



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE AGENDA

Monday, December 1, 2025 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 memorandum regarding whether to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with North Slave Metis Alliance (NSMA) regarding the establishment of a copper recycling and diversion program.
5.	A presentation regarding the NWT Tourism Annual Work Plan.
ANNEX B	(For Information Only)
6.	A report regarding Councillor Cochrane and Councillor Warburton's travel to Montreal, Quebec to attend the National Conference on Ending Homelessness, October 27 – October 30, 2025.



<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
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IN CAMERA

- | | |
|----|--|
| 7. | A matter still under consideration. |
| 8. | A matter still under consideration. |
| 9. | Business arising from In Camera Session. |



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

MEMORANDUM TO COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE: Governance and Priorities

DATE: December 1, 2025

DEPARTMENT: Administration

ISSUE: Whether to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with North Slave Metis Alliance (NSMA) regarding the establishment of a copper recycling and diversion program.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council direct the Mayor and City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with North Slave Metis Alliance (NSMA) regarding the establishment of a copper recycling and diversion program.

BACKGROUND:

North Slave Metis Alliance approached the City of Yellowknife regarding an economic opportunity to develop a copper wire and cable recycling and diversion program. The initiative will divert copper from the City's landfill, reducing waste and supporting sustainability goals. Under the proposed arrangement, NSMA will place collection bins at locations provided by the City and tipping fees for the covering and insulation that is stripped from collected wires and cables by NSMA will be waived. The City and NSMA will collaborate on a communications strategy to jointly promote and encourage public participation.

COUNCIL STRATEGIC DIRECTION / RESOLUTION / POLICY:

Strategic Direction #1:	People First
Focus Area 1.1	<u>Reconciliation</u> Continuing to nurture positive and respectful relations with Indigenous governments, organizations and peoples.
Key Initiative 1.1.1	Continuing to strengthen relations with Indigenous governments and peoples.

Strategic Direction #3: Sustainable Future

Focus Area 3.3

Robust Economy

Doing our part to stimulate and amplify economic development opportunities.

Key Initiative 3.3.2

Implementing and renewing strategic economic diversification options.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION, BY-LAWS, STUDIES, PLANS:

1. Reconciliation Framework (2021) & Action Plan;
2. Economic Development Strategy 2020-2024;
3. Solid Waste Management Plan and Implementation Plan; and
4. Climate Action Plan.

CONSIDERATIONS:

Sustainability

The Draft Climate Action Plan (the “Plan”) identifies solid waste as the largest contributor to the City’s greenhouse gas emissions, accounting for 73% of 2023 corporate emissions. As a result, waste management is a key theme of the Plan with a focus on increasing diversion and re-use. NSMA’s copper recycling and diversion program will support these objectives by diverting copper from the Solid Waste Facility.

Corporate Impact

Diverting copper from the Solid Waste Facility will help limit emissions growth, reduce landfill impacts, and expand the lifespan of landfill cells.

Financial Considerations

While the initiative requires no additional City funding, waiving of tipping fees for the covering and insulation that is stripped will impact revenue generation at the Solid Waste Facility.

Indigenous Relations

As the territorial economy transitions from diamond mines to new industries and remediation work, opportunities to collaborate with Indigenous partners on forward-thinking economic initiatives are critical. The program represents a meaningful step toward reconciliation and shared prosperity.

ALTERNATIVES TO RECOMMENDATION:

There are no viable alternatives that deliver comparable environmental and partnership benefits.

RATIONALE:

The NSMA copper recycling and diversion program advances the City’s sustainability objectives, reduces waste, and creates an economic opportunity for a local Indigenous organization. This initiative reflects the City’s commitment to reconciliation, environmental stewardship, and economic diversification.

ATTACHMENTS:

Memorandum of Understanding (DM #801673).

Prepared: October 31, 2025; KLT/klt

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)** made in duplicate this ____ day of December, 2025.

