



MEETING AOC 126-19-21

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT**

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**TUESDAY MAY 25, 2021**  
**COMMITTEE ROOM 'A', LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
**7:00 PM**

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**AGENDA**

1. Prayer
2. Review and Adoption of Agenda
3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
4. Public Matters
  - a) Public Briefing on Government of the Northwest Territories Response to Floods with the Hon. Paulie Chinna, Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, and the Hon. Caroline Cochrane, Premier
5. In-Camera Matters
  - a) Wrap-up Discussion
6. New Business
  - i.
  - ii.
  - iii.
7. Date and Time of Next Meeting: May 26, 2021, 9:00 am
8. Adjournment



# GNWT Response to Floods

**May 25, 2021**

**Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight**

Government of  
Northwest Territories

# Overview / Definitions

## Overview of Presentation

- Emergency Management structure; roles and responsibilities
- Current status – 2021 flood season
- Priorities

## Definitions

- EMO – Emergency Management Organization
- ICS – Incident Command System
- TPC – Territorial Planning Committee
- TEOC – Territorial Emergency Operations Centre
- REOC – Regional Emergency Operations Centre



# Emergency Management Act

- Powers and duties of Minister and Local Authorities
- Establishment of an Emergency Management Organization
  - Head of EMO
  - Powers and duties
- Establishment of a Territorial Planning Committee
- Declaration of States of Emergency (Local and Territorial)
  - Direction and control of emergency operations
  - Extraordinary powers



# Local Authorities

The elected councils of community governments are the Local Authority for the purposes of the Act, and as such are responsible for the development and implementation of community emergency plans to reasonably protect the general public, and minimize property damage and loss during emergencies.

- Have an emergency management organization (emergency response committee)
- Appoint a local coordinator
- Have emergency plans and programs



# NWT Emergency Plan

Provides the structure and guidelines on how the GNWT and its partners work together to support community governments and meet a collective responsibility in responding to territorial emergencies.

- GNWT Department responsibilities
- EMO responsibility for coordinated responses involving multiple departments – consequence management of hazard impacts.
- Use of ICS as response model





# MACA EMO Structure

## Territorial EMO:

- Located in Yellowknife
- Emergency Operations Centre
- 2 dedicated staff
- NWT Emergency Plan

## MACA's 5 Regional Offices

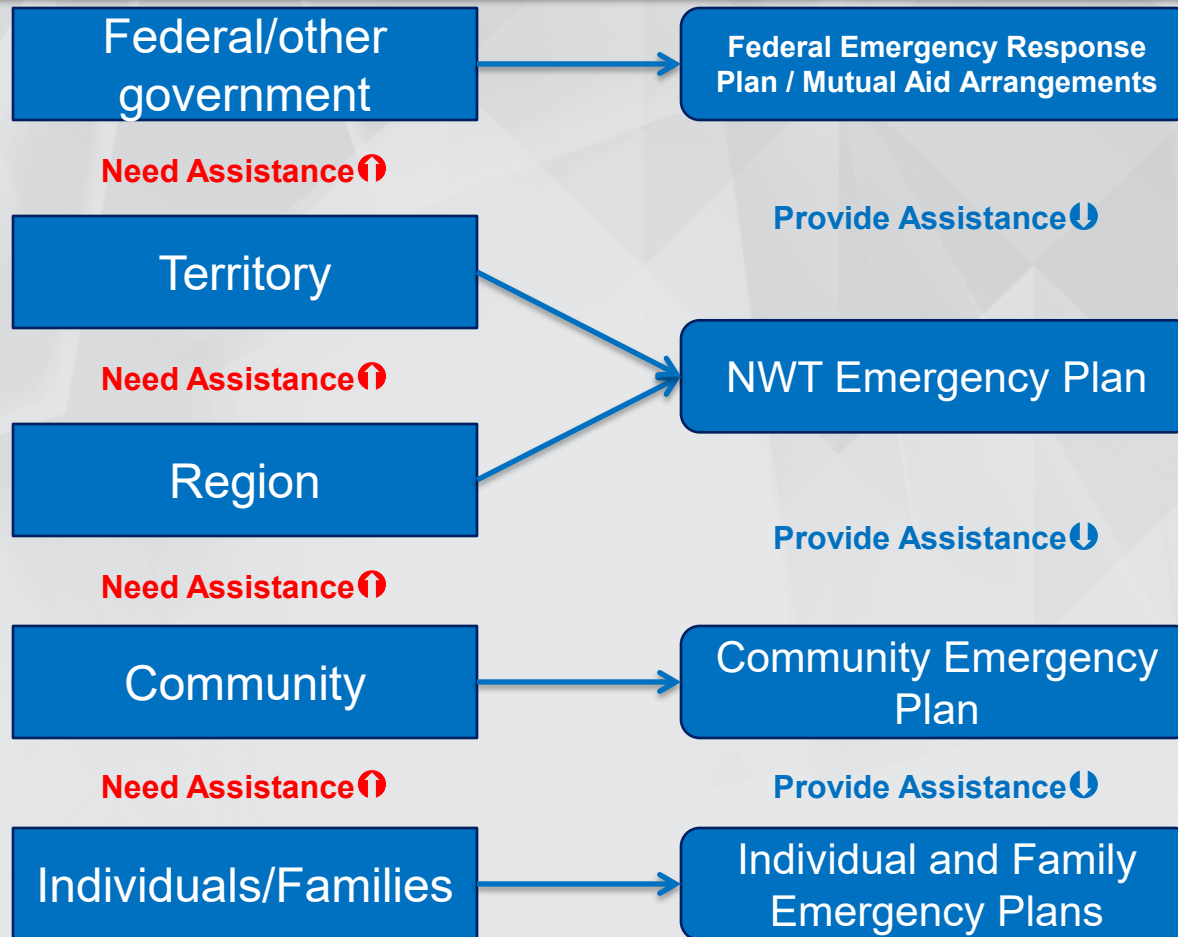
- Inuvik, Norman Wells, Fort Simpson, Fort Smith (Hay River), Yellowknife.
- Emergency Operations Centres
- NWT Emergency Plan

