

# Report for Councils

## 2026 NWTAC

### 60<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

February 26 – 28, 2026  
Yellowknife



Northwest Territories Association of Communities

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The NWTAC's 60<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM) saw more than 170 delegates and observers participating, with representation from 25 communities.

On February 25, 2026 the NWTAC hosted a Chiefs and Mayors Bootcamp, which was well attended by 21 participants.

Chiefs and Mayors Bootcamp Sessions:

- Roles and Responsibilities of the Mayor/Chief
- Working Effectively with your SAO/Band Manager
- Incivility
- The DNA of Great Leaders
- The Aptitudes of Well-Functioning Mayors
- Media Relations
- Leading/Chairing Meetings

### **Board Elections:**

The President, Mayor Kandis Jameson, and the Vice President of Cities, Towns and Villages, Deputy Mayor Mike Keizer, were acclaimed. Mayor Joseph Vince Teddy was elected Vice President of Hamlets/Charter Communities/Tlicho Government/Community Governments. Councillor Christopher Football of the Community Government of Wekweeti also ran for VP of Hamlets/Charter Communities/Tlicho Government/Community Governments.

### **The Board of Directors for 2026-2027:**

President: Mayor Kandis Jameson – Town of Hay River

Vice-President, Cities, Towns and Villages: Deputy Mayor Mike Keizer – Town of Fort Smith

Vice-President: Hamlets/Charter Communities/Tlicho Government/Community Governments: Mayor Joseph Vince Teddy – Hamlet of Tuktoyaktuk

Directors for Cities, Towns and Villages:

Mayor Ben Hendriksen – City of Yellowknife

Deputy Mayor Kathy Tsetso – Village of Fort Simpson

Directors for Hamlets/Charter Communities/Tlicho Government/Community Governments:

Mayor Raymond Ruben Sr. – Hamlet of Paulatuk

Councillor Tammy Steinwand-Deschambault – Community of Behchoko

### **Resolutions:**

The following resolutions were passed:

- 2026-01 – Medical Escort Policy & Medical Travel Priority Seating
- 2026-02 – Access to Social Work & Youth Mental Wellness Services
- 2026-03 – Return to Regional Hosting of Arctic Winter Games Trials
- 2026-04 - Conduct a Review and Improve the Current 911 Dispatch System
- 2026-05 - Enhance Wildland – Urban Interface (WUI)
- 2026-06 - Implementation of Climate Change Adaptation Measures
- 2026-07 - Riverbank/Shoreline Erosion
- 2026-08 - Tools and Support for Managing Solid Waste Facility Fires
- 2026-09 - Learning and Development for Local Government Staff

Copies of the New, Re-Affirmed, Standing and Deleted Resolutions are posted on the Resolutions page of the NWTAC website (<https://nwtac.com/resolutions>) and in the binder.

### **Awards:**

The 2026 NWTAC Awards winners are:

- MACA Community Excellence Award – Nahanni Butte Dene Band
- Community Service Award – Ian Legaree (*posthumously*)
- Community Service Award – Janine Harvey, Ulukhaktok
- Community Service Award – Glenn Smith, Hay River SAO
- Community Service Award – Mike McMartin, AON
- Community Builder Award – Mayor Peter Clarkson, Town of Inuvik
- President’s Award – Mayor Frank Pope, Town of Norman Wells
- Evelyn Krutko Mighty Warrior Award – Susan Christie, SAO Hamlet of Fort Providence
- Healthy Community Award – Dehcho First Nations’ Health and Wellness Division
- Climate Change Resilience Award – Hamlet of Tuktoyaktuk
- Energy Excellence Award – Hamlet of Paulatuk

Note: Information on the awards is available on the NWTAC website (<https://agm.toolkitnwtac.com>).

## **PRESENTATIONS:**

### **Thursday, February 26, 2026**

**Practices of Civility – Ian McCormack.** Civility in local governments has become increasingly more of a problem over the past few years. Understanding the problem and seeing what is behind this increasingly poor behaviour are key to being able to return civility to our councils and the public in our communities.

**Thebacha Leadership Council** — Presentation on the latest about the Leadership Council in Fort Smith: How to facilitate collaboration and implement a shared community vision & CIER Energy Insights Program.

**Business Showcase** — Visit with various Businesses over the Lunch hour in the Caribou Room Lobby.

**Integrated Power Systems Planning** — Information from Arctic Energy Alliance, NAKA Power Utilities, NTPC and the GNWT about planning for electricity in the NWT.

