency Management Coordinator position in each of its five regional offices.</p> <p>MACA is committed to assisting community governments to update community emergency plans and improve emergency capacity. Supports include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resumption of community emergency planning workshops which had been on hold given the COVID-19 pandemic and unprecedented flooding in 2021 and 2022. Community governments can reach out to the MACA Regional Office to request a workshop. • Renewed effort to support communities in validating emergency plans via table-top |

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| | | | | | <p>exercises. Community governments can reach out to the MACA Regional Office to request assistance with a tabletop exercise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updating the Community Emergency Plan template and Instruction Manual to incorporate a process for a self-directed annual plan update and incorporation of an Essential Services Continuity Plan template. • Currently updating community pandemic planning support materials including the Communicable Disease Plan template. • Continued testing of the NWT public alerting system, development of wildfire and flood alert templates in partnership with communities and use of the system to issue broadcast intrusive alerts. • Continued efforts to seek feedback and identify opportunities for improvements after emergency events. <p>MACA supports community governments to update plans and to improve their capacity through workshops and table-top-exercises at a community's request. The GNWT's emergency management approach incorporates anticipated impacts of climate change. Where available, MACA shares predictive / forecasting information and tools with community governments.</p> <p>MACA continues to work with the federal government to encourage changes in funding</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>programs that support planning efforts for disaster mitigation and adaptation.</p> <p>MACA continues to support implementation of the 2030 NWT Climate Change Strategic Framework. Related activities in the Strategy include: support for improved community participation in research and monitoring initiatives, the completion of hazard mapping for vulnerable communities, increased monitoring of climate change impacts on community shorelines, transportation system assets and building foundations, and improved wildfire suppression planning and adoption of FireSmart principles in communities.</p> |
| ST-23-19-10-I | Adaptation Plans | <p>WHEREAS the development of Adaptation Plans is a critical element in ensuring the resiliency of communities;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS securing funding to develop and implement Community Adaptation Plans is critical to their completion;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the GNWT identified Supporting Communities both fiscally and from a resource basis as a priority within the Pan-Territorial Adaptation Strategy;</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Federal Government should ensure that adequate funding is available to ensure that Adaptation Plans are completed for all NWT communities including a thorough evaluation of all municipal infrastructure.</p> <p>AND FURTHER THAT the GNWT assist communities to complete their Adaptation Planning and Hazard Mapping and Implementation;</p> | ENR/MACA | <p>The GNWT is working to integrate climate change adaptation into community planning, emergency plans, and operations and maintenance procedures to bring adaptation planning into implementation by working with partners to develop tools and resources that support community climate change adaptation.</p> <p>The GNWT has worked with Environment and Climate Change Canada to develop community climate profiles, which are now available on NWTAC’s website.</p> <p>The GNWT continues to support hazard mapping through a Tuktoyaktuk hazard mapping pilot study and is exploring options to prioritize and advance climate change risk assessment(s) at various scales. Risk</p> | <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>RE-AFFIRM – more work is needed on this resolution. NWTAC will work with the GNWT to further action on this resolution.</p> <p>The GNWT continues to support community adaptation planning, and integration of climate change considerations into emergency plans, asset management and operations and maintenance procedures. The GNWT works with the NWTAC and communities to develop tools and resources that support community climate change adaptation. As part of this, MACA continues to work with Public Safety Canada and Infrastructure Canada by encouraging changes in funding programs that</p> |

