CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER'S REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE 2019 TERRITORIAL GENERAL ELECTION







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25 February, 2020

The Honourable Frederick Blake Jr.
Speaker
Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories
P.O. Box 1320
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

Dear Mr. Speaker,

Pursuant to subsection 266(2) of the Elections and Plebiscites Act, I have the distinct privilege of presenting the CEO Report on the Administration of the 2019 Territorial General Election to the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

This report provides an overview of election event initiatives and administration of the 2019 Territorial General Election. It also includes recommendations for the 19th Assembly of the Northwest Territories consideration.

Sincerely,

Nicole Latour

Chief Electoral Officer, Northwest Territories

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# **REMARKS OF THE CEO**

The 2019 Territorial General Election (TGE) saw 531 more electors at the polls than the previous event in 2015. However, overall attendance at the polls increased ten percent to achieve 54% voter turnout.

Recognizing 4% as a marginal increase in electors served, the overall increase in voter turnout can mostly be qualified by two main explanations:

1) improved accuracy of the Register of Electors data, and 2) a notable increase in young elector attendance.

While some are sceptical of data managed Registers over the past practice of enumerating electors every election year, the election administration standard in every Canadian Jurisdiction is now data management. The fact is enumerations only capture a point in time months in advance of an electoral event and compiled data is subject to change between undertaking counts/registrations and the event.

Data management, being a relatively new approach to managing electoral Registers, also has its challenges; the primary one being the cleanliness/accuracy of the data sets used to compile the Register. However specific data management strategies applied between, and just prior to electoral events, have significantly improved the accuracy of the Register of Electors of the Northwest Territories.

Following the 2015 TGE the absence of the 18-35 year old voters was abundantly clear. Concentrated outreach on the part of Elections NWT to reach this demographic appears to have had some success as turnout data shows an 11% increase in this age range.

Enhanced outreach was a major focus for the administration of the 2019 TGE. The outreach initiatives included:

- a youth engagement strategy that introduced the youth ambassador and young poll worker recruitment programs,
- 2) enhanced education strategies for all electoral event stakeholders: administrators, candidates and their official agents and electors, and,
- 3) a social media and editorial-copy event marketing strategy.

As the report shares, feedback on all outreach efforts have been overwhelmingly positive and the accomplishments have now set a benchmark for future events in this regard.

Another significant first for the 2019 TGE, as well as in Canada, was the introduction of online balloting. For the first time in the country, electors were able to cast their ballot using an online voting platform. As an option electors could make application for an online ballot as part of the Absentee Poll. Although only 3.7% of electors who voted used the online ballot, the opportunity to engage with an online platform as a means to vote in an electoral event should likely remain a much needed solution and option for electors when delivering future electoral events in the Northwest Territories.

To that end, there are 61 of a collective 88 recommendations that deal specifically with Division B of the *Elections and Plebiscites Act* (Act). Although this may seem an extraordinary amount it is much simpler in that the vast majority of recommended changes merely propose to split the current Absentee Poll that has two channels into two independent polls, one for the ballot administered by mail and one for the ballot administered online. Referring to the two channels under a single poll proved to be confusing for many and in reality both channels presented as separate polls in that they required separate counts and reporting internally.

The other noteworthy change to Division B of the Act is to sunset the Multi-district poll. Introduced in the 2011 TGE it was poorly attended in both 2011 and 2015 and with the introduction of online balloting is somewhat obsolete. The Multi-District Poll had also been used to administer ballots in correctional centres, but the recommendation to revert back to the use of the Mail ballot in the legislation was taken primarily due to election worker security concerns.

Apart from the focus on Division B there are 27 additional recommendations that propose changes that will improve election administration from operational and fiscal perspectives. For the most part these recommendations support the continued efforts of modernization in election administration and work to ensure the *Act* is updated to reflect current practices and ensure the utmost integrity of election administration.







Left to right: Nara Dapilos, Patrizia Thagard, Ranald Matheson, Nicole Latour, Drew Kirizopoulos, Luisa Esteban.

# **PERSONNEL**

#### Office of the Chief Electoral Officer Event Staff

The staff of the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer swelled to 6 persons to support Elections NWT in delivering the 2019 Territorial General Election. Apart from Chief Electoral Officer, Nicole Latour, the team was comprised of:

# Patrizia Thagard, Deputy Chief Electoral Officer

Responsibilities are to ensure the education of election officers, supervise supply logistics and oversee Elections NWT online systems.

# • Ranald Matheson, Finance Officer Responsibilities included lease management, officer and election worker remuneration, and the review of candidate financial reporting.

- Luisa Esteban, Office Administrator
  This position supports the duties of the Deputy
  Chief and the Finance Officer.
- Nara Dapilos, Youth Coordinator
  Responsibilities included the development,
  management and reporting of all youth outreach
  initiatives.
- Drew Kirizopoulos, Summer Student
   The position assisted with supply logistics and worked extensively with address range data

#### **Election Officers and Workers**

At the close of nominations the 2019 Territorial General Election realized acclamations in three electoral districts and contests in 16 of the 19 electoral districts. As the table 1a (Page 9) indicates each electoral district began with a full complement of election officers. While three electoral districts ended their events early, a total of 318 election officers and workers were engaged to deliver the electoral events through the Northwest Territories, as shown on Table 2 (Page 11). Apart from the 16 polls administered in the office of the Returning Officers 99 additional polls were held in the 16 electoral districts.



8 Deh Cho RO Loretta Landry



15 Frame Lake RO Mona Durkee



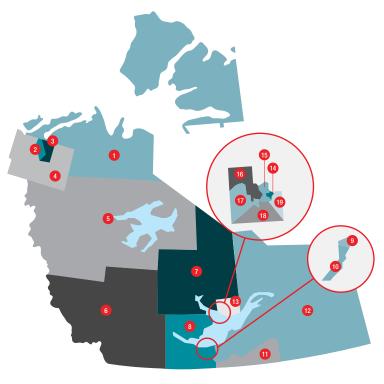
19 Great Slave RO Carol Nychka



9 Hay River North RO Marny Twigge



10 Hay River South RO Heather Coakwell





3 Inuvik Boot Lake RO Chris Garven



2 Inuvik Twin Lakes RO Mitchell MacQuarrie



18 Kam Lake RO Yvette Schreder



4 Mackenzie Delta RO Grace Martin



RO 7 Monfwi RO Harriet Koyina



6 Nahendeh RO Vanessa Waugh



1 Nunakput RO Donna Wolki



16 Range Lake RO Melanie Murphy



5 Sahtu RO Michel Erb



11 Thebacha RO Lynda B. Martin



12 Tu Nedhé-Willideh RO Antoinette Lafferty



14 YK Centre RO Tamlin Gilbert



13 YK North RO Amanda Mallon



17 YK South RO Lynda Comerford



#### Table 1a: Electoral Districts with multiple communities

ELECTORAL DISTRICT Returning Officer (R0) Assistant Returning Officer (AR0)	Communities Served RO community bolded;	Additional Assistant Returning Officers (AARO) only in communities without a resident RO
	Enterprise	Winnie Cadieux
DEH CHO RO: Loretta Landry	Fort Providence	
ARO: Berna Matto	Kakisa	Peter Canadien
	K'atl'odeeche First Nation	Violet Candow
MACKENZIE DELTA	Aklavik	Mary Ann Elanik
RO: Grace Martin	Fort McPherson	
ARO: Lisa Neyando	Tsiigehtchic	Naudia Tingmiak
	Behchokô	
MONFWI	Edzo-Frank Channel	n/a
RO: Harriet Koyina	Gamèti	Sandy Zoe Blackduck
ARO: Barbara Ann Zoe	Wekweètì	Calinda Football
	Whatì	Ernestine Champlain
	Fort Liard	Marilyn Browning
	Fort Simpson	
NAHENDEH	Jean Marie River	Arial Sanguez
RO: Vanessa Waugh ARO: Terrence Pierrot	Nahanni Butte	Leslie Auger
	Sambaa K'e (Trout Lake)	n/a
	Wrigley	Gaylene Moses
	Paulatuk	Kourtney Ruben
NUNAKPUT RO: Donna Wolki	Sachs Harbour	Sharan Green
ARO: Sasha Lucas	Tuktoyaktuk	
	Ulukhaktok	Rheanne Kanayok

ELECTORAL DISTRICT Returning Officer (R0) Assistant Returning Officer (AR0)	Communities Served RO community bolded;	Additional Assistant Returning Officers (AARO) only in communities without a resident RO
	Colville Lake	Barry Gully
SAHTU	Deline	Whitney Andre
RO: Michel Erb	Fort Good Hope	Angela Grandjambe
ARO: Jordon Balanuik	Norman Wells	
	Tulita	Jessie Yakeleya
,	Dettah	Rachel Crapeau
TU NEDHÉ-WIILIDEH RO: Antoinette Lafferty ARO: Linda Carpenter	Fort Resolution	
	Łutselk'e	Jeanette Lockhart
	Ndilo	Shannon Betsina

JUST OVER \$525K was spent to train and pay election personnel



#### Table 1b: Electoral Districts within one community:

ELECTORAL DISTRICT	COMMUNITIES SERVED
THEBACHA	
RO: Lynda B. Martin	Fort Smith
ARO: Sydney O'Sullivan	
HAY RIVER NORTH	
RO: Marny Twigge	Hay River
ARO: Marie Kopp-van Egteren	
HAY RIVER SOUTH	
RO: Heather Coakwell	Hay River
ARO: Angela Carter	
INUVIK BOOT LAKE	
RO: Chris M. Garven	Inuvik
ARO: Anthony Delvin	
INUVIK TWIN LAKES	
RO: Mitchell MacQuarrie	Inuvik
ARO: Beverly Garven	

ELECTORAL DISTRICT	COMMUNITIES SERVED	
FRAME LAKE		
RO: Mona Durkee	Yellowknife	
ARO: Cynthia Kelly		
GREAT SLAVE		
RO: Carol Nychka	Yellowknife	
ARO: Kyle Kelly		
KAM LAKE		
RO: Yvette Schreder	Yellowknife	
ARO: Glennis Poitras		
RANGE LAKE		
RO: Melanie Murphy	Yellowknife	
ARO: Peter Walton		
YELLOWKNIFE CENTRE		
RO: Tamlin Gilbert	Yellowknife	
ARO: Joanna Grant		
YELLOWKNIFE NORTH		
RO: Amanda Mallon	Yellowknife	
ARO: Carolyn Kolbelka		
YELLOWKNIFE SOUTH		
RO: Lynda Comerford	Yellowknife	
ARO: Karen Short	Tonomanio	

THE THREE COMMUNITIES OF
HAY RIVER, INUVIK,
AND YELLOWKNIFE
each contain more than one electoral district



14 of the 19 RETURNING OFFICERS WERE NEW TO THEIR POSITION





Table 2: Number of Personnel by Electoral District

Electoral District	Returning Officers	Assistant Returning Officers	Additional Assistant Returning Officer	Deputy Returning Officer	Poll Clerk	Witnesses	Absentee Ballot Officer	Total No. of Personnel per District
Deh Cho	1	1	3	1	7	10	0	23
Frame Lake	1	1	0	5	5	3	0	15
Great Slave	1	1	0	4	4	4	0	14
Hay River North*	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Hay River South	1	1	0	3	3	0	0	8
Inuvik Boot Lake	1	1	0	3	4	8	0	17
Inuvik Twin Lakes	1	1	0	2	2	6	0	12
Kam Lake	1	1	0	5	5	7	0	19
Mackenzie Delta*	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	4
Monfwi*	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	5
Nahendeh	1	1	4	2	11	12	0	31
Nunakput	1	1	3	1	10	8	0	24
Range Lake	1	1	0	6	6	10	0	24
Sahtu	1	1	4	0	7	10	0	23
Thebacha	1	1	0	6	6	9	0	23
Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh	1	1	3	1	6	7	0	19
Yellowknife Centre	1	1	0	5	5	2	0	14
Yellowknife North	1	1	0	7	7	9	0	25
Yellowknife South	1	1	0	5	5	1	0	13
OCEO - Absentee Poll	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	3
Totals:	19	19	22	56	93	108	1	318

<sup>\*</sup> acclaimed

# **EDUCATION**

One of the most significant efforts when preparing for and delivering an electoral event is education. All stakeholders need to be well informed in order to participate in an election in a meaningful way. In the years between elections education programs are reviewed and enhanced and new ones are developed for all stakeholders. Stakeholders in elections in the Northwest Territories are identified as: election officers who deliver the event, candidates and official agents who take up campaigns and electors who participate by casting their ballot. For the 2019 Territorial General Election a number of enhancements and new initiatives were brought forward.

#### **Education: Election Officers**

The 2019 election officer training program (EOTP) was significantly enhanced from the 2015 program. The biggest change for the training program was the introduction of a self-directed online distance learning course delivered on a newly developed Learning Management System. Officer learning kits included access to the online learning platform, relevant manuals and other hard copy information items. Further to the online training, as per past practice, Returning Officers attended two in class sessions in Yellowknife in the early spring and just prior to the issue of the Writs.

#### **Election Officer Learning Kits**

	Access to	HARD COPY MATERIALS				
Learning Streams	Learning Management System	Election Officer Manual	Elections and Plebiscites Act	DRO Manual	Closing the Poll Booklet	
1	V	√	√	√	V	
2	V			√		
3	V			<b>√</b>		

# ELECTIONS NWT LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM DELIVERED ONLINE TRAINING TO ELECTION OFFICERS IN THREE STREAMS

STREAM 1: Returning Officers (RO) and Assistant Returning Officers (ARO)

STREAM 2: Additional Assistant Returning Officers (AARO)

> STREAM 3: Deputy Returning Officers (DRO)



#### **Learning Management System**

The intention, and subsequent development, of the online Learning Management System (LMS) platform that delivers three streams of learning was for it to serve as the foundation of election officer training and that it would allow self-directed distance learning. Benefits of introducing the online platform were that it would:

- provide a single source of expert knowledge,
- allow **accessibility** for election officers to undertake a majority of their learning from their home community thus avoiding extended periods away from home,
- **support** the work life balance of learners in that they could undertake their studies at their own pace,
- expand the election worker human resource pool by allowing those who were not free to travel for training the opportunity to **participate** and serve as an election officer in the outlying communities,
- save travel and accommodations costs expended in previous training events,
- ensure **confidence** in officer's knowledge as a 75% passing grade was needed to progress through gated modules, and,
- upon completion of course work, **certify** participants.

Overall 160 learners engaged with the LMS which resulted in 123 officers becoming certified and of that number 116 were hired to deliver the electoral event.

#### Learning Management System Learner Participation

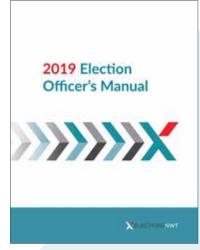
Stream	Access	Modules	Study (hrs.)	Registrants	Certified
1	Closed	14	20	39	39
2	Closed	12	8	37	21
3	Public	10	4	84	63
Totals:				160	123

Considering costs such as officer travel and per diems, training remuneration, learning materials and LMS development, the total cost of training election personnel was \$186,000. Although the contents LMS will have to be updated for the 2023 Territorial General Election to incorporate any procedural or operational changes, or changes to the *Elections and Plebiscites Act*, the cost per learner should be lower as the framework to deliver the online content is developed and was a one time cost.

Officer class	Education investment per officer (approx.)		
Returning Officer	\$5000		
Assistant Returning Officer	\$1600		
Additional Assistant Returning Officer	\$1000		
Deputy Returning Officer	\$650		







# LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM LEARNER FEEDBACK

"I liked that it covered the whole process, very interesting"

"I liked how interactive it was"

"I liked the ability to do it at my own pace and at home."

"Very relevant to duties"

"Excellent explanations, flowed smoothly"

"The learning material was well laid out, thorough with good attention to details of the necessary information for successful training."

"I hope you are all proud of your achievement here. The learning experience (colour, design, flow, interactions, and all other aspects of what the learner experiences in order to learn the content) is so critically important to keeping the learner on track with the learning logic "

- Lynette Kissoon

Learning Specialist, Elections BC

# LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM MODULE COMPONENTS INCLUDED



## 124 INFORMATION ITEMS

Key points from the Election Officer Manuals highlighted using static information and images.



# INTERACTIVE EXERCISES

Multi-media slide shows created using Articulate e-learning software engages learners.



# 18 INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEOS

Learners immersed in subject matter for an enhanced learning experience.



#### 13 QUIZZES

Each module ended with a quiz. Learners required to achieve a minimum 75% grade to move on.





#### **Education: Candidates & Official Agents**

The information made available to Candidates and Official Agents was also considerably improved. In the past Candidates and their Official Agents would rely on information contained in the Candidates and Official Agents Guide and the *Election and Plebiscites Act* (Act) to provide guidance for managing their campaigns. For the first time the same, and additional, information was provided in audio-visual format for the 2019 Territorial General Election (TGE).

The 2019 TGE Candidate and Official Agents Guide was updated and available in hard copy for Returning Officers or online at the Elections NWT website in a PDF format. A total of 19 videos were created with information specific to all aspects of, and responsibilities associated with, being a Candidate or Official Agent. Two step-by-step instructional presentations were developed for completing two of the more important forms associated with candidacy; one was on how to complete the Nomination Paper, and the other on how to complete the Candidates Financial Report. Additionally, a *Candidate Finance Guide* was also developed and available on the ENWT website to support Candidates and Official Agents with the financial obligations of being a candidate.

These new elements provided increased support to Candidates and Official Agents by:

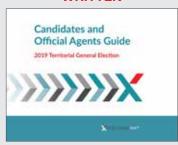
- providing answers to questions commonly asked by prospective and official Candidates and Official Agents,
- making information on candidacy, the obligations of Official Agents and requirements of the Act accessible regardless of location,
- **sharing** information related to key topics in a variety of formats,
- **supporting** Candidates and Official Agents with materials that can be accessed before, during and after the election period, and
- providing step-by-step **guidance** on form completion, namely the *Nomination* Paper and Candidate's Financial Report.

The total cost of developing the new elements and updating existing materials was approximately \$35,000.

## MATERIALS AND INFORMATION

MATERIALS AND INFORMATION TO EDUCATE, CANDIDATES AND THEIR OFFICIAL AGENTS

#### WRITTEN



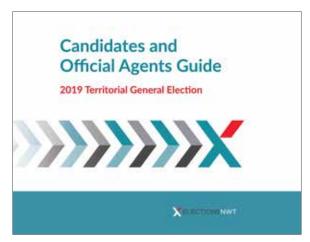
#### **VIDEO**

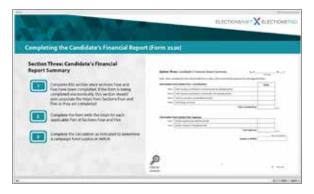


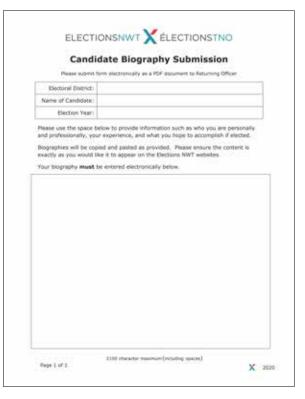
#### **AUDIO-VISUAL**



Video Titles	Run Time
Considering Candidacy	58 sec
Candidate Eligibility	59 sec
Choosing an Official Agent	55 sec
The Nomination Paper	1 min 20 sec
Official Candidates	1 min 27 sec
Becoming an Official Agent	59 sec
Roles and Responsibilities of Official Agents	51 sec
Financial Obligations of Official Agents	1 min
Reporting Obligations	1 min 15 sec
Opening a Campaign Account	1 min 13 sec
Campaign Contributions	1 min 22 sec
Official Receipts	53 sec
Campaign Fundraisers	59 sec
Election Expenses	1 min 12 sec
Financial Reporting	2 min 28 sec
Campaign Advertising	1 min 21 sec
Campaign Workers	1 min 25 sec
Campaign Conduct	1 min 33 sec
Unlawful Behaviour	1 min 23 sec
Instructional 'How To' Presentations	Run Time
Nomination Paper	9 min 35 sec











#### **Education: Elector** Voter Guide

A very different approach was used to develop the 2019 Voter's Guide. The key goal was to provide necessary information in the simplest yet comprehensive manner. Through the use of key terms and information graphics, the 2015 guide which was a 28 page 5.5" x 8.5" booklet was reduced to a 16 page 4" x 4" booklet that could easily be slipped into a pocket. Produced in French and English, the guide directed readers to both the Elections NWT and Electorhood websites for in-depth information should they require it. Feedback on the small informative guide has been very positive and supported the suspicion that not very many people were reading the previous version of the Voters Guide. Size does matter.

#### Electorhood

Electorhood was an entirely new initiative for the 2019 TGE and the first of its kind in Canada and possibly the world, it was offered as a comprehensive elector engagement tool. As the name implies Electorhood was created as a place to engage and inform electors about the upcoming election. The International Centre for Parliamentary Studies recognized this innovative platform for outstanding achievement in the category of Citizens' Engagement.

