## NWTAC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORT BY CYNTHIA MUFANDAEDZA, CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

I represented the City of Yellowknife at the NWT Association of Communities Annual General Meeting, which took place in Inuvik from February 27th – February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020, together with Mayor Alty. I was able to attend the Professional Development Sessions as wells the Annual General Meeting.

- Christina Benty presented on Media 101 and Asset Management. A few highlights from her presentation were that:
  - failure to communicate to the public or the media was still communication with a missed opportunity to provide the correct narrative.
  - When communicating to the media or the public, one should stick to the message and not to over talk or mumble.
  - On Asset management Chrisitna challenged all members present to always ask what services our communities needed and wanted now and in the future. She also encouraged communities to have an Asset Management Policy, to know the "must haves" and the asset implications.
- 2. Michael McMartin with AON presented on Cyber Attacks and Social Engineering
- 3. The AGM provided a great opportunity to discuss with other municipal and community elected leaders from across the Northwest Territories. During the session we discussed common issues that community governments in the NWT are facing. Overall, highlights of the meeting included the opportunity to support the 2020 Resolutions proposed by The City of Yellowknife as follows: That the NWTAC -
  - Have a lifespan on resolutions so that each resolution approved at an AGM would have a four-year lifespan
  - b. To lobby the GNWT to establish a comprehensive building regime to provide regulatory clarity through out the NWT communities.

- c. To lobby the GNWT to update legislation and have Presumptive Coverage for Work Related Psychological Injury including PTSD
- d. To lobby the GNWT to develop an alcohol strategy with evidence based gold standard best practices to address alcohol related harm in the NWT
- e. That the NWTAC lobby to ensure the Federal government follows through with their Federal Mandates
- f. To lobby the GNWT to Amend the Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Act to allow municipalities to determine and apply a financials means test to ensure property tax relief is directed at property owners that need it.
- We had the opportunity to engage with Deputy Minister Eleanor Young on MACA's broad discussion on the Municipalities underfunding.
- A discussion with MP Michael McLeod on his government's commitment to the NWT. He spoke of the efforts by the current government to continue to provide funding to the north and encouraged communities and municipalities to visit Ottawa to lobby for funding requested.
- 6. A presentation from guest speaker Doug Griffiths Managing Change was interesting with the discussion that change was coming and communities needed to be ready for it.
- 7. A session with the Cabinet minister gave members from various communities an opportunity to ask the Ministers questions.

It was a great opportunity to network with members from various communities as well as the Cabinet ministers with an amazing closing gala.

## Submitted by: Cynthia Mufandaedza

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## CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE - EXPENSE CLAIM

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