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| | | <p>AND FURTHER THAT the GNWT explore opportunities to assist communities through the development of various tools.</p> | | <p>assessments will help to prioritize risks and strategically focus resources to build resilience and adapt to climate change.</p> <p>The GNWT also supports community governments that are developing projects to address specific climate changes risks.</p> <p>Federal, territorial, and other funding will continue to be pursued to support communities to plan for their climate change adaptation needs.</p> | <p>support planning efforts for disaster mitigation and adaptation.</p> <p>MACA led a high-level climate change vulnerability assessment of impacts on public and community infrastructure within the boundaries of the 33 communities of the NWT. Risk maps were provided for every community to illustrate the spatial extent of hazards and the locations of infrastructure at risk, as well as a list of medium/high risks identified, proposed adaptation measures, and recommendations for future work to address identified data gaps. The findings of this assessment will support communities in making informed decisions about their existing and future infrastructure. The report: “Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Infrastructure in all NWT Communities” is available online.</p> <p>The NWT Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (HIRA) identifies risks, including climate change driven risk, that pose the greatest threat to the people, property, environment, and economy of the NWT. In 2021-22, work to update HIRA included engagement with communities.</p> <p>The GNWT is supporting climate adaptation in community asset management procedures.</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>Many GNWT departments supported the NWTAC Climate Change and Asset Management conference (November 2022) to ensure that collaboration and linkages between GNWT climate initiatives and community concerns are made on key climate risks.</p> <p>MACA also supports community governments while they plan their infrastructure priorities through the capital planning process, as well as with project implementation and applications for funding. Community governments continued to develop land use plans and strategic plans that consider climate-related risks and priorities, which influence the priorities that are represented on community government capital plans.</p> <p>The GNWT, in collaboration with the NWTAC, is working to enhance the integration of climate change considerations into land-use planning. Development of a Community Land-use Planning Guide is in the early stages of development. The GNWT is also advocating for funding for planning for mitigation and adaptation to the impacts of climate change, including relocation of community assets.</p> <p>The GNWT supports adaptation planning to address climate health impacts. The Climate Change Health and Vulnerability Assessment</p> |

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| | | | | | for the NWT was completed in 2021. The final report is forthcoming and provides a baseline assessment of the current availability of essential health services and provides next steps for assessing the resilience of these services during extreme weather and climate-related events. In addition, the Cleaner Air Sheltering in the NWT report was completed in 2021-22. HSS, in collaboration with MACA, will provide guidance on resources and standards pertaining to indoor air quality. |
| ST-23-19-12 | Navigator for energy funding and involvement in funding discussions | <p>WHEREAS it is difficult for the Arctic Energy Alliance to acquire data to report on community energy profiles, and some types of reporting is impossible due to formats and other restrictions on the data;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS information on community energy use is a critical part of energy planning and supports efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS energy use data as it is currently received is generalized by company and region/territory;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the Department of Finance is an important partner in the collection, interpretation and dissemination of information to support decision-making on energy for the GNWT and all NWT communities and residents;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS the GNWT is collecting data for their carbon tax program and to support federal requirements to report on greenhouse gas emissions;</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the GNWT modify the legislation necessary to allow for the collection and sharing of aggregated energy data to enable partners, including the Arctic Energy Alliance and community governments to fully</p> | ENR/ INF | <p>The 2030 Energy Strategy, the Energy Action Plan, and the 2030 NWT Climate Change Strategic Framework were developed through extensive joint public engagements that included regional workshops with residents, communities, businesses, Indigenous governments and other stakeholders across the NWT.</p> <p>GNWT-led projects are primarily prioritized in the 2030 Energy Strategy in terms of cost effectiveness such as greenhouse gas reduced per dollar invested. There are other factors as well, and the GNWT has to balance competing and often shifting factors in its decision making. The GNWT also consider the following factors for GNWT-led projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community and Indigenous government engagement, participation, involvement and approval • Energy security and reliability • Energy affordability | <p>The 2030 Energy Strategy, the Energy Action Plan, and the 2030 NWT Climate Change Strategic Framework were developed through extensive joint public engagements that included regional workshops with residents, communities, businesses, Indigenous governments and other stakeholders across the NWT.</p> <p>GNWT-led projects are primarily prioritized in the 2030 Energy Strategy in terms of cost effectiveness such as greenhouse gas reduced per dollar invested. There are other factors as well, and the GNWT has to balance competing and often shifting factors in its decision making. The GNWT also consider the following factors for GNWT-led projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community and Indigenous government engagement, participation, involvement and approval • Energy security and reliability • Energy affordability |