Electorhood allowed participants to become registered electors, know who their candidates were in the electoral district or informed of an acclamation, provide poll times and locations, provided access to their voter information card, request an absentee ballot, and view real-time voter turnout. Essentially every piece of information an elector would need to be informed and participate in the electoral event could be found on Electorhood.



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# **ELECTION TECHNOLOGY**

#### **Systems**

A significant aspect of achieving election modernization in the Northwest Territories was contingent on the development of a number of online platforms. The intended use for all platforms was to educate or provide information to all electoral event stakeholders. The five systems that make up the Elections NWT environment are:

#### 1. **ELECTIONS NWT** website hosted by GNWT

**Audience:** NWT Electors, Candidates and Official Agents

**Overview:** Site was substantially enhanced from 2015 by adding instructional videos to provide guidance and information for those considering candidacy or serving as an official agent. Comprehensive information items for electors were provided as a means to encourage elector participation.

#### 2. **ELECTORHOOD** hosted by ColdFront Labs

Audience: Electors and Candidates

Overview: A notable northern innovation the site allowed electors to establish their own elector profile and access information that was specific to them, such as who their candidates were, where their polling station was and advanced polling dates and places. It also provided realtime movement of voter turnout prior to ordinary polling day and reported results directly to the elector.

## 3. ELECTIONS NWT LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LMS)

hosted by Kellett Communications

**Audience:** Election Officers

**Overview:** Site allowed closed and public registration. Learners could engage in an interactive self-directed distance learning platform from their home community. The platform includes relevant reference documents, instructional videos, interactive Articulate Storyline presentations and knowledge testing guizzes.

# 4. ELECTIONS NWT ELECTIONS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (EMS) hosted by DataFix

Audience: Elections Administration, Election
Officers and Candidates/Official Agents
Overview: This is a primary administrative system
used to manage candidate information, elections

used to manage candidate information, elections personnel information, polling station information, and the Register of Electors. Candidates have access to a portal in this system that provides a real-time struck list of electors for their electoral district and all forms relevant to their candidate activities and reporting.

#### 5. ONLINE VOTING PLATFORM hosted

by Simply Voting

**Audience:** Electors

**Overview:** Site was developed as an option in the absentee poll. Electors made an application as per the statues and once their application was vetted and accepted, they received an electronic ballot identical to a paper ballot and could cast their vote before the close of ordinary polls.

#### Security

To ensure the security and integrity of all Elections NWT online environments, and the election process as a whole, a security assessment was conducted on all five of Elections NWT online Platforms.

An agreement was made with Hitachi Systems Security to perform a Web Application Assessment and Penetration Test of the Elections NWT online systems. The purpose of the assessment was to recognize any technical vulnerabilities that could compromise the Elections NWT online services and data.

#### **STAKEHOLDERS**

Online Platforms	Elector	Candidate and Official Agent	Election Administrators
Elections NWT Website	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	
Learning Management System			$\checkmark$
Electorhood	√	V	
Election Management System		V	√
Online Voting	$\sqrt{}$		





A general Penetration Testing methodology was used as a framework for the different actions and included the following phases sequentially:

- Information gathering on the target
- Reconnaissance of accessible services
- Vulnerability detection (including application testing)
- Vulnerability exploitation

The tests performed were both Black and Gray box based.

- Black box tests are performed without any knowledge of the platform. The goal is to assess the level of security (at time "t") as seen by a third party connected to the internal network or the internet, without knowledge of the environment.
- erey box tests are performed with standard access or with limited knowledge of the tested environment. The goal is to assess the level of security (at a point in time) as seen by a legitimate user who has an account, along with general information on the operation of the platform. The nature of these tests is dependent on systems tested. These could include a website, a mobile application (iPhone, Android, Windows Phone), or a thick client (PC, Mac)—including access to platforms used by these clients or applications.

There were two rounds of security assessments performed.

An initial assessment in June 2019 to identify any vulnerabilities was performed to create the initial security baseline. Each system was assessed with the vulnerabilities communicated back to the system owner on recommendations to change their respective systems. Each system owner was then given time to remediate the vulnerabilities that were found on their platform.

Once all the system owners reported back that all the found vulnerabilities were remediated, a second assessment was scheduled.

The second assessment was performed in September 2019 to verify that the previous discovered vulnerabilities were remediated. The results of the second assessment showed that all the vulnerabilities were remediated on all five Elections NWT systems. Hitachi Systems Security was not able to identify any exploitable vulnerability that could lead to direct access of the election systems and was unable to penetrate or otherwise gain unauthorized access to the tested web applications. All tested applications showed good resilience against known Web attacks and were not vulnerable to any injection flows, privileged escalation, broken access controls or sensitive data exposure.

Due diligence performed by Hitachi Systems Security and the five Election NWT site owners proved a secure environment that protected sensitive data and upheld an overall democratic online voting process.



# YOUNG ELECTOR OUTREACH

Following the analysis of the 2015 Territorial General Election (TGE) the absence of young electors at the polls was noted as a significant concern. Young electors are defined as electors between the ages of 18 to 35 years of age. In preparing for the 2019 TGE a number of outreach initiatives were developed as a means to engage more young electors. The youth engagement strategy included:

#### **Video Contest**

The goal of this contest was to develop some peer to peer messaging in a medium that may be more palatable to young electors. The contest itself was held in the spring-summer of 2018. Youth were encouraged to submit their entry either as spoken word, a short essay, a poem or a RAP. Some entries were received in an audio video format while other submissions were written. The subject matter was around the importance of casting a ballot.

Under the guidance of Aaron 'Godson' Hernandez, winners came together and merged portions of all submissions to make a RAP song. A video was also developed but the song primarily served as back ground and messaging on videos developed as part of the social media marketing strategy.

#### **Youth Engagement Ambassador Program**

The intent of this program to educate and encourage young electors through peer to peer discussion

to register and cast a ballot in the 2019 Territorial General Election. Once ambassadors were recruited they had a task list and some suggested activities and prizes for whoever engaged. The Ambassadors were active just prior to and during the Writ period and were compensated for their efforts with a \$500 stipend.

#### **Young Poll Worker Recruitment**

This program sought to recruit young people to serve as election workers; primarily to fill the role of Poll Clerk. Recruitment occurred through community youth centres, a senior high schools and on Aurora College campuses.

Further in-depth information on all of these outreach efforts can be found in a report,

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

AMBASSADORS WANTED!

\*\*\*S500 COMPENSATION

Ready to make a difference in the next territorial election?

Passionate about raising the voices of youth in the North?

We are looking for Youth fingsperment Ambassadors between the page of 18-74 who will facilitate outraceh activities to youth in their communities all throughout September and promote a larger presence at the polis on Election Day (October 1).

DID YOU KNOW...

\*\*\*Only Of young adults in the NWT were missing from the polis in 2015?

We can change this.

Apply now to become a Youth Engagement Ambassador lie your community.

For now information and to eight, sitess e-mail lists Daylor at line. Lightly deficience and the polis in 2015?

The now information and to eight, sitess e-mail lists Daylor at line. Lightly deficience and the polis in the North Indigeneent Ambassador for your community.

Describe May 13, 2018

ELECTIONSNUT \*\*\*ELECTIONSTNO\*\*\*

Young Elector Outreach and Participation in the 2019 Territorial General Election found on the Elections NWT website.

#### What was learned:

- The most effective forms of advertising for the programs was through Facebook
- #Truantnomore photos on social media received positive feedback from the public on line, receiving many likes and photos were shared
- Ambassadors took initiative to accomplish outreach tasks outside of the suggested activity schedule
- The recruitment period should be lengthened to months to ensure maximum amount of exposure and interest
- Consider offering a young electors summit/ conference during an election year







#### CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER'S REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE 2019 TERRITORIAL GENERAL ELECTION

#### **Youth Engagement Ambassadors**







Ashley Nakimayak - Sachs Harbour



Brad Thom - Fort Providence



Brittany Berreault - Fort Liard



Kyla LeSage - Yellowknife



Leslie Auger - Nahanni Butte



Myha Martin - Inuvik



Kimberly Gagnon - Yellowknife



Jorgan Green - Tuktoyaktuk



Danny Rabesca - Gameti



Jorgan Ruben - Paulatuk



Rashawna Smith - Wha Ti



Dakota Orlias - Colville Lake

**Table 3: Young Voter Turnout** 

Electoral District	2015 Young Elector Turnout	2019 Young Elector Turnout	Difference
Deh Cho	23%	43%	+20%
Frame Lake	16%	26%	+10%
Great Slave	16%	29%	+13%
Hay River North	24%	Acclaimed	N/A
Hay River South	31%	24%	-7%
Inuvik Boot Lake	16%	32%	+16%
Inuvik Twin Lakes	15%	30%	+15%
Kam Lake	11%	30%	+19%
Mackenzie Delta	22%	Acclaimed	N/A
Monfwi	Acclaimed	Acclaimed	N/A
Nahendeh	37%	33%	-4%
Nunakput	26%	42%	+16%
Range Lake	18%	31%	+13%
Sahtu	17%	29%	+12%
Thebacha	20%	28%	+8%
Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh	23%	34%	+11%
Yellowknife Centre	20%	27%	+7%
Yellowknife North	22%	33%	+11%
Yellowknife South	14%	28%	+14%
OVERALL RESULTS	20%	31%	+11%



### **INCREASED IN 14 OF 16 ELECTORAL DISTRICTS**

Considering the overall turn out for the 2019 TGE increased by 10% from the 2015 TGE, it is easy to attribute that rise to the participation of the NWT's young electors.

#### **INCREASED BY 11%**

Overall young elector turnout increased by 11% between the 2015 and 2019 Territorial General Election.

YOUNG MEN

\$25.3<sub>%</sub> \$37.2<sub>%</sub>

YOUNG WOMEN

\$\frac{1}{2}31.0\% \frac{1}{2}48.7\%





Table 4: 2019 TGE Youth Voter Turnout Across Genders

Electoral District	Female	Male	X Undisclosed
Deh Cho	57.0%	43.5%	69.2%
Frame Lake	40.3%	30.3%	42.9%
Great Slave	45.4%	34.6%	14.3%
Hay River South	31.3%	29.8%	0.0%
Inuvik Boot Lake	43.8%	38.0%	0.0%
Inuvik Twin Lakes	49.0%	26.3%	19.2%
Kam Lake	50.0%	32.5%	25.0%
Nahendeh	50.8%	51.5%	12.0%
Nunakput	65.8%	61.7%	37.1%
Range Lake	48.0%	37.4%	0.0%
Sahtu	48.5%	41.7%	31.8%
Thebacha	56.9%	37.3%	12.5%
Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh	52.8%	45.2%	33.3%
Yellowknife Centre	45.5%	30.1%	13.3%
Yellowknife North	52.2%	38.2%	9.1%
Yellowknife South	47.1%	30.7%	40.0%
TOTAL	48.7%	37.2%	26.4%

#### **Young Voter Turnout by Gender**

Another point of interest seen during the 2019 TGE was around participation by gender. There was an equal number of young men and women registered for the event, but voter turnout for women is higher in each electoral district, except in Nahendeh.

Higher voter turnout among women is consistent across each electoral district, except in Nahendeh.

#### **Moving forward**

Whether the 11% increase in young voter turnout can be attributed to ENWT efforts, there are definite signs of improvement as 828 more young electors attended the poll increasing, from 2,411 to 3,239 yet, there is more room for improvement. The fact is, a large discrepancy continues to exist between the number of registered 18-35 year olds and population estimates of the same age group.

To address this more focus should be placed on programs to increase young elector registration. As other Canadian jurisdictions are facing similar challenges, it would be beneficial to explore developing an 'elector in waiting' database through information sharing agreement with other agencies such as GNWT motor vehicles and health and social services divisions. Once a young elector reaches voting age they could be proactively invited to engage and become a registered elector.

IN 2019
3.1% OF 18 TO 35 YEAR OLDS DID NOT DISCLOSE THEIR GENDER WHEN REGISTERING

# **REAL ESTATE**

Acquiring commercial space to establish offices for Returning Officers is significant challenge in both large and small communities. In general the availability of commercial space is in short supply in the North and quite commonly previously used space will no longer be vacant and what is available can come at a substantial cost.

For the 2019 Territorial General Election, the average real estate cost to acquire suitable space for the 19 Returning Officers increased an average of 52% rising from a total cost of \$28,826 in 2015 to \$43,871 in 2019.

As the table shows the largest increase, 494%, occurred in Yellowknife for the space utilized by the Returning Officers for the 7 Yellowknife electoral districts. The electoral district of Deh Cho was the next highest with a 380% increase while Nahendeh deceased by 60% and the electoral districts of Inuvik Boot Lake and Inuvik Twin Lakes both decreasing by 50%.

Moving forward it will be difficult for Elections NWT to mitigate future upward swings in lease costs for the 2023 Territorial General Election. Continued short supply of commercial space and the knowledge that landlords are hesitant to enter into short term lease agreements that may leave them vulnerable, potentially missing an opportunity to secure a long term tenant during that period of time, further frustrates the ability to secure space at a reasonable cost and in a timely manner.

Securing polling stations for an electoral event is an easier exercise. Historically polling stations are located in school gyms or community halls and availability is rarely an issue. Lease agreements for poll space are generally negotiated with Hamlets, school boards, community organizations, NGO's and indigenous governments.

A total of 34 facilities were leased for the 2019 General Territorial Election at a cost of \$23,652.

#### **Returning Officers Office Lease Costs**

District	1	2015	2019	Dif	ference	% change
Deh Cho	\$	750	\$ 3,600	\$	2,850	380%
Frame Lake	\$	355	\$ 2,109	\$	1,754	494%
<b>Great Slave</b>	\$	370	\$ 2,109	\$	1,739	470%
Hay River North	\$	1,625	\$ 3,176	\$	1,551	95%
Hay River South	\$	1,625	\$ 3,176	\$	1,551	95%
Inuvik Boot Lake	\$	3,863	\$ 1,931	\$	- 1,931	-50%
Inuvik Twin Lakes	\$	3,863	\$ 1,931	\$	- 1,931	-50%
Kam Lake	\$	355	\$ 2,109	\$	1,754	494%
Mackenzie Delta	\$	1,200	\$ 887	\$	-313	-26%
Monfwi	\$	1,500	\$ 1,500	\$	0	0%
Nahendeh	\$	3,000	\$ 1,200	\$	-1,800	-60%
Nunakput	\$	2,300	\$ 2,500	\$	200	9%
Range Lake	\$	355	\$ 2,109	\$	1,754	494%
Sahtu	\$	2,350	\$ 3,400	\$	1,050	45%
Thebacha	\$	3,500	\$ 5,125	\$	1,625	46%
Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh	\$	750	\$ 684	\$	-66	-9%
Yellowknife Centre	\$	355	\$ 2,109	\$	1,754	494%
Yellowknife North	\$	355	\$ 2,109	\$	1,754	494%
Yellowknife South	\$	355	\$ 2,109	\$	1,754	494%
Totals	\$	28,826	\$ 43,871	\$	15,044	52%





#### Polling Place Lease Costs

District	Amount	# Polling Divisions	# Leases
Deh Cho	\$ 3,700	4	4
Frame Lake	\$ 384	5	1
Great Slave	\$ 384	4	1
Hay River North *	\$ 0	0	0
Hay River South	\$ 692	3	1
Inuvik Boot Lake	\$ 600	3	1
Inuvik Twin Lakes	\$ 1,344	2	1
Kam Lake	\$ 400	5	1
Mackenzie Delta *	\$ 0	0	0
Monfwi *	\$ 0	0	0
Nahendeh	\$ 4,200	6	6
Nunakput	\$ 2,983	4	4
Range Lake	\$ 384	6	1
Sahtu	\$ 3,020	5	5
Thebacha	\$ 283	6	1
Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh	\$ 4,130	4	4
Yellowknife Centre	\$ 384	5	1
Yellowknife North	\$ 384	5	1
Yellowknife South	\$ 384	5	1
Totals	\$23,656	72	34

<sup>\*</sup> Acclaimed District: no election held

#### Real Estate by Region and Poll Type

District	Advance Poll	VOR0	Ordinary Poll	Polling Divisions
Deh Cho	3	1	V	4
Frame Lake	-	1	V	5
Great Slave	-	1	V	4
Hay River North *	-	-	-	3
Hay River South	-	1	V	3
Inuvik Boot Lake	-	1	V	3
Inuvik Twin Lakes	-	1	V	2
Kam Lake	-	1	V	5
Mackenzie Delta *	-	-	-	3
Monfwi *	-	-	-	5
Nahendeh	4	1	V	6
Nunakput	3	1	V	4
Range Lake	-	1	V	6
Sahtu	4	1	V	5
Thebacha	-	1	V	6
Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh	3	1	V	4
Yellowknife Centre	-	1	V	5
Yellowknife North	-	1	V	5
Yellowknife South	-	1	V	5

<sup>\*</sup>Candidate for District Acclaimed – no polls held

VORO - Voting in the Office of the Returning Officer

# **WRITS**

The Writ of Election Order was signed by Margaret Thom, Commissioner of the Northwest Territories on July 12, 2019. Dissolution of the 18th Legislative Assembly occurred on September 1, 2019 which would allow ordinary polling day, if necessary, to be held on October 1, 2019.

Writs issued by the Chief Electoral Officer, Nicole Latour on September 2, 2019 were sent to each of the 19 Returning Officers in the Northwest Territories. The Writs directed each Returning Officer to return their Writ to the Chief Electoral Officer by October 15, 2019.

Upon the close of nominations, on September 6, 2019, it was determined that three members of the 19th Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories would be acclaimed and 16 contests would be held.

Electoral districts that held contests:

Deh Cho, Frame Lake, Great Slave, Hay River South, Inuvik Boot Lake, Inuvik Twin Lakes, Kam Lake, Nahendeh, Nunakput, Range Lake, Sahtu, Thebacha, Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Yellowknife Centre, Yellowknife North, Yellowknife South

Electoral districts with members acclaimed:

Hay River North, Mackenzie Delta, Monfwi



Chief Electoral Officer, NWT Nicole Latour and the Commissioner of the NWT, Margaret Thom.



#### ELECTIONS AND PLEBISCITES ACT

#### WRIT OF ELECTION ORDER

The Commissioner, under section 39 of the Elections and Plebiscites Act and every enabling power, makes the Writ of Election Order.

- The Chief Electoral Officer shall issue a writ of election to the returning officer for each electoral district.
- The day on which each writ of election is to be issued is September 2, 2019.
- The day on which the poll must be held, if a poll is required, is October 1, 2019.
- The day by which each writ of election must be returned is October 15, 2019.

Dated July /2 , 2019

#### LOI SUR LES ÉLECTIONS ET LES RÉFÉRENDUMS

#### DÉCRET RELATIF AU BREF D'ÉLECTION

La commissaire, en vertu de l'article 39 de la Loi sur les élections et les référendants et de tout pouvoir habilitant, peend le Décret relatif au bref d'élection.

- Le directeur général des élections émet un bref d'élection à l'intention du directeur du scrutin de chaque circonscription électorale.
- La date d'émission des brefs d'élection est le 2 septembre 2019.
- La date de la terme du scrutin est le 1" octobre 2019, si un scrutin est nécessaire.
- La date du retour des brefs d'élection est le 15 octobre 2019.

Fait le / 2 juillet 2019.

Margaret Thom
Commissioner of the Northwest Territories
Commissaire des Territoires du Nord-Ouest







# NOMINATION PERIOD

Upon the issue of the Writs, Nomination Papers were accepted by Returning Officers when their offices opened at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, September 2, 2019 until 2:00 p.m. on Friday, September 6, 2019. No withdrawals were received during the prescribed period for withdrawals and at 5:00 p.m. September 6, 2019 a total of 58 nomination papers were accepted.

Once Nomination Papers were accepted Returning Officers entered candidate and official agent information into the Election Management System (EMS). Candidates were given access to the Candidate Portal as soon as their information was entered into the EMS. Access to the Candidate Portal allowed candidates access to a real-time struck List of Electors for their electoral district as well as all forms they would require during their campaign and for post reporting needs.

#### **Candidate Information**

Candidate information that is entered into the EMS is automatically shared on the Elections NWT website as well as in Electorhood, the online elector engagement platform. A new offering for candidates to engage or inform electors was provided in the form of an optional biography. Any candidates that chose to submit their biography to their Returning Officer had it entered into the EMS which up loaded the information to both the Elections NWT website and Electorhood platform.



