



Government of
Northwest Territories

16th Annual NWT Water Stewardship Strategy Implementation Workshop

16^e atelier annuel de mise en oeuvre de la Stratégie sur la gestion des eaux des TNO

SUMMARY REPORT
SOMMAIRE

October 15–16, 2025 | Chateau Nova, Yellowknife, NT
15 et 16 octobre 2025 | Chateau Nova, Yellowknife, TNO

Le présent document contient
la traduction française de
l'introduction.



If you would like this information in another official language, call us.

English

Si vous voulez ces informations dans une autre langue officielle, contactez-nous.

French

Kĩspin ki nitawih̄tĩn ē nĩhĩyawih̄k ōma ācimōwin, tipwāsĩnān.

Cree

Tł̄chQ yatı k'èè. Dı wegodi newQ dè, gots'ó gonede.

Tł̄chQ

ʔerih̄t'ıs Dēne Sų́ĩné yatı t'a huts'elkēr xa beyáyatı theʔą ʔat'e, nuwe ts'ēn yóftı.

Chipewyan

Edı gondı dehgháh got'ı e zhatié k'èé edat'éh enahddhę nıde naxets'é edahfı. South Slavey

K'áhshó got'ı ne xadā k'é hederı ʔedjht'é yerıniwę ní dé dúle.

North Slavey

Jii gwandak izhii ginjik vat'atr'ijāhch'uu zhit yinothtan jı', diits'āt ginohkhii.

Gwich'in

Uvanittuaq ilitchurisukupku Inuvialuktun, ququaqluta.

Inuvialuktun

Ć̄b̄d̄k̄ ɪɪ̄^{sb}Δ^c ʌ^rɪɪ̄ɪ̄Δ^r Δ^bɪ̄ɪ̄^{sb}ɪ̄ɪ̄^b, ɪ̄^rɪ̄^cɪ̄^a ɪ̄^c ɪ̄^{sb}ɪ̄^c ɪ̄^a ɪ̄^{sb}ɪ̄^c.

Inuktitut

Hapkua titiqqat pijumagupkit Inuinnaqtun, uvaptinnut hivajarlutit.

Inuinnaqtun

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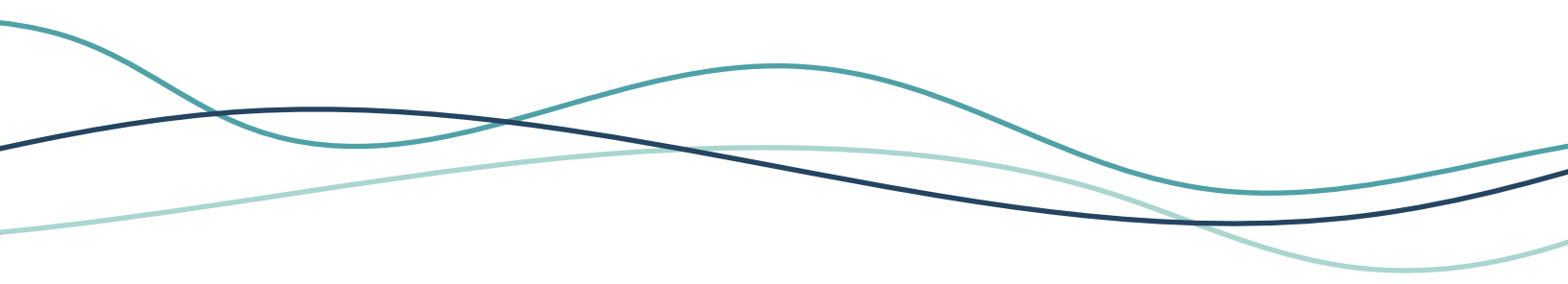
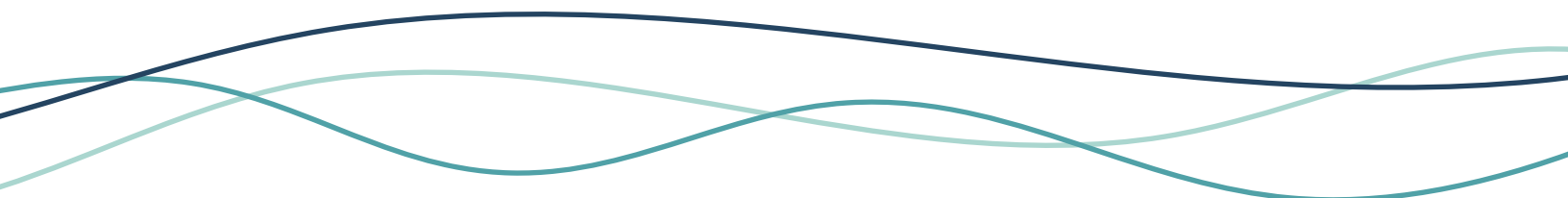


