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COMMUNIQUE – NWT Climate Change Council Discusses Adaptation, Youth Engagement at Third Meeting

YELLOWKNIFE (December 19, 2022) – The NWT Climate Change Council met for the fourth time September 21, 2022 to discuss climate action in the NWT.

Key actions taken by the council at this meeting included:

- Upcoming initiatives to engage NWT communities on climate adaptation priorities and lived experiences of climate change.
- Discussion of and input for the NWT's upcoming submissions to the Government of Canada's National Adaptation Strategy.
- Finalizing Terms of Reference for the [Youth Advisory Group](#) – which will bring youth voices from across the territory to the table as the GNWT implements the [2030 Climate Change Strategic Framework](#).
- Reminding all members of capacity funding available from the GNWT for Council participants to ensure meaningful participation is possible.

Also discussed were:

- Successful leveraging of federal funding completed by the NWT Association of Communities (NWTAC) to get FireSmart projects done and build community resiliency to the changing climate – and how that model can be applied to other significant challenges.
- Funding received by NWT Metis Nation to undertake climate monitoring
- The Inuvialuit Regional Corporation's (IRC) Climate Watch Program – which collects key data
- The Gwich'in Tribal Council's intent to implement a Program coordinator including climate change initiatives
- The Dehcho First Nation's upcoming youth climate action gathering (since completed) bringing 40 youth together to discuss climate adaptation.

Representatives from the following governments and organizations attended:

- Acho Dene Koe First Nation
- North Slave Metis Alliance
- Inuvialuit Regional Corporation
- Gwich'in Tribal Council
- Salt River First Nation
- NWT Métis Nation
- Dehcho First Nation
- NWT Association of Communities
- GNWT

Quote

“The Council is thrilled to see community-led initiatives popping up across the territory to advance climate action in our territory. The biggest takeaway: partnerships work. Partnerships like those resulting in historic investments in FireSmart projects. This Council is a forum for us to foster these partnerships, learn from each other, and take those learning home. That’s what we’re doing. ”

- Sara Brown, Chair, NWT Climate Change Council; Executive Director, NWT Association of Communities

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