# CANDIDATES BY THE NUMBERS

#### INDIVIDUALS NOMINATED FOR THE 2019 TERRITORIAL GENERAL ELECTION



24 Women 63 DISTRICTS WITH CANDITATES 63% WOMEN ON THE BALLOT

**ELECTED 9** 

12 of 19 DISTRICTS

# 19TH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY-



KAM LAKE AND NUNAKPUT HAD THE GREATEST NUMBER OF CANDIDATES

6 CANDIDATES EACH













# DISTRICTS WITH WOMEN ON BALLOT

GREAT SLAVE • INUVIK BOOT LAKE • INUVIK TWIN LAKES • KAM LAKE NUNAKPUT • RANGE LAKE • SAHTU • THEBACHA • TU NEDHÉ-WIILIDEH YELLOWKNIFE CENTRE • YELLOWKNIFE NORTH • YELLOWKNIFE SOUTH

OF CANDIDATES RESIDED IN THE ELECTORAL DISTRICT THEY RAN IN







# REGISTER OF ELECTORS

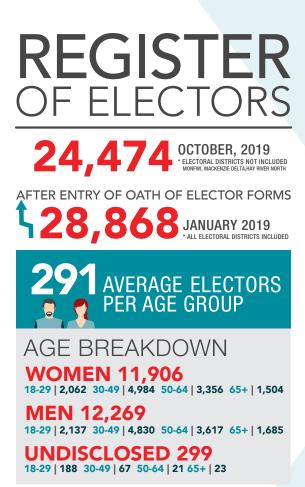
#### Overview

The Register of Electors for the Northwest Territories exists as a permanent list and is fully modernized. No longer existing or managed on paper the Register exists in an election management system. This internet-based system allows candidates, official agents and election administrators to access and interact with electoral information in real-time. It allows the ability to make corrections, additions and updates to elector information contained in the Register, and provides these changes as well as indicating which electors have been struck from the list, having cast their ballots in early voting opportunities, in real-time. The system provides electronic copy of all changes that occur with the Register.

The Register's primary data set is the National Register of Electors provided through a reciprocal information sharing agreement with Elections Canada. The *Elections and Plebiscites Act* allows further information sharing agreements with some GNWT departments and other levels of government.

Further refinement of the records contained in the Register is achieved through the interaction of electors themselves as they register or update their information. Voter registration as an internet based application provides electors the ability to search the Register for their record. It allows them to register if absent or update their record and upload identification to prove their identity and residency. Online registrations or changes to a record were vetted by an election officer who would either add electors to the register once deemed appropriate or reach out to the elector should there be a problem with their registration or update.

Electors also visited their Returning Officer to register or update their information in the Register. During the Writ period, until just prior to ordinary polling day, Returning Officers also worked with their List of Electors for their electoral district to ensure its accuracy and completeness.



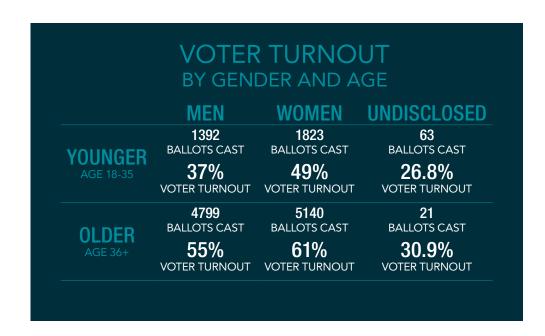
#### **Register Activity**

The Register of Electors contains approximately 28,900 electors which, based on NWT Bureau of Statistics 2018 estimates, represents 85% of the NWT population of 18 years of age and older.

Online voter registration opened to the public on the Elections NWT website on May 10, 2019. Beginning August 19, 2019, the same system was used to accept online application for an absentee ballot, both mail-in and electronic ballots. As the chart indicates, online registration and the absentee ballot application were well utilized and activity was fairly steady.

The notable spikes in May and July can be credited to registration exercises at the Yellowknife Trade Show and Hay Days in Hay River respectively. The prominent spike of activity mid-August can be directly attributed to penetration testing as part of pre-election security exercise to ensure the utmost of security of the election management system. These tests did not affect the Register. Once the Writs were issued register activity grew steadily as polling day approached.

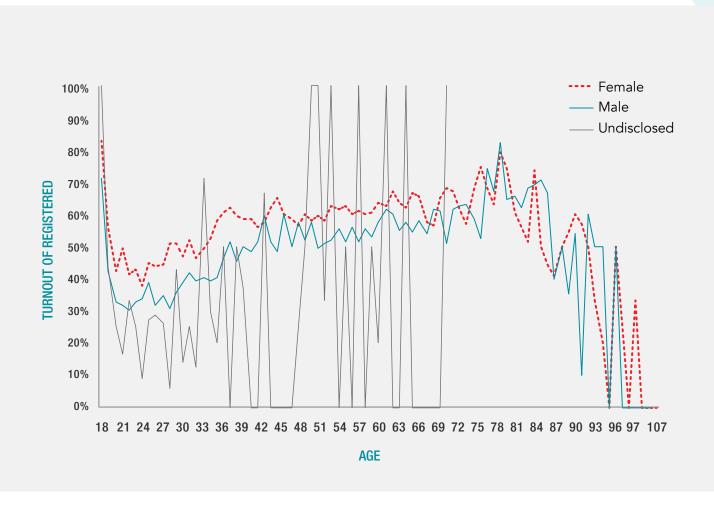
From May 2019 until December 2019, once post event updates were made, the Register of Electors underwent approximately 24,000 changes. Of these changes 1,095 additions or updates were made by electors through the online platform. The remaining changes were made by Returning Officers, or under the direction of the OCEO staff.



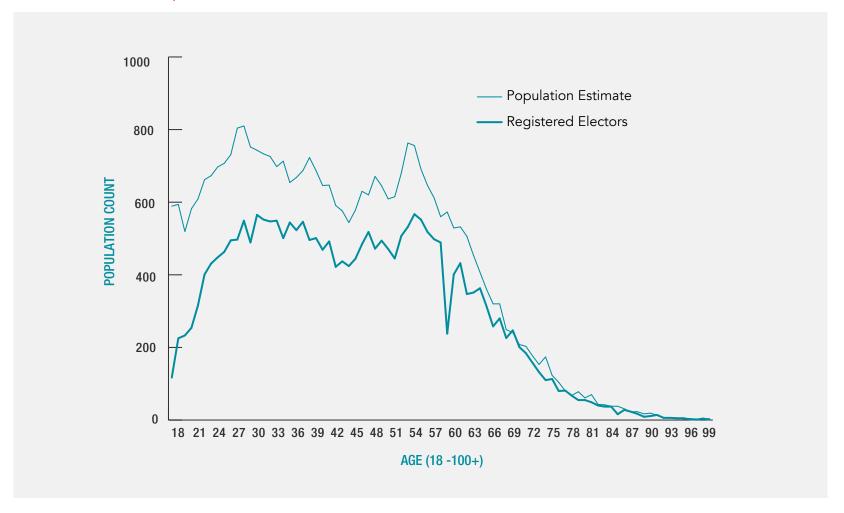




#### % of Registered and Recorded (voted) Electors by Gender and Age



#### Recorded Electors vs Population Estimates







#### Oaths of Elector

The Oath of Elector form allows qualified electors to swear an oath if they are not on the List of Electors in order to receive a ballot at a polling station. Completed Oath of Elector forms are received at the OCEO after polling day and used to update the Register of Electors. During the 2019 Territorial General Election approximately 4,000 voters swore an oath to be added to or to have their information updated in the Register.

#### **Voter Information Cards**

In early September approximately 28,900 Voter Information Cards (VICs) were mailed. VIC envelopes include cards for all the electors at a given address in the Register. Just over 8% of the VIC envelopes sent were returned as undeliverable which resulted in approximately 1,600 names being soft deleted from the Register of Electors. Compared to 2015 2% fewer VICs were returned in 2019. As a result 400 fewer electors were soft deleted from the Register in 2019.

Soft deleted elector information remains in the background of the Register and easily retrieved and revived should and elector interact with the online registration to update their information, present themselves in person to their Returning Officer or complete an *Oath of Elector* form at the poll.

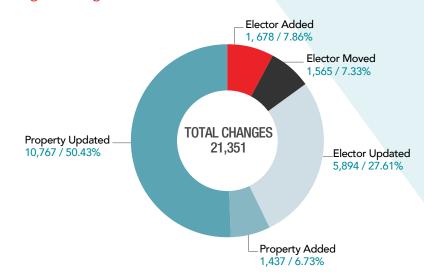
#### ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION

1,	158 EL	ECTORS	S ENGA	GED W	ITH OI	ILINE R	EGISTE	ER .
1	I,095 E	LECTOF	RS REGI	ISTERE	D OR	UPDATE	D INFO	)
		63 EI	LECTOR	WERE	DECL	INED		
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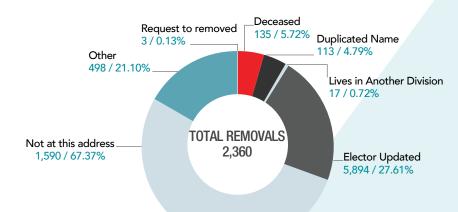
#### % OF CHANGES TO REGISTER USING ONLINE REGISTRATION

2015	3.3%
2019	4.4%

#### Changes to Register



#### Removals from Register



#### 2019 Revisions by Electoral District

Electoral District	May	June	July	August	Sept	Total
Deh Cho	2	0	2	5	191	200
Frame Lake	4	0	0	13	185	202
Great Slave	16	3	8	25	268	320
Hay River North	3	30	1	4	98	136
Hay River South	1	8	6	7	166	188
Inuvik Boot Lake	0	5	1	5	210	221
Inuvik Twin Lakes	2	0	1	2	157	162
Kam Lake	14	4	7	23	214	262
Mackenzie Delta	4	0	3	1	9	17
Monfwi	6	2	2	62	13	85
Nahendeh	3	1	1	3	103	111
Nunakput	2	2	1	3	35	43
Range Lake	9	1	0	11	151	172
Sahtu	4	0	0	1	102	107
Thebacha	6	1	2	11	378	398
Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh	4	0	2	1	52	59
Yellowknife Centre	17	5	6	24	214	266
Yellowknife North	15	12	8	25	349	409
Yellowknife South	17	0	5	20	146	188
Total	134	75	58	305	3,358	3,930

Note:

Multiple changes applied to one elector in a single month were counted as a single revision. If the changes occurred on separate months, an additional revision would be counted. Voters that moved from one electoral district to another or within the same electoral district, they were counted as one revision.





# **OUTREACH**

#### Social Media

In terms of promoting an election, one thing that stood out from the 2015 Territorial General Election (TGE) was the effectiveness and further potential of promoting an electoral event on social media platforms. Not only was the effectiveness of the reach to a large number of NWT electors impressive, the cost to do so was a mere fraction of past public promotion efforts. This knowledge was a major under pinning of the outreach strategy for communication and promotion for the 2019 Territorial General Election.

Three main social media platforms; Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram were deemed to be the most dynamic as a large percentage of the public was known to already be engaged with one or more of these platforms.

To manage messaging and information sharing agendas, Buffer, an online social media management tool was used to plan and schedule all posts in advance. Not only could Buffer accommodate and manage multiple platforms, simultaneously post activities, it also provided comprehensive analytics for all social media accounts.

With an established online presence on Facebook and Twitter during the 2015 TGE, Instagram was a new addition and with three platforms, the main focus for the 2019 TGE was to engage and inform electors as a means to increase voter turnout. The social media campaign began June 2019, during the pre-election period and ran through to early October, winding down once Judicial Recounts had been completed.

Facebook followers increased 52%, from 748 individuals in 2015 who 'like' or 'follow' the Elections NWT Facebook page to 1,136 in 2019. The following table provides a summary of Facebook analytics that shows just how significant the increases in engagement were:

#### **Facebook Summary**

Activity	2015 TGE	2019 TGE	Change	
Impressions	135,143	590,800	+337%	
User Clicks	4,147	16,282	+293%	
User Shares	323	1,283	+297%	
User Comments	122	497	+307%	
User Reactions	752	2,149	+186%	
Users Reached	67,018	372,300	+456%	
Engagement	5,344	20,211	+278%	
Posts	-	106	-	

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA TERMS**

IMPRESSIONS number of times a post was displayed on a user's feed. An impression can be from a user following the page, viewing a boosted post, or from a shared post.

ENGAGEMENT number of interactions a post receives; can include clicks, shares, comments and reactions to a post.

REACH total number of people who received impressions of a post.

CLICK included in engagement by users interacting with a post.

BOOSTED paid post promotion in an effort to increase reach.

FEED OR TIMELINE a 'Home' or 'Main' Page where all updated information and new content is provided to a user.

ANALYTICS is the gathering of data from social media accounts to track and improve performance.

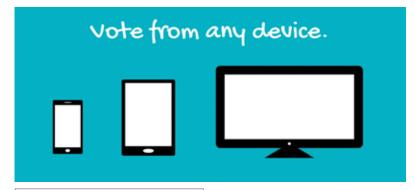
The practice of 'boosting posts' was very beneficial. Boosted posts appear as an ad on a user's Feed which can result in increased engagement, visibility and awareness of the information posted by Elections NWT even if they were not specifically following the Elections NWT Facebook page. Boosts were intentionally used to highlight informational videos and posts with important dates and links.

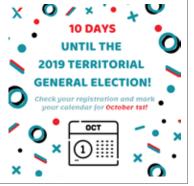
The number of Twitter followers also saw an increase of 27% from 2015. The Twitter campaign's primary hashtag was #NWTvotes, but #nwtpoli and #nwt were also used to increase visibility and engagement with members of the public and media. The variety of hashtags extended the reach of messages to people that may not have been following Elections NWT directly. Although Twitter use is not as high as Facebook, there was for the most part a notable increase in social media presence.

#### **Twitter Summary**

Activity	2015 TGE	2019 TGE	Change
Impressions	26,620	328,504	+1134%
User Clicks	61	180	+195%
Retweets	99	88	-11%
Replies	5	16	+220%
Likes	21	128	+510%
Engagement	938	1043	+11%
Mentions	-	54	-
Tweets	-	140	-
Followers	286	362	+27%

The use of Instagram was new for the 2019 TGE. Given that Instagram is owned by Facebook, all boosted posts on Facebook were automatically boosted to Instagram users as well. The connection between the two platforms allowed for a greater cost effective reach. Instagram provided ENWT with another method of establishing presence and connecting with users in a way that is different from Facebook and Twitter as Instagram, a predominantly a visual platform, allowed ENWT to use more graphics to spread the message.



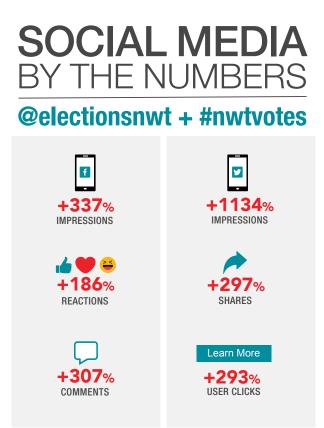






Google Ads was used, for the first time, as a means to direct people to the Elections NWT website. When key words are used in a search, Google Ads will display a preview of the Elections NWT website at the top of the search results. Examples of key words or phrases used that would trigger the ad included "election", "register to vote", "nwt election", "polling location" and "absentee ballot". This tool was active from September 5 to October 2 at a cost of \$128.23. During that period of time, the ad gained 3,674 impressions and 1,331 clicks on the ad for the Elections NWT website. The highest searched phrase was "election nwt" which gained 2,809 impressions and 1,049 clicks.

All indications are social media was a practical and cost effective way to reach electors. The associated costs in doing so have proven to be significantly less than that spent on newspaper advertising for the 2015 TGE. The total expenses for boosted Facebook posts, Google Ads and Buffer was approximately \$2,300. That represents just over 10% of the \$21,750 paid in 2015.



#### Other Outreach Firsts

Although social media may have been a fairly big initiative, there were a number of other firsts for outreach activity. In short other avenues were also pursued; there were in-person events, theatre ads, as well as the development of editorial copy, and an online elector engagement tool.

#### **Events**

Another new outreach activity saw the Office of the Chief Electoral (OCEO) staff attend a variety of events in effort to promote the 2019 TGE in person. Those events included:

- Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce Trade Show.
- Festival on Franklin,
- Hay Days in Hay River,
- Folk on the Rocks, and,
- Citizenship Swearing In Ceremonies in Yellowknife and Dettah

At the events OCEO staff actively engaged with the public at large and encouraged voter registration, handed out Voter Guides, informed on absentee ballot applications, and had contests for exclusive Elections NWT merchandise.



#### **Newspaper Articles**

For the first time an eight part series was published in NewsNorth, a publication with Territory wide distribution, to provide readers with information to help them understand election activities and prepare for the election. Articles were published every week from August 5th until September 23rd, the week before ordinary polling day of 2019.

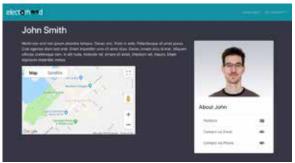


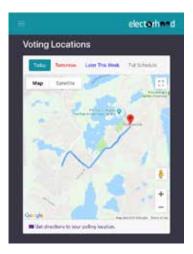
#### Movie Theatre Ads

Movie theatre ads, 20 to 30 seconds, were shown in the Capitol Theatre in Yellowknife and Rowe's Theatre in Hay River. A different video was featured each week, from August 30th until September 26th 2019, before each movie screening. The videos were intended as reminders for public to register, to vote, find information on Electorhood and to apply for an Absentee ballot if they were not going to attend an ordinary poll.

#### **Electorhood**

Electorhood was developed as a comprehensive information platform for electors. It provided all information necessary to participate in an electoral event. Some of the features included voter registration, candidate information: (name, contact information, and if submitted, biography), polling station locator, Returning Officer information (name, contact information, office address) and application for an absentee ballot.









## **VOTING**

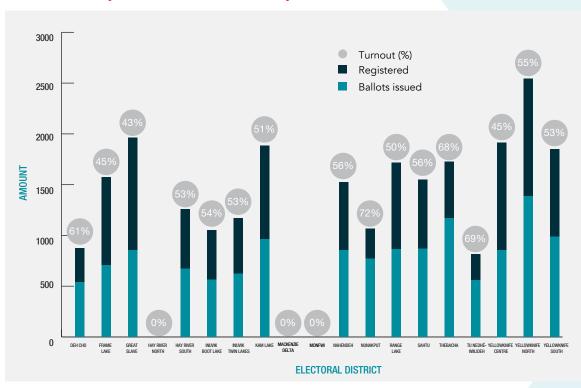
## **Voter Turnout**

As per the standard initial analysis, percentage of registered electors who cast a ballot, the turnout for the 2019 Territorial General Election was 54%. This is a 10% increase in turn out from the 2015 election.

In total, 13,238 electors cast a ballot in the 2019 Territorial General Election. This represents a 4% increase over the number of electors served in 2015, and as the chart shows the best turn out in the last four electoral events.

Data shows elector turnout was highest in Nunakput at 72% and lowest in Great Slave with only 43% turn out. It is important to note that 43% is a vast improvement over some turnout rates for the 2015 Territorial General Election which saw lows of 23%.

## Voter Turnout by Electoral District Summary



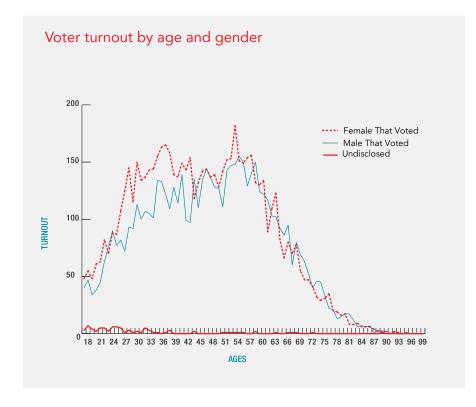
## 2019 Territorial General Election Turnout by Gender and Age Range

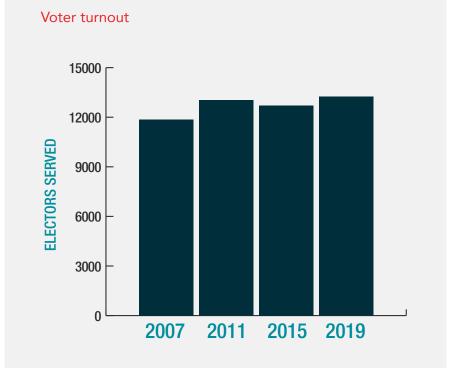
#### AGE RANGE TURNOUT

	18 – 35		
	TURNOUT	TURNOUT (%)	OF TOTAL TURNOUT (%)
FEMALE	1,823	56%	14%
MALE	1,392	42%	11%
UNDISCLOSED	63	2%	0%
Total	3278		

36 AND OLDER				
TURNOUT	TURNOUT (%)	OF TOTAL TURNOUT (%)		
5,140	52%	39%		
4,799	48%	36%		
21	0%	0%		
9960				

	GENDER TURNOUT		
TURNOUT	TURNOUT (%)		
6963	53%		
6191	47%		
89	1%		
13238			









## **Special Voting Opportunities**

There are five Special Voting Opportunities (SVO) available to electors prior to ordinary polling day, or Election Day. The five SVOs are: Voting in the Office of the Returning Officer, attending an Advance Poll in an outlying community that does not have a resident Returning Officer, applying for a Mobile Poll, attending a Multi-District Poll or making application for an absentee ballot.