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Introduction and Acknowledgment

The 16th Annual NWT Water Stewardship Strategy Implementation Workshop was held October 15–16, 2025, in Yellowknife, on treaty lands and the home to many Indigenous Peoples, including the Yellowknives Dene, Tłı̨ch̨q and Métis. We were grateful to be on this land.

The Yellowknives Dene Drummers opened the workshop with a powerful prayer song, grounding participants in reflection and connection to water.

Over 130 participants (in-person and online) representing Indigenous governments and Indigenous organizations (IGIOs), communities, academia, researchers, youth, environmental non-government organizations (ENGOS), regulatory boards and territorial and federal departments gathered to:

- Reflect on shared progress under the 2021–2025 Water Strategy Action Plan
- Share updates on innovative programs, research, and community-led monitoring
- Strengthen partnerships and discuss youth involvement in water stewardship
- Inform the development of the next 5-year Action Plan to ensure NWT waters remain clean, abundant, and productive for all time

The Honourable Jay Macdonald, Minister of Environment and Climate Change (ECC), welcomed participants and acknowledged over 15 years of collaboration under the NWT Water Strategy. He highlighted the Strategy as a living framework bringing together all partners to safeguard NWT waters and encouraged participants to connect, share, and shape the next chapter of water stewardship in the North.

KEY TAKEAWAYS AND REFLECTIONS

Participants emphasized the importance of youth involvement in water stewardship throughout the workshop, with young voices offering energy, insight, and a long-term vision for northern waters.

Collaboration and open data sharing between governments, communities, researchers, and Indigenous partners remain foundational to effective water stewardship.

Participants strongly emphasized the value and central role of Indigenous knowledge in implementing the Water Strategy and its action plans, recognizing this knowledge as essential to understanding and protecting water systems.

KEY TAKEAWAYS AND REFLECTIONS

Participants shared updates on community-led monitoring, innovative research, and approaches that weave together Indigenous and Western knowledge systems.

As a partnership-based Strategy, participants stressed the need to align with other water-related plans, keep collaboration at the core, and build lasting capacity and engagement in NWT communities.



