



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Special Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting

Monday, April 20, 2026 at 12:05 p.m.

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Municipal Corporation of the City of Yellowknife will hold a special meeting of the Governance and Priorities Committee at 12:05 p.m. on April 20, 2026 in the City Hall Council Chamber.

The purpose of this special meeting is to hear a presentation regarding planned National Defence / North American Aerospace Defense Command (DND / NORAD) Infrastructure in Yellowknife.

This Special Meeting has been called by the City Manager of the City of Yellowknife pursuant to Section 27 of the *Cities, Towns and Villages Act* of the Northwest Territories and Section 120 of By-law No. 5119, the Council Procedures By-law.

Dated this 16 day of April, 2026.

<Original Signed by the City Manager>

Stephen Van Dine
City Manager



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

DATE: April 16, 2026

File: 260-P2

TO: Stephen Van Dine
City Manager

FROM: Ben Hendriksen
Mayor

RE: Special Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting

Pursuant to Section 120 of the Council Procedures By-law, I hereby request that you schedule a Special Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting on April 20, 2026 at 12:05 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber.

The purpose of this special meeting is hear a presentation regarding planned National Defence / North American Aerospace Defense Command (DND / NORAD) Infrastructure in Yellowknife.

Thank you,

<Original Signed by the Mayor>

Ben Hendriksen
Mayor

cc. City Council
Office of the City Clerk
Senior Management Committee



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

SPECIAL GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE AGENDA

Monday, April 20, 2026 at 12:05 p.m.

Chair: Mayor B. Hendriksen,
Councillor S. Arden-Smith,
Councillor G. Cochrane,
Councillor R. Fequet,
Councillor R. Foote,
Councillor C. McGurk,
Councillor T. McLennan,
Councillor S. Payne, and
Councillor R. Warburton.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>
1.	Opening Statement: The City of Yellowknife acknowledges that we are located in Chief Drygeese territory. From time immemorial, it has been the traditional land of the Yellowknives Dene First Nation. We respect the histories, languages, and cultures of all other Indigenous Peoples including the North Slave Métis, and all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.
2.	Approval of the agenda.
3.	Disclosure of conflict of interest and the general nature thereof.
ANNEX A	
4.	A presentation regarding planned National Defence / North American Aerospace Defense Command (DND / NORAD) Infrastructure in Yellowknife.



National
Defence

Défense
nationale

ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER (INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT)



NORAD Modernization and Continental Defence Infrastructure

Forward Operating Location (FOL) Yellowknife





1. NORAD Modernization Plan
2. Threats, Sovereignty and Evolving Security
3. Forward Operating Location (FOL) - Yellowknife
4. Project Delivery
5. Capital Assistance Program
6. Northern Operational Support Hubs (NOSH)
7. Q&A



NORAD Modernization Plan



- The North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) is a binational military command between Canada and the United States (U.S.) responsible for aerospace warning, aerospace control, and maritime warning in defence of North America.
- Canada's NORAD modernization plan was announced in June 2022.
- Recapitalization, modernization, replacement, or addition of new critical infrastructure across Canada, including in the North.



Threats, Sovereignty and Evolving Security



- Canadian NORAD Region (CANR) Forward Operating Locations (FOLs) were created in 1985.
- These FOLs cannot effectively support existing and future NORAD operations.
- The FOLs require significant upgrades to:
 - Support NORAD
 - Support Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) domestic operations, including large-scale exercises
 - Integrate new Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) fleets into operations
- FOL infrastructure must enable rapid activation to support NORAD and CAF operational requirements.