The Ordinary Poll saw the largest turnout as 77% of electors who cast their ballot did so on Election Day. The remaining 23% of ballots were cast at one of the other SVOs. Voting in the Office of the Returning Officer was the most utilized SVO representing 77.5% of the early ballots cast. Nearly half, 48%, of all ballots cast in the electoral district of Thebacha were cast before ordinary poll day. Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh was gain the electoral district with the lowest early turn out as only 8% of electors who voted did so early.

## Poll Summary by Electoral District

			POLLS		
	Absentee	Advance	Mobile	R0 Voting	Ordinary
Deh Cho	0	3	17	1	4
Frame Lake	0	0	0	1	5
Great Slave	0	0	0	1	4
Hay River North*	0	0	0	0	0
Hay River South	0	0	0	1	3
Inuvik Boot Lake	0	0	1	1	3
Inuvik Twin Lakes	0	0	0	1	2
Kam Lake	0	0	1	1	5
Mackenzie Delta*	0	0	0	0	0
Monfwi*	0	0	0	0	0
Nahendeh	0	5	1	1	6
Nunakput	0	3	5	1	4
Range Lake	0	0	0	1	6
Sahtu	0	4	5	1	5
Thebacha	0	0	16	1	6
Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh	0	3	8	1	4
Yellowknife Centre	0	0	16	1	5
Yellowknife North	0	0	0	1	5
Yellowknife South	0	0	0	1	5
Office of the Chief Electoral Officer	2	0	0	0	0

\*Acclaimed Electoral District

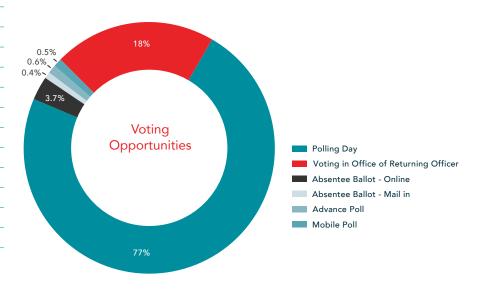
## Voter Turnout by Electoral District for Special Voting Opportunity and Ordinary Poll

Electoral District	Total Ballots Cast*	Ballots Cast by SVO	SVO Ballots Cast as a % of Total Ballots Cast
Deh Cho	537	99	18.4%
Frame Lake	706	146	20.7%
Great Slave	852	201	23.6%
Hay River North**	0	0	0.00%
Hay River South	673	211	31.4%
Inuvik Boot Lake	563	111	19.7%
Inuvik Twin Lakes	621	182	29.3%
Kam Lake	965	213	22.1%
Mackenzie Delta**	0	0	0.00%
Monfwi**	0	0	0.00%
Nahendeh	854	244	28.6%
Nunakput	772	74	9.6%
Range Lake	863	133	15.4%
Sahtu	869	98	11.3%
Thebacha	1,170	558	47.7%
Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh	557	47	8.4%
Yellowknife Centre	859	228	26.5%
Yellowknife North	1,388	322	23.2%
Yellowknife South	989	173	17.49%
Total	13,238	3,040	23%

\*includes rejected and declined ballots

## Voter Turnout at Special Voting Opportunities (SVO)

SVO Poll	Ballots Cast	Percentage of all SVO Ballots Cast	Percentage of all Ballots Cast
Absentee (mail in)	49	1.6%	0.4%
Absentee (online)	489	16.1%	3.7%
Advance	76	2.5%	0.6%
Mobile Polls	70	2.3%	0.5%
Office of the RO	2356	77.5%	18%







<sup>\*\*</sup> Acclaimed Electoral District

## Special Voting Opportunity Turnout by Electoral District

	Absentee	Advance	Mobile	RO Voting	Total SVO Turnout
Deh Cho	13	12	17	57	99
Frame Lake	35	0	0	113	146
Great Slave	56	0	0	145	201
Hay River North*	0	0	0	0	0
Hay River South	17	0	0	194	211
Inuvik Boot Lake	9	0	1	101	111
Inuvik Twin Lakes	10	0	0	172	182
Kam Lake	43	0	1	169	213
Mackenzie Delta*	0	0	0	0	0
Monfwi*	0	0	0	0	0
Nahendeh	26	2	1	215	244
Nunakput	6	6	5	57	74
Range Lake	47	0	0	86	133
Sahtu	15	53	5	25	98
Thebacha	49	0	16	503	558
Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh	8	3	8	28	47
Yellowknife Centre	43	0	16	171	228
Yellowknife North	100	0	0	223	322
Yellowknife South	61	0	0	113	173
Total	538	76	70	2,356	3,040

Poll figures include rejected and declined ballots

\*Acclaimed Electoral District

## Voting in the Office of the Returning Officer

The most popular early voting opportunity is attending the office of the Returning Officer to cast a ballot. For the 2019 electoral event access to that opportunity was increased from the previous events 10 day period to 21 days. Voting in the Office of the Returning Officer (VORO) began at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 7, the day after the close of nominations until 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 28, a few days before ordinary polling day.

Write-in ballots were used to accommodate the soonest start for this poll, as the production and distribution of regular ballots was not achievable.

Many electors will visit their Returning Officer to register and will follow through and cast a ballot at the same time, but some will take advantage of voting by acquaintance should they have known identification issues, are personally known to the election officer. Increasingly, electors from outlying communities in the multi-community electoral districts used the VORO poll if they were visiting the RO's community.

The voting in the office of the Returning Officer poll turn out reflects 77.5% turn out in early voting, making it the most popular poll of the SVO's and 18% of all votes cast in the 2019 Territorial General Election.

## Turnout at Voting in the Office of the Returning Officer

Electoral District	Turnout
Deh Cho	57
Frame Lake	113
Great Slave	145
Hay River North*	0
Hay River South	194
Inuvik Boot Lake	101
Inuvik Twin Lakes	172
Kam Lake	169
Mackenzie Delta*	0
Monfwi*	0
Nahendeh	215
Nunakput	57
Range Lake	86
Sahtu	25
Thebacha	503
Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh	28
Yellowknife Centre	171
Yellowknife North	223
Yellowknife South	113
Total	2356

Poll figures include rejected and declined ballots

\*Acclaimed Electoral District





#### **Absentee Poll**

For the first time the Absentee Poll was delivered using two channels. The application period for the Absentee Poll began August 19 and closed at 2:00 p.m. on September 21, 2019. Electors could choose to receive their ballot by mail or for the first time cast their ballot online. Electors with either a mail-in ballot or PIN for an online ballot had until 8:00 p.m. on Election Day to either return their paper ballot to the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer or activate and cast their electronic ballot online in order for it to be counted.

For this event the Absentee Poll – mail-in channel – was used to administer ballots to eligible electors at all NWT correctional centres. Both the application process and ballot administration was coordinated between the OCEO and election liaison personnel in each centre. The decision to revert back to the Absentee Mail in ballot to administer the ballot to the centres was primarily to address security issues encountered in the past two electoral events.

It is important to note election history was made in Canada when Elections NWT introduced online voting as part of the Absentee Poll for the 2019 Territorial General Election. Essentially the application process to request an absentee ballot through either channel was the same. All applications were vetted by an elections officer to ensure identity and residency requirements were met. Depending on which channel the elector selected, a ballot package was issued and mailed or they were issued a PIN to access and cast their electronic ballot using an online platform.

In the 2019 Territorial General Election 538 Absentee ballots were cast. This amount out paces the combined total of 481 ballots administered by mail for the past three electoral events.

The Absentee Poll turn out reflects 18% turn out in early voting, making it the second most popular poll of the SVO's and 4% of all votes cast in the 2019 Territorial General Election.

## Absentee Poll Turnout by Channel by Electoral District

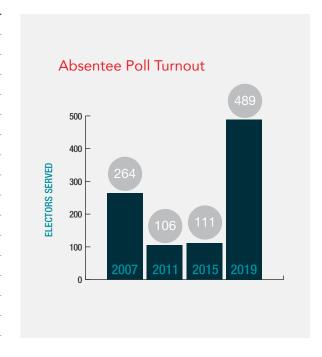
ABSEN <sup>®</sup>	TEE	CHANNEL	
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	Electronic Ballot	By Mail
Deh Cho	8	5
Frame Lake	33	2
Great Slave	51	5
Hay River North*	0	0
Hay River South	16	1
Inuvik Boot Lake	8	1
Inuvik Twin Lakes	7	3
Kam Lake	43	0
Mackenzie Delta*	0	0
Monfwi*	0	0
Nahendeh	21	5
Nunakput	1	5
Range Lake	44	3
Sahtu	13	2
Thebacha	45	4
Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh	2	6
Yellowknife Centre	41	2
Yellowknife North	96	4
Yellowknife South	60	1
Total	489	49
% of Absentee Poll	91%	9%

\*Acclaimed Electoral Districts

## Absentee Poll Electronic Ballot Turnout by Country

	Turnout	Turnout (5) of all Special Voting Opportunities	Turnout (%) of all Electronic Ballots
Canada	459	15.3%	93.87%
United States of America	8	0.3%	1.64%
France	5	0.2%	1.02%
Philippines	2	0.1%	0.41%
Denmark	2	0.1%	0.41%
Serbia	2	0.1%	0.41%
Spain	2	0.1%	0.41%
Japan	1	0%	0.20%
Norway	1	0%	0.20%
New Zealand	1	0%	0.20%
Zambia	1	0%	0.20%
Switzerland	1	0%	0.20%
Italy	1	0%	0.20%
Mexico	1	0%	0.20%
Morocco	1	0%	0.20%
Germany	1	0%	0.20%







### **Advance Polls**

Advance polls are held in communities without a resident RO. Advance polls may be held, at the discretion of the Returning Officer, in any community without a resident RO. Advance polls were delivered between September 24 and 27, 2019. This poll is generally very lightly attended and 7 of the 18 scheduled Advance polls saw no electors at all. On average only 4 electors attended Advance polls. The continued presence of Advance polls should be evaluated if attendance continues to be poor.

The Advance Polls turn out reflects 0.6% of all votes cast and 2.5% turn out in early voting cast in the 2019 Territorial General Election.

## Advance Poll Turnout by Community

Community	Turnout
Enterprise	5
Kakisa	7
K'atl'odeeche First Nation	0
Fort Liard	0
Jean Marie River	1
Nahanni Butte	1
Wrigley	0
Paulatuk	3
Sachs Harbour	1
Ulukhaktok	2
Colville Lake	0
Deline	13
Fort Good Hope	30
Tulita	10
Dettah	0
Łutselk'e	0
Ndilo	3
Total:	76

\*no Advance poll held in Sambaa K'e as entire community was at fall hunt during Advance poll period.

#### **Mobile Polls**

Upon application, Mobile polls were available to electors who could not make it to an ordinary poll and wished to have a poll brought to them. The application period was September 17 to 20, 2019 and a total of 70 Mobile polls were administered.

The Mobile Poll turn out reflects 0.5% turn out of early voting, 50% less than in 2015, and 2.3% of all votes cast in the 2019 Territorial General Election. The downturn in the use of this poll is thought to be tied to electors utilization of the online Absentee Poll.

#### **Multi-District Polls**

The Multi-District Poll was not utilized this event as past turnout at many polls received only a few, or no electors at all. Many electors out of their electoral districts engaged with the Absentee Poll, and the Absentee ballot, By Mail channel, was utilized to serve the correctional centres. The decision to revert back to the Absentee - By Mail ballot to administer the ballot to inmates was primarily to address security issues encountered in the past two electoral events.

A robust marketing campaign targeted electors at the college and mine sites to create an awareness that if they were not going to be in their home community on ordinary polling day they could use the Absentee Poll to cast their ballots.

## **Ordinary Polling Day**

Ordinary poll day was held October 1, 2019 for 16 of the 19 districts that were not acclaimed. In total 10,198 ballots were cast by electors representing 77% of all ballots cast in the 2019 Territorial General Election. The electoral district of Thebacha, which had the highest early voting numbers had the lowest turnout at an ordinary poll with 52% of registered electors casting ballots. And interestingly, the electoral district of Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, with the lowest early voting turnout numbers, had the highest turn out at their ordinary polls with 92%.

## **Ordinary Poll Voter Turnout**

Electoral District	Total Votes Cast in the 2019 TGE	Ordinary Poll Turnout	Ordinary Poll Turnout (%)
Deh Cho	537	438	81.6%
Frame Lake	706	560	79.3%
<b>Great Slave</b>	852	651	76.4%
Hay River North*	0	0	0.00%
Hay River South	673	462	68.6%
Inuvik Boot Lake	563	452	80.3%
Inuvik Twin Lakes	621	439	70.7%
Kam Lake	965	752	77.9%
Mackenzie Delta*	0	0	0.00%
Monfwi*	0	0	0.00%
Nahendeh	854	610	71.4%
Nunakput	772	698	90.4%
Range Lake	863	730	84.6%
Sahtu	869	771	88.7%
Thebacha	1,170	612	52.3%
Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh	557	510	91.6%
Yellowknife Centre	859	631	73.5%
Yellowknife North	1,388	1,066	76.8%
Yellowknife South	989	816	82.5%
Total	13,238	10,198	

<sup>\*</sup> Acclaimed Electoral District



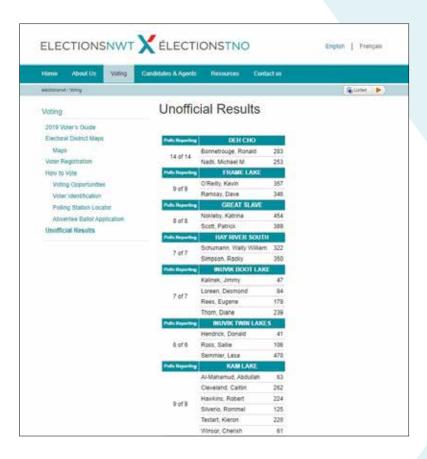


## **Unofficial Results Reporting**

After the close of polls on October 1, 2019, Returning Officers entered unofficial results provided by their election officers into the election management system which reported them in real-time to the public on the Elections NWT website. Official addition exercises were completed by Returning Officers in the days following ordinary poll and the results were included in the Official Results Report.

#### **Judicial Recounts**

The electoral districts of Frame Lake and Yellowknife North reported unofficial results with a margin of less than 2% between the candidate with the highest number of votes and the candidate with the second highest number of votes. In accordance with subsection 206(1) of the *Elections and Plebiscites Act* the Returning Officers for those electoral districts applied to a judge for a recount of the votes. Judicial Recounts were conducted by NWT Supreme Court Justice S.H. Smallwood on Wednesday, October 9, 2019. The results for Yellowknife North were amended, but both candidates with the highest number of votes remained the same.



## **Official Results Reporting**

In accordance with subsection 256(1) the *Elections and Plebiscites Act* Chief Electoral Officer Nicole Latour provided the *Territorial General Election 2019 Official Results Report* to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly which was tabled on December 11, 2019.

## Summary of Results by Electoral District for the 2019 Territorial General Election







## Summary of Results by Electoral District for the 2019 Territorial General Election (Continued)



## **ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE 19TH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**



Deh Cho Ronald Bonnetrouge



Frame Lake Kevin O'Reilly



Great Slave Katrina Nokleby



Hay River North R.J. Simpson



Hay River South Rocky Simpson



Inuvik Boot Lake Diane Thom



Inuvik Twin Lakes Lesa Semmler



Kam Lake Caitlin Cleveland



Mackenzie Delta Frederick Blake Jr.



Monfwi Jackson Lafferty



Nahendeh Shane Thompson



Nunakput Jackie Jacobson



Range Lake Caroline Cochrane



Sahtu Paulie Chinna



Thebacha Frieda Martselos



Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh Steve Norn



Yellowknife Centre Julie Green



Yellowknife North Ryland Johnson



Yellowknife South Caroline Wawzonek





## CANDIDATE FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Candidate Financial Report (CFR) for the 2019 Territorial General Election was again available electronic format as a fillable PDF with an auto calculating feature, but could also be downloaded and completed manually. The CFR was accessible on the Elections NWT website, in the Candidate's Portal or from a Returning Officer in a hardcopy format.

As per past practice a Finance Officer was available in the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer to assist with the completion of a CFR. However, for the first time, there was also an audio video presentation with step by step instructions on how to accurately complete the form in its entirety available on the Elections NWT website. Additionally, all Official Agents were provided with a sample completed CFR for reference.

Furthermore, a proactive outreach strategy saw the Finance Officer establish and remain in contact with Official Agents throughout the election period. Through telephone and email, guidance was provided on how to initiate interaction with the CFR as an ongoing practice. The agenda was to suggest Official Agents methodically update the CFR as contributions were collected and payments made throughout the Writ period.

This new approach of additional information support and outreach seems to have been worthwhile as much higher compliance rate was achieved.

## **Compliance**

In accordance with subsection 256(1) of the *Elections and Plebiscites Act*, a Candidate's Official Agent must submit an accurate and signed Candidates Financial Report within 60 days after polling day. For the 2019 Territorial General Election this day fell on Saturday, November 30, 2019. The Finance Officer was present in the office on the Saturday but CFR's were accepted until the close of business on Monday, December 2, 2019.

As of 5:00 p.m. Monday, December 2, 2019 a total of 49 of the 58 reports, representing 84.5%, had been submitted and approved. Of the nine missing, two requests to the Chief Electoral Officer for extensions had been granted, leaving only seven reports absent and found to be in non-compliance. All duly elected members were in compliance by the deadline.

This is a marked improvement from the Territorial General Election in 2015, when only 52% were submitted and approved by the deadline, nine duly elected members had not complied and 26 reports remained absent. Again the proactive outreach and additional information likely underpins this greater gain.

## **Candidates Financial Report Information**Submitted Reports or Granted Extensions

Candidate Name	Electoral District
Ronald Bonnetrouge	Deh Cho
Dave Ramsay	Frame Lake
Kevin O'Reilly	Frame Lake
Katrina Nokleby	Great Slave
Patrick Scott	Great Slave
R.J. Simpson	Hay River North
Rocky Simpson	Hay River South
Wally William Schumann	Hay River South
Eugene Rees	Inuvik Boot Lake
Jimmy Kalinek	Inuvik Boot Lake
Diane Thom	Inuvik Boot Lake
Donald Hendrick	Inuvik Twin Lakes
Lesa Semmler	Inuvik Twin Lakes
Caitlin Cleveland	Kam Lake
Cherish Winsor	Kam Lake
Abdullah Al-Mahamud	Kam Lake
Rommel Silverio	Kam Lake
Kieron Testart	Kam Lake
Robert Hawkins	Kam Lake
Frederick Blake Jr.	Mackenzie Delta
Jackson Lafferty	Monfwi
Mike Drake	Nahendeh
Eric Menicoche	Nahendeh
Randy Sibbeston	Nahendeh
Shane Thompson	Nahendeh

Electoral District
Nunakput
Nunakput
Nunakput
Nunakput
Range Lake
Range Lake
Sahtu
Sahtu
Sahtu
Thebacha
Thebacha
Thebacha
Thebacha
Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh
Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh
Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh
Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh
Yellowknife Centre
Yellowknife Centre
Yellowknife Centre
Yellowknife Centre
Yellowknife North
Yellowknife North
Yellowknife North
Yellowknife South
Yellowknife South

## Candidates that Failed to Meet CFR Submission Deadline

Candidate Name	Electoral District
Michael M. Nadli	Deh Cho
<b>Desmond Loreen</b>	Inuvik Boot Lake
Sallie Ross	Inuvik Twin Lakes
Alisa Blake	Nunakput
Herbert Nakimayak	Nunakput
Caroline Yukon	Sahtu
Richard Edjericon	Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh

## **51**CANDIDATES

MET THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF A CFR THEREFORE HAD THEIR NOMINATION DEPOSIT RETURNED

**T**CANDIDATES\*

FORFEITED THEIR \$200 NOMINATION DEPOSITS

FOR NOT MEETING THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT A CFR.

TANDIDATES\*

WERE SERVED WITH A \$500 DEMAND NOTICE FROM THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER PER SUBSECTION 257.1 (1) OF THE ELECTIONS AND PLEBISCITES ACT FOR MISSING THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF A CFR AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS.

WERE ASSESSED ADDITIONAL PENALTIES FOR EACH DAY THEY FAILED TO COMPLY WITH THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING A CFR AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS PER SUBSECTION 257.1 (1.1) OF THE ELECTIONS AND PLEBISCITES ACT.

\*refers to the same 7 individuals





## **COMPLIANCE AGREEMENTS**

Two Compliance Agreements were signed during the 2019 Territorial General Election to address violations of the *Elections and Plebiscites Act* (hereinafter the "Act").