### **AGM Official Business**

- Opening Prayer – Yellowknife Dene Drummers
- Welcome from President Mayor Jameson
- Welcome from the Government of the Northwest Territories
- Welcome from the City of Yellowknife
- Welcome from Yellowknives Dene First Nation
- Welcome and Remarks from Deputy Commissioner Abbie Crook
- Adoption of Agenda
- President's Report
- Adoption of the 2024 AGM Minutes
- Adoption of the 2023/2024 Financial Statements
- Presentation of the 2025/2026 Budget
- First Call for Nominations

### **Opening Reception & Auction**

**Friday, February 27, 2026**

**Interactive Sessions**

- Marine Transportation Services – 2026 Operational Update
- NWT Housing – Hybrid Housing Systems
- Canadian Security Intelligence Service/NRCAN – Building partnerships with Federal Agencies
- NWT Recreation and Parks – Cool Clean Air Shelters
- Federation of Canadian Municipalities- Updates and Feedback
- Local Government Administrators of the NWT - Updates
- MACA – Multi-Sport Games
- MACA – iGaming
- RCMP – Emergency Response by RCMP in NWT Communities
- NWT Chief Public Health Officer – Community conversations around Substance Use Toolkit
- Environmental Health – Drinking Water
- OCPHO – Training for Non-HSSA Community Health Workers
- Red Cross – Supporting you during Emergencies
- ECC – Climate Change Library and Help Desk

**Presentation by Minister Olszewski – Minister of Emergency Management and Community Resilience**

**Keynote Speaker –** Jordin Tootoo openly shares his journey from rising star and fan favourite to losing it all, including his addiction and fight to claim sobriety. This is the story of family, mentors, and tragedy, and one man's journey to understand how his past struggles gave him the strength to find his own truth.

**Northern Communities Insurance Program Update –** Shirley Fontaine, Insurance Manager

**Municipal and Community Affairs Update –** Minister Vince McKay

**Saturday, February 28, 2026**

**Interactive Sessions**

- NWTAC – Funding and Partnerships to address climate change risks
- MACA – Community Transport Initiative
- MACA – Emergency Management – Hosting Evacuated Communities/Eligible Costs
- ECC – Forestry
- Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Green Municipal Fund
- Arctic Energy Alliance – How can AEA programs support you?
- NT Energy – Renewable Energy and Support for Communities
- NTPC – Renewable Energy and Support for Communities
- AON First Nations Program – Band Communities can ask questions of the Program
- Community Foundation – Share how the Foundation can support your program
- BROWNLEE LLP – Ask questions of our lawyers
- National Research Council Canada – Partnerships & Opportunities

**Election of Directors**

**NWTAC Prior Year Resolutions**

**2026 Resolution Session**

**NWTAC Annual Report**—Sara Brown, CEO

**Special Guests:** Remarks from NWT Member of Parliament Rebecca Alty, and NWT Senator Margaret Dawn Anderson.

**Open Discussions with GNWT Cabinet**

- Minister Caroline Wawzonek (Deputy Premier, Finance, Infrastructure, NTPC)
- Minister Lucy Kuptana (Housing NWT, Status of Women)
- Minister Jay Macdonald (Environment & Climate Change)
- Minister Vince McKay (Municipal and Community Affairs, WSCC, Public Utilities Board)
- Minister Lesa Semmler (Health & Social Services)
- John MacDonald, Secretary to Cabinet, Executive and Indigenous Affairs

- DM Jamie Fulford (Education, Culture & Employment)
- Melissa Cyr, Assistant Deputy Minister – Economic Development, Industry, Tourism & Investment)

The cabinet discussion was live-streamed and included the following topics:

- Shelters & Transitional Housing
- Housing & Lands
- Drug Crisis
- Arctic Sovereignty & Security Issues
- Income Support and Assistance
- Shrinking Barging Season and Impacts
- Challenges faced by Social Workers (including lack of housing, shelter space)
- Property Taxes
- Amending Foster Family Applications
- Community Development / Self-Reliance / Importance as Partners
- Housing Authorities vs. Advisory

Closing -- *Banquet and Awards*

A copy of the AGM Agenda and Program is posted on the NWTAC website:

<https://nwtac.com/annual-general-meeting>.

Copies of PowerPoint presentations delivered by presenters will be posted on the NWTAC website when available: <https://nwtac.com/past-annual-general-meetings>.