# 2022 – 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

## STATUS OF WOMEN COUNCIL OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

September 18, 2023

Honorable Caroline Wawzonek

Minister Responsible for the Status of Women

Government of the Northwest Territories

Dear Minister Wawzonek,

I am pleased to present our Annual Report, for the year ending 31 March 2023, on behalf of the Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories.

Throughout the fiscal year 2022-2023, the Status of Women Council encountered a series of unexpected obstacles. These challenges presented significant hurdles. However, thanks to the support of the Gender Equity Division, the Board of Directors continued to meet regularly, ensuring governance activities proceeded uninterrupted.

The Status of Women was also able to be part of key events such as International Women's Day and December 6<sup>th</sup> Vigil: National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women in Canada. We have continued to work diligently to develop greater awareness, to encourage discussion of issues affecting the status of women, as well as those intended to promote a change in attitudes so that women may enjoy equity.

We are committed to building on our success and overcoming the challenges that lie ahead. We remain dedicated to working closely with your ministry and other stakeholders to advance the status of women in the Northwest Territories.

Sincerely,

Rita Arey

President, Status of Women of the NWT

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## A brief overview of the year

The year 2022-2023 proved to be a particularly challenging period for the Status of Women Council due to a series of unexpected setbacks. The departure of the Executive Director in September 2022 had left the Council without any employees.

In response, the Council promptly initiated a recruitment process to find a new Executive Director. However, the initial recruitment efforts proved unsuccessful, leading to the need to reissue the job advertisement. Sophie Lubet was successfully recruited in February 2023, although her work permit renewal process was unusually protracted, causing further delays. It wasn't until June 2023 that the new Executive Director was able to assume her role.

Despite these challenges, the Status of Women Council demonstrated resilience. As you will see from this annual report, the Board of Directors continued to meet regularly, both on-line and face to face, to ensure ongoing governance. The Council managed to maintain progress on its multi-year programs with the federal government. However, staff shortages did lead to some funds being underutilized, necessitating reimbursements (NGO Stabilization Fund and funds received from HSS and the Victim Assistance Fund for the Family Violence Prevention month).

While the year brought its share of difficulties, the Council's unwavering commitment to its mission ensured that important work continued despite the obstacles encountered along the way.

## The Status of Women Council Board – Presentation of the Board Members

Board members are appointed by the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women. The Board is comprised of six (6) members and each member represents a region of the territory. Board members may serve for a three-year term. The Board typically meets face-to-face twice a year and holds additional virtual meetings as required.

As the governing body of the Status of Women Council, the Board is responsible for making key decisions that address the organization's missions, strategy and goals. Accordingly, the Board is a group of women dedicated to advocating and improving the lives of all women in the territories.

#### Composition of the Board:

- ✓ Rita Arey President Beaufort-Delta Region member. Term: May 2022 to May 2025.
- ✓ Delphine Pierrot Vice-President South Sahtu Region member. Term: June 2021 to June 2024.
- ✓ Shelley Browne Vice-President North North Slave Region member. Term: January 2022 to January 2025.
- ✓ Anna Pontikis Mc Leod Deh Cho Region member. Term: August 2022 to August 2025.
- ✓ Doris Minoza South Slave Region member. Term: February 2023 to February 2026.
- ✓ Stephanie Beaverho Tłıcho Region member. Term: August 2022 to August 2025.

## STATUS OF WOMEN COUNCIL OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

**Rita Arey,** President Beaufort-Delta Region member Term: May 2022 – May 2025

Rita Furlong-Arey, a proud registered Metis of Irish and Gwichin descent, was born in Aklavik to her late parents Ruth and Arthur Furlong. As the only girl among three brothers, she was raised fearlessly, learning traditional and cultural skills from her parents while living on the trapline. Rita accompanied her father on trips to the trapline, enjoying activities such as snowshoeing, canoeing, setting snares, muskrat hunting, and playing the guitar, as music was an integral part of her family.



Rita's involvement in various volunteer initiatives demonstrates her commitment to the well-being of First Nations, Inuit, and Metis communities. She played a key role in establishing the Wise Women Awards, which have recognized women across the two Territories since 1992, celebrating their dedication and contributions to improving the lives of women and families. Rita also advocated for the Zero Tolerance policy against domestic violence, which was adopted by the legislative assembly in 1994. She made presentations to the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples in 1992 and has actively supported initiatives related to family violence awareness, breast cancer awareness, Indigenous women's issues, poverty reduction, and the empowerment of women in leadership.

Throughout her career, Rita has been an advocate for women, equal representation, and social justice. Her dedication to supporting women's voices and striving for equality in the political landscape has been influential.

## **Delphine Pierrot,** Vice President South Sahtu Region Board member Term: June 2021 – June 2024

Fort Good Hope is her home community, and she was their first female Chief. Delphine has worked as a social worker in the Sahtu for many years. Her caseload with NTHSSA includes Sahtu families, children, youth, foster families, and Out of Territory Residential facilities intake.