The first agreement, between Chief Electoral Officer Nicole Latour and Mr. Craig Yeo of Yellowknife, was signed October 3, 2019. As a campaign worker for Yellowknife Center Candidate Julie Green, Mr. Yeo admits to violating s.296 of the Act by removing, without authority, the campaign signage of Yellowknife Centre Candidate Hache.

The second agreement, between Chief Electoral Officer Nicole Latour and Mr. Todd Parsons of Yellowknife, was signed November 4, 2019. As President of the Union of Northern Workers Mr. Parsons acknowledged an offence pursuant to s.264.2 (1) of the Act for failing to apply for registration as a third party advertiser spending more than \$500 for election advertising.

These agreements can be found in their entirety on the Elections NWT website: www.electionsnwt.ca/en/ compliance-agreements





## 1 INTERPRETATION

#### Section 1



## **Current Legislation**

Absense of definition

## Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

"election witness"

**That the definition read:** That the definition read: "election witness" may mean a designate election officer and if necessary an elector who is eligible to cast a ballot in the electoral district who is not serving as a polling agent.

## **Rationale**

If the extinguishment of the need for witness does not occur there must be some thought to ensuring witnesses are eligible electors in an electoral district and clarification that Polling Agents are simply that and not witnesses. A noticable abuse on the part of many candidates' polling agents who attended poll counts demanded compensation as a witness. Witnesses are legislated and should not be remunerated for being a campaign worker.

# 2 FAMILY MEMBERS INELIGIBLE FOR APPOINTMENTS

Section 16 (3)

## **Current Legislation**

A person is not eligible for appointment as an assistant returning officer if he or she is the mother, father, stepmother, stepfather, spouse, natural or adopted child, stepchild, brother, sister, half-brother or half-sister of the returning officer responsible for making the appointment.

#### **Recommendation**

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

A person is not eligible for appointment as an assistant returning officer or an additional assistant returning officer if he or she is the mother, father, stepmother, stepfather, spouse, natural or adopted child, stepchild, brother, sister, half-brother or half-sister of the returning officer responsible for making the appointment, or a candidate.

## **Rationale**

Although it is a struggle to find election workers in the outlying communities , adding 'additional assistant returning officer' and 'or a candidate' ensures all stakeholders confidence in the integrity of the election process and the secrecy of the ballots.





## **3 CONTENTS OF THE REGISTER**



## **Current Legislation**

Subject to subsection (3), the register of electors may only include the following information relating to an elector:

- (a) the surname, given name and middle initials of the elector;
- (b) the residential address of the elector, including the house or unit number and postal code, and the mailing address if different from the residential address;
- (c) the telephone number of the elector;
- (d) the gender of the elector;
- (e) the date of birth of the elector;
- (f) the date on which the elector commenced residence, within the meaning of section 21 of the Local Authorities Elections Act, in the community where the elector resides.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

Subject to subsection (3), the register of electors may only include the following information relating to an elector:

- (a) the surname, given name and middle initials of the elector;
- (b) the residential address of the elector, including the house or unit number and postal code, and the mailing address if different from the residential address;
- (c) the telephone number of the elector;
- (d) the email address of the elector;
- (e) the gender of the elector;
- (f) the date of birth of the elector;
- (g) the date on which the elector commenced residence, within the meaning of section 21 of the Local Authorities Elections Act, in the community where the elector resides.

## **Rationale**

Sec. 54 (4)(c) does make allowance for the Chief Electoral Officer to collect additional information, but with current day communication practices and election modernization the use of email addresses over telephone contact is preferred as it offers a written record.

## **4 INTERPRETATION**



## **Current Legislation**

The Chief Electoral Officer may, for the purpose of ensuring the protection of personal information given under an agreement made under paragraph (1)(b), (2)(b) or (2.1)(b), include in the agreement any conditions that he or she considers appropriate regarding the use that may be made of that information. S.N.W.T. 2011,c.8,s.10; S.N.W.T. 2018, c.16,s.23.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

The Chief Electoral Officer may, for the purpose of ensuring the protection of personal information given under an agreement made under paragraph (1)(b), (2)(b) or (2.1)(b), include in the agreement any conditions that he or she considers appropriate regarding the use that may be made of that information. S.N.W.T. 2011,c.8,s.10; S.N.W.T. 2018, c.16,s.23.

## **Rationale**

There is no (2.1)(b) in section 55 of the Elections and Plebscites Act

# 5 REQUIREMENTS TO PROVIDE NAMES AND ADDRESSES

Section 55.1 (1.1)
AMEND

## **Current Legislation**

- (1.1) To enable compilation of the register of electors, on the request of the Chief Electoral Officer,
- (a) the Director of Medical Insurance appointed under the Medical Care Act shall provide the names and addresses of those "insured persons", as defined in section 1 of that Act, who meet the specified criteria;
- (b) the Deputy Minister as defined in section 1 of the Student Financial Assistance Act shall provide the names and addresses of those eligible applicants for student financial assistance who meet the specified criteria; and
- (c) the Deputy Minister of the Department of Justice shall provide the names and addresses of those persons who are inmates of correctional centres, as defined in section 1 of the Corrections Act, who meet the specified criteria.

## Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Requirements to provide names and addresses personal data

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

- (1.1) To enable compilation of the register of electors, on the request of the Chief Electoral Officer,
- (a) the Director of Medical Insurance appointed under the Medical Care Act shall provide the names, and addresses, dates of birth and citizenship of those "insured persons", as defined in section 1 of that Act, who meet the specified criteria;

- (b) the Deputy Minister as defined in section 1 of the Student Financial Assistance Act shall provide the names, and addresses, dates of birth and citizenship of those eligible applicants for student financial assistance who meet the specified criteria; and
- (c) the Deputy Minister of the Department of Justice shall provide the names and addresses, dates of birth and citizenship of those persons who are inmates of correctional centres, as defined in section 1 of the Corrections Act, who meet the specified criteria.
- (d) the Deputy Minister of the Department of Infrastructure shall provide the names, addresses, dates of birth and citizenship of those persons who have been issued a drivers licence as defined in section 67 of the Motor Vehicles Act.

#### Rationale

As a means to ensure the accuracy of the Register of Electors, data sets must be as comprehensive as possible. Eligibility as a qualified elector is determined by ones residency, age and citizenship.





## **6 POSTING OF NAMES**



## **Current Legislation**

69.2. (1) A returning officer who has prepared a statement of changes under subsection 69(2) or section 69.1 shall, from time to time, prepare and update a record listing the persons whose names may be removed under those provisions, and shall ensure that the updated record is posted on the website of the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer and in a conspicuous place in each community in the electoral district of the returning officer.

## Recommendation

#### Proposed legislative change

Repeal section

## **Rationale**

The subject in this section was not initiated in the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer and the practice is strongly not advised as there is no informed consent on the part of electors and it is thought to compromise an elector's privacy. Furthermore the practice generally works against the desire to have electors register freely and know their information is protected.

## 7 LIST OF ELECTORS



## **Current Legislation**

At least seven days before polling day, the Chief Electoral Officer shall provide each returning officer for an electoral district with a copy of the list of electors for each polling division in the electoral district. S.N.W.T. 2018,c.16,s.31.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

At least seven days before polling day, tThe Chief Electoral Officer shall provide each returning officer for an electoral district with a copy of the list of electors for each polling division in the electoral district. S.N.W.T. 2018,c.16,s.31.

## Rationale

This section needs to reflect modernization in that Returning Officers work within the Register for their electoral districts on a continuous basis and can create the necessary lists of elector for polling divisions in a matter of minutes.

# 8 ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

Section 78 (b)
AMEND

## **Current Legislation**

the use of information referred to in paragraph (a) by the Chief Electoral Officer, election officers, candidates, members of the Legislative Assembly and other governments.

#### Recommendation

**Amend subsection to read as follows:** the use of information referred to in paragraph (a) by the Chief Electoral Officer, election officers, candidates, official agents, members of the Legislative Assembly and other governments.

#### **Rationale**

s s.75 (1) explicitly provides the list to an official agent for each candidate they should be bound in the same manner as other stakeholders.

## **9 EXCEPTIONS**



## **Current Legislation**

- 4) A person is not eligible to be a candidate while he or she
- (a) holds office as the Chief Electoral Officer;
- (a.1) is an election officer;
- (a.2) is an official agent;
- (b) is a member of the Parliament of Canada or of the legislative assembly of a province or territory;
- (c) is imprisoned in a correctional institution as a result of a conviction for an offence; or
- (d) is disqualified under section 350.
- S.N.W.T. 2010,c.15,s.11; S.N.W.T. 2014,c.19,s.10.

#### Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

A person is not eligible to be a candidate while he or she

- (a) holds office as the Chief Electoral Officer;
- (a.1) is an election officer:
- (a.2) is an official agent;
- (b) is a member of the Parliament of Canada or of the legislative assembly of a province or territory;
- (c) is imprisoned in a correctional institution as a result of a conviction for an offence; or
- (d) is disqualified under section 350.
- (e) aspects of indebtedness included in section 20 of the *Local Authorities Election Act*

S.N.W.T. 2010,c.15,s.11; S.N.W.T. 2014,c.19,s.10.

## Rationale

Many concerns from all election stakeholders were brought forward with the lack of alignment in legislation that exist for candidate eligibility with respect to indebtedness to the Government of the Northwest Territories.





## **10 NOMINATION PAPER**



## **Current Legislation**

contain a declaration that the person being nominated has reviewed the following information that shall be made available by the Chief Electoral Officer:

- (i) any code of conduct established by the Legislative Assembly for its members,
- (ii) information respecting the conflict of interest requirements under Part 3 of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act as they relate to a member of the Legislative Assembly. S.N.W.T. 2018,c.16,s.34.

## Recommendation

#### Amend paragraph to read as follows:

contain a declaration that the person being nominated has reviewed the following information that shall be made available by the Chief Electoral Officer:

- (i) any code of conduct established by the Legislative Assembly for its members,
- (ii) information respecting the conflict of interest requirements under Part 3 of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act as they relate to a member of the Legislative Assembly. S.N.W.T. 2018,c.16,s.34.

## **Rationale**

The provision of current and accurate versions of the documents should rest with the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories and not add to, and/or confuse the intent of the nomination paper. The 'Information Review Declaration' could remain as Part 4 of the nomination paper should legislators continue to believe commitments of elected members should be introducted during candidacy.

## 11 PROHIBITION IN RESPECT OF LIQUOR



## **Current Legislation**

In an electoral district where a poll is being held, during the hours the poll is open on polling day for an election,

(a) no liquor store, as defined in the Liquor Act shall be open; and (b) no person shall offer, sell, give, or provide liquor at a licensed premises or other public place.

## Recommendation

#### Proposed legislative change

Repeal subsection:

## **Rationale**

As recommended in 2015, this subsection of the Elections and Plebiscites Act unfairly penalizes business owners. There is no data available to support a view that the sale of liquor, retail or in establishments has any bearing in polling day turn out. Most Canadian jurisdictions have eliminated this requirement.

# 12 RESTRICTION ON COMMUNICATION DEVICES



## **Current Legislation**

No person, other than an election officer, may use a cell phone, computer or other similar communication device in a polling station. S.N.W.T. 2014,c.29,s.11.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

No person, other than an election officer, may use a cell phone, computer or other similar communication or image capturing device in a polling station.

S.N.W.T. 2014, c. 29, s. 11.

## **Rationale**

Taking photographs is prohibited in polling stations without the expressed consent of the Chief Electoral Officer. The proposed amendment makes the prohibition of cameras in a polling station abundantly clear.

## **13 WITNESSES**



## **Current Legislation**

Where, under this Division, votes must be counted in the office of the returning officer on polling day, the returning officer shall ensure that the following procedures are conducted in the presence and in full view of at least two electors eligible to vote in the electoral district:

- (a) unsealing and opening the ballot box;
- (b) examining the ballots;
- (c) rejecting ballots in accordance with criteria set out in this Act;
- (d) recording the votes;
- (e) counting the votes;
- (f) sealing the ballots and other documents in envelopes and initialling the envelopes;
- (g) resealing the ballot box and initialling the seal.

## Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Conducting the count

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

Where, under this Division, votes must be counted in the office of the returning officer on polling day, the returning officer assisted by a counting clerk, shall ensure that the following procedures are conducted in the presence and in full view of at least two electors eligible to vote in the electoral district:





- (a) unsealing and opening the ballot box;
- (b) examining the ballots;
- (c) counting votes;
- (ed) rejecting ballots in accordance with criteria set out in this Act;
- (de) recording the votes;
- (ef) returning officer signature on the votes record is witnessed;
- (fg) sealing the ballots and other documents in envelopes and initialling the envelopes;
- (gh) resealing the ballot box and initialling the seal.

### **Rationale**

Officers under oath should not have their integrity undermined by having members of the public at large monitor their work. Two persons and polling agents alone should suffice. The Tariff of Fees Regulations will incorporate a new position of "Counting Clerk" at a reasonable rate of minimum wage + \$2.00/hr. to assist the returning officer to count the special voting opportunities upon the close of ordinary poll as the assistant returning officer is serving as a polling station supervisor on ordinary polling day.

# 14 APPLICATION TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT

Section 134 (1)
AMEND

## **Current Legislation**

An elector may, commencing 14 days before a writ of election or plebiscite proclamation is issued and continuing until 2 p.m. on the 10th day before polling day, apply to the Chief Electoral Officer for an absentee ballot for the electoral district in which the elector is ordinarily resident. 2018, c. 16, s. 34.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

An elector may, commencing 14 days before a writ of election or plebiscite proclamation is issued and continuing until a date and time set by the Chief Electoral Officer, 2 p.m. on the 10th day before polling day, apply to the Chief Electoral Officer for an absentee ballot for the electoral district in which the elector is ordinarily resident.

## Rationale

With the introduction of online balloting the ability to extend the application period and allow electors to have extended access to, and cast, their electronic ballot should exist with the Chief Electoral Officer.

## **15 OBSERVING VOTE COUNT**

Section 151 (2.1)
AMEND

## **Current Legislation**

A candidate or his or her polling agent or a plebiscite witness, who is present in the office of the returning officer at the close of the poll on polling day may observe the count of votes cast there, and if no candidate, polling agent or plebiscite witness is present, the count of votes must be conducted in the presence and full view of at least two electors eligible to vote in the electoral district.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

A candidate or his or her polling agent or a 'Counting Clerk', or a plebiscite witness, who is present in the office of the returning officer at the close of the poll on polling day may observe the count of votes cast there., and if no candidate, polling agent or plebiscite witness is present, the count of votes must be conducted in the presence and full view of at least two electors eligible to vote in the electoral district.

## **Rationale**

Officers under oath should not have their integrity undermined by having members of the public at large monitor their work. Two persons and polling agents alone should suffice. The Tariff of Fees Regulations will incorporate a new position of "Counting Clerk" at a reasonable rate of minimum wage + \$2.00/hr. to assist the returning officer to count the special voting opportunities upon the close of ordinary poll as the assistant returning officer is serving as a polling station supervisor on ordinary polling day.

# 16 CANDIDATE, OFFICIAL AGENT NOT TO ASSIST

Section 189 (4.1)



## **Current Legislation**

(4.1) A candidate or official agent may not assist an elector in marking a ballot at an election.

## Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Candidate, official agent, polling agent not to assist

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

(4.1) A candidate, or official agent, or polling agent may not assist an elector in marking a ballot at an election.

## **Rationale**

As polling agents may be present in a polling station the *Elections and Plebiscites Act* should explicity name them as not being able to assist an elector in marking their ballot.





## 17 WITNESS TO THE COUNTING OF VOTES



## **Current Legislation**

The procedures outlined in this section must be conducted in the presence of the poll clerk and in full view of the candidates, candidates' polling agents or plebiscite witnesses who are present, or if no candidate, candidate's polling agent or plebiscite witness is present, in the presence and in full view of at least two electors eligible to vote in the electoral district.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

The procedures outlined in this section must be conducted in the presence of the poll clerk and in full view of the candidates, candidates' polling agents or plebiscite witnesses who are present , or if no candidate, candidate's polling agent or plebiscite witness is present, in the presence and in full view of at least two electors eligible to vote in the electoral district.

## **Rationale**

Officers under oath should not have their integrity undermined by having members of the public at large monitor their work. Two persons and polling agents alone should suffice. The Tariff of Fees Regulations will incorporate a new position of "Counting Clerk" at a reasonable rate of minimum wage + \$2.00/hr. to assist the returning officer to count the special voting opportunities upon the close of ordinary poll as the assistant returning officer is serving as a polling station supervisor on ordinary polling day.

## **18 ADDITIONAL TALLY SHEETS**



## **Current Legislation**

The deputy returning officer shall ensure that each candidate, candidate's polling agent, plebiscite witness or elector who is present is offered a tally sheet on which he or she may record the information as the deputy returning officer calls it out.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

The deputy returning officer shall ensure that each candidate, candidate's polling agent, plebiscite witness or elector who is present is offered a tally sheet on which he or she may record the information as the deputy returning officer calls it out.

## **Rationale**

Officers under oath should not have their integrity undermined by having member of the public at large monitor their work. Two persons and polling agents alone should suffice. The Tariff of Fees Regulations will incorporate a new position of "Counting Clerk" at a reasonable rate of minimum wage + \$2.00/hr. to assist the returning officer to count the special voting opportunities upon the close of the ordinary poll as the assistant returning officer is serving as a polling station supervisor on ordinary polling day.

## 19 OBJECTIONS



## **Current Legislation**

A candidate, candidate's polling agent, plebiscite witness or an elector who is present at the counting of votes may, in respect of any ballot found in the ballot box, (a) on the basis of a ground for rejection under subsection 192(1) or (2), object to the ballot being counted as a vote cast for a candidate or a vote cast as a response to

a plebiscite question; or (b) object to a rejection of the ballot by the deputy returning officer.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

A candidate, candidate's polling agent, plebiscite witness or an elector who is present at the counting of votes may, in respect of any ballot found in the ballot box,

(a) on the basis of a ground for rejection under subsection 192(1) or (2), object to the ballot being counted as a vote cast for

a candidate or a vote cast as a response to a plebiscite question; or (b) object to a rejection of the ballot by the deputy returning officer.

## **Rationale**

Officers under oath should not have their integrity undermined by having members of the public at large monitor their work. Two persons and polling agents alone should suffice. The Tariff of Fees Regulations will incorporate a new position of "Counting Clerk" at a reasonable rate of minimum wage + \$2.00/hr. to assist the returning officer to count the special voting opportunities upon the close of ordinary poll as the assistant returning officer is serving as a polling station supervisor on ordinary polling day.

## **20 INITIALS ON ENVELOPES**



## **Current Legislation**

The deputy returning officer and the poll clerk shall initial, and the candidates, candidates' polling agents, plebiscite witnesses or electors who are present may initial, the seals on each envelope referred to in subsections (1), (2) and (3).

## **Recommendation**

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

The deputy returning officer and the poll clerk shall initial, and the candidates, candidates' polling agents, plebiscite witnesses or electors who are present may initial, the seals on each envelope referred to in subsections (1), (2) and (3).

## **Rationale**

Officers under oath should not have their integrity undermined by having members of the public at large monitor their work. Two persons and polling agents alone should suffice. The Tariff of Fees Regulations will incorporate a new position of "Counting Clerk" at a reasonable rate of minimum wage + \$2.00/hr. to assist the returning officer to count the special voting opportunities upon the close of ordinary poll as the assistant returning officer is serving as a polling station supervisor on ordinary polling day.





## **21 ENVELOPES IN BALLOT BOX**



## **Current Legislation**

(5) The deputy returning officer shall seal the envelope referred to in subsection (4) with an approved seal, place it in a ballot box, and ensure that the envelope containing the statement of the poll and the envelope containing the polling station account are, unless otherwise directed by the returning officer, in the ballot box.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

The deputy returning officer shall seal the envelope referred to in subsection (4) with an approved seal, place it in a ballot box, and ensure that the envelope containing the statement of the poll and the envelope containing the polling station account are is, unless otherwise directed by the returning officer, in the ballot box.

## **Rationale**

Election administration sees the polling station account captured in an electronic format in the election management system and is no longer a form generated at the polling station.

## **22 INITIALS ON SEALS**



## **Current Legislation**

The deputy returning officer and the poll clerk shall initial, and the candidates, candidates' polling agents, plebiscite witnesses or electors who are present may initial the seal affixed to the ballot box.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

The deputy returning officer and the poll clerk shall initial, and the candidates, candidates' polling agents, plebiscite witnesses or electors who are present may initial the seal affixed to the ballot box.

#### Rationale

Officers under oath should not have their integrity undermined by having members of the public at large monitor their work. Two persons and polling agents alone should suffice. The Tariff of Fees Regulations will incorporate a new position of "Counting Clerk" at a reasonable rate of minimum wage + \$2.00/hr. to assist the returning officer to count the special voting opportunities upon the close of ordinary poll as the assistant returning officer is serving as a polling station supervisor on ordinary polling day.