BETWEEN

**THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE
("City")**

- And -

**NORTH SLAVE METIS ALLIANCE
("NSMA")**

WHEREAS pursuant to Motion #0183-18 City Council adopted the Strategic Waste Management Plan for Information on May 28, 2018;

AND WHEREAS pursuant to Motion #0331-18 City Council adopted the Implementation Strategy for the recommendations arising from the Strategic Waste Management Plan, with an overall goal of reducing waste generation to 500kg/capita by 2030;

AND WHEREAS the diversion of copper wire from the City's Solid Waste Facility reduces the amount of materials accumulated in the Solid Waste Facility and assists with the City's waste reduction goals;

AND WHEREAS NSMA is desirous of leading a copper recycling initiative;

AND WHEREAS pursuant to Motion #0324-15 City Council adopted the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Persons (UNDRIP);

AND WHEREAS the City is committed to working with Indigenous groups whose traditional lands it shares;

NOW, THEREFORE in consideration of the covenants and agreements herein contained, the City and the NSMA hereby agree as follows:

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of the MOU is to record agreement in principle regarding the establishment of a copper recycling and diversion program.

SCOPE

2. Under this MOU, the City and NSMA should work together to collect, divert and recycle copper.
3. It is understood that:
 - (i) NSMA will provide specialised secure containers at the Solid Waste Facility for residents to place copper. NSMA may also provide specialized secure containers at the City's recycling bin locations for residents to place copper. The City may, at its absolute discretion, determine whether the containers are appropriate.
 - (ii) The City will provide locations and signage for the copper collection bins at the Solid Waste Facility. The City will also provide signage for any copper collection bins that NSMA places at the City's recycling bin locations.
 - (iii) NSMA will move the collection bins or copper from the collection points to their stripping facility for processing and stripping. The City commits to work with NSMA to develop appropriate and efficient collection methods.
 - (iv) The City will waive tipping fees for the covering and insulation that NSMA strips off the collected wires and cables.
 - (v) The City will conduct public education programs about the risks of frayed cords and old wires and encourage the public to deposit their frayed cords and old wires in NSMA's copper collection bins.
 - (vi) NSMA and the City will jointly meet as required to ensure the smooth implementation and operation of this MOU.
 - (vii) The City will use reasonable efforts to protect the contents of copper collection bins on its property.

Initially, the collaboration will focus on copper wires and copper cables and may expand to additional sources of copper, such as pipes.

COMMUNICATIONS

4. At an agreed time and in the interest of transparency and to promote the diversion, collection, and recycling of copper cords, wires, and cables, the City and NSMA will make a public announcement of their collaboration once the bins have been placed in the agreed-upon locations within the Solid Waste Facility.
5. NSMA and the City will develop a communications program to jointly promote the use of the copper collection bins.

COSTS

6. It is agreed that each party shall be responsible for their respective costs associated with the implementation and operation of this MOU, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by both parties.

LIABILITY

7. Neither party shall be liable to the other for any loss, damage, personal injury or death occurring in consequences of the reasonable performance of this MOU.
8. Furthermore, NSMA recognizes that copper may attract unwanted interest. NSMA will not hold the City responsible for any copper that disappears from collection bins.

TERM

9. This MOU shall continue until terminated by either party upon 60 day written notice. Either party may terminate this MOU without notice if the other party defaults on its obligations.

AMENDMENT

10. No modification or amendment to this MOU may be made unless agreed to by the City and the NSMA in writing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Parties hereto have affixed their respective signatures and, if applicable, corporate seals as attested to by their duly authorized officers in that behalf as of the date and year first above written.

Signed at Yellowknife, NT, this _____ day of _____, 2025.

City of Yellowknife

North Slave Metis Alliance

Stephen Van Dine, City Manager

Marc Whitford, President



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

MEMORANDUM TO COMMITTEE
(For Information Only)

COMMITTEE: Governance and Priorities

DATE: December 1, 2025

DEPARTMENT: Mayor's Office

ISSUE: A report regarding Councillor Cochrane and Councillor Warburton's travel to Montreal, Quebec to attend the National Conference on Ending Homelessness, October 27 – October 30, 2025.

BACKGROUND:

Attached for the information of Council is the Travel Report from Councillor Cochrane and Councillor Warburton's travel to Montreal, Quebec to attend the National Conference on Ending Homelessness, October 27 – October 30, 2025.

COUNCIL STRATEGIC DIRECTION/RESOLUTION/POLICY:

#0365-93 It is the policy of the City of Yellowknife that:

1. All City sponsored travel by Yellowknife City Council members, inclusive of the Mayor, be approved by formal resolution of Council either prior to commencement of the travel, or at the first regular Council meeting after commencement of the travel; and
2. Yellowknife City Council members, inclusive of the Mayor, be required to table a detailed expense claim for City sponsored travel within three weeks of their return from City travel. This claim is to be supported by a daily diary detailing City business.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Councillor Cochrane, Travel Report and Expense Claim (DM#811358); and
2. Councillor Warburton, Travel Report and Expense Claim (DM#811499).

