

**NWT Association of Communities
2023 Resolutions**

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NWTAC Resolutions are divided into the following categories:

CATEGORY A Territorial Wide Municipal Issues

This category will contain resolutions on issues that are of a direct or indirect concern to all territorial Communities.

**CATEGORY B Issues which Pertain to Regional Concerns Only or Are Not
Within Municipal Jurisdiction**

This category will contain resolutions, which are of a regional concern only or are not within municipal jurisdiction. No action is taken on Category B resolutions.

CATEGORY C Matters Dealt with by the NWTAC in the Previous Three Years

This category will contain resolutions relating to specific matters, which have already been considered by the NWT Association of Communities within the previous three years.

2023-01 Senior Citizen & Vulnerable People Emergency Services and Shelters

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.

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.

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.

Submitted by: The Town of Fort Smith

Category A Concurrence

2023-02 NWT Mental Health Issue Responses

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.

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 mental health issues is incarceration at the detachment or in larger communities' confinement at a health centre.

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.

Submitted by: The Town of Fort Smith

Category A Concurrence

2023-03 Review of MTS

WHEREAS: Marine Transportation Services is responsible for the efficient delivery of fuel products and freight to Nunakput communities.

AND WHEREAS: Nunakput communities are experiencing logistical issues that bring into question the performance of MTS.

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:

- 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 sector,
- g) Comparative analysis of using road transportation to Tuktoyaktuk for furtherance to Nunakput communities (Alaska Highway, Dempster Highway, Highway 10).

Submitted by: Hamlet of Ulukhaktok

Category A Concurrence

2023-04 Community Renewable Energy Cap

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.

WHEREAS the utilization of renewable energy sources is crucial for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and mitigating the impacts of climate change;

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;

WHEREAS expanding the net-metering capacity will encourage widespread adoption of renewable energy technologies, fostering sustainable development and supporting local economies;

WHEREAS the GNWT along with the utilities have placed a cap of 20% on intermittent renewable generation out of grid stability concern,

WHEREAS most of the communities have reached that cap, and expressed this cap and associated conditions to be an impediment in achieving their energy goals,

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."

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"

WHEREAS this action item comes with associated funding as follow: 30k\$ for 22/23, none for 23/24, and none for 24/25,

WHEREAS the availability of federal funding related to renewable energy deployment is time sensitive,

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.

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.

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 of net-metering systems.

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.

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.

Submitted by: Town of Fort Smith, Village of Fort Simpson, NWTAC Board

Category A Concurrence

2023-05 – Resources must be included with Increased Engagement and Responsibilities

WHEREAS it is heartening to see the increased engagement of community governments in the design of various strategies of the GNWT

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

WHEREAS community governments are best positioned to understand the needs of their communities

WHEREAS community governments are currently underfunded to the tune of 37%

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED assigning or downloading responsibilities in GNWT strategies must be accompanied with the resources to complete them

Submitted by: NWTAC Board

Category A Concurrence