## **23 WITNESSES**



## **Current Legislation**

The procedures outlined in this section must be conducted in the presence of the assistant returning officer and in full view of the candidates, candidates' polling agents or plebiscite witnesses who are present, or if no candidate, candidate's polling agent or plebiscite witness is present, in the presence and in full view of at least two electors eligible to vote in the electoral district.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

The procedures outlined in this section must be conducted in the presence of the assistant returning officer and in full view of the candidates, candidates' polling agents or plebiscite witnesses who are present, or if no candidate, candidate's polling agent or plebiscite-witness is present, in the presence and in full view of at least two-electors eligible to vote in the electoral district.

## **Rationale**

Officers under oath should not have their integrity undermined by having members of the public at large monitor their work. Two persons and polling agents alone should suffice. The Tariff of Fees Regulations will incorporate a new position of "Counting Clerk" at a reasonable rate of minimum wage + \$2.00/hr. to assist the returning officer to count the special voting opportunities upon the close of ordinary poll as the assistant returning officer is serving as a polling station supervisor on ordinary polling day.





## 24 REPORT, DOCUMENTS AND MATERIALS

Section 205 (e)



## **Current Legislation**

Without delay after transmitting a return of the writ of election under paragraph 201(1)(b) or a plebiscite return under section 203, a returning officer shall transmit to the Chief Electoral Officer, in the manner that he or she may direct,

- (a) a report of the proceedings of the returning officer in the approved form;
- (b) the statements of the polls;
- (c) the undistributed ballots;
- (d) the sealed envelopes received from deputy returning officers containing
- (i) the unused ballots and the stubs of the used ballots,
- (ii) the spoiled ballots, if any,
- (iii) the declined ballots, if any,
- (iv) the ballots marked in favour of each candidate or plebiscite response,
- (v) the rejected ballots, if any,
- (vi) the poll books and voting records, and
- (vii) the lists of electors used at the poll;
- (e) the polling station accounts; and
- (f) all other documents used at the election or plebiscite. S.N.W.T. 2018, c.16, s.5(4).

## **Recommendation**

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

Without delay after transmitting a return of the writ of election under paragraph 201(1)(b) or a plebiscite return under section 203, a returning officer shall transmit to the Chief Electoral Officer, in the manner that he or she may direct.

- (a) a report of the proceedings of the returning officer in the approved form;
- (b) the statements of the polls;
- (c) the undistributed ballots;
- (d) the sealed envelopes received from deputy returning officers containing
- (i) the unused ballots and the stubs of the used ballots,
- (ii) the spoiled ballots, if any,
- (iii) the declined ballots, if any,
- (iv) the ballots marked in favour of each candidate or plebiscite response,
- (v) the rejected ballots, if any,
- (vi) the poll books and voting records, and
- (vii) the lists of electors used at the poll; and
- (e) the polling station accounts;
- (e) the polling station accounts;
- (e) all other documents used at the election or plebiscite.
- S.N.W.T. 2018,c.16,s.5(4).

## **Rationale**

Election administration sees the polling station account captured in an electronic format in the election management system and is no longer a form generated at the polling station.

## **25 INITIALS ON SEALS**



## **Current Legislation**

Within 60 days after polling day for an

election, an official agent shall deliver to the Chief Electoral Officer

- (a) an accurate signed report in the approved form including
- (i) the total value of contributions received as of the end of polling day,
- (ii) the total value of any contributions received after polling day,
- (iii) a list of each contribution having a value exceeding \$100 and the name and address of the contributor,
- (iv) the contributions raised through the sale of tickets to attend a meeting, dance, dinner or other function and the name of the sponsor of the function,
- (v) the gross amount of the contribution raised through a collection of money at a meeting, dance, dinner or other function and the name of the sponsor of the function,
- (vi) all election expenses incurred in the pre-election period and campaign period, including disputed and unpaid bills, (vi.1) all tax receipt books that the official agent has received from a returning officer or the Chief Electoral Officer,
- (vii) a notice in respect of the disposal, in accordance with subsection 248(1), of surplus contributions, and
- (viii) any other information the Chief

Electoral Officer may require;

- (a.1) statements from a bank or institution approved under section 246 in support of the information included in a report under paragraph (a);
- (b) subject to subsection 258(3), all bills proving payment of election expenses

referred to in paragraphs 251(2)(b),

252(b)and254(2)(a),and

subsection 255(3); and (c) declarations in the approved form.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

Within 60 days after polling day for an election, an official agent shall deliver, through an approved means, to the Chief Electoral Officer

- (a) an accurate signed report in the approved form including
- (i) the total value of contributions received as of the end of polling day,
- (ii) the total value of any contributions received after polling day,
- (iii) a list of each contribution having a value exceeding \$100 and the name and address of the contributor,
- (iv) the contributions raised through the sale of tickets to attend a meeting, dance, dinner or other function and
- the name of the sponsor of the function,
- (v) the gross amount of the contribution raised through a collection of money at a meeting, dance, dinner or other function and the name of the sponsor of the function,
- (vi) all election expenses incurred in the pre-election period and campaign period, including disputed and unpaid bills,
- (vi.1) all tax receipt books that the official agent has received from a returning officer or the Chief Electoral Officer,
- (vii) a notice in respect of the disposal, in accordance with subsection 248(1), of surplus contributions, and (viii) any other information the Chief Electoral Officer may require;
- (a.1) statements from a bank or institution approved under section 246 in support of the information included in a report under paragraph (a);
- (b) subject to subsection 258(3), all bills

proving payment of election expenses referred to in paragraphs 251(2)(b), 252 (b) and 254 (2) (a), and subsection 255(3); and (c) declarations in the approved form.

## **Rationale**

In keeping with technological advancements and to better serve candidates and official agents in the outlying communities, accepting draft and final submissions of the Candidate Financial Report (CFR) through technological means or otherwise would be a logical practice. The additional language allows for the flexibility on how candidates and official agents may 'deliver' their CFR.





The 43rd recommendation, page 77, in the CEO Report on the Administration of the 2015 Territorial General Election specifically provided information for Legislators to consider redrafting the *Elections* and *Plebiscites Act* in its entirety. That 2015 recommendation still stands as does the rationale to do so.

In the event a redraft is found to be unwarranted the *Elections and Plebiscites Act* should at the very least include a provision that is captured in the summary language of the third session of the Eighteenth Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories Bill 29 – An Act to Amend the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act. One of the points provided in the 'Summary' says: 'provide a review of the Act every seven years'. The *Elections and Plebiscites* Act should be entitled to the same timeliness of a review to ensure its currency and how it serves the electorate.

The Office of the Chief Electoral Officer continues to receive electors' concerns around accountability in the consensus style government.

Media coverage is consistent with the concerns brought by the electorate. Appendix 'D' contains two such articles. Additionally, many express their desire to elect the Premier independently as is done with Mayor and Council in communities. Achieving something of this nature would likely require convening a commission with the focus of electoral reform. However ensuring a higher level of accountability may be easier to achieve.

Therefore, the final recommendation that stems from the delivery of the 2019 Territorial General Election is that Legislators should give some consideration to, through the *Elections and Plebiscites Act*, providing some form of answerability to electors. True accountability may be accomplished through providing the ability for electors for an electoral district to recall their Member of the Legislative Assembly for reasons such as absenteeism, in activity or misrepresentation.

Guidance on how this recommendation could come to fruition can be found in British Columbia's Part 3 of the *Recall and Initiatives Act* which came into force February 24, 1995 following a referendum on the matter in 1991.





# **ELECTIONS AND PLEBISCITES ACT DIVISION B RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### Preface

Division B of Part 7 of the *Elections and Plebiscites Act* (Act) provides guidance on the delivery of 'Special Voting Opportunities' during an electoral event. This section of the Act provides for voting opportunities that may occur before ordinary polling day. Currently there are five different opportunities: voting in the office of the returning officer, advance poll, absentee poll, mobile poll and the multi-district poll.

As technology and election modernization have progressed there is a need to review Division B for currency. The following 61 recommendations include amending, repealing and creating some statutes to ensure the polls available to the electorate are fitting.

In summary, the 61 recommendations are proposed to achieve the following:

Recommendation numbers	Elections and Plebiscites Act sections	Intent
1 to 21	132 - 136(5)	Proposes to sunset the absentee poll and create a Mail Ballot
22 to 38	136.1 - 136.6	Proposes to repeal the Multi-District Poll in its entirety
39 to 42	142 and 150	Proposes amendments that support modernization procedures
43 to 61	152 – 155(5)	Proposes to sunset the absentee poll and create an Online Ballot - this may be referred to as 'Online Poll' at the Legislators discretion. This requires resurrecting sec. numbers

The rationales for the recommendations are as follows:

- The introduction of online balloting as part of the Absentee Poll became very confusing for all stakeholders as both the mail and online applications were referred to in law as the Absentee Ballot but candidates and electors would request them by their application; either mail or online. Returning Officers were also misusing the terms. Although the procedures to administer the polls are now, and would remain, very similar it makes sense to provide poll names associated with the application.
- Repealing the Multi-District Poll in its entirety is based on it being fairly
  recent introduction to the Act, that is was poorly attended and it has become
  obsolete with the introduction of the online balloting option. Delivering in
  correctional centres has been provided for using the Mail Ballot format. Due
  to persistent safety concerns in the correctional centres administering ballots
  to inmates has reverted back to its previous practice during the 2019 Territorial
  General Election the Mail Ballot.





## 1 VOTING BY MAIL

#### Title



## **Current Legislation**

Voting by Absentee Ballot

#### Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Voting By Absentee Mail Ballot

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

Amend title to read as follows: Voting By Absentee Mail Ballot

# 2 POWERS OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

#### Section 132



## **Current Legislation**

The Chief Electoral Officer may establish procedures in respect of voting by absentee ballot.

S.N.W.T. 2010,c.15,s.16; S.N.W.T. 2014,c.19,s.20.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

The Chief Electoral Officer may establish procedures in respect of voting by Absentee Ballot Mail.

S.N.W.T. 2010,c.15,s.16; S.N.W.T. 2014,c.19,s.20.

## **3 SERVE CORRECTIONAL CENTRES**

#### Section 132.1



# **Current Legislation**

The Chief Electoral Officer may, in accordance with the regulations, establish procedures in respect of voting by absentee ballot by electronic means. S.N.W.T. 2018,c.16,s.40

#### **Recommendation**

#### Margin Note should read:

Serve correctional centres

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

The Chief Electoral Officer may, in accordance with the regulations, establish procedures in respect of voting by Absentee Mail ballot in correctional centres.

## **4 VOTING RECORD**



## **Current Legislation**

The Chief Electoral Officer shall keep a record in the approved form of the names and addresses of all electors who are provided with an absentee ballot, in the order in which the ballots are provided, and shall mark on the record (a) the applicable information that a poll clerk would be required to enter in a poll book under Division C in relation to the name of an elector; and (b) such other information as he or she considers necessary.

#### Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

The Chief Electoral Officer shall keep a record in the approved form of the names and addresses of all electors who are provided with an absentee Mail ballot, in the order in which the ballots are provided, and shall mark on the record (a) the applicable information that a poll clerk would be required to enter in a poll book under Division C in relation to the name of an elector; and (b) such other information as he or she considers necessary.

# **5 SECURITY OF BALLOT BOX**



# **Current Legislation**

The Chief Electoral Officer shall take precautions to ensure the safekeeping and security of the ballot box and ballots used for voting by absentee ballot. S.N.W.T. 2010,c.15,s.17; S.N.W.T. 2014, c.19,s.20, 21.

#### **Recommendation**

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

The Chief Electoral Officer shall take precautions to ensure the safekeeping and security of the ballot box and ballots used for voting by absentee Mail ballot. S.N.W.T. 2010, c.15, s.17; S.N.W.T. 2014, c.19, s.20, 21.





# 6 APPLICATION TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT

Section 134 (1)

AMEND

## **Current Legislation**

An elector may, commencing 14 days before a writ of election or plebiscite proclamation is issued and continuing until 2 p.m. on the 10th day before polling day, apply to the Chief Electoral Officer for an absentee ballot for the electoral district in which the elector is ordinarily resident.

#### Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

An elector may, commencing 14 days before a writ of election or plebiscite proclamation is issued and continuing until 2 p.m. on the 10th day before polling day, apply to the Chief Electoral Officer for an absentee Mail ballot for the electoral district in which the elector is ordinarily resident.

## 7 MAIL BALLOT PROCEDURES



# **Current Legislation**

Subject to subsection (2.1), the Chief Electoral Officer shall, on application under subsection (1), provide an absentee ballot and an instruction package to an elector who is ordinarily resident in the electoral district and whose name appears on the list of electors for a polling division in the electoral district.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

Subject to subsection (2.1), the Chief Electoral Officer shall, on application under subsection (1), provide an absentee Mail ballot and an instruction package to an elector who is ordinarily resident in the electoral district and whose name appears on the list of electors for a polling division in the electoral district.

## **8 TIMING**

Section 134 (2.1)

AMEND

# **Current Legislation**

The Chief Electoral Officer shall not provide an absentee ballot and instruction package to an elector under subsection (2) until after 5 p.m. on the final date fixed for receiving nominations of candidates.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

The Chief Electoral Officer shall not provide an absentee Mail ballot and instruction package to an elector under subsection (2) until after 5 p.m. on the final date fixed for receiving nominations of candidates.

## **9 REQUIREMENT**



## **Current Legislation**

An absentee ballot on which an elector votes must not be accepted unless (a) it arrives in the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer before the close of the poll on polling day; and (b) the elector has completed the certificate on the envelope provided with the instruction package.

#### Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

An absentee Mail ballot on which an elector votes must not be accepted unless (a) it arrives in the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer before the close of the poll on polling day; and

(b) the elector has completed the certificate on the envelope provided with the instruction package.





## **10 PROHIBITION**



## **Current Legislation**

Subject to subsection(5), a person to whom a ballot is provided under subsection(2) shall not vote or attempt to vote by another special voting opportunity or at a poll on polling day.

### Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

Subject to subsection(5), a person to whom a Mail ballot is provided under subsection(2) shall not vote or attempt to vote by another special voting opportunity or at a poll on polling day.

## 11 CANCELLATION OF APPLICATION



## **Current Legislation**

An elector who has made an application for an absentee ballot under subsection (1) may cancel the application by notifying the Chief Electoral Officer in writing at least seven days before polling day.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

An elector who has made an application for an absentee Mail ballot under subsection (1) may cancel the application by notifying the Chief Electoral Officer in writing at least seven days before polling day.

# 12 APPLICATION TO VOTE OTHER THAN BY WAY OF ISSUED MAIL BALLOT



## **Current Legislation**

If an absentee ballot has been issued to an elector, and the elector subsequently becomes unable to vote by absentee ballot, the elector may make an application to the Chief Electoral Officer for permission to vote using another method identified under paragraph 38(1)(b).

### Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Application to vote other than by way of issued absentee Mail ballot.

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

If an absentee Mail ballot has been issued to an elector, and the elector subsequently becomes unable to vote by absentee Mail ballot, the elector may make an application to the Chief Electoral Officer for permission to vote using another method identified under paragraph 38(1)(b).

## **13 REINSTATING NAME**



## **Current Legislation**

If, on hearing an application under subsection (6), the Chief Electoral Officer is satisfied that the elector is unable to vote by absentee ballot, the Chief Electoral Officer may permit the applicant to vote using another method identified under paragraph 38(1)(b). S.N.W.T. 2010,c.15,s.18; S.N.W.T. 2014, c.19,s.21,22; S.N.W.T. 2018, c.16,s.41.

### Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

If, on hearing an application under subsection (6), the Chief Electoral Officer is satisfied that the elector is unable to vote by absentee Mail ballot, the Chief Electoral Officer may permit the applicant to vote using another method identified under paragraph 38(1)(b). S.N.W.T. 2010,c.15,s.18; S.N.W.T. 2014, c.19,s.21,22; S.N.W.T. 2018, c.16,s.41.

# **14 INFORMATION TO CANDIDATE**



# **Current Legislation**

The Chief Electoral Officer shall, on request by a candidate or official agent, provide him or her with a list of electors to whom the Chief Electoral Officer has, up to and including the date of the request, provided an absentee ballot under subsection 134(2). S.N.W.T. 2014,c.19,s.23.

#### Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

The Chief Electoral Officer shall, on request by a candidate or official agent, provide him or her with a list of electors to whom the Chief Electoral Officer has, up to and including the date of the request, provided an absentee Mail ballot under subsection 134(2). S.N.W.T. 2014,c.19,s.23.





# 15 INSTRUCTIONS FOR UPDATING THE LISTS OF ELECTORS



## **Current Legislation**

The Chief Electoral Officer shall, without delay after the time for applying for an absentee ballot has expired, instruct each returning officer to strike from the lists of electors for his or her electoral district the names of all electors appearing in the voting record.

### Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

The Chief Electoral Officer shall, without delay, upon issuing a Mail ballot ensure after the time for applying for an absentee ballot has expired, instruct each returning officer to strike the name of the elector applying for a Mail ballot is struck from the lists of electors for his or her electoral district and that the elector's name the names of all electors appearings in the voting record.

## **Notes**

With modernization electors are stuck from lists of electors and are recorded as having voted immediately upon being issued a mail ballot. This is managed by a designated election officer and not the returning officer

# 16 UPDATING AND TRANSMITTING LIST OF ELECTORS



## **Current Legislation**

Without delay after receiving the instructions from the Chief Electoral Officer, the returning officer shall

(a) strike from the list of electors the names of all electors appearing in the voting record; and

(b) ensure that the deputy returning officer is supplied with an updated list of electors for a polling station.

S.N.W.T. 2010,c.15,s.19; S.N.W.T. 2014,c.19,s.24; S.N.W.T. 2018, c.16,s.5(4),42.

## Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Application to vote other than by way of issued Mail ballot.

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

Without delay after receiving the instructions from the Chief Electoral Officer, the returning officer shall ensure that the deputy returning officer is supplied with an updated list of electors for a polling station. S.N.W.T. 2010,c.15,s.19; S.N.W.T. 2014,c.19,s.24; S.N.W.T. 2018, c.16,s.5(4),42.

## **Notes**

Modernization now provides for real-time struck lists of electors.

# 17 COUNTING VOTES BY MAIL BALLOT

Section 136 (1)
AMEND

# **Current Legislation**

The Chief Electoral Officer or an election officer designated by him or her shall, without delay after the close of the poll on polling day and in the presence and full view of two electors, count the votes cast by absentee ballot.

## Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Counting votes by absentee Mail ballot

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

The Chief Electoral Officer or an election officer designated by him or her shall, without delay after the close of the poll on polling day and in the presence and full view of two electors, count the votes cast by absentee Mail ballot.S.N.W.T. 2010,c.15,s.18; S.N.W.T. 2014, c.19,s.21,22; S.N.W.T. 2018, c.16,s.41.

## **18 APPLICATION**



# **Current Legislation**

Subject to any procedures established by the Chief Electoral Officer, section 194 and subsections 195(1), (2) and (4) to (8), apply in respect of the counting of votes cast by absentee ballot with such modifications as the circumstances require.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

Subject to any procedures established by the Chief Electoral Officer, section 194 and subsections 195(1), (2) and (4) to (8), apply in respect of the counting of votes cast by absentee Mail ballot with such modifications as the circumstances require.





## 19 PROHIBITION



## **Current Legislation**

No person shall, until the close of the poll on polling day, examine, count or remove from the ballot box, any absentee ballots cast.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

No person shall, until the close of the poll on polling day, examine, count or remove from the ballot box, any absentee-Mail ballots cast.

# 20 REJECTION OF MAIL BALLOTS FOR ELECTION

Section 136 (4)
AMEND

# **Current Legislation**

In examining absentee ballots for an election, the Chief Electoral Officer shall reject all those

- (a) that were not provided by the Chief Electoral Officer;
- (b) on which no candidate has been named;
- (c) on which more than one candidate has been named;
- (d) which are illegible; or
- (e) on which there is any writing or mark by which the elector could be identified.

## Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Rejection of absentee Mail ballots for election

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

In examining absentee-Mail ballots for an election, the Chief Electoral Officer shall reject all those

- (a) that were not provided by the Chief
- Electoral Officer;
- (b) on which no candidate has been named;
- (c) on which more than one candidate has been named;
- (d) which are illegible; or
- (e) on which there is any writing or mark by which the elector could be identified.

# 21 REJECTION OF MAIL BALLOTS FOR PLEBISCITE



## **Current Legislation**

In examining absentee ballots for a plebiscite, the Chief Electoral Officer shall reject all those

- (a) that were not provided by the Chief Electoral Officer;
- (b) that have not been marked to indicate any response to a plebiscite question;
- (c) that have been marked to indicate more than one response to the same plebiscite question;
- (d) that have not been marked with the symbol "X" or other clear symbol in the small circular space on the absentee ballot adjacent to a possible response to a plebiscite question; or
- (e) on which there is any writing or mark by which the elector could be identified. S.N.W.T. 2010,c.15,s.20; S.N.W.T. 2014,c.19,s.14,20.

## Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Rejection of absentee Mail ballots for plebiscite

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

In examining absentee Mail ballots for a plebiscite, the Chief Electoral Officer shall reject all those

- (a) that were not provided by the Chief Electoral Officer;
- (b) that have not been marked to indicate any response to a plebiscite question;
- (c) that have been marked to indicate more than one response to the same plebiscite question;
- (d) that have not been marked with the symbol "X" or other clear symbol in the small circular space on the absentee Mail ballot adjacent to a possible response to a plebiscite question; or
- (e) on which there is any writing or mark by which the elector could be identified. S.N.W.T. 2010,c.15,s.20; S.N.W.T. 2014,c.19,s.14,20.





## **22 VOTING AT A MULTI-DISTRICT POLL**



## **Current Legislation**

Voting at a Multi-District Poll

#### Recommendation

Proposed legislative change:

Repeal title

# 23 ESTABLISHMENT OF MULTI-DISTRICT POLL

Section 136.1 (1)
REPEAL

## **Current Legislation**

The Chief Electoral Officer may, if he or she considers that a sufficient number of electors eligible to vote in two or more electoral districts are located at a place, establish a multi-district poll to receive the votes of electors.

## Recommendation

Proposed legislative change:

Repeal subsection

# 24 DUTIES OF CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

Section 136.1 (2)
REPEAL

# **Current Legislation**

On establishing a multi-district poll, the Chief Electoral Officer shall (a) appoint an election officer to be responsible for the administration of the poll;

(b) designate a day or days commencing Tuesday, the 7th day before polling day and continuing until Friday, the 4th day before polling day, for the conduct of the multi-district poll; and

(c) direct an election officer to post notice of the multi-district poll.

### Recommendation

Proposed legislative change:

Repeal subsection

# 25 POWERS OF CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER



# **Current Legislation**

The Chief Electoral Officer may establish procedures and issue instructions in respect of voting at multi-district polls. S.N.W.T. 2010, c.15, s.21; S.N.W.T. 2014, c.19, s.26, 27; S.N.W.T. 2018, c.16, s.43.

#### **Recommendation**

Proposed legislative change:

Repeal subsection

## **26 BALLOTS**



## **Current Legislation**

The election officer responsible for a multi-district poll shall ensure that ballots for each electoral district are available at the poll.

### Recommendation

Proposed legislative change:

Repeal subsection

# 27 POWERS OF CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

Section 136.2 (2)
REPEAL

# **Current Legislation**

The election officer responsible for a multi-district poll shall, in accordance with instructions issued by the Chief Electoral Officer, keep a record in the approved form of the names and addresses of all electors who vote at the poll, in the order in which their votes are cast, and shall mark on the record the applicable information that a poll clerk would be required to enter in a poll book under Division C in relation to the name of an elector, or such other information as the Chief Electoral Officer instructs.

## Recommendation

Proposed legislative change:

Repeal subsection





## **28 SECURITY OF BALLOT BOXES**

Section 136.2 (3)

## **Current Legislation**

The election officer responsible for a multi-district poll shall take precautions to ensure the safekeeping and security of the ballot boxes and ballots used for voting at the poll.

#### Recommendation

Proposed legislative change:

Repeal subsection

# 29 TRANSMITTAL TO CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

Section 136.2 (4)
REPEAL

## **Current Legislation**

The election officer responsible for a multi-district poll shall, without delay at the conclusion of the poll, transmit the ballot boxes to the Chief Electoral Officer. S.N.W.T. 2018,c.16,s.44.

## Recommendation

Proposed legislative change:

Repeal subsection

## **30 APPLICATION**

Section 136.1

# **Current Legislation**

Subject to any instructions issued or procedures established by the Chief Electoral Officer, sections 177, 178, 181, 183, 184 and 186 to 189 apply in respect of voting at a multi-district poll, with such modifications as the circumstances require. S.N.W.T. 2010,c.15,s.21; S.N.W.T. 2014,c.19,s.26.

### Recommendation

Proposed legislative change:

Repeal section

## 31 PROHIBITION



## **Current Legislation**

A person who votes at a multi-district poll shall not vote or attempt to vote by another special voting opportunity or at the poll on polling day. S.N.W.T. 2010,c.15,s.21; S.N.W.T. 2014,c.19,s.26.

#### Recommendation

Proposed legislative change:

Repeal section

# 32 INSTRUCTIONS FOR UPDATING THE LISTS OF ELECTORS

Section 136.5 (1)
REPEAL

# **Current Legislation**

The Chief Electoral Officer shall, without delay after the conclusion of the last multi-district poll, instruct each returning officer to strike from the lists of electors for his or her electoral district the names of all electors appearing in the voting record.

#### **Recommendation**

#### Proposed legislative change:

Repeal subsection

## **33** UPDATING LISTS OF ELECTORS

Section 136.5 (2)

REPEAL

# **Current Legislation**

The returning officer shall, without delay after receiving the instructions of the Chief Electoral Officer, strike from the lists of electors the names of all electors appearing in the voting record.

### Recommendation

#### Proposed legislative change:

Repeal subsection

## **34** TRANSMITTAL TO DEPUTY OFFICER

Section 136.5 (3)

# **Current Legislation**

Subject to subsection (4), on completing the update of a list of electors for a polling division, the returning officer shall, by the best means available, notify the deputy returning officer of the names of electors who are to be struck from the list, and instruct the deputy returning officer to strike those names.

## Recommendation

#### Proposed legislative change:

Repeal subsection





## **35 INSTRUCTIONS TO STRIKE NAMES**

# Section 136.5 (4)

# **Current Legislation**

If a returning officer has supplied a ballot box to a deputy returning officer before updating the list of electors for the polling division, the returning officer shall, by the best means available, notify the deputy returning officer of the names of electors who are to be struck from the list, and instruct the deputy returning officer to strike those names. S.N.W.T.2010,c.15,s.21; S.N.W.T. 2014,c.19,s.26; S.N.W.T. 2018,c.16,s.5,45.

### Recommendation

#### Proposed legislative change:

Repeal subsection

# 36 COUNTING VOTES AT MULTI-DISTRICT MOBILE POLL



## **Current Legislation**

The Chief Electoral Officer or an election officer designated by him or her shall, without delay after the close of the poll on polling day and in the presence and full view of two electors, count the votes cast at a multidistrict poll.

## Recommendation

### Proposed legislative change:

Repeal subsection

## **37 APPLICATION**

Section 136.6 (2)
REPEAL

## **Current Legislation**

Subject to any procedures established by the Chief Electoral Officer, section 194 and subsections 195(1), (2) and (4) to (8), apply in respect of the counting of votes cast at a multi-district poll, with such modifications as the circumstances require.

### Recommendation

#### Proposed legislative change:

Repeal subsection

## **38 PROHIBITION**

Section 136.6 (3)

# **Current Legislation**

No person shall, until the close of the poll on polling day, examine, count or remove from the ballot box, any ballots cast at a multi-district poll. S.N.W.T. 2010,c.15,s.21; S.N.W.T. 2014,c.19,s.26.

## Recommendation

#### Proposed legislative change:

Repeal subsection

## **39 UPDATE OF LIST OF ELECTORS**



# **Current Legislation**

Without delay after completing the voting record for a mobile poll, the designated election officer shall strike from the lists of electors the names of all electors appearing in the voting record.

#### Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Update of list of electors

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

Without delay after completing the voting record for a mobile poll, the designated election officer shall ensure the name of the elector added to the voting record is strikeuck from the lists of electors the names of all electors appearing in the voting record.

## 40 INSTRUCTION TO STRIKE NAMES

Section 142 (2)

AMEND

# **Current Legislation**

Subject to subsection (3), on completing the update of a list of electors for a polling division, the designated election officer shall place a copy in the ballot box to be supplied to the deputy returning officer.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

Subject to subsection (3), on completing the update of a list of electors for a polling division, the designated election officer shall place a copy in the ballot box to the returning officer shall ensure a copy be supplied to the deputy returning officer.





## **41 INSTRUCTIONS TO STRIKE NAMES**



## **Current Legislation**

If a returning officer has supplied a ballot box to a deputy returning officer before the list of electors for the polling division is updated, the returning officer shall, by the best means available, notify the deputy returning officer of the names of electors who are to be struck from the list, and shall instruct the deputy returning officer to strike those names.

## Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

If a returning officer has supplied a ballot box list of electors to a deputy returning officer before the list of electors for the polling division is updated, the returning officer shall, by the best means available, notify the deputy returning officer of the names of electors who are to be struck from the list, and shall instruct the deputy returning officer to strike those names.

#### **Notes**

Ballot boxes make their way to Deputy Returning Officers well in advance and do not contain the list of electors. Current practice of electronic transmission of the list of electors to deputy returning officers ensures its accuracy upon supply. Some consideration should be given to repealing this clause in its entirety.

# 42 UPDATING AND TRANSMITTING LIST OF ELECTORS

Section 150



## **Current Legislation**

Without delay after the time for voting in the office of the returning officer has expired, the returning officer shall

(a) strike from the list of electors the names of all electors appearing in the voting record; and

(b) ensure that the deputy returning officer is supplied with an updated list of electors for a polling station.

S.N.W.T. 2018,c.16,s.51.

#### Recommendation

#### Amend subsection to read as follows:

Without delay after the time for voting in the office of the returning officer has expired, the returning officer shall

- (a) strike from the list of electors the names of all electors appearing in the voting record; and
- (b) ensure that the deputy returning officer is supplied with an updated list of electors for a polling station.

# 43 POWERS OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

**E** CREATE

## **Current Legislation**

Absent

### Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Powers of the Chief Electoral Officer

#### Create section that reads:

The Chief Electoral Officer may establish procedures in respect of voting by online ballot.

## **44 VOTING RECORD**

**Section 153 (1)** 

**CREATE** 

## **Current Legislation**

Absent

## Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Voting record

#### Create section that reads:

The Chief Electoral Officer shall keep a record in the approved form of the names and addresses of all electors who are provided with an online ballot, in the order in which the ballots are provided, and shall mark on the record

- (a) the applicable information that a poll clerk would be required to enter in a poll book under Division C in relation to the name of an elector; and
- (b) such other information as he or she considers necessary.





## **45 SECURITY OF BALLOT BOX**



## **Current Legislation**

Absent

## Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Security of ballot box

#### Create section that reads:

The Chief Electoral Officer shall take precautions to ensure the safekeeping and security of the ballot box and ballots used for voting by online ballot.

S.N.W.T. 2010,c.15,s.17; S.N.W.T. 2014, c.19,s.20, 21.

# 46 APPLICATION TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT

**Section 154 (1)** 



# **Current Legislation**

Absent

#### Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Application to vote by absentee ballot

#### Create section that reads:

An elector may, commencing 14 days before a writ of election or plebiscite proclamation is issued and continuing until 2 p.m. on the 10th day before polling day, apply to the Chief Electoral Officer for an online ballot for the electoral district in which the elector is ordinarily resident.

# **47 ABSENTEE BALLOT PROCEDURES**

**Section 154 (2)** 

**CREATE** 

# **Current Legislation**

Absent

## Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Absentee ballot procedures

#### Create section that reads:

Subject to subsection (2.1), the Chief Electoral Officer shall, on application under subsection (1), provide an online ballot and an instruction package to an elector who is ordinarily resident in the electoral district and whose name appears on the list of electors for a polling division in the electoral district.

## 48 TIMING

Section 154 (2.1)

CREATE

## **Current Legislation**

Absent

## Recommendation

## Margin Note should read:

Timing

#### Create section that reads:

The Chief Electoral Officer shall not provide an online ballot and instruction package to an elector under subsection (2) until after 5 p.m. on the final date fixed for receiving nominations of candidates.





## **49 REQUIREMENT**

**Section 154 (3)** 

**E** CREATE

# **Current Legislation**

Absent

## Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Requirement

#### Create section that reads:

An online ballot on which an elector votes must not be accepted unless it is cast before the close of poll on polling day.

## **50 PROHIBITION**

**Section 154 (4)** 

CREATE

# **Current Legislation**

Absent

## Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Prohibition

#### Create section that reads:

Subject to subsection (5), a person to whom a ballot is provided under subsection (2) shall not vote or attempt to vote by another special voting opportunity or at the poll on polling day.

## 51 CANCELLATION OF APPLICATION

Section 154 (5)

© CREATE

## **Current Legislation**

Absent

## Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Cancellation of application

#### Create section that reads:

An elector who has made an application for an online ballot under subsection (1) may cancel the application by notifying the Chief Electoral Officer in writing at least seven days before polling day.

# 52 APPLICATION TO VOTE OTHER THAN BY WAY OF ISSUED ONLINE BALLOT

**Section 154 (6)** 



# **Current Legislation**

Absent

#### Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Application to vote other than by way of issued online ballot

#### Create section that reads:

If an online ballot has been issued to an elector, and the elector subsequently becomes unable to vote by online ballot, the elector may make an application to the Chief Electoral Officer for permission to vote using another method identified under paragraph 38(1)(b).





## **53 REINSTATING NAME**

Section 154 (7)

☐ CREATE

# **Current Legislation**

Absent

## Recommendation

Margin Note should read:

Reinstating name

#### **Create section that reads:**

If, on hearing an application under subsection (6), the Chief Electoral Officer is satisfied that the elector is unable to vote by online ballot, the Chief Electoral Officer may permit the applicant to vote using another method identified under paragraph 38(1)(b).

## 54 INFORMATION TO CANDIDATE

Section 154.1



# **Current Legislation**

**Absent** 

## Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Information to candidate

#### Create section that reads:

The Chief Electoral Officer shall, on request by a candidate or official agent, provide him or her with a list of electors to whom the Chief Electoral Officer has, up to and including the date of the request, provided an online ballot under subsection 134(2).

# 55 INSTRUCTIONS FOR UPDATING THE LISTS OF ELECTORS

**Section 155 (1)** 



## **Current Legislation**

Absent

#### Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Instructions for updating the lists of electors

#### Create section that reads:

The Chief Electoral Officer shall, without delay, upon issuing an online ballot ensure the name of the elector applying for an online ballot is struck from the lists of electors for his or her electoral district and that the elector's name appears in the voting record.

# 56 UPDATING AND TRANSMITTING LIST OF ELECTORS

**Section 155 (2)** 



# **Current Legislation**

Absent

#### Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Updating and transmitting list of electors

#### Create section that reads:

Without delay after receiving the instructions from the Chief Electoral Officer, the returning officer shall ensure that the deputy returning officer is supplied with an updated list of electors for a polling station.





## **57 PROHIBITION**

Section 155 (3)

F CREATE

# **Current Legislation**

Absent

#### Recommendation

Margin Note should read:

Prohibition

#### Create section that reads:

No person shall, until the close of the poll on polling day, examine, count or remove from the ballot box, any online ballots cast.

# 58 REJECTION OF ONLINE BALLOTS FOR ELECTION

Section 155 (4)



# **Current Legislation**

Absent

#### Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Rejection of online ballots for election

#### Create section that reads:

If In examining online ballots for an election, the Chief Electoral Officer shall reject all those

- (a) that were not provided by the Chief Electoral Officer;
- (b) on which no candidate has been named;
- (c) on which more than one candidate has been named;
- (d) which are illegible; or
- (e) on which there is any writing or mark by which the elector could be identified.

# 59 REJECTION OF ONLINE BALLOTS FOR PLEBISCITE

**Section 155 (5)** 



## **Current Legislation**

Absent

#### Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Rejection of online ballots for plebiscite

#### Create section that reads:

In examining online ballots for a plebiscite, the Chief Electoral Officer shall reject all those

- (a) that were not provided by the Chief Electoral Officer;
- b) that have not been marked to indicate any response to a plebiscite question;
- (c) that have been marked to indicate more than one response to the same plebiscite question;
- (d) that have not been marked with the symbol "X" or other clear symbol in the small circular space on the online ballot adjacent to a possible response to a plebiscite question; or
- (e) on which there is any writing or mark by which the elector could be identified.

# 60 COUNTING VOTES BY ONLINE BALLOT

**Section 156 (1)** 



## **Current Legislation**

Absent

## Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Counting votes by online ballot

#### **Create section that reads:**

The Chief Electoral Officer or an election officer designated by him or her shall, without delay after the close of the poll on polling day count the votes cast by online ballot.





## **61 APPLICATION**

**Section 156 (2)** 



# **Current Legislation**

Absent

## Recommendation

#### Margin Note should read:

Application

#### **Create section that reads:**

Subject to any procedures established by the Chief Electoral Officer, section 194 and subsections 195(1), (2) and (4) to (8), apply in respect of the counting of votes cast by online ballot with such modifications as the circumstances require.





**APPENDICES** 

# APPENDIX A / CANDIDATE FINANCIAL SUMMARIES

## DEH CHO

Candidate / Candidat	Ronald Bonnetrouge Elected	Michael Nadli
Official Agent / Agent Officiel	Shirley Gargan	Destiny Thom-Gargan
Contributions / Contributions	\$2,004.23	\$1,100.00
Election Expenses / Dépenses électorales	\$2,004.23	\$801.23
Unpaid Expenses / Dépenses impayées	NIL	NIL
Total Election Expenses / Total des dépenses électorales	\$2,004.23	\$801.23
Surplus or Deficit / Excédent ou déficit	\$0.00	\$298.77

## **GREAT SLAVE**

Candidate / Candidat	Katrina Nokleby Elected	Patrick Scott
Official Agent / Agent Officiel	Christopher Hunt	Jake Heron
Contributions / Contributions	\$9,954.66	\$12,791.91
Election Expenses / Dépenses électorales	\$9,954.66	\$12,793.26
Unpaid Expenses / Dépenses impayées	NIL	NIL
Total Election Expenses / Total des dépenses électorales	\$9,954.66	\$12,793.26
Surplus or Deficit / Excédent ou déficit	\$0.00	-\$1.35

# FRAME LAKE

Candidate / Candidat	Kevin O'Reilly Elected	Dave Ramsay
Official Agent / Agent Officiel	<b>Bob Wilson</b>	Trina Comartin
<b>Contributions / Contributions</b>	\$18,430.44	\$16,734.47
Election Expenses / Dépenses électorales	\$18,430.44	\$16,735.47
Unpaid Expenses / Dépenses impayées	NIL	NIL
Total Election Expenses / Total des dépenses électorales	\$18,430.44	\$16,735.47
Surplus or Deficit / Excédent ou déficit	\$0.00	-\$1.00

## HAY RIVER NORTH

Candidate / Candidat	R.J. Simpson Acclaimed
Official Agent / Agent Officiel	Robak Gwendolyn
Contributions / Contributions	\$0.00
Election Expenses / Dépenses électorales	\$0.00
Unpaid Expenses / Dépenses impayées	NIL
Total Election Expenses / Total des dépenses électorales	\$0.00
Surplus or Deficit / Excédent ou déficit	\$0.00





## HAY RIVER SOUTH

Candidate / Candidat	Wally Schumann	Pierre (Rocky) Simpson Elected
Official Agent / Agent Officiel	Sharon Williams	Jo-Ann Jensen
Contributions / Contributions	\$6,037.67	\$9,092.88
Election Expenses / Dépenses électorales	\$6,037.67	\$9,092.88
Unpaid Expenses / Dépenses impayées	NIL	NIL
Total Election Expenses / Total des dépenses électorales	\$6,037.67	\$9,092.88
Surplus or Deficit / Excédent ou déficit	\$0.00	\$0.00

## **INUVIK TWIN LAKES**

Candidate / Candidat	Donald Hendrick	Sallie Ross	Lesa Semmler Elected
Official Agent / Agent Officiel	Shelly Hendrick	Mavis Arey	Janelle Wainman
Contributions / Contributions	\$553.11	\$4,130.52	\$12,057.47
Election Expenses / Dépenses électorales	\$553.11	\$4,130.32	\$12,057.47
Unpaid Expenses / Dépenses impayées	NIL	NIL	NIL
Total Election Expenses / Total des dépenses électorales	\$553.11	\$4,130.32	\$12,057.47
Surplus or Deficit / Excédent ou déficit	\$0.00	\$0.20	\$0.00

## **INUVIK BOOT LAKE**

Candidate / Candidat	Jimmy Kalinek	Desmond Loreen	Eugene Rees	Diane Thom Elected
Official Agent / Agent Officiel	Lisa Greenland	Caitlin Weitzel	Leah Ipana	Janelle Cockney
Contributions / Contributions	\$764.46	\$2,071.24	\$5,264.16	\$3,000.00
Election Expenses / Dépenses électorales	\$746.46	\$2,071.24	\$5,264.16	\$2,700.08
Unpaid Expenses / Dépenses impayées	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Total Election Expenses / Total des dépenses électorales	\$746.46	\$2,071.24	\$5,264.16	\$2,700.08
Surplus or Deficit / Excédent ou déficit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$299.92