Introduction et remerciements

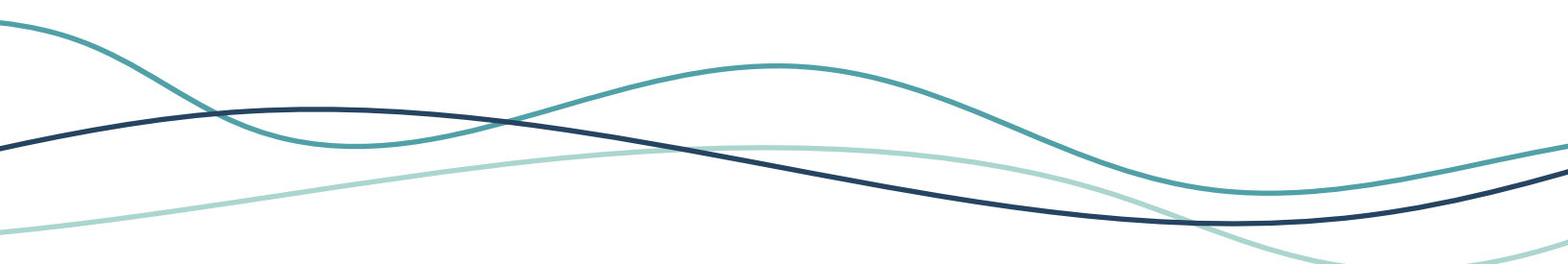
Le 16^e atelier annuel de mise en œuvre de la Stratégie sur la gestion des eaux des TNO a eu lieu les 15 et 16 octobre 2025, à Yellowknife. Nous sommes reconnaissants d'avoir pu organiser cet événement sur les terres ancestrales de la Première Nation des Dénés Yellowknives, des Tłı̄çh̄q et des Métis, terres qui sont également visées par des traités.

Les Yellowknives Dene Drummers ont ouvert l'atelier par un chant de prière puissant qui a permis au plus de 130 participants de se livrer à une réflexion sur l'eau et de renforcer leur lien avec celle-ci.

Ce forum a été l'occasion de réunir des représentants de divers organismes en personnes et en ligne : gouvernements et organisations autochtones; collectivités; organismes universitaires, de recherche et de jeunesse; organisations environnementales non gouvernementales, offices de réglementation, et ministères des gouvernements fédéral et territorial. Les objectifs étaient les suivants :

- Examiner les progrès réalisés dans la mise en œuvre du Plan d'action 2021-2025 de la Stratégie sur la gestion des eaux des TNO;
- Faire le point sur les recherches, les activités de surveillance et les programmes innovants menés par les collectivités;
- Renforcer les partenariats et discuter de la participation des jeunes à la gestion de l'eau;
- Orienter l'élaboration du prochain plan d'action quinquennal afin de garantir que les eaux des TNO demeurent propres, abondantes et productives.

L'honorable Jay Macdonald, ministre de l'Environnement et du Changement climatique, a accueilli les participants et les a remerciés pour ces quinze années de collaboration – voire plus – en faveur de l'avancement de la Stratégie de gestion des eaux des TNO. Après avoir souligné le caractère évolutif de cette stratégie destinée à rassembler tous les partenaires œuvrant à la sauvegarde des eaux aux TNO, M. Macdonald a encouragé les participants à échanger, à partager et à façonner le prochain chapitre de la gouvernance des eaux dans le Nord.



PRINCIPAUX POINTS À RETENIR ET À PRENDRE EN CONSIDÉRATION

Tout au long de l'atelier, les participants ont mis l'accent sur l'importance de la participation des jeunes à la gestion de l'eau. Leur voix est porteuse d'énergie, d'idées enrichissantes et d'une vision à long terme pour les eaux du Nord.

La collaboration et la libre circulation des données entre les gouvernements, les collectivités, les chercheurs et les partenaires autochtones restent fondamentales pour une gestion efficace de l'eau.

Les participants ont fortement insisté sur l'intérêt et le rôle central des connaissances autochtones et sur leur rôle central dans la mise en œuvre de la Stratégie et de ses plans d'action, reconnaissant que ces connaissances sont essentielles pour comprendre et protéger les systèmes hydrologiques.

Les participants ont fait le point sur les activités de surveillance communautaire, les recherches novatrices et les approches qui permettent de rapprocher les systèmes de connaissances autochtones et occidentaux.

Étant donné qu'il s'agit d'une stratégie fondée sur le partenariat, les participants ont souligné la nécessité de s'aligner sur d'autres plans liés au domaine de l'eau, de maintenir la collaboration au cœur de la stratégie ainsi que de renforcer les capacités et l'engagement à long terme dans les collectivités des TNO.