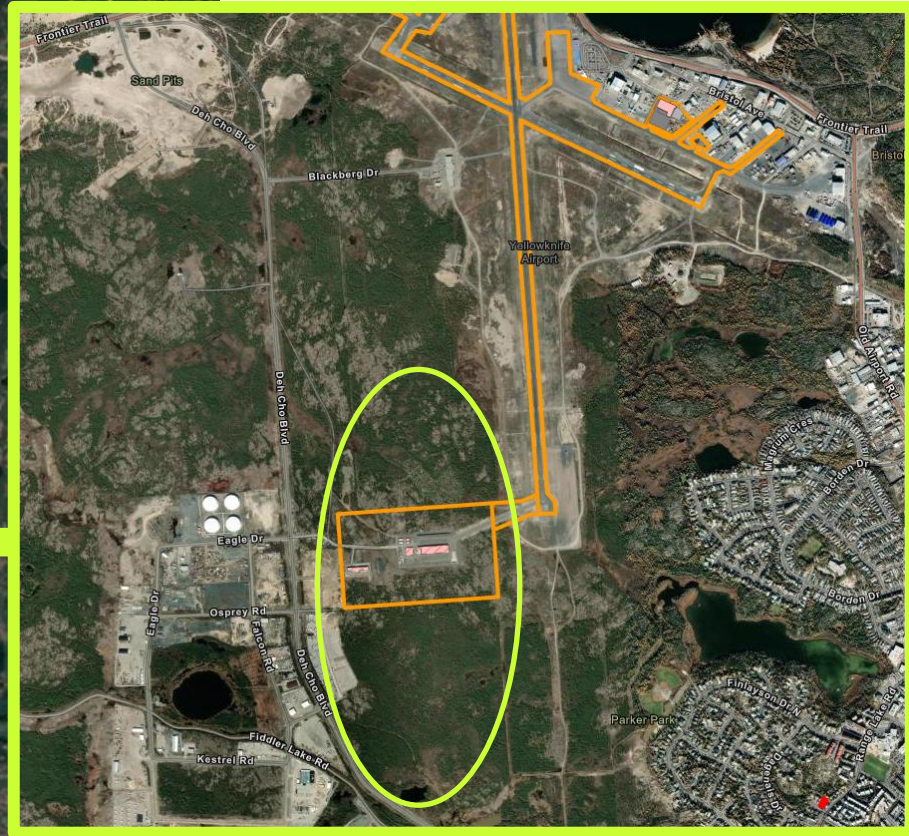
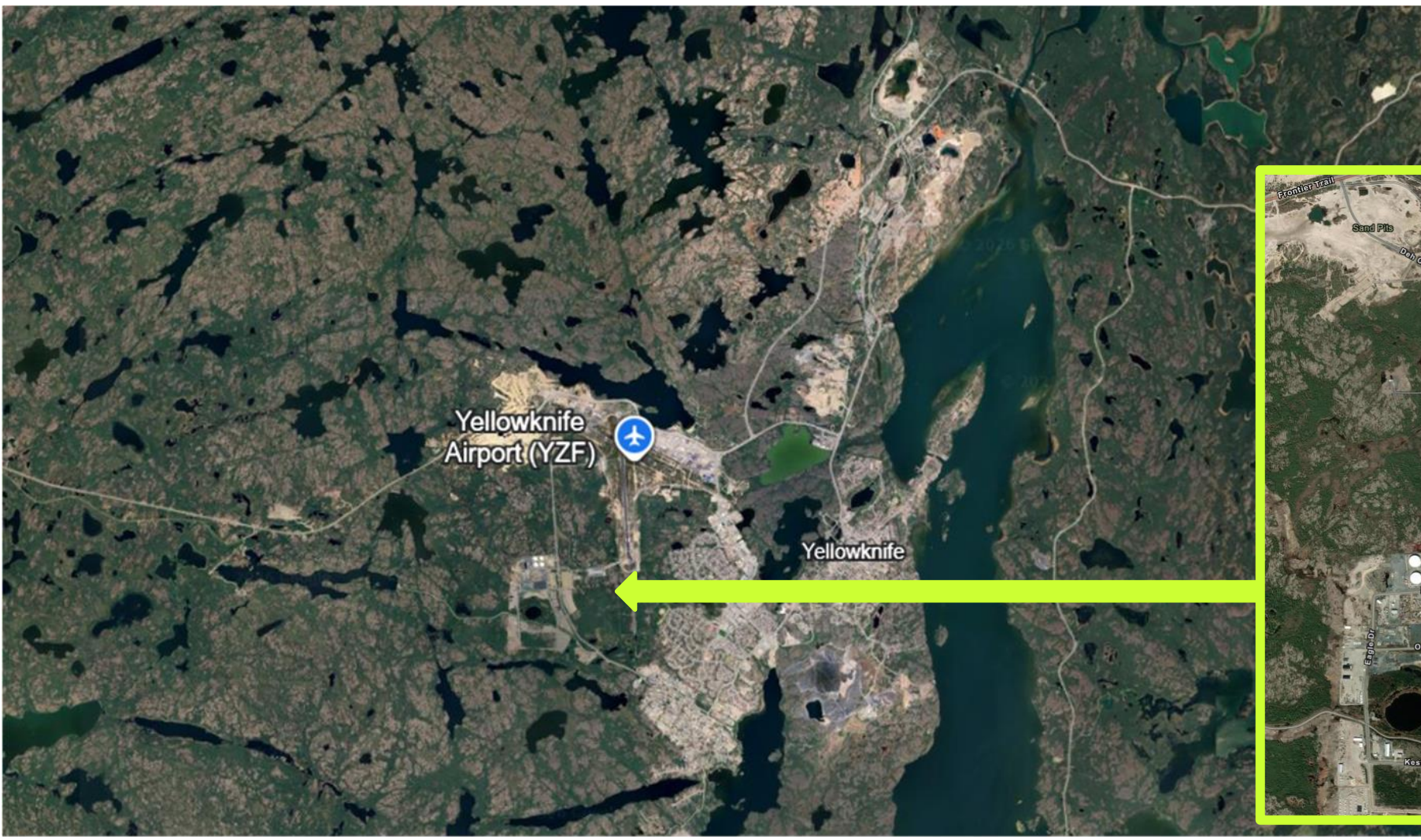