Delphine brings a wealth of knowledge and work experience to the Council.



Delphine also volunteers extensively and has sat on numerous leadership boards.



**Shelley Brown,** Vice President North North Slave Board member Term: January 2022 – January 2025

Biography and photo pending

#### **Anna Pontikis McLeod**

Deh Cho Region Board member Term: August 2022 - August 2025

Anna (pronouns: she/her) originally from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan (Treaty 6 Territory and Homeland of the Metis).



This lifelong Prairie woman moved to Fort Simpson/Liidlii Kue in January 2021 during a global pandemic to join her husband who had moved to the community in 2019 to take on a role as the Community Social Worker. The Dene and Metis cultures were familiar and welcoming, so it has been a good transition to her new home in the Dehcho Region.

To get to know her new community she got involved by joining Open Sky Society Art Collective as a board member, planning financial literacy programming and being a substitute teacher at the high school before starting a job with the GNWT. Enjoying the beautiful summers in the Dehcho has been worth the move itself.

Anna believes service to others is the best way to uplift of that person. Whether it is through education, knocking down barriers in the workplace, making someone a pot of moose meat stew - she does it in a supporting and trauma informed manner.

Her past board/volunteer experience include The Princess Shop Mentorship program, Junior Achievement Canada, Saskatoon Indian & Metis Centre, OUTSaskatoon and Women in Leadership Saskatchewan. Anna attended the University of Saskatchewan for a BSc in Biology and Saskatchewan Polytechnic for an Associate Degree in Business majoring in Business Human Resources. She spent the last 15 years working in HR for the Saskatchewan Health Authority and then TD Canada Trust as a trusted Financial Planner. Her current role is the Manager of Management and Recruitment Services for the Department of Finance in the Dehcho Region.

She is the proud wife of Jason and super supporter of her 20-year-old son Dakota who is also a young entrepreneur of a Metis collective that supplies beading supplies, art, furs, pow wow regalia and educational materials to Saskatchewan, Alberta, and NWT.

# Doris Minoza, South Slave Region Board member Term: February 2023 – February 2026

Doris is of Dene descent, born and raised in Hay River, Treaty 11 Territory. Doris has worked hard in silence to heal past, present & future generations.



As an evolving Dene woman from Treaty 11 Territory, she sees the need for ancestral knowledge and wisdom to assist our collective in moving forward. She grew up in a home where her native tongue was spoken fluently by both her beloved parents Jim & Marie Thomas, and where she gained the innate Dene teachings and values that her parents instilled in her. Creating a deeper understanding of the First Nation culture and worldview is important as a duty to herself, her matrilineal line and humanity.

She has a deep knowledge, compassion and understanding of her local history and culture. In her personal life she has dedicated herself towards healing the impact and effects of cultural and personal trauma caused by the Residential School legacy that she sees in her people. Her passion and commitment to helping her people recover from things we don't speak of is her number one priority in this realm.

Doris is very passionate about healing and our collective healing that is needed, so we can balance our walk in this life accordingly. She can hold a sacred space for everyone she meets and allow them to seek the roots of their traumatic pains. She is always available to grow and learn.

Doris looks forward to devoting her energy and skills to the NWT Status of Women Council and their goal of creating a sisterhood that feels valued, heard and seen, working towards inclusivity for all.



## Stephanie Beaverho,

Tłıcho Region Board member Term: August 2022 – August 2025

Biography and photo pending

#### **Board activities**

The 2022/2023 fiscal year saw the renewal of two-thirds of its Board of Directors. Rita Arey assumed the Presidency of the Status of Women Council on an Acting basis. She was then confirmed as President when the Board of Directors was elected at the March 2023 face-to-face meeting.

The Board's very first key action was to approve the 2022-2023 Strategic Plan. This plan presented an opportunity to expand on and define our values and to adopt new strategic goals. Our values now include equality and equity, diversity, inclusion, integrity, respect, compassion, and professionalism.

#### <u>2022 – 2023 Strategic Goals:</u>

- 1. Women in Leadership
- 2. A Safe Society
- 3. Women and the Economy
- 4. Advancing Gender Equity through Gender Mainstreaming
- 5. Celebrating Women their contributions and achievements

Thanks to close collaboration between the Board and the Gender Equity Division, the Status of Women Council was able to lead a Yellowknife International Women's Day event, as well as to provide fundings to support IWD community projects to celebrate the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women in the Northwest Territories. The Board also approved the organization of the December 6<sup>th</sup> Vigil for the National Day of Action on Violence Against Women. Measures have also been taken to continue advancing SWCNT projects that had previously been put on hold.

## **Advocacy**

In 1990, the Legislative Assembly separated the Status of Women Council from the Women's Directorate to better support the Status of Women's ability to achieves its goals and objectives and to provide women with a voice — a voice not filtered or directed by the government.

As a result, the NWT Status of Women has been listening to and advocating on behalf of women for thirty-two (33) years. Sometimes this advocacy takes the form of supporting an individual woman as she faces barriers and/or discrimination and sometimes this advocacy takes the form of making recommendations to government and other public entities.