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| | | <p>participate in tracking and goal setting with respect to Energy.</p> <p>AND FURTHER THAT the GNWT provide clarification on how data will be collected and shared for their carbon tax program and greenhouse gas emissions reporting.</p> | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project complexity and likelihood of success • Stakeholder and community interests and needs <p>The GNWT will be annually updating its three-year Energy Action Plan based on changing circumstances to transparently inform the public. The GNWT will also report annually on progress to remain accountable. We welcome input from communities about their priorities and what they would like to see in the Energy Action Plan.</p> <p>The GNWT undertakes appropriate community engagement before major energy projects are advanced. GNWT will always attempt to accommodate a community’s request to take part in a GNWT or utility led project.</p> <p>If communities wishes to lead their own energy projects, there is a significant amount of funding available through the GNWT’s Government GHG Grant Program, the Arctic Energy Alliance community funding, and through the Community Energy Efficiency Upgrades funded under federal Infrastructure programs administered through Municipal and Community Affairs, as well as through federal sources such as Natural Resources Canada and CanNor.</p> <p>The GNWT and the Arctic Energy Alliance currently take an active role in supporting communities in reaching their energy-related goals and objectives. If a community wishes to apply for GNWT and Arctic Energy Alliance funding, the community can ask for support</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project complexity and likelihood of success • Stakeholder and community interests and needs <p>The GNWT will be annually updating its three-year Energy Action Plan based on changing circumstances to transparently inform the public. The GNWT will also report annually on progress to remain accountable. We welcome input from communities about their priorities and what they would like to see in the Energy Action Plan.</p> <p>The GNWT undertakes appropriate community engagement before major energy projects are advanced. GNWT will always attempt to accommodate a community’s request to take part in a GNWT or utility led project.</p> <p>If communities wishes to lead their own energy projects, there is a significant amount of funding available through the GNWT’s Government GHG Grant Program, the Arctic Energy Alliance community funding, and through the Community Energy Efficiency Upgrades funded under federal Infrastructure programs administered through Municipal and Community Affairs, as well as through federal sources such as Natural Resources Canada and CanNor.</p> <p>The GNWT and the Arctic Energy Alliance currently take an active role in supporting communities in reaching their energy-related goals and objectives. If a community wishes to apply for GNWT and Arctic Energy Alliance funding, the community can ask for support and</p> |

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| | | | | <p>and it will be provided, including advice on which fund would be most appropriate.</p> <p>Should a community wish to apply for federal funding, the GNWT and the AEA are available to provide advice on where to apply and letters of support, as well as some technical support as appropriate for both the application process and for project implementation.</p> | <p>it will be provided, including advice on which fund would be most appropriate.</p> <p>Should a community wish to apply for federal funding, the GNWT and the AEA are available to provide advice on where to apply and letters of support, as well as some technical support as appropriate for both the application process and for project implementation.</p> <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>STANDING – NWTAC will continue to monitor this resolution and review any changes that impact this resolution.</p> |