NWT Water Stewardship Award Ceremony

The Government of the Northwest Territories, Department of Environment and Climate Change (GNWT-ECC), in collaboration with the Indigenous Steering Committee (ISC), established the **NWT Water Stewardship Award** in 2024. The award recognizes individuals and organizations demonstrating exceptional leadership and commitment to protecting NWT waters.

2025 Award Recipients

LAUREN NOLAN

Lauren Nolan, nominated by Northern Youth Leadership and Taiga Environmental Laboratory, for combining scientific knowledge with land-based learning and mentorship to empower young Northerners and support community-driven water stewardship.

TERRELL KNAPTON-PAIN

Terrell Knapton-Pain, nominated by the Tłı̄chǫ Government, for leading the Tłı̄chǫ Aquatic Ecosystem Monitoring Programs, coordinating fieldwork, training monitors, and bridging Indigenous knowledge with scientific methods.

Both recipients shared reflections on collaboration, mentorship, and respect for water as a shared responsibility across the North.



Context Setting and Independent Evaluation of the 2021-2025 Action Plan

Presenters: Kevin Smith, GNWT-ECC & MNP Consulting Services

Strategy Overview

[\(click here for the presentation details\)](#)

- The NWT Water Stewardship Strategy aims to ensure NWT waters will remain clean, abundant, and productive for all time through collaborative efforts among all water partners.
- [Click here to read the 6 WSS goals](#)
- The Indigenous Steering Committee (ISC) guides Strategy implementation, with coordination by the Department of Environment and Climate Change.

Action Plan 2021–2025

- Comprised of 86 action items, with 74 reviewed in 2024 annual progress reporting.
- Implementation follows a collaborative approach by all water partners.
- Coming to the end of the 2021-25 Action Plan, the next stage will be to work with water partners to develop the next five-year Water Strategy Action Plan, incorporating input from IGIOs, communities, all levels of government, regulatory boards, academia, industry, and the public.

Evaluation of 2021–2025 Action Plan

[\(click here for the presentation details\)](#)

The independent evaluation aimed to assess effectiveness, identify challenges, and provide recommendations for the next plan.

Key Recommendations:

1. Strengthen Alignment

- Clarify connections between the Strategy, Action Plan, and other frameworks.
- Reframe the four components and 13 Keys to Success as clear priorities and outcomes using SMART principles.
- Update roles, responsibilities, and implementation guidance.

2. Enhance Collaboration

- Increase forums for dialogue, technical sessions, and partner engagement.
- Expand involvement of IGIOs, communities, and knowledge-holders in monitoring, reporting, and decision-making.
- Reduce silos and promote stronger partnerships.

3. Streamline Monitoring & Reporting

- Balance quantitative and qualitative indicators.
- Explore low to high tech solutions for tracking progress.
- Include regional and community-level data to foster local awareness.

4. Adapt Based on Results

- Formalize flexible approaches to funding, resourcing, and updating the Action Plan.
- Strengthen ongoing relationships with Indigenous communities and support continuous, community-led monitoring initiatives.

5. Broaden Knowledge Sharing

- Make reports and communications more accessible and inclusive.
- Use two-way communication to share successes, challenges, and innovations across territories and partners.

Reflections on 15 Years of the NWT Water Strategy (NWT WSS) and Where We Go from Here

Insights from the NWT WSS Indigenous Steering Committee (ISC)