We participate in various consultations, committees, groups, and make presentations throughout the year – at the local, territorial, and national level. As a public agency, we have the unique opportunity to participate in these forums from a **feminist intersectional position**. Our participation supports sharing of information, facilitates learning from one another, and create greater awareness.

Our national participation ensure a voice for all women of the NWT is heard in these forums and represents an opportunity to inform national policy and actions. It also helps us stay abreast of trends and best practices. The advent of the common use of virtual platforms has allowed us to have a wider reach and impact than in years past where we needed to travel to national forums to be heard.

In 2020 the Gender Equity Division initiated a *review of the Status of Women Council Act* to determine what, if any improvements could be made to the Act to modernize the language, identify gaps and strengthen the Act.

Former Board Members and staff have been consulted together with former MLAs and members of other organizations. Interviewees were almost unanimous in stressing the need for a clear and transparent process regarding the Representation, the Composition and the Appointment of Board Members, as well as a need for accountability in all the activities of the SWCNT. While we fully support these changes, we are concerned by others.

The consultation raised the need to modernize and define the terms to provide clarity on the meaning, purpose and intent of the Act, but it appears to us that the proposed changes have the opposite effect.

Changing the name of the Act by adding "and Gender Diversity" questions the purpose of the Council. "Gender Diversity" encompasses a broader spectrum of gender identities beyond the traditional binary understanding of male and female. It recognizes that gender exists on a spectrum, and people may identify as transgender, non-binary, genderqueer, or have other diverse gender identities. Acknowledging and respecting the distinction between "women" and "gender diversity" is crucial for inclusivity and ensuring that all individuals, regardless of their gender identity, are seen, heard, and respected for who they are.

Asking the "Council for Women" to also serve as the "Council for Gender Diversity" is, in our opinion, in contradiction with the will to give a voice to those who want to demonstrate a diversity of expression beyond the binary framework.

## **Key programs and initiatives**

## Responding to Economic Abuse

The Status of Women started the "Responding to Economic Abuse – a systemic approach to change" project in the fall of 2021. This project is designed to create systemic change for marginalized women in the NWT by:

- Encouraging policy and procedure changes in government, employers, and financial services around economic abuse;
- Developing resources to educate service providers and survivors of economic abuse on signs of economic abuse, and strategies for reclaiming economic empowerment; and
- Reducing the stigma felt by those with lived experience of economic abuse.

Research and consultations were conducted in 2022/23 resulting in a summary of impactful legislation and policy and the identifying of specific gaps in information and resources needed in the NWT.

This project is entirely funded by Women and Gender Equality Canada. It started in September 2021 and will end in March 2024 for a total amount of \$345,480. Of the \$172,740 allocated for 2022-2023, 18% were spent on professional fees. The unspent amount has been carried forward to 2023-2024 and the total project amount will be adjusted accordingly.

All originally planned resources will be created, reviewed and edited by March 2024. To ensure that produced resources are comprehended and utilized, they will be distributed through workshops.

## Workplace Sexual Harassment – Education & Information

The territorial-wide workplace sexual harassment ('WSH') project is focused on increasing awareness and understanding of workplace sexual harassment in the Northwest Territories, with the ultimate goal of eliminating it.

Public education and information resources about workplace sexual harassment have been developed and distributed. These materials are for employers and employees and include information about the legal framework, rights and obligations, how to prevent and address WSH, and identify resources available in the NWT.

In 2022-2023 related materials were developed and delivered: "What to do if it happens to you – responding to workplace sexual harassment", "How to be an ally", and "WSH for employers". A one-hour webinar and three information booklets were also developed. The booklets include Death by 1000 Cuts – responding to microaggressions, Incivility, Bullying and Harassment, and Responding to Disclosures for Employers. Two other one-hour webinar will be developed.

This project is going to end in March 2024 with no extension possible. In order to optimize the few months remaining it has been decided to organize a train-the-trainer session. Training trainers seemed to us to be the best way of distilling information for both employers and employees beyond the end of the program.

This project is entirely funded by Department of justice Canada. It started in January 2020 and will end in March 2024 for a total amount of \$1.5 million. On the \$503,426 allocated for 2022-2023, \$251,713 have been de-committed for a revised total budget of \$251.713 for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. 6% were spent on professional fees and program delivery. The unspent amount has been carried forward to 2023-2024 and the total project amount will be adjusted accordingly.

## December 6th Vigil: the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

Each year, the Status of Women Council host this vigil to remember the 14 women killed at L'Université de Montréal's École Polytechnique in 1989; to remember all the women we have lost to gender-based violence; to remember the missing and murdered Indigenous women; and to remember the women killed in the Northwest Territories.

In 2022, the vigil took place at the Legislative Assembly, drawing approximately 100 attendees who gathered for a solemn three-hour remembrance. The event featured a lineup of guest speakers, including:

- Katrina Nokleby, MLA Great Slave;
- Brenda Norris, Executive Director of the Native Women Association of the NWT;
- Charlene Doolittle, Deputy Minister of the Department of Justice;
- Hawa Dumbaya-Sesay, Executive Director of the YWCA.