| ST-23-17-05 | Shoreline Erosion | <p>WHEREAS some communities in the NWT are facing riverbank and soil erosion issues;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS communities are facing huge costs associated with addressing these issues posing significant risks to essential infrastructure, caused by erosion in various forms;</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the GNWT make it their priority to find funding, in particular with other stakeholders to remediate or mitigate these concerns.</p> | MACA/ENR | <p>The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) is establishing a partnership with Natural Resources Canada to acquire coastal erosion and sea level rise data to inform hazard mapping and adaptation.</p> <p>Coastal erosion will be included in the Tuktoyaktuk hazard map pilot project, and shoreline erosion will be considered in other community hazard maps as they are developed.</p> <p>Riverbank and soil erosion are ongoing natural processes that can be accelerated by human activities. Depending on where infrastructure is located, it may be vulnerable to increased erosion in the future by sea level rise, melting permafrost or flooding of river systems due to climate change.</p> <p>The Department of Environment and Natural</p> | <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>RE-AFFIRM – NWTAC will continue to work on this resolution. Climate change is a priority of the NWTAC.</p> <p>The GNWT will continue to work closely with community governments to address climate change impacts.</p> <p>Hazard mapping work being conducted by the GNWT in strong collaboration with communities on flood and permafrost thaw will contribute to advance this resolution.</p> <p>Coastal erosion models continue to be developed (and improved) using high-resolution satellite imagery, providing a baseline understanding of landscape changes taking place in the vicinity of archaeological sites and promoting an informed approach to</p> |

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| | | | | <p>Resources (ENR) can work with the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA), and community governments to help identify vulnerable areas and prepare adaptation plans to reduce risks. In the event MACA undertakes work associated with the protection or relocation of infrastructure affected by erosion, ENR could contribute technical input to this process.</p> <p>MACA has re-established its Community Planning Unit, within the new Community Governance Division. Land use planning is one of the most effective processes to facilitate local adaptation to climate change. Land use planning refers to the processes and instruments to manage the use of land and the physical development of a community.</p> <p>Shoreline Erosion issues can and should be taken into consideration when community governments update their community land use planning tools, including: community plans, zoning bylaws, development permits, and other development policies that may be used to minimize risks to communities in these areas experiencing erosion, landslides and other natural hazards.</p> <p>As the climate changes, so will the frequency and magnitude of climate- related hazards, posing a challenge for communities and residents on the NWT.</p> | <p>site monitoring efforts. NRCan is doing this work.</p> <p>Several new coastal erosion risk assessments have been completed using the Long-Term Change Detection (LTCO) product and high-resolution satellite imagery. Furthermore, work is now underway to conduct a quantitative comparison of the LTCO results alongside historical models of shoreline change developed by the Cultural Places Program, to verify the utility of LTCO data in detecting coastal erosion at known archaeological sites.</p> <p>NWT EMO supports communities who require assistance in updating and reviewing their plans annually by providing a Community Emergency Planning Template and offering Community Emergency Planning Workshops. The EMO’s Community Emergency Planning Template incorporates a method for communities to identify and rank hazards including climate change related hazards (e.g. floods, blizzards, wildland fires, permafrost thaw, coastal erosion).</p> <p>The GNWT is taking action by updating the Hazard Identification Risk Assessment and supporting hazard mapping in land use plans and community plans.</p> <p>The GNWT has also completed high-level reports for community infrastructure risk assessments and will support communities to develop sustainability and mitigation plans for their infrastructure most at risk.</p> |

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| | | | | <p>For communities susceptible to flooding/erosion, MACA has annually shared information on any funding opportunities related to mitigation programs. MACA continues to work with Public Safety Canada by encouraging changes in funding programs that support planning efforts for disaster mitigation and adaptation.</p> <p>In addition, in a broader planning context, the updating of community plans is gas tax fund eligible within the terms of the 2014-2023 Agreement. MACA also encourages the community to use their annual Capital Planning</p> <p>Process and funding allocations to identify projects that will support the mitigation of shoreline erosion especially where it relates to protecting core community public infrastructure.</p> <p>MACA will continue to ensure that community governments are aware of these funding opportunities, as well as new federal funding that may apply, and encourage communities to discuss these matters with the MACA Regional Offices.</p> <p>Ground instability poses major risks to land use and development and reinforces the importance of integrating natural hazard management into land-use development and planning policies, particularly as there are few mitigation measures that can be implemented to address major ground</p> | <p>The GNWT is advocating for funding for planning for mitigation and adaptation to the impacts of climate change, including relocation of community assets. As a part of this, MACA will continue to ensure that community governments are aware of these funding opportunities, as well as new federal funding that may apply, and encourage communities to discuss these matters with the MACA Regional Offices.</p> |

