

Government of Northwest Territories

Government of the Northwest Territories Response to Committee Report 33-19(2): Report on the Review of Bill 52: Elevators and Lifts Act

<u>Background</u>

Bill 52, *Elevators and Lifts Act* (Act) is the creation of a stand-alone Act aimed to align the Northwest Territories (NWT) legislation with the other jurisdictions. Bill 52 deals with the regulation of installation, use and inspection of elevating devices including lifts and amusement rides.

The Bill was referred to Standing Committee on Economic Development and Environment (Committee) on May 31, 2022. Public notices were provided to solicit comments on the Bill and none were received. Committee held a public hearing and clause by clause review of the Bill with the Minister and departmental officials on September 28, 2022.

Recommendation 1

The Standing Committee on Economic Development and Environment recommends the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) make the report as described in section 68 of the Act publicly available including details not limited to: number of permits issued and in good standing, number of approvals, orders issued, prosecutions, fines, inspections, etc.

GNWT Response

The Department agrees the report under Section 68 should be made public and include information such as what Committee has referenced in order to provide transparency and to support the broader objective of public safety. Based on the regulation making powers in the Act, the regulations to be made under the *Elevators and Lifts Act* will prescribe both content of reports, their frequency, and the requirement to be made public.

Recommendation 2

The Standing Committee on Economic Development and Environment recommends the GNWT proactively disclose the information contained in the Registry described in Section 13 of the Act, by making it publicly available without any fees for access.

GNWT Response

The Department agrees with Committee's recommendation. Yes, the public will have access to information about contractors, qualified workers and installed elevating devices in use by the public to verify compliance, credentials and standing.

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The registry will allow the public to verify: a contractor is in good standing and licensed to provide services they advertise; and verify compliance of a specific elevating device in use by the public at a given address, to name only a few.