These speakers brought their perspectives and insights to the forefront, highlighting the importance of addressing gender-based violence and fostering a safer, more inclusive society.

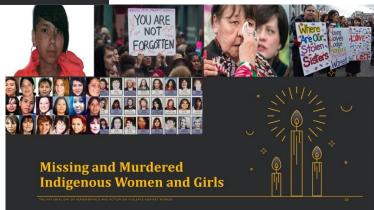
A poignant and impactful moment of the vigil occurred as the names of the women tragically lost in the Montreal massacre were displayed on screen. Attendees paid their respects by laying roses and lighting candles in their memory.

## STATUS OF WOMEN COUNCIL OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Each participant, introduced by name, shared their own stories of how they have been affected by violence against women and their unwavering dedication to raising awareness and ending gender-based violence in all its forms.

The event also solemnly remembered Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, further emphasizing the pressing need for collective action to address this critical issue.





The December 6th Vigil served as a powerful reminder of the ongoing work needed to create a safer and more equitable world for all.

We would like to acknowledge the financial contribution of DeBeers and the PSAC NWT Women's Regional Committee to support the event.

## International Women's Day

March 8th is International Women's Day – a global day to **celebrate** the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women and girls. It is a day to **recognize** women who inspire us.

In 2023, the Status of Women Council offered 12 grants of \$5,000 each for the organization of events and activities that supported the advancement of equality for women in the Northwest Territories.

#### The criteria were as followed:

- Events or activities should take place on or around March 8th International Women's Day (and by March 31, 2023)
- Events or activities should be focused on women and/or girls
- Events or activities should be community-based
- Available to NWT non-government organizations, community governments and Indigenous governments.

#### Among the recipients were:

Dehcho Divisional Education Council, Yellowknife Women's Society, Ka'A'Gee'Tu First Nation, NWT Judo Association, Fort Simpson Ladies Hockey, Deline Goti'ne Government, Aklavik Indian Band, Uncle Gabe's Friendship Center, and the Native Women's Association.

## Focus on the International Women's Day Tea hosted by the UGFC Sewing Circle

The International Women's Day Tea hosted by Uncle Gabe's Friendship Centre was a special event that celebrated and honored women of all ages. The preparation group, consisting of dedicated sewing group ladies, worked tirelessly for two weeks leading up to the celebration to prepare prizes and gift baskets. On the day of the event, 11 sewing group ladies volunteered their time to ensure its success.



The event began with a prayer, and proper protocols were followed when asking an Elder to lead it. The guest speaker, Kache, who was only 16 years old, was honored with her first bundle, which included sage and a ribbon skirt. Kache shared her inspiring journey as an ASMR YouTuber with an impressive following of 210,000 subscribers. Another speaker, Julie, was presented with an orange ribbon skirt and tobacco. Julie shared her own healing journey, her career as a counselor, and her self-care practices on the land.

## Focus on the International Women's Day Tea hosted by the UGFC Sewing Circle

## **Guest Speakers**





Kache shared her journey as an ASMR YouTuber with 210,000 subscribers. Julie shared her healing journey, career as a counsellor, and on the land self-care.



# Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2023

Yellowknife, NT

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended March 31, 2023

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#### MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR REPORTING

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared by management, which is responsible for the reliability, integrity and objectivity of the information provided. They have been prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards applicable to government not-for-profit organizations. Where necessary the statements include amounts that are based on informed judgements and estimates by management, giving appropriate consideration to reasonable limits of materiality.

In discharging its responsibility for the integrity and fairness of the financial statements and for the accounting systems from which they are derived, management maintains the necessary system of internal controls designed to provide assurance that transactions are authorized, assets are safeguarded and proper records are maintained. These controls include quality standards in hiring and training employees, written policies and procedures manuals, and accountability for performance within appropriate and well-defined areas of responsibility. The Board's management recognizes its responsibility for conducting the Board's affairs in accordance with the requirements of applicable laws and sound business principles, and for maintaining standards of conduct that are appropriate.

Avery Cooper & Co. Ltd., Chartered Professional Accountants annually provides an independent, objective audit for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards.

Executive Director

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To the members of Status of Women Council of the NWT

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Status of Women Council of the NWT (the "Council"), which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at March 31, 2023, and the Statements of Operations, Changes in Fund Balances, and Cash Flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council as at March 31, 2023, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Council in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises:

Annual Report, but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon

The other information is expected to be made available to us after the date of this auditor's report.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

When we read the other information, if we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report the matter to those charged with governance.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Council or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### , continued

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Council's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

#### , continued

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

As required by the *Financial Administration Act* ("FAA Act") of the Northwest Territories, we report that, in our opinion, the accounting principles in the Canadian public sector accounting standards have been applied.