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| | | | | movement events that can happen with little or no warning. | |
| ST-23-17-12 | UNDRIP as a guide for NWT | <p>WHEREAS the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous peoples (UNDRIP) was passed by the United Nations general assembly on September 13,2017, and</p> <p>WHEREAS the Canadian government and the legislative assembly of the NWT also passed and endorsed the declaration that supports all indigenous Peoples, and</p> <p>WHEREAS lands, resources and community governments in the NWT are directly affected by self-government negotiations and agreements, and</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NWT Association of Communities hereby fully endorses and supports the UNDRIP as a guide in the negotiations with the indigenous peoples of the NWT</p> | EIA | No response. | <p>As described in the GNWT’s 2019-2023 Mandate, the GNWT is committed to further identifying, prioritizing and strengthening keys actions to further implement UNDRIP work with Indigenous governments, including creating and implementing an action plan that identifies changes required in GNWT legislation and policies to best reflect the principles set out in UNDRIP. The GNWT is anticipating developing a Terms of Reference (TOR) for a Working Group with Indigenous governments in 2020.</p> <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>STANDING – NWTAC will continue to monitor this resolution and bring forward this resolution when this legislation is being addressed in the future.</p> |
| ST-23-17-25 | Decentralization of Jobs and Services | <p>WHEREAS: as long as the GNWT has a policy to support decentralization of government Services and positions; and</p> <p>WHEREAS Communities rely on economic decentralization to support their local economies,</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the GNWT put greater emphasis on ensuring that GNWT positions are equitably distributed throughout the NWT Communities.</p> | EIA | <p>The GNWT continues to reallocate positions to communities and looks to establish new positions in regional centers and other communities whenever it is appropriate to do so. Where it makes economic sense or the reallocation of a position can be justified in order to meet new service delivery requirements the GNWT will follow through with this commitment.</p> <p>An example of this process in action has been the establishment of 23 Government Service Officer positions at the community level in the NWT over the past several years.</p> | <p>The GNWT continues to reallocate positions to communities and looks to establish new positions in regional centers and other communities whenever it is appropriate to do so. Where it makes economic sense or the reallocation of a position can be justified in order to meet new service delivery requirements, the GNWT will follow through with this commitment.</p> <p>An example of this process in action has been the establishment of 23 Government Service Officer positions at the community level in the NWT over the past several years. In 2016 the GNWT also introduced the Regional Recruitment Program, a training and development initiative that creates</p> |

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| | | | | In 2016 the GNWT also introduced the Regional Recruitment Program, a training and development initiative that creates employment opportunities for potential employees by linking vacant regional positions with relevant on-the-job work experience. | employment opportunities for potential employees by linking vacant regional positions with relevant on-the-job work experience. NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation: The GNWT Has answered this resolution the same way for the past three years. The GNWT feels the intent of this resolution has been met. STANDING – NWTAC will continue to monitor this resolution and bring forward this resolution when this legislation is being addressed in the future. |