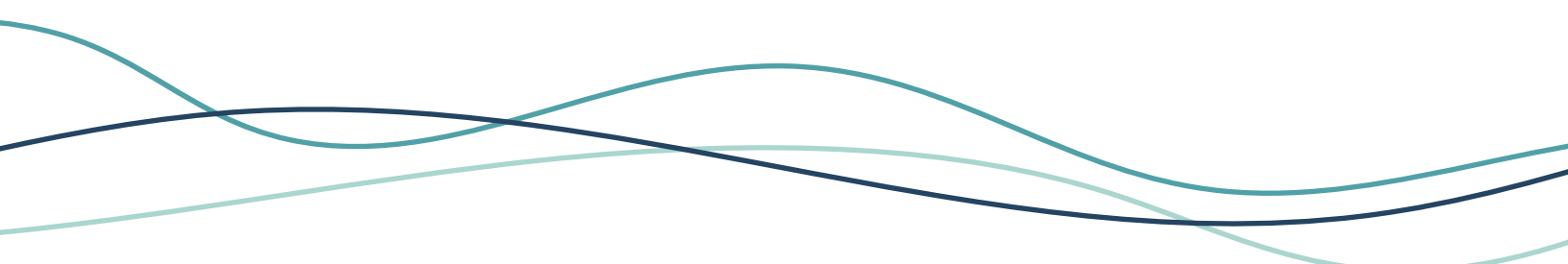
- The ISC reflected on the 15-year journey of the NWT Water Stewardship Strategy, noting the value of consistent information sharing between the GNWT–ECC and the ISC, as well as with their respective leadership. This transparency has been essential in building trust and strengthening partnerships.
- Members emphasized that collaboration among governments, communities, and organizations remains a cornerstone of successful water stewardship.
- The ISC highlighted the critical importance of youth engagement, recognizing young people as future leaders in water stewardship. The ISC acknowledged programs that combine scientific knowledge with land-based learning as particularly effective in supporting intergenerational knowledge transfer and community involvement.
- Overall, the committee expressed appreciation for the collaboration with the Water Monitoring and Stewardship Division. Members noted that dialogue and shared responsibility over time have strengthened the Strategy and reinforced the inclusion and central role of Indigenous knowledge in implementing the Water Strategy and its action plans—recognizing this knowledge as essential to understanding and protecting water systems.

REPRESENTATIVE QUOTES:

Tim: “We need to add climate change, because when we first put the Strategy together, climate change wasn’t a key word—now it’s the buzzword of the day. People need to get involved instead of letting somebody else do all the hard work in order to meet the Strategy’s goals.”

Claudia: “A lot has been done. We’ve come a long way—now Indigenous peoples are part of the table, making decisions. The inclusivity is a good thing. Empowerment starts from home. We need to take all this home, to our neighbors, and encourage youth to be more involved in water stewardship.”

“Collaboration, trust, and youth involvement are what will carry the Water Strategy forward for generations.”



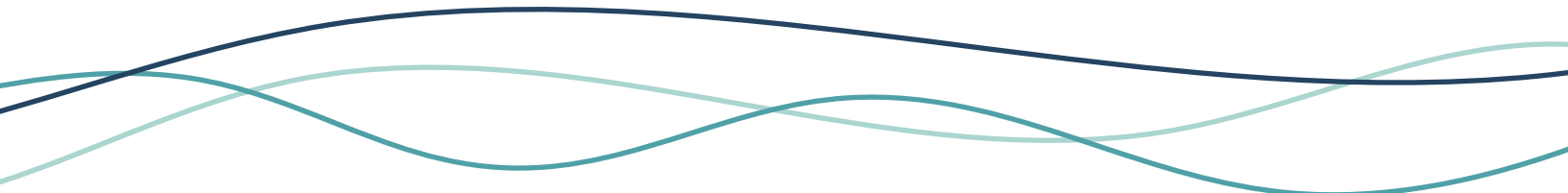
REPRESENTATIVE QUOTES:

Shirley: “Water connects us all—and will continue to sustain us as long as we keep working together. But not just working together, doing it efficiently, effectively, and with respect for Indigenous knowledge.”

Leon: “Water remembers everything we do. The choices we make today will determine the health of the land, the people, and the spirit of water stewardship for generations to come.”



“Thank you to all members sitting on this committee for your continued guidance, wisdom, and knowledge in supporting water stewardship across the NWT.”