Further, in our opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the Council and the financial statements are in agreement therewith. In addition, the transactions of the Council have, in all significant respects, been in accordance with the FAA Act and regulations; the *Status of Women Council Act* (the "Act") and regulations; the by-laws of the Council; and any directives issued to the Council by the Minister under the FAA or Act.

Avery Cooper & Co. Ltd.

**Chartered Professional Accountants** 

Avery looper + Co. Ltd.

Yellowknife, NT

June 27, 2023

#### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

March 31, 2023

#### **ASSETS**

	2023	2022
CURRENT Cash Accounts receivable (note 3) Prepaid expenses	\$ 778,277 - 2,000	\$ 306,457 58,052
DECICNATED CACH	780,277	364,509
DESIGNATED CASH	81,761	81,751
TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS (note 4)	3,725	5,321
	\$ 865,763	\$ 451,581
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT Trade payables and accruals (note 5) Wages and benefits payable (note 6) Deferred revenue (note 7) Government remittances payable	\$ 99,416 - 559,548 - 5,316 - 664,280	\$ 120,623 66,415 48,617 14,443 250,098
FUND BALANCES		
UNRESTRICTED SURPLUS (DEFICIT) per page 3	102,220	100,624
INVESTED IN TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS per page 3	3,725	5,321
CONTINGENCY FUND per page 3	65,538	65,538
BENEFITS FUND per page 3	30,000	30,000
	201,483	201,483
	\$ 865,763	\$ 451,581

Approved:

Chairperson

Member

#### STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

For the year ended March 31, 2023

	2023	2022
REVENUES		
Core - Schedule 1	\$ 357,488	\$ 598,099
Family Violence Prevention Month - Schedule 2	-	57,600
NGO Stabilization Fund - Schedule 3	-	19,238
Safety Planning - Schedule 4	-	90,000
Economic Abuse - Schedule 5	30,553	81,920
MMIWG Engagement Session - Schedule 6	-	8,500
Trauma and Violence Informed - Schedule 7	38,365	106,635
Workplace Sexual Harassment - Schedule 8	15,033	310,218
	441,439	1,272,210
EXPENSES		
Core - Schedule 1	357,488	499,755
Family Violence Prevention Month - Schedule 2	-	57,600
NGO Stabilization Fund - Schedule 3	-	19,238
Safety Planning - Schedule 4	-	90,000
Economic Abuse - Schedule 5	30,553	81,920
MMIWG Engagement Session - Schedule 6	-	8,500
Trauma and Violence Informed - Schedule 7	38,365	106,635
Workplace Sexual Harassment - Schedule 8	15,033	310,218
	441,439	1,173,866
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ -	\$ 98,344

#### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

For the year ended March 31, 2023

					2023
	Unrestricted Surplus (Deficit)	Invested in Tangible Capital Assets	Contingency Fund	Benefits Fund	Total
BALANCE, opening	\$ 100,624	\$ 5,321	\$ 65,538	\$ 30,000	\$ 201,483
Excess of revenues over expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Amortization of tangible capital assets	1,596	(1,596)	Taganagan te natural and an	-	-
BALANCE, closing	\$ 102,220	\$ 3,725	\$ 65,538	\$ 30,000	\$ 201,483
		White Court I have been a served as the court of the cour			2022
	Unrestricted Surplus (Deficit)	Invested in Tangible Capital Assets	Contingency Fund	Benefits Fund	Total
BALANCE, opening	\$ 13,806	\$ 7,601	\$ 51,732	\$ 30,000	\$ 103,139
Excess of revenues over expenses	98,344	-		-	98,344
Transfers	(13,806)		13,806	-	-
Amortization of tangible capital assets	2,280	(2,280)	-		
BALANCE, closing	\$ 100,624	\$ 5,321	\$ 65,538	\$ 30,000	\$ 201,483

#### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended March 31, 2023

	2023	2022
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES  Cash receipts from contributions and donations  Cash paid for materials and services  Cash paid for wages and benefits	\$ 939,422 (288,710) (178,882)	\$ 1,278,233 (617,455) (362,500)
INCREASE IN CASH	471,830	298,278
CASH, opening	388,208	89,930
CASH, closing	\$ 860,038	\$ 388,208
REPRESENTED BY: Cash Designated cash	\$ 778,277 81,761	\$ 306,457 81,751
	\$ 860,038	\$ 388,208

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2023

#### 1. NATURE OF OPERATIONS

Status of Women Council of the NWT (the "Council") is a government not-for-profit organization of the Government of the Northwest Territories ("GNWT") and was established under the *Status of Women Council Act* of the Northwest Territories dated April 4, 1990.

The objectives of the Council are:

- 1) to develop public awareness of issues affecting the status of women;
- 2) to promote a change in attitudes within the community in order that women may enjoy equality;
- 3) to encourage discussion and expression of opinion by residents of the Northwest Territories on issues affecting the status of women;
- 4) to advise the Minister on issues that the Minister may refer to the council for consideration;
- 5) to review policies and legislation affecting women and to report its findings to the relevant government departments or agencies;
- 6) to provide assistance to the Minister in promoting changes to ensure the attainment of equality of women; and
- 7) to provide the appropriate assistance to organizations and groups whose objectives promote the equality of women.