| ST-23-09-08 | Plumbing Inspections | <p>WHEREAS the GNWT provides for licensing, regulation and inspection services for gas and electrical installations, for the purpose of public safety and assurance of quality services; and,</p> <p>WHEREAS licensing, regulation and inspection services are not provided by the GNWT for the installation of plumbing services and fixtures; and,</p> <p>WHEREAS the lack of licensing, regulation and inspection services for plumbing is resulting in unnecessary maintenance and repair expenses for homeowners and others due to shoddy and substandard plumbing works; and,</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the NWT Association of Communities urges the GNWT to immediately implement a licensing, regulation and inspection service for all new plumbing installations to a minimum standard of the National Plumbing Code of Canada, and that such services be provided to all NWT Communities by the GNWT, where appropriate.</p> | MACA | <p>The Government of the Northwest Territories does not have any legislation that could be used to regulate plumbing services. Municipal legislation provides municipal governments with the authority to pass bylaws to adopt in whole or in part, a code such as the National Plumbing Code or standard made or recommended by the Government of the Northwest Territories, Canada or a province.</p> <p>The City of Yellowknife, for example, requires plumbers and plumbing companies to get a Mechanical Permit when undertaking plumbing work within their municipal boundaries. When applying for the permit, the contractor has to provide sufficient information that the work will conform to Yellowknife’s by-laws, the National Building Code and the National Plumbing Code. Inspections are also required by the permit. Municipal governments, therefore, have all the legal authority they require to regulate plumbing work and they can do it by passing a by-law.</p> | <p>The Government of the Northwest Territories does not have any legislation that could be used to regulate plumbing services. Municipal legislation provides municipal governments with the authority to pass bylaws to adopt in whole or in part, a code such as the National Plumbing Code or standard made or recommended by the Government of the Northwest Territories, Canada or a province.</p> <p>The City of Yellowknife, for example, requires plumbers and plumbing companies to get a Mechanical Permit when undertaking plumbing work within their municipal boundaries. When applying for the permit, the contractor has to provide sufficient information that the work will conform to Yellowknife’s by-laws, the National Building Code and the National Plumbing Code. Inspections are also required by the permit. Municipal governments, therefore, have all the legal authority they require to regulate plumbing work and they can do it by passing a by-law.</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>STANDING – NWTAC will continue to monitor this resolution and bring forward this resolution when this legislation is being addressed in the future.</p> |
| ST-23-01-07 | Permanent Stationary Placement of a Community Registered Nurse | <p>WHEREAS remote communities in the Northwest Territories are experiencing the deepest impact from the national nurses shortage, often leaving the community with no experienced health care provider; and</p> <p>WHEREAS remote communities in the Northwest Territories already experience health standards far below the national average, the impact of the nurse’s shortage has dramatically effected the overall situation in these communities.</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Northwest Territories Association of Communities urge the government of the Northwest Territories, Department of Health & Social Services and other relevant governmental bodies to assist in ensuring permanent stationary placement of a community Registered Nurse in all northern communities within the Northwest Territories.</p> | HSS | <p>Several challenges arise when striving to provide healthcare services in small communities and these challenges are not unique to the Northwest Territories. In many of small, more remote NWT communities, there is concern not only with access to routine care, but particularly with the capacity to respond to a medical emergency when such an event occurs. Programs such as Med Response facilitate immediate, around-the-clock access to physician support and emergency services, including medevac services. Through referral processes and medical travel services, all residents of the NWT have access to specialist and allied health services in the larger regional centres.</p> <p>Healthcare is provided to residents in communities without a permanent nurse through nurse visits and also by the Community Health Representative, Community Health Worker and/or a Community Support Worker who reside in the community.</p> <p>There are additional initiatives to balance scopes of practice for healthcare providers in small communities. One such initiative is the Tsiigehtchic emergency services pilot project, which was organized in response to residents’ requests for full-time nursing staff. The Department, the Northwest Territories Health</p> | <p>Several challenges arise when striving to provide healthcare services in small communities and these challenges are not unique to the Northwest Territories. In many of small, more remote NWT communities, there is concern not only with access to routine care, but particularly with the capacity to respond to a medical emergency when such an event occurs. Programs such as Med Response facilitate immediate, around-the-clock access to physician support and emergency services, including medevac services. Through referral processes and medical travel services, all residents of the NWT have access to specialist and allied health services in the larger regional centres.</p> <p>Healthcare is provided to residents in communities without a permanent nurse through nurse visits and also by the Community Health Representative, Community Health Worker and/or a Community Support Worker who reside in the community.</p> <p>There are additional initiatives to balance scopes of practice for healthcare providers in small communities. One such initiative is the Tsiigehtchic emergency services pilot project, which was organized in response to residents’ requests for full-time nursing staff. The Department, the Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority (NTHSSA), members</p> |