Update on Water Levels Across the NWT

Presenter: Anna Coles, GNWT-ECC

- Most of the NWT lies within the Mackenzie River Basin, with the Slave and Liard Rivers contributing most of the flows, followed by Great Slave Lake local rivers, Peel, Arctic Red, and Great Bear River basins.
- Record low water levels were observed across much of the territory from 2023 to 2025, driven by warm temperatures, low rainfall, and a combination of climate change and global atmospheric phenomena such as El Niño.
- In 2024/25, snowpack ranged from below average to well above average. Higher (above average) snowfall in the northeast and east. Below average snowfall in the Alberta plains. The 2024/25 snowpack contributed to higher 2025 water levels than in 2024.
- Some rivers, such as the Peel River, have experienced closer to average water levels in 2024–2025, while other systems like the Liard and the Mackenzie Rivers continue to show below average flows.
- The GNWT continues to monitor water levels at 111 sites across rivers, lakes, and creeks through its partnership with the Water Survey of Canada, providing timely data on flows and levels to support decision-making.
- Monthly Water Monitoring Bulletins are published to share current water levels across the NWT. Subscribe to receive updated by emailing: nwtwaters@gov.nt.ca



Hay River at Alexandra Falls, October 2023

Working Together: Mackenzie River Freshwater Ecosystems Initiative and Mackenzie River Basin Board (MRBB)

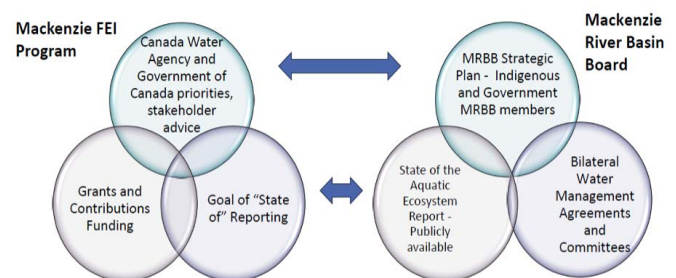
Presenters: Morna Hussey & Jeffrey Cederwall—CWA and Paula Siwik—MRBB

The Canada Water Agency (CWA), established in October 2024, leads the delivery of the strengthened Freshwater Action Plan and includes the eight Freshwater Ecosystem Initiatives (FEIs) on transboundary basins of national significance. Its mandate is to improve fresh water through leadership, effective collaboration and coordination.

- The Mackenzie River FEI focuses on:
 - ▶ Advancing science and knowledge, bridging Indigenous knowledge with western science.
 - ▶ Indigenous knowledge, engagement and youth capacity-building, supporting intergenerational knowledge transfer.
 - ▶ Enabling resiliency and adaptation to improve freshwater quality and enable resiliency and adaptation.
- These three key areas of focus were identified through federal priorities, initial dialogue with the Mackenzie River Basin Board to help define shared priorities, dialogue with jurisdictions and others in an advisory capacity, and support state of aquatic ecosystem health reporting.
- Funding and projects: The first pilot call for applications (March 2025) offered up to \$200,000 per project for initiatives up to two years. The next Call for Applications is proposed for 2026-27.

- The Mackenzie River Basin Board (MRBB), established under the 1997 *Mackenzie River Basin Transboundary Waters Master Agreement*, provides governance for cooperative aquatic ecosystem management across the Mackenzie Basin. MRBB has 13 members—one Indigenous member and one government member from each province and territory and three federal government members.
- State of the Aquatic Ecosystem Reporting ([SOAER](#)): published the 2021 report combining science and Indigenous knowledge for 4 aquatic indicators, with updates planned to address knowledge gaps, lake and delta profiles, and climate change impacts.

Mackenzie FEI Program and the Mackenzie River Basin Board Together



Youth Water Stewardship Priorities and Perspectives Panel

Moderator: Steph Woodworth

The panel highlighted youth voices on water stewardship in the NWT, featuring Reese Wainman, Gabriel Brost, and Christan Beaverho. Panelists shared their experiences, priorities, and visions for the future of water in their communities.