#### The Council may:

- 1) receive and hear submissions and suggestions from individuals and groups concerning the status of women;
- 2) research matters relating to the status of women;
- 3) suggest research areas in relation to matters relating to the status of women that may be studied by any interested persons;
- 4) recommend and participate in programs concerning the status of women;
- 5) recommend legislation, policies and practices to improve the equality of opportunity for women and to improve the status of women;
- 6) publish any reports, studies or recommendations that the Council considers advisable;
- 7) present reports to the Minister to be laid before the Legislative Assembly;
- 8) contract and be contracted in the name of the Council; and
- 9) make bylaws to regulate the affairs of the Council.

The Council is exempt from income tax under subsection 149(1) of the *Income Tax Act* (Canada).

#### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Council follows accounting principles generally accepted in Canada in preparing its financial statements. The significant accounting policies used are as follows:

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2023

#### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

#### (a) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash and short-term investments with maturities of three months or less from their date of acquisition, which are readily convertible into a known amount of cash, and are subject to an insignificant risk to changes in their fair value.

#### (b) Financial instruments

The Council initially measures its financial assets and liabilities at fair value. The Council subsequently measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost.

#### (c) Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost. The Council provides for amortization using the declining balance method at rates designed to amortize the cost of the tangible capital assets over their estimated useful lives. One half of the year's amortization is recorded in the year of acquisition. No amortization is recorded in the year of disposal. The annual amortization rates are as follows:

Computer equipment	30%
Equipment	20%

#### (d) Employee future benefits

Employees are entitled to severance benefits, as provided under labour contracts and conditions of employment, based on years of service. The benefits are paid upon resignation, lay off or death of employee.

The cost of the severance benefits upon resignation are accrued annually based on a minimum of four years of service, to a payout of 12 weeks maximum. The additional cost of severance benefits paid upon lay off are recorded in the year paid.

#### (e) Revenue recognition

The Council follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred.

Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable and the amount can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Contributions of materials and services are recognized in the financial statements at fair value at the date of contribution, but only when a fair value can be reasonably estimated and when the materials and services are used in the normal course of operations, and would otherwise have been purchased.

Interest income that is not externally restricted is recognized in the Statement of Operations when earned.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2023

#### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

#### (f) Contributed materials and services

Directors and volunteers volunteer their time to assist in the Council's activities. While these services benefit the Council considerably, a reasonable estimate of their amount and fair value cannot be made and, accordingly, these contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.

The GNWT provides the Council with office premises without charge. The estimated value of these rental premises are recognized as expenses with a corresponding credit to revenues to reflect the full cost of the Council's operations in the financial statements.

#### (g) Allocated expenses

The Council allocates certain general support expenses according to the contribution agreement to which the expenditure relates. The expenditures are any direct cost related to the fulfillment of the contribution agreement. The costs are then allocated to the contribution agreement based on the actual amount of the expenditure.

Office administrative costs are allocated to contribution agreements that allow such costs to be allocated.

#### (h) Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amount of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. These estimates are reviewed periodically, and as adjustments become necessary they are reported in income in the period in which they become known. Estimates are used when accounting for certain items such as allowance for doubtful accounts, the useful life of tangible capital assets, and employee future benefits.

#### 3. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

		2023	-	2022
GNWT - Health & Social Services	\$	-	\$	14,201
Canada - Justice Partnership and Innovation Program		-		31,022
Canada - Women and Gender Equality (WAGE)	<b>Brokery Constitution</b>	_	-	12,829
	\$	-	\$	58,052

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2023

## 4. TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

		BORRANT SOUND COLOREST AND ADDRESS AND ADD		2023	2022
		Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net	Net
	Computer equipment Equipment	\$ 58,081 4,870	\$ 54,356 4,870	\$ 3,725	\$ 5,321
		\$ 62,951	\$ 59,226	\$ 3,725	\$ 5,321
5.	TRADE PAYABLES AND AC	CRUALS			
				2023	2022
	Trade payables Scotiabank Visa Accrued liabilities Government funds repayable			\$ 1,999 18,307 19,550 59,560	\$ 90,734 9,209 20,680
				\$ 99,416	\$ 120,623
6.	WAGES AND BENEFITS PAY	ABLE			
				2023	2022
	Wages payable Severence liability Vacation and lieu payable			\$ - - -	\$ 27,959 11,372 27,084
				\$ -	\$ 66,415

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2023

#### 7. **DEFERRED REVENUE**

Deferred revenue as at March 31, 2023, consists of the following:

	2023	2022
Economic Abuse Gender Equity Workplace Sexual Harassment Core fund Trauma and Violence Informed Wise women Public Awareness	\$ 129,358 2,237 236,680 178,258 - 8,015 5,000	\$ - 2,237 - 38,365 8,015
Deferred revenue, opening Receipts Funding expended	\$ 559,548 48,617 952,370 (441,439)	\$ 48,617 28,057 175,000 (154,440)
	559,548	48,617