## Communities:

- Emergency Response Committees
- Emergency Plans



# Concept of Operation



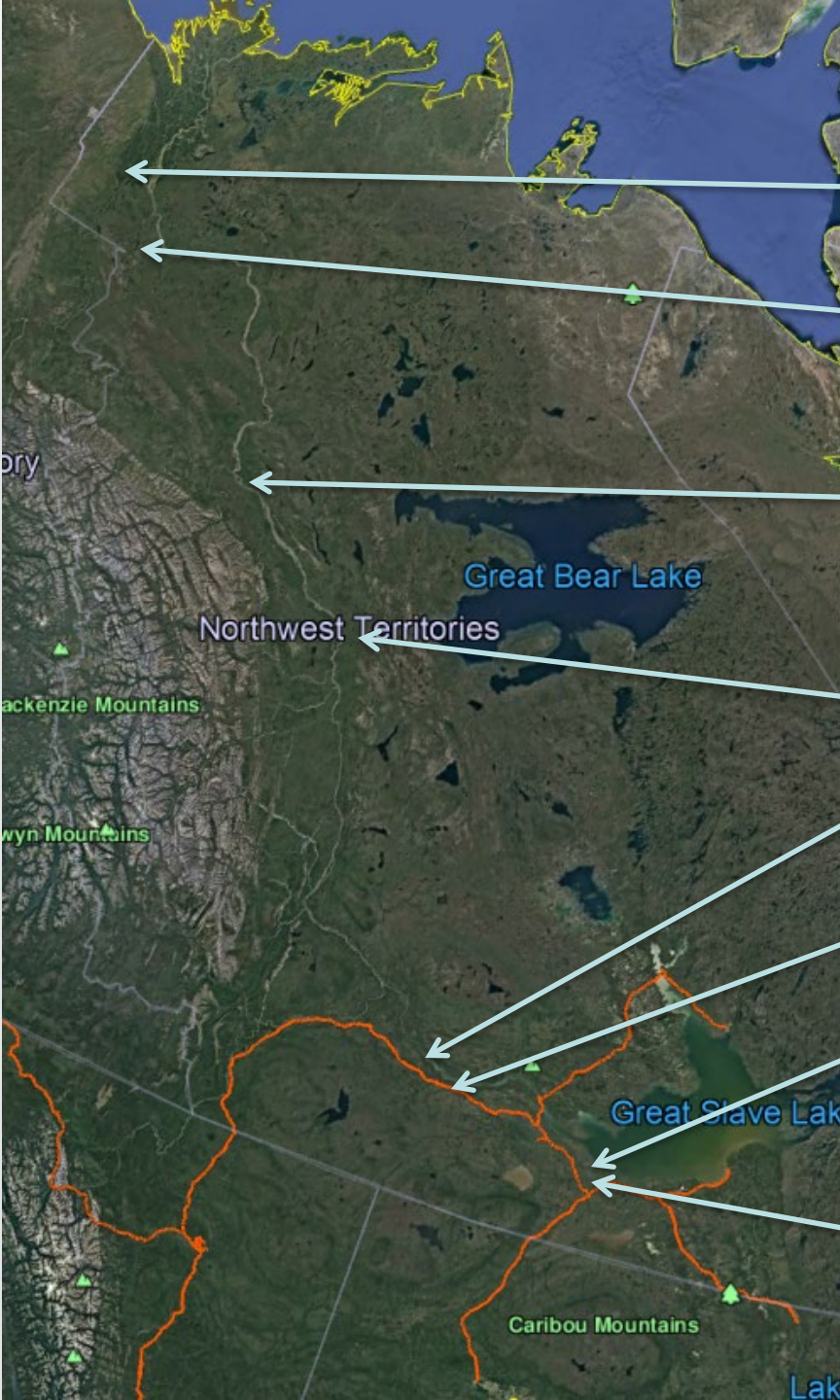


# Emergency Events 2009-2019



- Wildfires – 15
- Air Incidents – 8
- Critical Infrastructure Failure – 7
- Flood – 4
- Severe Weather – 4
- Landslides – 3
- Major Apartment Fire – 2
- Marine Incident – 2
- Dump Fire – 1
- Environmental Spill – 1
- Pandemic (2009) – 1
- Epidemic – Animal – 1

# Flood Situation (May 20)



**Aklavik** – High Risk, flood watch

**Fort McPherson** – at Risk  
preparedness

**Fort Good Hope** – High Risk, flood watch  
and preparedness

**Tulita** – lower flood risk

**Fort Simpson** – flooding damage

**Jean Marie River** – flooding damage

**Katlodeeche First Nation** – some flood  
damage

**Hay River** – some flood damage

Northwest Territories

# Current EMO Activities

- Monitoring flood risk and advising at risk communities and key stakeholders.
- Supporting Jean Marie River and Fort Simpson with evacuation support, emergency supplies, risk information, advice.
- Supporting at risk communities with risk information, planning advice and supporting preparation activities.



# South Slave Activities

- Supporting Fort Simpson and Jean Marie River evacuee sheltering and care in Fort Smith, Hay River and Fort Providence.
- Supporting Hay River and K'atl'odeeche First Nation in assessing damage and understanding the Disaster Assistance Policy





# Dehcho Activities

- Coordinating GNWT support to Jean Marie River and Fort Simpson.
- Responding to requests for assistance from Jean Marie River and Fort Simpson
- Providing advice and support in assessing damage



# Sahtu Activities

- Monitoring risk conditions and providing advice to at risk communities on preparedness activities.
- Responding to requests to support preparedness activities.
- Assessing available sheltering capacity and transportation needs should a community evacuation be required
- *Community flood watch activity ongoing*





# Beaufort Delta Activities

- Monitoring risk conditions and providing advice to at risk communities on preparedness activities.
- Responding to requests to support preparedness activities.
- Assessing available sheltering capacity and transportation needs should a community evacuation be required
- *Community flood watch activity ongoing*



# Priorities – Immediate

- Information and advice to impacted residents and community officials
- Coordination and collaboration of Damage Assessment of GNWT facilities and critical infrastructure repairs
- Demobilization of evacuation centres and return of evacuees
- Survey of flood water levels in impacted communities
- Detailed damage assessment of residential properties not assessed under public housing or insurance
- Contracting of emergency work to limit further damage of impacted properties.



# Priorities - Immediate

- Requests received to have Cabinet apply the Disaster Assistance Policy (DAP) – approval granted
- Establish Disaster Assistance Committee (DAC), responsible for overseeing applications for assistance; make claim for federal assistance
- Intent to establish DAC as a territorial Committee
- Whole-of-government approach, senior management and MACA regional superintendent membership.
- Several significant issues to address: claim process; liaison with Canada on band housing and other matters; after action assessment, etc.



# Disaster Assistance Policy

- DAP is an assistance program – it is not a compensation or insurance program
- Disaster assistance is limited to essential items
- Amount of financial assistance:
  - 80% of total amount of total eligible costs
  - Maximum amount payable per applicant is \$100,000



# Priorities – Longer Term

- Interim and long term housing solutions for residents who cannot return home
- Disaster Assistance claims process
- Claim for disaster assistance to the federal government under the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements
- Flood mitigation planning and support for access to federal disaster mitigation funding.



# Questions

- We are pleased to answer any questions.