Prepared: November 17, 2025 /AD

**CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE
TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION AND EXPENSE CLAIM**

EXPENSE ITEMS	ALLOWABLE AMOUNTS Note: Receipts are required for ALL items indicated in "Receipts" column	RECEIPTS Number & show #	Enter date. Use one column for each day.					TOTAL EXPENSE
			Oct 27	Oct 28	Oct 29	Oct 30	Oct 31	
AIR TRAVEL	Economy Class (Attach passenger ticket with arrival/ departure times)							
RENTAL CAR	Actual							
PRIVATE VEHICLE	_____ km x _____ rate = \$ _____ (\$0.720/km NWT & \$0.599/km elsewhere)							
TAXI & TRANSIT	Receipts required for all amounts over \$5.00							
ACCOMMODATION	Hotels							\$994.88
	Private Accommodation (\$50.00 / per night)							
INCIDENTALS	\$17.50 / day							
MEALS	Do not claim for sponsored meals or meals included in price of transport	Breakfast \$28.85 / day					28.85	28.85
		Lunch \$35.05 / day		35.05			35.05	70.10
		Dinner \$74.95 / day		74.95	74.95	74.95		224.85
TELEPHONE	Specify Purpose							
OTHER	Specify Purpose							
TOTAL EXPENSE	Specify Purpose							1318.68
HONORARIUM	Council only - \$260.00 / day (paid separately through HR)		260.00	260.00	260.00	260.00	260.00	1300
GRAND TOTAL			295.05	334.95	334.95	334.45	323.90	\$2618.68

I certify that I have expended the amounts claimed and that all expenditures were on

(SIGNATURE OF COUNCIL MEMBER)

(DATE)

(SIGNATURE OF MAYOR)

(DATE)

Less Advance Received - \$

Balance Owning - To/by Employee/Councillor

(CASH/CHEQUE ATTACHED)

Financial Coding:

Coding:

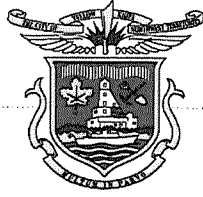
Authorization is given for a Travel Expense Advance of \$

Approved, Mayor

For Travel Advance:

Approved, Mayor

Name: GARET COCHRANE Date: NOVEMBER 12, 2025
 Department: MAYOR AND COUNCIL
 The above named is authorized to travel for 5 days, departing OCTOBER 21, 2025
 For the purpose of: CASH CONFERENCE



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

Councillor Garrett Cochrane
CAEH 2025 conference

Overview report

October 27th:

7AM-4PM

Traveled from Yellowknife to Montreal.

6PM

Checked in at my hotel in downtown Montreal.

6:10PM

Went to the Conference center to pick up my package for the conference.

October 28th:

8:00AM-9:30AM

Attended the opening ceremony and plenary where we had a land acknowledgement, followed by Youth smoke dancers, Inuit throat singers Nina Segalowitz and Lydia Etok- one of which was from the NWT. Speeches from the Valérie Plante, Mayor of Montreal and finished with keynote performed by the Hon. Chantal Rouleau, Quebec Minister Responsible for Social Solidarity and Community Action, and Minister Responsible for the Metropolis and the Montréal Region. An incredible experience all around.

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Preventing Homelessness: When Youth Lead the Change

This session explored how initiatives led by and for youth in Quebec are transforming research, community action, and services. Participants learned how participatory action research, engagement within youth protection services, and the co-creation of community programs foster youth expression and lead to concrete change. Coalition Jeunes+ was the group as the primary example of these tactics in action, and they demonstrated how large youth advocacy became in Quebec. From regular meetings with decision makers and interviews with media. I look forward to seeing how this organization will influence the upcoming provincial elections.

12:00PM-1:30PM

Had lunch with our ad hoc Northern Caucus, made up from GNWT, NGO's and other city representatives for a run down on the morning's events and to plan for the afternoon. After, Steven Page commenced a keynote presentation.

1:30-3:00PM

Leading Forward: Empowering the leaders of tomorrow to end homelessness today.

This interactive session will explore what leadership really looks like in complex, real-world systems. We were guided through hand-on activities, group discussions and reflection exercises that you can take home and apply in your day-to-day work. Topics included navigating through uncertainty, how to influence others, and building your leadership identity with authenticity and confidence. I attended with our staff and GNWT, Amanda DiFalco was an amazing speaker with a ton of insight that we all found both informative and revealing.

3:45PM-5:15PM

Preventing Homelessness through Affordable Housing: Lessons from Canada and Spain

This session will explore how non-profit housing providers in Canada and Spain are overcoming systemic barriers to expand affordable and supportive housing while preventing homelessness. Featuring Raising the Roof (Canada) and Fundació Hàbitat3 (Catalonia, Spain), the session highlighted strategies that combine housing development with long-term social support. Natalia Martinez Mustienes provided some essential insight what Hàbitat3 is accomplishing throughout the Catalonia state with supportive housing, and spoke about how the state is a funder of this project. Adrian Dingle spoke about what Raising the Roof is doing throughout the country, with some of the more recent projects in Edmonton.

5:15PM-7PM

Participated with the rest of the northern caucus in the welcome reception.

October 29th:

9AM-10AM

Breakfast and networking.

10:00AM-12PM

Maintaining Mission Driven Leadership in the Face of Adversity: Lessons from the USA

This session explored how to stay grounded in purpose-driven leadership—even in the face of adversity. Kicking off with a powerful framing on mission clarity and resilience, a panel of leaders from across the U.S. shared how they've held the line on what matters most during one of the most challenging periods in American homelessness response. From navigating under-resourced rural systems to scaling supportive housing and embedding equity, each speaker brings frontline insights and hard-won lessons. An incredibly inspiring session led by the amazing Iain De Jong, this was probably my favorite session of the event as it demonstrated what determination looks like in the midst of an incredibly reactionary time in American history.

12:00PM-1:30PM

Had lunch again with the Northern Caucus and listened to a panel of three influencers. The conversations between the northerners were incredibly beneficial, while the panel offered rather generic insights.

1:45-3:15PM

Partners in progress: how elected officials and advocates can collaborate to create change

This session will look at how leaders and sector partners can work together to shift public narratives, counter backlash, and turn shared goals into action. Get insights from the inside – and ideas you can take back to your own community. I had the pleasure of connecting with Councillor Areil Trost, Somerset Ward, during the federation of Canadian municipalities conference in the spring and it was a pleasure to hear what was being accomplished in her ward. Hearing from Anchor, Acorn and a youth program that if successful will end homelessness in Ottawa by 2030

3:45PM-5:15PM

Mobilizing community advocacy and action

In this session we learned how to build collective power, kick-start community-driven and grassroots campaigns, and form broad-based coalitions that centre lived experience. Whether you're working locally or pushing for national change, this session helped us turn passion into impact. Diana Chan McNally was a very passionate advocate, and it was an interesting discussion to listen to.

October 30th

8:30AM -10:30AM.

Fireside Chat with Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Gregor Robertson

Federal Minister of Housing and Infrastructure, the Hon Gregor Robertson, will sit down with CAEH President & CEO Tim Richter for a fireside chat about the federal government's work to tackle homelessness and the housing crisis, including the new Build Canada Homes initiative and the Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund. It was interesting to hear the Ministers perspective when he was Mayor of Vancouver, the announcement of \$7 million for street outreach and what he wants his term to look like but he was a little cagey due to the fact the budget was coming the next week and questions from the audience were limited. We also participated in a networking session after, and spoke with a few service providers from Quebec

10:30AM-12:00PM

From Data to Community: Insights for Supporting 2SLGBTQ+ and High Risk Youth

This session explored the experiences of 2SLGBTQ+ and other at-risk youth through participatory research and Point-in-Time count data. Presenters shared rich data from the 2024 City of Toronto Street Needs Assessment, examining the intersections of race, sexual orientation, gender identity, and socioeconomic status, while highlighting the unique pathways that lead to youth homelessness. The session delved into the importance of a pathways approach, which considers real-life experiences and systemic challenges faced by youth. Incredibly informative, and good to see the work being done but the Q&A went off the rocker when attendants got into stating their opinions on the objection to trans rights and pro-life tendencies- none of which had much to do with the subject matter.

12:30PM-3PM

Keynote Presentation: Jesse Thistle

Quite simply one of the most awe inspiring yet down-to-earth speakers I've ever had the pleasure of witnessing. His story and his academic research into Metis history really hit home with me, and I do hope he has an opportunity to come north sometime. My only regret is that I didn't have my copy of "From the Ashes" for him to sign.