Forward Operating Location (FOL) Yellowknife



Forward Operating Location (FOL) - Yellowknife





NORAD Northern Basing Infrastructure (NNBI):

- Infrastructure to support North American Aerospace Defense (NORAD) and Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) operations in the North.

Defence of Canada Fighter Infrastructure (DCFI):

- Modern Quick Reaction Alert (QRA) facilities for the new CF-35A fighter fleet.

Northern Operational Support Hubs (NOSH):

- Develop a network of sites that allow the CAF to operate more effectively in the Canadian Arctic and North. NOSH will improve access, logistics, and support for year-round operations, and enable activities of federal and local partners where possible.



FOL May Support the Following Aircraft



Fighters



CF-188 Hornet



CF-35 Lightning

Tankers



CC-330 Husky



CC-150 Polaris



CQ9B RPAS

Transport



CC-177 Globemaster



CC-130J Hercules



CC-138 Twin Otter

Maritime Patrol



CP-140 Aurora



CP-8 Poseidon



CH-148 Cyclone

SAR



CH-149 Cormorant



CC-295 Kingfisher

Helicopters



CH-147F Chinook



CH-146 Griffon

These aircraft are expected to operate intermittently from the FOL



Constructing Multiple Hangars and Aprons



CC-177 Globemaster



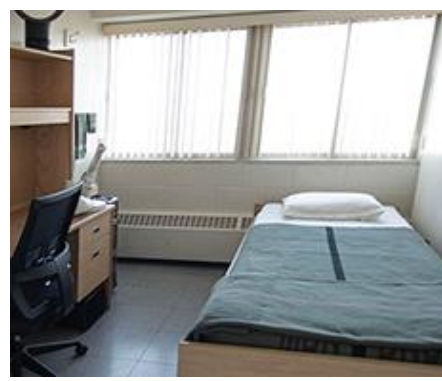
CC-330 Husky



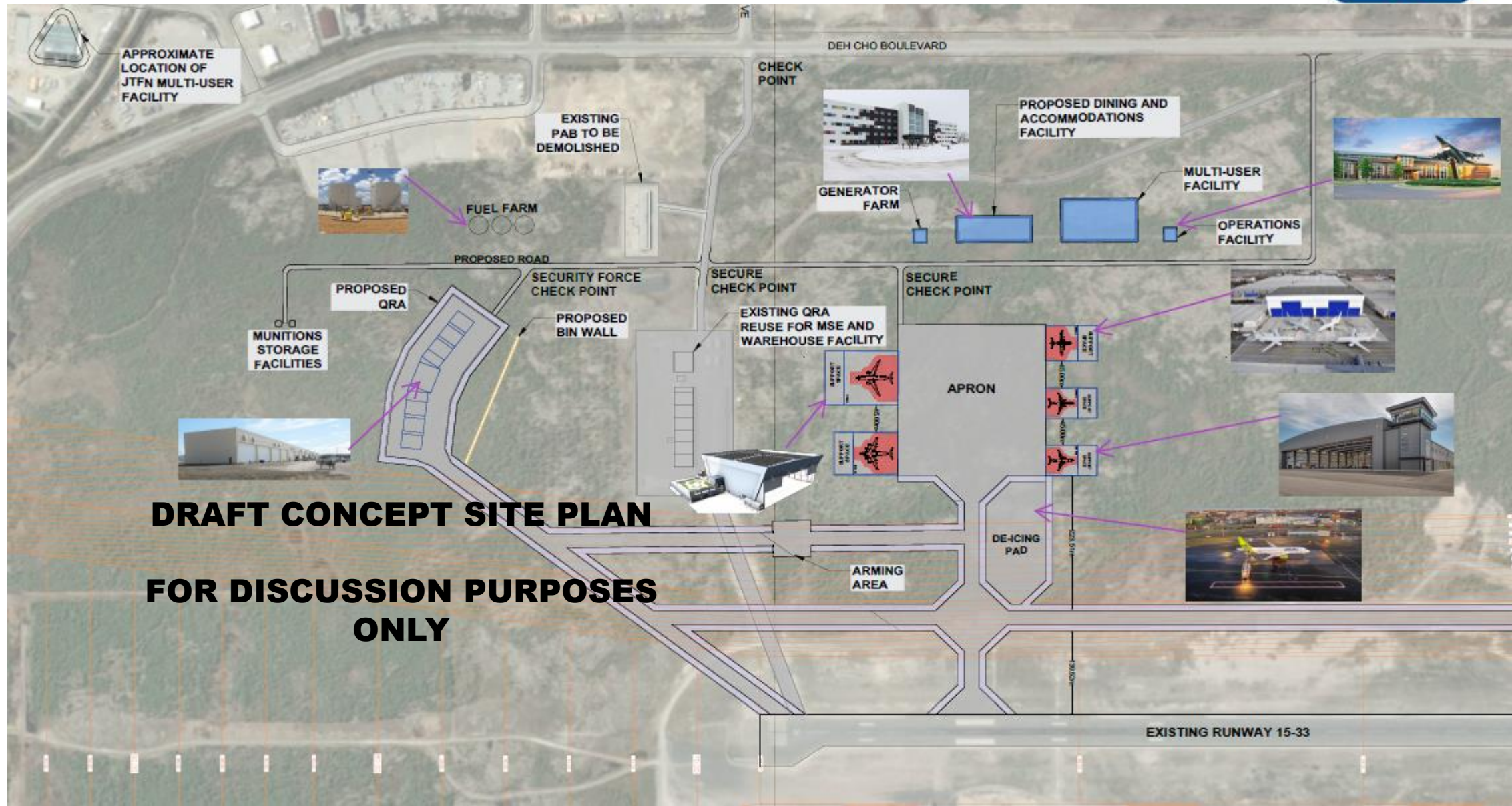
Constructing a Warehouse and an Operations Center



Personnel Accommodation Building (PAB)



Site Conceptual Design **DRAFT**



**DRAFT CONCEPT SITE PLAN
FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES
ONLY**



Project Delivery





Site Specific Studies Underway:

- Assessment of Archaeology
- Threat Risk Assessment (TRA)
- Environmental Site Assessment (ESA)
- Species at Risk (SAR)
- Topographic Survey
- Geotechnical Study

Other:

- Concept Plan Development
- Future studies to be implemented through the project's Modified Design Build (MDB) contract including utilities studies



CC-130



First Phase – Development

- The consultant team is brought in early to support requirements development



