



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

More than 120 participate in 47th Annual NWTAC AGM, 3rd Community Builder Awards Presented

HAY RIVER, NT (May 13, 2013) – More than 120 registered delegates representing 24 NWT communities as well as government and business representatives took part in the NWT Association of Communities' (NWTAC) 47th Annual General Meeting (AGM) on May 9-12, 2013 in the Town of Hay River.

This year's AGM saw the re-election of Tuktoyaktuk Mayor Merven Gruben as President of the NWTAC.

The 47th NWTAC AGM also saw the re-election of Board Members:

- Vice President, Charter Communities/Hamlets/Settlements – Mayor Tina Gargan, Hamlet of Fort Providence;
- Vice President, Cities/Towns/Villages – Councillor Clarence Wood, Town of Inuvik;
- Director, Cities/Towns/Villages – Councillor Vince McKay, Town of Hay River;
- Director, Cities/Towns/Villages – Councillor Bob Brooks, City of Yellowknife, and
- Director, Hamlets/Charter Communities/Tlichio Government/ Community Government – Chief Leonard Kenny, Charter Community of Deline.

The remaining members of the NWTAC Board of Directors are:

- Director, Charter Communities/Hamlets – Mayor Ray Ruben Sr., Hamlet of Paulatuk, and
- President, Local Government Administrators of the NWT (ex-officio) – Grant Hood, SAO, Town of Inuvik.

The theme of this year's AGM was "Economic Development: Work, Grow, Thrive – Fostering Economic Opportunities in Your Community."

Highlights of the AGM included:

- Elected Officials Workshop on "Personal Responsibilities of Elected Officials,"
- ITI presentation on Economic Opportunities Strategy and Come Make Your Mark campaign,
- Presentation by the Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation on their Local Emergency Management Consultation,
- Devolution update by Martin Goldney, Executive Director of Devolution Negotiations,
- Presentation on NorthwesTel's Modernization Plan by Mark Walker, Vice President of Government and Aboriginal Affairs,

- NTPC update on Liquid Natural Gas, transmission line build out, LED street lights and asset condition assessment,
- NWTAC's Insurance Program and Asset Management Program,
- Program updates from Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA)
- Presentation by Kirby Marshall of Global Storm IT on how technology can help and hinder work performance and productivity,
- Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) update,
- Integrated Community Sustainability Plans (ICSP) update,
- Presentation on the Purchasing Program offered to NWT communities by the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties and the NWTAC, and
- NWT Tourism Update by Executive Director Brian Desjardins.

Delegates representing NWTAC Member Communities passed resolutions to deal with the following issues:

- Regulation of Massage Therapy Providers,
- Review and Amendment of the *Property Assessment and Taxation Act*,
- Use of Local Improvement Charges to Assist Residents and Businesses in Implementing Energy Efficiency Retrofits and /or Renewable Energy Technologies
- Water and Sewer Services Funding,
- Highway Rescue Services,
- Community Funding Levels, and
- NorthwesTel Modernization Plan.

The NWTAC is proud to support volunteerism and each year the NWT Outstanding Volunteer Awards are presented in conjunction with our AGM. For more details, visit: <http://www.maca.gov.nt.ca>.

Through the support of NTPC, the 47th AGM also saw the presentation of the NWTAC's third annual Community Builder Awards to:

- President's Award – Environment and Natural Resources Recycling Program,
- Community Builder Award – Merven Gruben, Mayor of Tuktoyaktuk,
- Community Service Award – AON Canada,
- Community Service Award – Brownlee LLP,
- Roll of Honour (Long Service Award) – Gordon Van Tighem, former Mayor of Yellowknife and NWTAC President, and
- Roll of Honour (Long Service Award) – Yvette (Gonzalez) Hayden, former NWTAC CEO.

The 48th NWTAC AGM will be held in Inuvik on May 8-11, 2014.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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