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2023

#### 8. CONTRACTUAL RIGHTS

As at March 31, 2023, the Council had entered into contribution agreements with the GNWT - Department of Status of Women with the term April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2026, Canada - Justice Partnership and Innovation Program with the term January 6, 2020 - March 31, 2024 and Canada Women and Gender Equity with the term September 20, 2021 to March 31, 2024. The future maximum contributions are as follows:

		Canada Justice		
	GNWT -	Partnership		
	Department of	and		
	Status of	Innovation	WAGE	
	Women	Program	Canada	Total
2023-2024	\$ 444,000	\$ 490,615	\$ 103,644	\$ 1,038,259
2024-2025	444,000	-	-	444,000
2025-2026	444,000	-,		444,000
	\$1,332,000	\$ 490,615	\$ 103,644	\$1,926,259

#### 9. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE

The Council receives the majority of its revenues from various GNWT departments. If the GNWT ceased to fund the Council, this would significantly affect operations.

#### 10. REVENUES BY OBJECT

	2023	2022
Government grants and contributions Contributed rent Sponsorship, donations and events Administration fees Interest income	\$ 349,693 71,000 10,650 10,086	\$ 1,085,760 71,000 65,882 49,562
	\$ 441,439	\$1,272,210

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2023

#### 11. COMMITMENT

As at March 31, 2023, the Council has outstanding quarterly commitments of \$1,356 with respect to an office equipment lease expiring March 31, 2026 as follows:

2024 2025	\$	5,424 5,424
2026	_	5,424
	\$	16,272

#### 12. BENEFITS FUND

The Council, under its core contribution agreement, is allowed to create a Maternity and Parental Leave Benefits Fund, using a maximum of \$5,000 of unexpended core contribution per year, to a maximum of \$30,000. Changes during the year in the Benefits Fund are as follows:

		2023	2022
Benefits Fund	\$ 3	30,000	\$ 30,000

The Council maintains designated cash to cover the required fund balance. There is a sufficient balance to cover the fund balance in the current year.

#### 13. CONTINGENCY FUND

The Council created a Contingency Fund to be fiscally responsible in discharging its responsibilities to make payments and to cover any future technology requirements. Changes during the year in the Contingency Fund are as follows:

	 2023	2022
Contingency Fund Transfer from unrestricted surplus	\$ 65,538	\$ 51,732 13,806
Contingency Fund, closing	\$ 65,538	\$ 65,538

The Council maintains designated cash to cover the required fund balance. There are insufficient funds to cover the balance in the current year.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2023

#### 14. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Council's financial instruments consist of cash, marketable securities, accounts receivable, trade payables and accruals, and wages and benefits payable. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Council is not exposed to significant interest rate, market, currency, credit, liquidity, cash flow risks, nor is the Council exposed to significant concentrations of such risks. The fair value of these financial instruments approximate their carrying values, unless otherwise noted.

As March 31, 2023, the Council has a \$20,000 (2022 - \$20,000) credit card facility with the Bank of Nova Scotia.

#### 15. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Council is related in terms of common ownership to all GNWT-created departments, territorial corporations and public agencies. The Council enters into transactions with these entities in the normal course of operations and on normal trade terms applicable to all parties. The amounts due to and from related parties are unsecured, non-interest bearing and due on demand.

Transactions with related parties during the year and balances at year end, not disclosed elsewhere in the financial statements, are disclosed in this note.

	2023	2022
Revenue GNWT - Executive & Indigenous Affairs GNWT - Department of Justice GNWT - Health & Social Services GNWT - Municipal & Community Affairs GNWT - Infrastructure (Contributed rent) GNWT - Women's Initiative Grant	\$ 444,000 - - - 71,000 5,000	\$ 481,067 54,200 28,400 19,238 71,000
	\$ 520,000	\$ 653,905
Expenses GNWT - Infrastructure (Contributed rent) GNWT - Financial Shared Services Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority Dehcho DEC	\$ 71,000 1,435 - 20,000	\$ 71,000 2,347 1,250
	\$ 92,435	\$ 74,597

These transactions are in the normal course of operations and have been valued in these financial statements at the exchange amount which is the amount of consideration established and agreed to by the related parties.

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2023

#### 16. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

The financial statements have been reclassified, where applicable, to conform to the presentation used in the current year.

#### SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2023

SCHEDULE OF CORE		Schedule 1
	2023	2022
REVENUES		
GNWT - Executive & Indigenous Affairs \$	265,742	\$ 444,000
GNWT - Contributed Rent	71,000	99,567
Grants	-	2,500
Administration Recovery	10,086	49,562
Miscellaneous	10,660	2,470
_	357,488	598,099
EXPENSES		
Advertising	11,329	10,304
Amortization	1,596	2,280
Catering	5,026	-
Contributed Rent	71,000	71,000
Equipment Rental	5,955	5,767
Facilitators/Contractors	3,600	1,022
Honoraria	5,750	6,313
Interest & Bank Charges	453	104
Mail Service	1,447	1,916
Meeting Expenses/Conference Fees	-	1,791
Meetings	3,163	957
Professional Development - Staff	372	3,727
Professional/Contract Services	49,458	35,063
Resources/Subscriptions	1,838	1,092
Supplies	1,710	7,865
Technology	6,524	15,822
Community support	66,593	434
Telecommunications	11,176	24,469
Travel	10,881	8,412
Wages & Benefits	99,617	301,417
	357,488	499,755

**EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES** 

\$ - \$ 98,344

#### SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2023

#### SCHEDULE OF FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION MONTH

DEVENUES		2023		2022
REVENUES	Ф		Φ.	20.200
GNWT - Justice	\$	-	\$	29,200
GNWT - Health & Social Services	-	-		28,400
		-		57,600
EXPENSES				
Administration		-		3,196
Community Events		_		39,340
FV Resource Package		_		10,199
Marketing & Communications		-		2,170
Postage & printing		_		1,464
YK Event				1,231
I K Event	***************************************		-	1,231
		_		57,600
	-			
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$		\$	-

#### SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2023

SCHEDULE OF NGO STABILIZATION FUND		Se	chedule 3
	2023	-	2022
REVENUE GNWT - Municipal & Community Affairs	\$ -	\$	19,238
EXPENSES Professional Fees	-		19,238
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ _	\$	_

## SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2023

#### SCHEDULE OF SAFETY PLANNING

	Establishmen	2023		2022
REVENUE	•		•	• • • • • •
GNWT - Justice	\$	-	\$	25,000
De Beers Canada			Name (Special	65,000
	<b>Service</b>	-		90,000
EXPENSES				
Professional fees		_		71,623
Marketing & communications		_		7,500
Print/Publication & Distribution		-		10,078
Freight/Transportation		-		799
	***************************************		-	90,000
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$	-	\$	-

## SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2023

SCHEDULE OF ECONOMIC ABUSE		Schedule 5
	2023	2022

	2023	2022
REVENUE Canada - Women and Gender Equity	\$ 30,553	\$ 81,920
EXPENSES		
Administration	_	2,120
Catering	=	1,500
Professional Fees	29,249	71,200
Project travel	1,304	-
Salaries and benefits		7,100
	30,553	81,920
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$	\$ -

## SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2023

#### SCHEDULE OF MMIWG ENGAGEMENT SESSION

	 2023	Bettermen	2022
REVENUE Executive & Indigenous Affairs	\$ 	\$	8,500
EXPENSES  Administration fees Wages and benefits Project travel Honoraria	- - - -		1,864 69 4,167 2,400
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ 	\$	8,500

#### SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2023

#### SCHEDULE OF TRAUMA AND VIOLENCE INFORMED

	2023	2022
REVENUE Canada - Women and Gender Equity	\$ 38,365	\$ 106,635
EXPENSES		
Marketing & Communications	5,506	39,145
Materials & Supplies	-	700
Office Equipment	-	280
Print/Publication & Distribution	7,773	9,494
Professional fees	15,000	40,609
Program delivery/costs	-	407
Salaries and Benefits	10,086	16,000
	38,365	106,635
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ -	\$ -

#### SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2023

## SCHEDULE OF WORKPLACE SEXUAL HARASSMENT

	2023	2022
REVENUE		
Justice Canada	\$ 15,033	\$ 310,218
EXPENSES		
Accounting & Legal	-	5,105
Administration	-	40,463
Honoraria	-	6,000
Marketing & Communications	769	5,650
Print/Publication & Distribution	-	15,880
Professional Fees	8,100	99,500
Program Delivery	5,492	71,946
Project Travel	672	130
Training	-	2,994
Wages & Benefits		62,550
	15,033	310,218
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ -	\$ -

## SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2023

#### SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES BY OBJECT

	2023		2022
Advertising & Promotion	\$ 18,410	\$	84,568
Amortization	1,596		2,280
Administration Fees	897		48,247
Community grants	60,000		-
Computer	6,524		4,516
Community Events	9,088		43,168
Contributed Rent	71,000		71,000
Equipment Rental	5,955		5,627
Freight/ Postage	1,447		2,743
Honoraria	5,750		16,171
Interest and bank charges	380		104
Materials and supplies	6,710		14,502
Office Supplies	1,787		6,541
Print/Publication & Distribution	7,773		36,916
Professional/Contract Services	104,675		338,871
Program delivery costs	5,338		82,633
Telecommunications	11,176		9,414
Travel and Accommodation	12,858		12,709
Staff Training	372		6,720
Wages and Benefits	 109,703	-	387,136
	\$ 441,439	\$ 1	1,173,866

## **Status of Women Council of the NWT**

4th Floor | Northwest Tower | PO Box 1320 5201 Franklin Avenue Yellowknife | NT X1A 2L9

statusofwomen.nt.ca

# STATUS OF WOMEN COUNCIL

OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES