



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Monday, December 1, 2025 at 12:05 p.m.

Report of a meeting held on Monday, December 1, 2025 at 12:05 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber. The following Committee members were in attendance:

Chair: Mayor B. Hendriksen,
Councillor S. Arden-Smith,
Councillor G. Cochrane,
Councillor R. Fequet,
Councillor R. Foote,
Councillor C. McGurk,
Councillor T. McLennan, (12:07 p.m.)
Councillor S. Payne, and
Councillor R. Warburton.

The following members of Administration staff were in attendance:

S. Van Dine, (via teleconference)
C. Caljouw,
D. Gillard,
C. Greencorn,
C. MacLean,
K. Pandoo,
K. Thistle,
C. White,
G. White, and
S. Jovic.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>
1.	(For Information Only) Mayor Hendriksen read the Opening Statement.
2.	(For Information Only) Committee agreed unanimously to amend the agenda by deferring an in camera matter still under consideration to the Governance and Priorities Committee on December 8, 2025.



(For Information Only)

3. There were no disclosures of conflict of interest.

(For Information Only)

4. Committee heard a presentation from Marc Whitford, President of the North Slave Metis Alliance (NSMA), regarding the establishment of a copper recycling and diversion program.

5. **Committee read 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.**

Committee noted that 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 include:

Strategic Direction #1: People First

Focus Area 1.1

Reconciliation

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 include:

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.



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.

Committee noted that 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.

Committee recommended 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.

MOVE APPROVAL

(For Information Only)

6. Committee heard a presentation from Donna Lee Demarcke and Tyler Abela, representatives of NWT Tourism, regarding the NWT Tourism Annual Work Plan.

(For Information Only)

7. Committee accepted for information 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.

Council Strategic Direction/Resolution/Policy include:

#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.

(For Information Only)

8. Councillor McGurk moved,
Councillor Warburton seconded,

That Committee move in camera at 1:11 p.m. to discuss a matter still under consideration.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(For Information Only)

9. Committee recessed at 1:11 and reconvened at 1:21 p.m.

(For Information Only)

10. Councillor Arden-Smith left the meeting at 1:21 p.m.

(For Information Only)

11. Committee discussed a matter still under consideration.

(For Information Only)

12. Councillor Payne left the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

(For Information Only)

13. Committee continued its discussion regarding a matter still under consideration.

(For Information Only)

14. Councillor Warburton moved,
Councillor Fequet seconded,

That Committee return to an open meeting at 2:21 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(For Information Only)

15. There was no business arising from the in camera session.

16. The meeting adjourned at 2:21 p.m.