## KAM LAKE

Candidate / Candidat	Abdullah Al-Mahamud	Caitlin Cleveland Elected	Robert Hawkins	Rommel Silverio	Kieron Testart	Cherish Winsor
Official Agent / Agent Officiel	Donna Panela	John Bowden	Sue Hawkins	Delia Weir	Justin MacInnis	Jae Doyle
Contributions / Contributions	\$4,036.25	\$11,875.00	\$14,569.50	\$5,767.96	\$15,032.50	\$5,998.76
Election Expenses / Dépenses électorales	\$4,036.25	\$11,535.24	\$14,569.50	\$5,767.96	\$15,032.50	\$5,998.76
Unpaid Expenses / Dépenses impayées	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Total Election Expenses / Total des dépenses électorales	\$4,036.25	\$11,535.24	\$14,569.50	\$5,767.96	\$15,032.50	\$5,998.76
Surplus or Deficit / Excédent ou déficit	\$0.00	\$339.76	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

## **MACKENZIE DELTA**

Candidate / Candidat	Frederick Blake Jr. Acclaimed
Official Agent / Agent Officiel	Elizabeth Wright
Contributions / Contributions	\$2,533.81
Election Expenses / Dépenses électorales	\$2,533.81
Unpaid Expenses / Dépenses impayées	NIL
Total Election Expenses / Total des dépenses électorales	\$2,533.81
Surplus or Deficit / Eycédent ou déficit	\$0.00

## **MONFWI**

Candidate / Candidat	Jackson Lafferty Acclaimed
Official Agent / Agent Officiel	Angela Zoe
Contributions / Contributions	\$0.00
Election Expenses / Dépenses électorales	\$0.00
Unpaid Expenses / Dépenses impayées	NIL
Total Election Expenses / Total des dépenses électorales	\$0.00
Surplus or Deficit / Excédent ou déficit	\$0.00





#### NAHENDEH

Candidate / Candidat	Mike Drake	Eric Menicoche	Randal Sibbeston	Shane Thompson Elected
Official Agent / Agent Officiel	Muaz Hassan	Climate Muyambo	Stephanie Douglas	Allyson Skinner
Contributions / Contributions	\$2,509.04	\$1,040.30	\$3,382.77	\$9,516.28
Election Expenses / Dépenses électorales	\$2,509.04	\$1,040.29	\$3,382.77	\$9,516.55
Unpaid Expenses / Dépenses impayées	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Total Election Expenses / Total des dépenses électorales	\$2,509.04	\$1,040.29	\$3,382.77	\$9,516.55
Surplus or Deficit / Excédent ou déficit	\$0.00	\$0.01	\$0.00	-\$0.27

#### NUNAKPUT

Candidate / Candidat	Alisa Blake	Holly Campbell	Jackie Jacobson Elected	Herb Nakimayak	Sheila Nasogaluak	Annie Steen
Official Agent / Agent Officiel	Amy Noksana	Tianna Gordon-Ruben	Barney Masuzumi	Ken Ruben	Joe Emsley Nasogaluak	Meeka Steen
Contributions / Contributions	\$6,519.48	\$4,303.77	\$21,302.14	\$4,480.76	\$7,023.36	\$6,408.48
Election Expenses / Dépenses électorales	\$6,519.48	\$4,304.51	\$21,302.14	\$4,480.86	\$7,023.35	\$6,408.48
Unpaid Expenses / Dépenses impayées	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Total Election Expenses / Total des dépenses électorales	\$6,519.48	\$4,304.51	\$21,302.14	\$4,480.76	\$7,023.35	\$6,408.48
Surplus or Deficit / Excédent ou déficit	\$0.00	-\$0.74	\$0.00	-\$0.10	\$0.01	\$0.00

#### **RANGE LAKE**

Candidate / Candidat	Caroline Cochrane Elected	Hughie Graham
Official Agent / Agent Officiel	Donel Gagnon	Shaun Morris
Contributions / Contributions	\$11,166.82	\$8,900.00
Election Expenses / Dépenses électorales	\$11,166.82	\$7,894.07
Unpaid Expenses / Dépenses impayées	NIL	NIL
Total Election Expenses / Total des dépenses électorales	\$11,166.82	\$7,894.07
Surplus or Deficit / Excédent ou déficit	\$0.00	\$1,005.93

### SAHTU

Candidate / Candidat	Paulie Chinna Elected	Daniel McNeely	Wilfred McNeely Jr	Caroline Yukon
Official Agent / Agent Officiel	Erin Agnes Goose	Kyle Wright	Patricia McNeely	Chris Yukon
Contributions / Contributions	\$7,305.12	\$4,500.00	\$3,287.83	\$6,579.83
Election Expenses / Dépenses électorales	\$7,305.12	\$4,250.65	\$3,287.83	\$6,579.32
Unpaid Expenses / Dépenses impayées	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Total Election Expenses / Total des dépenses électorales	\$7,305.12	\$4,250.65	\$3,287.83	\$6,579.32
Surplus or Deficit / Excédent ou déficit	\$0.00	\$249.35	\$0.00	\$0.51





#### THEBACHA

Candidate / Candidat	Don Jaque	Freda Marstelos Elected	Louis Sebert	Denise Yuhas
Official Agent / Agent Officiel	Anna Kikoak	Jason Lepine	Patti Haaima	Patti K Hamilton
Contributions / Contributions	\$5,072.03	\$5,294.74	\$5,826.05	\$3,916.71
Election Expenses / Dépenses électorales	\$5,072.00	\$5,294.74	\$5,826.05	\$3,916.71
Unpaid Expenses / Dépenses impayées	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Total Election Expenses / Total des dépenses électorales	\$5,072.00	\$5,294.74	\$5,826.05	\$3,916.71
Surplus or Deficit / Excédent ou déficit	\$0.03	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

### TU NEDHÉ-WIILIDEH

Candidate / Candidat	Paul Betsina	Nadine Delorme	Richard Edjericon	Lila Fraser-Erasmus	Steve Norn Elected
Official Agent / Agent Officiel	Stephen Ellis	Patrick Simon	Sandra Edjericon	Shreya Nandy	Thomas Lafferty
Contributions / Contributions	\$3,250.00	\$0.00	\$6,415.15	\$8,934.28	\$10,911.43
Election Expenses / Dépenses électorales	\$2,976.19	\$0.00	\$6,415.15	\$8,934.28	\$10,911.43
Unpaid Expenses / Dépenses impayées	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Total Election Expenses / Total des dépenses électorales	\$2,976.19	\$0.00	\$6,415.15	\$8,934.28	\$10,911.43
Surplus or Deficit / Excédent ou déficit	\$273.81	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

#### YELLOWKNIFE CENTRE

Candidate / Candidat	Julie Green Elected	Arlene Hache	Thom Jarvis	Niels Konge
Official Agent / Agent Officiel	Janet Toner	<b>Cheryl Fountain</b>	Jacques B Roberge	Sheila Arychuk
Contributions / Contributions	\$19,071.73	\$11,521.80	\$4,256.00	\$10,432.95
Election Expenses / Dépenses électorales	\$15,974.70	\$11,521.80	\$4,505.87	\$10,429.53
Unpaid Expenses / Dépenses impayées	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Total Election Expenses / Total des dépenses électorales	\$15,974.70	\$11,521.80	\$4,505.87	\$10,429.53
Surplus or Deficit / Excédent ou déficit	\$3,097.03	\$0.00	\$249.87	\$3.42

#### YELLOWKNIFE NORTH

Candidate / Candidat	Rylund Johnson Elected	Jan Vallillee	Cory Vanthuyne
Official Agent / Agent Officiel	Nicole Goodman	Catherine Cudmore	Michelle Demeule
<b>Contributions / Contributions</b>	\$4,386.94	\$7,301.59	\$10,454.43
Election Expenses / Dépenses électorales	\$4,386.94	\$7,301.59	\$10,454.43
Unpaid Expenses / Dépenses impayées	NIL	NIL	NIL
Total Election Expenses / Total des dépenses électorales	\$4,386.94	\$7,301.59	\$10,454.43
Surplus or Deficit / Excédent ou déficit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

#### YELLOWKNIFE SOUTH

Candidate / Candidat	Gaeleen MacPherson	Caroline Wawzonek Elected
Official Agent / Agent Officiel	Kerri Nolting	Paul Henry
Contributions / Contributions	\$12,361.08	\$17,993.75
Election Expenses / Dépenses électorales	\$12,361.08	\$17,993.75
Unpaid Expenses / Dépenses impayées	NIL	NIL
Total Election Expenses / Total des dépenses électorales	\$12,361.08	\$17,993.75
Surplus or Deficit / Excédent ou déficit	\$0.00	\$0.00





## APPENDIX B / ELECTORAL EVENT CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
AUG 18	AUG 19	AUG 20	AUG 21	AUG 22	AUG 23	AUG 24
AUG 25	AUG 26	AUG 27	AUG 28	AUG 29	AUG 30	AUG 31
SEPT 1	SEPT 2	SEPT 3	SEPT 4	SEPT 5	SEPT 6	SEPT 7
Closed	10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Writs are issued	10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	10:00 am - 2:00 pm 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm for Candidates and Official Agents only	10:00 am - 2:00 pm
	starts at 10:00 am				Starts at 6:00 pm ends at 2:00 p	m
SEPT 8	SEPT 9	SEPT 10	SEPT 11	SEPT 12	SEPT 13	SEPT 14
Closed	10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	10:00 am - 2:00 pm
SEPT 15	SEPT 16	SEPT 17	SEPT 18	SEPT 19	SEPT 20	SEPT 21
Closed	10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	10:00 am - 2:00 pm
SEPT 22	SEPT 23	SEPT 24	SEPT 25	SEPT 26	SEPT 27	ends at 2:00 p
Closed	10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	10:00 am - 2:00 pm
SEPT 29 Closed	SEPT 30 10:00 am - 1:00 pm 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	OCT 1 Ordinary Polling Day: 9:00 am - 8:00 pm RO Office Hours:	OCTOBER 3 - Official Addi OCTOBER 11 - Return of t	he Writ of election No	sentee Ballot Applications mination Period ting by Absentee Ballot	Mobile Poll Application Voting by Mobile Poll Multi-District Polls
		9:00 am - 8:00 pm	(Office of the Returning O	fficer Hours) Vot	ting in the Office of the RO	Advance Polls

## APPENDIX C / TERRITORIAL GENERAL ELECTION BUDGET

Electoral District	Returning Officers	Other Personnel	Travel	Materials	Services	Office and Poll Rental	Total
Deh Cho	\$ 9,692	\$ 18,365	\$ 2,342	\$ 215	\$ 1,568	\$ 7,300	\$ 39,482
Frame Lake	\$ 10,129	\$ \$8,801	\$ 0	\$ \$259	\$ 768	\$ 2,709	\$ 22,666
Great Slave	\$ 9,320	\$ \$9,651	\$ 0	\$ \$332	\$ 260	\$ 2,609	\$ 22,172
Hay River North	\$ 5,543	\$ \$3,461	\$ 2,291	\$ \$340	\$ 811	\$ 3,176	\$ 15,622
Hay River South	\$ 9,845	\$ \$6,951	\$ 2,172	\$ 0	\$ 1,254	\$ 3,868	\$ 24,090
Inuvik Boot Lake	\$ 9,320	\$ \$7,901	\$ 3,385	\$ 142	\$ 1,507	\$ 2,531	\$ 24,786
Inuvik Twin Lakes	\$ 8,924	\$ \$7,151	\$ 3,445	\$ 0	\$ 781	\$ 3,275	\$ 23,576
Kam Lake	\$ 8,624	\$ \$9,808	\$ 0	\$ 136	\$ 679	\$ 2,509	\$ 21,756
Mackenzie Delta	\$ 6,391	\$ \$6,970	\$ 5,185	\$ 0	\$ 1,184	\$ 887	\$ 20,617
Monfwi	\$ 6,683	\$ 11,692	\$ 2,012	\$ 0	\$ 959	\$ 1,500	\$ 22,846
Nahendeh	\$ 9,326	\$ 24,932	\$ 3,753	\$ 459	\$ 4,196	\$ 5,400	\$ 48,066
Nunakput	\$ 8,479	\$ 23,043	\$ 3,435	\$ 7	\$ 2,535	\$ 5,483	\$ 42,982
Range Lake	\$ 9,044	\$ 8,851	\$ 0	\$40	\$ 258	\$ 2,109	\$ 20,302
Sahtu	\$ 8,924	\$ 24,091	\$ 3,324	\$ 0	\$ 1,863	\$ 6,420	\$ 44,622
Thebacha	\$ 8,900	\$ 9,501	\$ 3,514	\$ 385	\$ 1,438	\$ 5,441	\$ 29,179
Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh	\$ 8,493	\$ 20,229	\$ 3,802	\$ 0	\$ 1,633	\$ 4,814	\$ 38,971
Yellowknife Centre	\$ 9,320	\$ 8,526	\$ 0	\$ 80	\$ 631	\$ 2,509	\$ 21,066
Yellowknife North	\$ 9,715	\$ 9,500	\$ 0	\$ 86	\$ 259	\$ 2,509	\$ 22,069
Yellowknife South	\$ 9,400	\$ 8,607	\$ 0	\$ 430	\$ 260	\$ 2,109	\$ 20,806
Absentee Ballot		\$ 3,505	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 3,505
sub-total	\$166,072	\$231,536	\$38,660	\$ 2,911	\$ 22,844	\$67,158	\$529,181
Corporate Costs *	\$ 0	\$226,140	\$ 4,561	\$63,111	\$119,573	\$ 0	\$413,385
Total	\$166,072	\$457,676	\$43,221	\$66,022	\$142,417	\$67,158	\$942,566

<sup>\*</sup>Incremental costs for salaries from non election year to election year



## APPENDIX D / NEWS ARTICLES

10 NEWS/NORTH NWT, Monday, July 29, 2019

commentary

## Our consensus government system must be improved

From: Don Jaque, Fort Smith

Dear editor,

Your editorial in the July 25 edition ('Summer of McLeod') expressed concern about Premier Bob McLeod hanging out with Conservative premiers at different events this summer, purposely showing solidarity with them against policies of the Trudeau Liberals, particularly the federal government's approach to putting a price on carbon.

As you point out in the editorial, that public political act by McLeod was executed without any consultation or communication with the people of the NWT.

I have heard such concerns echoed in conversations in Fort Smith – that Premier McLeod has no mandate to pick political sides and align with partisan positions, in particular when it comes to critical action on climate change.

Where is the NWT's strategy on what to do about climate change? Actually, there is none. What your editorial points out is essentially an abuse of our consensus government system. Premier McLeod does not have the authority to present the NWT on the national stage in support of a development-at-any-cost philosophy.

By definition, consensus government requires leaders to seek support and convince at least a majority of citizens that the path they are promoting is the right one. McLeod has failed to do any of that.

In our NWT system of consensus government the premier has traditionally served only one term and her/his government has been guided in large part by the "mandate" created at the beginning of each assembly.

That mandate, which incorporates priorities brought forward from the previous assembly, is a sort of roadmap for the 19 NWT MLAs going forward. The premier is selected by the assembly and he/she (and their chosen cabinet) are supposed to utilize that mandate.

When Bob McLeod became premier for a second term, the first NWT premier ever to serve more than one term, he

#### **READERS Write**

skewed all that.

What happens in our current so-called consensus system of governance is that the practice of "cabinet solidarity" gets in the way of true consensus. Cabinet, which is technically a minority, recruits sufficient ordinary MLAs as allies (promising rewards to their communities) to dominate the legislature and determine whatever path they chose. Premier McLeod, empowered by that, has simply continued on his own path, ignoring key components of the mandate.

Each assembly's mandate is the closest thing we have in our consensus government system to a "platform" in party politics where, during an election, citizens get to assess competing promises and plans for how to govern, using that to choose who they want to vote for.

The elected party becomes the government and is held to account over how they execute that platform.

We have none of that in consensus government – only the mandate which is debated publicly for a few days and finally agreed on by all MLAs, a poor second option.

Our NWT system is undemocratic and inadequate. Each person who presents themselves as a prospective premier should be elected in a process where they publicly offer their plans and priorities.

Then each premier candidate's competing platform can be considered and debated over a period of time, a process that properly elects our premier.

I would take it one step further. It takes at minimum nine of the 19 MLAs to vote in a premier (plus their own vote). That is hardly an example of "democracy." The choice of premier should be determined in a process where the people of the NWT can select their preferred candidate and vote for them. That would make our system truly democratic.

Our consensus government system must be improved – assessed, analysed and refined. That must be done in a discerning process involving all NWT citizens, not the current ad hoc approach.

I have one request in any such exercise: Please do not bring in southern "experts" to tell us how to evolve our system of governance.

We have many wise citizens in the NWT who are knowledgeable and experienced in politics and leadership who can do that, and do it well.



photo courtesy of the Government of the Northwest Territories

**Premier Bob McLeod, right, attended the Council of the Federation's summer meetings** with Canada's premiers from July 9 to 11. News/North asks what the leader's plans are for Northern voters' involvement and what he plans for his own political future.

# Time for party politics in the NWT

NOTES

trail

social justice.

from the

Nancy Vail is a longtime

Consensus government is no longer working in the Northwest Territories. It is time for us to move toward a party system where the needs of electors are heard. It is in that system where the priorities that

the government addresses are not determined by a select few but by all those elected and where critical examination and debate can occur. Tribal politics. which is the nature of our present government, is not democratic nor in alignment with the Canadian value of fair representation for all.

In a 2015 interview with Policy Magazine, then-premier Bob McLeod compared consensus government to a minority government which arrived at mutually agreed on decisions by all MLAs. However,

in another breath he also said that a premier, along with two cabinet members, could effectively choose the course of the government. This statement points out the imbalance of power and how the needs of voters can so easily be ignored. It also demonstrates the potential for premiers to ignore proper consultation required for good decision making. In consequence, McLeod without agreement took an entourage of elected and non-elected personnel to China and made other trips to Vancouver and Calgary at the taxpayers' expense and without consensual agreement. This effectively brushes aside the

concerns of voters who voted in good faith that their voices would be heard and tax dollars respected.

There are only two areas in Canada practicing consensus government; the NWT (43,000) and Nunavut (39,000). It is unheard of in the

south. This style of government had its origins in tribal politics where the chief was determined by discussions within the group. The resulting decisions were made by that chief with input from a few select members.

However, that kind of government did not include voting by the general population nor was its basis in equality where every vote is supposed to count. Instead, it was more like an oligarchy - something we are not supposed to practice in

Canada. It is likely that form of governing was more successful then when there was a better attempt at arriving at consensual agreements and shared interests related to survival. Our issues are much more complex and growing in complexity all the time. Too often big business is allowed to determine the path of

The Northwest Territories needs a party system with an opposition that facilitates and encourages robust debate. Now, with limited support and resources, those who are not chosen for cabinet struggle to have the concerns of their constituents heard. This is not acceptable.

governments.



Frederick Blake Jr., left, Jackson Lafferty and Shane Thompson, MLAs of the 19th Legislative Assembly, in the House Oct. 9. "Consensus government is no longer working in the Northwest Territories," columnist Nancy Vail writes.

Further, because those who are not selected by the premier have limited resources. NGOs and other volunteer organizations also with limited resources struggle to pick up the slack.

#### **Pro-mining cabinet**

In the previous cabinet there was a general push for mining and other resource developments which were not environmentally friendly. It was extremely difficult for environmentalists to have their concerns heard or enjoy access to cabinet MLAs even

though we are in climate crisis mode.

And although climate change was the number one concern of voters across this country, it only made the bottom of this government's priority list while it topped the federal government's throne speech. The worries of many voters in the NWT, then, are all but ignored.

We hope that when candidates put their names forward that they do so from a heartfelt need to do what is best for NWT residents. If that is the case, this government must investigate how the next election will be

decided by party politics - not tribal ones. This should not have to be lead by the grass roots but initiated by a maturing government who on its own, recognizes that need.

The territories must hear the voices of ALL its elected representatives more often and in a more balanced way. Politics is not meant to be a popularity contest, but a procedural mechanism intended to meet the needs of its entire people.

In the interest of mature governance, cabinet needs to move forward on this now.



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English

Si vous voulez ces informations dans une autre langue officielle, contactez-nous. French

Kīspin ki nitawihtīn ē nīhīyawihk ōma ācimōwin, tipwāsinān. Cree

Tłįcho yati k'ę̀ ę̀ . Di wegodi newo dè, gots'o gonede. Tłjcho

Perihtl'ís Dëne Sųliné yati t'a huts'elkër xa beyáyati thezą zat'e, nuwe ts'ën yólti. Chipewyan

Edi gondi dehgáh got'je zhatié k'é é edatl'éh enahddhe nide naxets'é edahlí. South Slavey

> K'áhshó got'į ne xədə k'é hederı zedį htl'é yerınıwę ní dé dúle. North Slavey

Jii gwandak izhii ginjìk vat'atr'ijąhch'uu zhit yinohthan jì', diits'àt ginohkhìi. Gwich'in

> Uvanittuaq ilitchurisukupku Inuvialuktun, ququaqluta. Inuvialuktun

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