Second Phase - Definition

- Primarily delivering Infrastructure Design packages



Third Phase - Implementation

- Primarily delivering Construction work packages



Modified Design Build – Contract

- **Phase 1 – Development (2027)**
 - Indigenous Participation Plan
 - Market Analysis
 - Regulatory & Permit Review
 - Preliminary Concept Designs for Priority Elements and Early Works
 - Site Analysis, Studies, and Logistics Plans
 - Cost Estimates
- **Phase 2 - Project Definition (Design) (2027-2030)**
 - Designs for Priority Elements
 - Early works design and construction
- **Phase 3 - Project Implementation (Construction) (2030-2040)**
 - Remaining Design packages and Construction

Project Delivery – 2026



- **Communication:** Continued project communication with northern communities, municipal, territorial and Indigenous governments and organizations, as well as other stakeholders
- **Advanced Procurement Notice (APN):** Posted January 28, 2026 informing industry that the contract for the project will be coming this year for bidding.
- **Request for Proposal (RFP):** RFP is expected to be posted in the fall of 2026 to publicly tender the MDB contract.
- **Business-to-Business (B2B):** B2B sessions are being planned in Yellowknife in the fall and in Inuvik in June 2026 (week of Arctic Expo) to share information and network.



Defence Construction Canada (DCC) is the Contracting Authority:

DCC is fully responsible for conducting procurement and will be the exclusive point of contact for all bidders



Sponsorship process for Sub-contractors/Sub-consultant

- Sub-contractors/Sub-consultants may obtain a security clearance through the Contract Security Program (CSP) by being sponsored by the prime contractor (Design-Builder).
- The Design-builder will request a security clearance for a subcontractor/ sub-consultant only after the prime contract with security requirements has been awarded and will submit the necessary forms to CSP to start the sponsorship process.

