

### Municipal and Community Affairs Update

**NWT Association of Communities AGM** 

February 28, 2025

Government of Northwest Territories

#### Outline

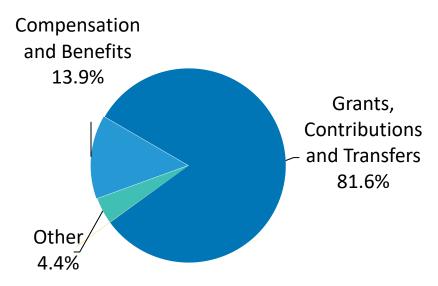
- MACA By the Numbers
- Reflections from my First Year
- Looking ahead
- 2025-26 Budget Summary
- Questions

## Reflections from the past year



## MACA by the Numbers

#### **Operation Expenditures by Category**



- \$128.5 million budget
- \$111 million for Community
   Governments
- 113 staff
- 5 regional offices
- 33 community governments
- 20 pieces of legislation
- 29 policies
- 1 great team!

#### **New Faces**



DEPUTY MINISTER: GARY BRENNAN



DIRECTOR,
CORPORATE AFFAIRS:
CATHERINE BOYD



DIRECTOR,
COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE:
MARGARET LOVELY

#### **New Faces**





LOOK WHO'S BACK!--->



DIRECTOR,
COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE:
LORIE FYFE



REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT, SOUTH SLAVE REGION: BOBBY BOURQUE



REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT, SAHTU REGION: CHRISTINA GAUDET



REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT, INUVIK REGION DANA MORAN



REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT, NORTH SLAVE REGION: TARA NAUGLER



REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT, DEHCHO REGION MELINDA LENOIR



ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER: SONYA SAUNDERS



DIRECTOR, SPORT, RECREATION AND YOUTH: ALISON BROWN



DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY
GOVERNMENT LEARNING AND
DEVELOPMENT
ANGELA LITTLEFAIR





DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY OPERATIONS:
GRACE LAU-A



DIRECTOR, PUBLIC SAFETY JUSTIN HAZENBERG

## Remembering Ian



## 20<sup>th</sup> Assembly Legislative Priorities

- MACA Statutes Amendment Act
- Fire Prevention Act
- Real Estate Agents Licensing Act
- Emergency Management Act
- Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Act
- Property Assessment and Taxation Act (PATA) Phase 2
- Building Standards Legislation
- Gaming Legislation

## **Policy Updates**

- Grants-in-Lieu of Property Taxes Policy (GIL)
- Disaster Assistance Policy (DAP) / Disaster Assistance Funding Policy (DAFP)
- NWT Active Living Framework Implementation

#### Community Government Funding Policy Updates

- The proposed 2025-2026 budget for Community Government Funding is \$111 million:
  - \$54 million Operations and Maintenance Funding (O&M)
  - \$22 million Water and Waste Services Funding (WWS)
  - \$35 million Community Public Infrastructure Funding (CPI)
- Amendments to the policies are in line with the NWTAC's resolutions for the funding policies to be updated based on the 2014 Funding Review recommendations.
- Implementation will start April 1, 2025 for WWS Funding and CPI Funding over a three year period
- No changes to O&M, except community governments currently receiving over 100% of funding
- Further review of staff housing and water and sewer rates

## Federal Infrastructure Programs

- \$117M in federal Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) funding is now fully allocated.
  - Projects must be complete by September 2033.
- 35 Small Communities Fund projects remain ongoing:
  - \$38.7M in federal funding.
  - Projects must be complete by September 2025.
- \$18.75M Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF)
- \$74M Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund (CHIF)

## **Community Planning Tools**

- MACA has developed Community Planning documents to support community planning efforts
- Community Development Framework and 7 associated guides:
  - Best Practices for Municipal Engagement
  - Understanding the GNWT duty to Consult
  - Climate Change
  - Archaeological Site Management and Protection
  - Land Development and Capital Planning
  - Accessibility and Age Friendly Design Considerations, and
  - Civic Addressing

#### **Emergency Management and Preparation**

- Significant activity over the winter, working internally and with community governments:
  - Tabletop exercise workshops
  - GNWT training
  - 2024 Updates to the NWT Emergency Plan
- Many tools in place to support community government
  - The Incident Command System online course to help community governments
  - An EMO Portal for community government administration

# Federal Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements (DFAA)

- The modernized DFAA emphasizes mitigation and resiliency.
- The updated DFAA will take effect on April 1, 2025.
- Disaster recovery activities started before April 1, 2025 will continue under the existing DFAA.
- DFAA funding is tied to eligible disaster events and cannot be accessed beforehand or outside an event.
- Eligibility for disaster assistance is determined at the time of an event and communicated by MACA.
- MACA is reviewing the changes to the DFAA and updating the GNWT Disaster Assistance Policy to align with the modernized DFAA.

# Community Government Learning and Development Restructuring

- MACA has made changes to the existing learner-centred delivery model, which will deliver the same services but reduce the department's costs.
- MACA will continue to support training for community government staff in core municipal services, including water treatment, firefighting, council training, and recreation.
- MACA's services targeting Senior Local Government Administrators will be delivered by the Local Government Administrators of the NWT (LGANT). This organization is already funded by MACA and is designed to serve that group.

## **Supporting Climate Change Projects**

- 2019-2023 Climate Change Strategic Framework
  - MACA completed 14 action items, including actions to improve knowledge, build resilience and adapt to changing climate
- Climate Resilient Coastal Communities Project (2023-2027)
  - Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour, Tuktoyaktuk, and Ulukhaktok
- Risk Based Approach to Community Planning (2024-2027)
  - Charter Community of K'asho Got'ine

## Proposed 2025-26 Budget

- 2025-26 Budget is currently being debated in Legislative Assembly
- No significant changes to community government funding
- New funding from NRCan for Coastal Community project
- Restructuring of Community Government Learning and Development Division
- NGO Stabilization Fund moved to Department of Executive and Indigenous Affairs
- Youth contribution programs moved to Department of Education, Culture and Employment

## Thank You/ Questions