October 31st

10:AM-9:30PM

Returned home to Yellowknife

**CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE
TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION AND EXPENSE CLAIM**

CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE - EXPENSE CLAIM

EXPENSE ITEMS	ALLOWABLE AMOUNTS Note: Receipts are required for ALL items indicated in "Receipts" column	RECEIPTS Number & show #	Enter date. Use one column for each day.				TOTAL EXPENSE
			Oct. 27	Oct. 28	Oct. 29	Oct. 30	
AIR TRAVEL	Economy Class (Attach passenger ticket with arrival/ departure times)						
RENTAL CAR	Actual						
PRIVATE VEHICLE	_____ km x _____ rate = \$ _____ (\$0.720/km NWT & \$0.599/km elsewhere)						
TAXI & TRANSIT	Receipts required for all amounts over \$5.00	1				44.06	\$44.06
ACCOMMODATION	Hotels						\$746.16
	Private Accommodation (\$50.00 / per night)						
INCIDENTALS	\$17.50 / day						
MEALS	Do not claim for sponsored meals or meals included in price of transport	Breakfast \$28.85 / day		28.85	28.85	28.85	\$86.55
		Lunch \$35.05 / day		35.05			\$35.05
		Dinner \$74.95 / day		74.95	74.95	74.95	\$224.85
TELEPHONE	Specify Purpose						
OTHER	Specify Purpose						
TOTAL EXPENSE	Specify Purpose						\$1136.67
HONORARIUM	Council only - \$260.00 / day (paid separately through HR)			260.00	260.00	260.00	\$780.00
GRAND TOTAL			\$110.00	\$363.80	\$363.80	\$332.91	\$1916.67

I certify that I have expended the amounts claimed and that all expenditures were on City Business

 (DATE)
 Nov 17th, 2025
 (DATE)
 Nov 24, 2025
 (DATE)

Less Advance Received - \$ _____

Balance Owing - To/by Employee/Councillor - \$ 1916.67

(CASH/CHEQUE ATTACHED)

Financial Coding: 6500-8-6000

Name: ROBERT WARBURTON Date: NOVEMBER 17, 2025
 Department: MAYOR AND COUNCIL
 The above named is authorized to travel for 4 days, departing OCTOBER 27, 2025
 For the purpose of: CASH CONFERENCE
 For Travel Advance: _____
 Authorization is given for a Travel Expense Advance of \$ _____
 Coding: _____
 Approved, Mayor _____
 Approved, Mayor _____

Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness Conference (CAEH25)

Summary Report – Yellowknife Delegation

Montréal • October 28–30, 2025

More than 2,300 delegates from across Canada gathered in Montréal for the 2025 CAEH National Conference—one of the country’s largest annual events focused on homelessness solutions. Yellowknife was strongly represented, with over a dozen government, non-profit, and advocacy organizations attending to bring northern perspectives to the national conversation.

DAY 1 — TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

Opening Ceremony & DH1

The conference opened with Indigenous leadership, land acknowledgements, and remarks stressing reconciliation and shared responsibility—deeply relevant to Yellowknife, where Indigenous residents are disproportionately affected by homelessness.

Lunch Keynote: Steven Page

Page spoke on mental health, stigma, and recovery, highlighting the strong link between mental health supports and housing stability.

Sessions: RRH1 & DH5

Highlighted strategies included rapid re-housing, coordinated system design, and data-driven improvement—approaches with strong potential when adapted to northern realities.

Welcome Reception

Yellowknife delegates connected with national partners, highlighting local housing challenges and building future collaboration pathways.

DAY 2 — WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29

Keynote: Loretta Ross

Ross addressed systemic inequality and intersectionality, reinforcing the need for equity-focused approaches—critical in the North.

Sessions: DH2, CA3, DH6

These sessions explored coordinated access, capacity-building, and system-wide improvements, offering adaptable models for remote communities.

DAY 3 — THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30

Fireside Chat: Minister Gregor Robertson

The Minister highlighted federal housing priorities, infrastructure challenges, and the need for deeply affordable supply—key areas of interest for NWT communities.

RUH4 Session

Focused on rural and northern realities: climate barriers, limited housing stock, and the importance of culturally driven solutions.

Keynote: Jesse Thistle

Thistle spoke on trauma, identity, and healing, reinforcing the need for Indigenous-led, trauma-informed supports.

OVERALL TAKEAWAYS

- National momentum is aligning with recognition of northern realities.
- Yellowknife's strong cross-sector presence strengthened its national role.
- Reconciliation and Indigenous leadership were central themes.
- Delegates return with shared understanding and renewed energy for coordinated local action.