Contract Security Program (CSP) Sponsorship:

[Sponsorship process - Canada.ca](http://Canada.ca)

[Subcontracting security requirements - Canada.ca](http://Canada.ca)





Overview of the Capital Assistance Program (CAP)



Capital Assistance Program (CAP) Overview

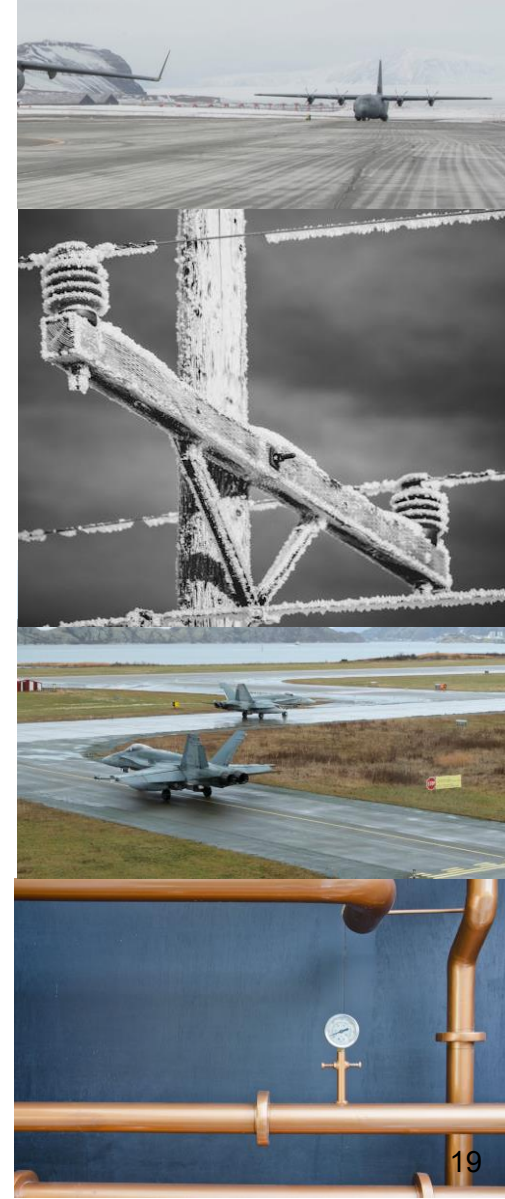


The Capital Assistance Program (CAP) is a financial contribution that can potentially fund off-site capital projects related to military operations within Canada.

CAP ACTIVITY IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Future CAP activity may include sub-projects under existing or future projects such as:

- Runway extensions, taxiway construction
- Utility extensions and upgrades





Northern Operational Support Hubs (NOSH)



NORTHERN OPERATIONAL SUPPORT HUBS (NOSH)



OUR NORTH STRONG AND FREE (ONSAF) DEFENCE POLICY UPDATE (2024)

Increase military responsiveness and the ability to address challenges in remote northern regions on shorter notice and for longer periods. NOSH will support a variety of operations and activities by the Department of National Defence (DND), Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), and other federal government departments and agencies. Where feasible, the facilities may also be used to support Indigenous, territorial, provincial, and municipal governments in their ongoing activities.



Rapid Response Forces :

- Improved Canadian Armed Forces responsiveness with scalable, rapidly activated capabilities for swift operations.
- Ability to deliver effects anywhere in the North within 24 hours.

Purpose-Built Designs:

- NOSH sites (hub and spoke framework) will be tailored to each location, based on unique operational requirements.
- Combination of permanent and relocatable, as well as new and repurposed infrastructure.

Opportunities:

- Improved integration and interoperability between DND/CAF and partners throughout the Canadian Arctic and North.
- Support economic development.



Questions



If you have any feedback or questions related to the NORAD modernization infrastructure projects discussed in this presentation, we invite you to contact our team by email at NORADModInfraInfo-InfoInfraModNORAD@forces.gc.ca.

Where to Find More Information



[Prime Minister Carney announces ambitious new plan to defend, build, and transform the North | Prime Minister of Canada](#)

[Minister of National Defence Announces Canada's NORAD Modernization Plan - Canada.ca](#)

[Fact sheet: Funding for Continental Defence and NORAD Modernization - Canada.ca](#)

[Our North, Strong and Free: A Renewed Vision for Canada's Defence - Canada.ca](#)

[Northern Operational Support Hubs \(NOSH\) - Canada.ca](#)



If you have any feedback or questions related to the NORAD modernization infrastructure projects discussed in this presentation, we invite you to contact our team by email at NORADModInfraInfo-InfoInfraModNORAD@forces.gc.ca.