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| | | | | <p>and Social Services Authority (NTHSSA), members of the Beaufort Delta Region, and Tsiigehtchic leaders are have been working together to explore an approach to emergency health care in Tsiigehtchic that is uniquely suited to Tsiigehtchic. The goal is to develop a new approach to emergency care that is tailored to meet community needs for care and emergency services in communities without resident nurses. The proposed approach incorporates first responder education for community members. The Community Based Emergency Care (CBEC) project has been piloted in Tsiigehtchic to help the community better respond to emergency situations.</p> <p>Phase one of the CBEC project in Tsiigehtchic was completed on June 30, 2017, The working group members include the Department of Health and Social Services (Department), the NTHSSA, the Charter Community of Tsiigehtchic, the Gwichya Gwich'in Council, and Tsiigehtchic community members.</p> <p>The second phase of the project commenced in mid-October, 2018 and was completed at the end of March 2019. This phase of the project focused on capacity-building and planning.</p> <p>The Community Based Emergency Care training was delivered during the week of February 25th, 2019, 16 community members attended the training. Upon completion of the course participants received a custom Community Based Emergency Care certificate as well as a certificate in First Aid from the Canadian Red Cross.</p> | <p>of the Beaufort Delta Region, and Tsiigehtchic leaders are have been working together to explore an approach to emergency health care in Tsiigehtchic that is uniquely suited to Tsiigehtchic. The goal is to develop a new approach to emergency care that is tailored to meet community needs for care and emergency services in communities without resident nurses. The proposed approach incorporates first responder education for community members. The Community Based Emergency Care (CBEC) project has been piloted in Tsiigehtchic to help the community better respond to emergency situations.</p> <p>Phase one of the CBEC project in Tsiigehtchic was completed on June 30, 2017, The working group members include the Department of Health and Social Services (Department), the NTHSSA, the Charter Community of Tsiigehtchic, the Gwichya Gwich'in Council, and Tsiigehtchic community members.</p> <p>The second phase of the project commenced in mid-October, 2018 and was completed at the end of March 2019. This phase of the project focused on capacity-building and planning.</p> <p>The Community Based Emergency Care training was delivered during the week of February 25th, 2019, 16 community members attended the training. Upon completion of the course participants received a custom Community Based Emergency Care certificate as well as a certificate in First Aid from the Canadian Red Cross.</p> <p>Target populations identified to participate in the training were members of the Rangers, municipal</p> |

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| | | | | <p>Target populations identified to participate in the training were members of the Rangers, municipal workers, councilors, and other community members. The community Working Group members worked within their community to identify course participants. The SAO coordinated registration for the course.</p> <p>From the program evaluation the participants expressed a high level of satisfaction with the course and felt it was quite valuable.</p> <p>The Department is anticipating a final program report that will contain the program curriculum, course evaluation and recommendations for future offerings.</p> | <p>workers, councilors, and other community members. The community Working Group members worked within their community to identify course participants. The SAO coordinated registration for the course.</p> <p>From the program evaluation the participants expressed a high level of satisfaction with the course and felt it was quite valuable.</p> <p>The Department is anticipating a final program report that will contain the program curriculum, course evaluation and recommendations for future offerings.</p> <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation: STANDING – NWTAC will continue to monitor this resolution and bring forward this resolution when this legislation is being addressed in the future.</p> |
| ST-23-01-11 | Permanent Placement of a Community RCMP Officer | <p>WHEREAS several remote municipalities have not had a permanent stationary police officer to effectively, monitor and enforce laws and various legislation; and</p> <p>WHEREAS the absences of proper police protection can sometimes put un-due stress on community residents.</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Northwest Territories Association of Communities urge the Government of the Northwest Territories, Department of Justice, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and other relevant government bodies within all levels of government for a permanent Police Officer in all remote communities within the NWT.</p> | DOJ | <p>The Department of Justice continues to be committed to working in partnership with the RCMP and community residents on policing services and local justice programming to enhance safety in communities. As a government, we are committed to ensuring each person has access to policing services, regardless of where they live. Although some of our smaller communities may not have permanent RCMP detachments, they receive policing services through regular patrols from adjacent communities, or by having members dedicated to the community who may spend several days per week in that community.</p> | <p>The Department of Justice continues to work with the RCMP and communities to provide policing services and local justice programming to each community in the NWT. The Department of Justice has been able to secure funding under the First Nations Policing Program to create 5 new RCMP positions across the NWT. These positions will not be physically located in small communities but will be posted to hub locations that will serve outlying communities. The RCMP remains committed to a strategic approach to patrolling small communities that promotes community safety and health.</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>STANDING – NWTAC will continue to monitor this resolution and bring forward this resolution when this legislation is being addressed in the future.</p> |
| ST-23-98-12 | Limiting the Time Available to the Territorial Assessment Appeal Tribunal to Reach a Decision | <p>WHEREAS the current provisions of the Property Assessment and Taxation Act provide for the establishment of a Territorial Assessment Appeal Tribunal; and</p> <p>WHEREAS the Tribunal has historically experienced some delays in hearing appeals on property assessments, thereby causing some delays in concluding taxation claims against properties subject to appeals; and</p> <p>WHEREAS this uncertainty has continued in some instances for more than one year because of delays in hearing appeals.</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the NWTAC petition the GNWT to amend the <i>Property Assessment and Taxation Act</i> such that the Tribunal be granted a period of no more than six months from the time of the deadline of appeals during which it must rule on said appeals.</p> | MACA | <p>A legislative review of <i>the Property Assessment and Taxation Act</i> has not been identified as a priority during the 18th Legislative Assembly and has not been put on MACA’s list of legislative priorities.</p> <p>Due in part to capacity, but also due to the number of Acts that MACA administers, it has become necessary for MACA to prioritize its legislative initiatives. During this year’s NWT Association of Communities AGM, MACA did facilitate an interactive session with delegates to begin to gather input on legislation issues impacting community governments. This is the beginning of an engagement process that will contribute to establishing legislative priorities for the 19th Legislative Assembly.</p> <p>MACA is aware that the NWT Association of Communities has passed as many as eight (8) resolutions that may impact the <i>Property Assessment and Taxation Act</i>. This is important feedback that will be considered, not only as we set priorities, but also once we begin the legislative review process.</p> | <p>Due in part to capacity, but also due to the number of Acts that MACA administers, it has become necessary for MACA to prioritize its legislative initiatives. The current <i>Property Assessment and Taxation Act</i> was enacted in 1988 and has not had a comprehensive review since coming into force.</p> <p>MACA has identified some issues with the <i>Property Assessment and Taxation Act</i> legislation and the corresponding policies and procedures that lead to confusion, administrative challenges, and potentially complaints.</p> <p>MACA has initiated preliminary research to identify issues related to assessment that may require legislative or administrative solutions. This research will support the basis of a Legislative Proposal later in the 19th Assembly.</p> <p>The preliminary research includes engagement with a number of stakeholders including GNWT staff who are responsible for the implementation of the Act, the NWTAC and the public.</p> <p>MACA is also reviewing other property assessment legislation in Canada.</p> <p>MACA is aware that the NWT Association of Communities has historically passed as many as eight resolutions with considerations that may</p> |

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| | | | | | <p>impact the <i>Property Assessment and Taxation Act</i>.</p> <p>This is important feedback that will be considered, not only as we set priorities, but also once we begin the legislative review process.</p> <p>NWTAC Resolution Committee Recommendation:</p> <p>STANDING – NWTAC will continue to monitor this resolution and bring forward this resolution when this legislation is being addressed in the future.</p> |