Key Discussion Themes:

- **Lived Experience:** Youth shared observations of environmental changes in their communities, including declining water quantity, shifting ice patterns, permafrost erosion, and impacts on food security and cultural practices. Panelists emphasized how these changes affect daily life and local ecosystems, noting the interconnection between northern waterways and broader environmental systems.
- **Support and Resources:** Panelists identified the need for community-based monitoring programs, hands-on educational opportunities, mentorships, and internships to empower youth in water stewardship. They emphasized the importance of experiential learning to foster awareness, responsibility, and advocacy.
- **Vision for the Future:** Youth emphasized their role as active leaders and advocates, highlighting intergenerational collaboration as essential for effective water stewardship. They called for engagement of family, community members, and decision-makers in nurturing long-term stewardship practices.
- **Accountability:** Panelists discussed the importance of meaningful action from government, industry, academia, and community organizations in response to youth insights, stressing the need to address root causes rather than superficial fixes.

REFLECTIONS FROM PANELISTS:

Gabe: “Being on the land with Northern Youth Leadership (NYL) taught me about water, landfills, permafrost—knowledge school didn’t teach me. It opens your mindset to the challenges we face daily in the North.”

Reese: “Participating in camps with NYL and Ecology North (EN) really raised my awareness of water stewardship and climate change in the Northwest Territories.”

Christan: “I am inspired by the legacy of my grandfather, who emphasized the need for youth to get educated while learning from Elders to ensure traditional knowledge remains alive. Climate change is altering our lands, waters, wildlife, and communities, making youth involvement essential.”

REFLECTIONS FROM PANELISTS:

Steph: “My journey in water stewardship began in youth. Taking responsibility and accountability for our actions is critical, especially where livelihoods depend on waterways and the health of water systems.”

The discussion concluded with Derek Simmers (EN) briefly introducing the Water Stewardship Mural, a visual initiative to showcase youth perspectives on protecting northern waters—making Frame Lake picture perfect.



This mural was created with contributions from the following students: Rust Lim, Anh Hong, Alexander Doyle, Jack Penney, Emma Pederson, Camryn Brown, Em Gilmour, Leah Keenan, Daphne Richard, and Anna-Maria Villegas, along with elementary students from across YK.



GNWT Aquatic Quality Network Update

Presenter: Gila Somers, GNWT-ECC

GNWT-ECC works with communities to monitor water quality across the NWT to track status, trends, and impacts on ecosystems.

- Network: ~75–85 sites including transboundary rivers, community-based sites, and lakes.
- Methods: Water grab samples, centrifuge water and suspended sediment, water quality sensors, polyethylene membrane devices (PMDs) for hydrocarbons, benthic invertebrate sampling, and fish health assessments.

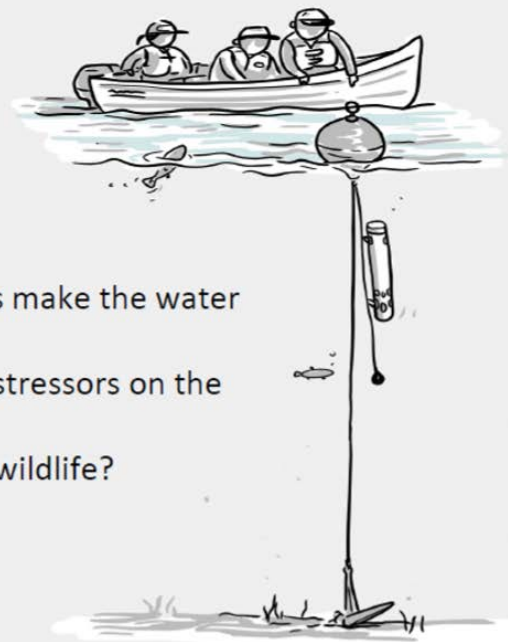
Key findings:

- Water generally meets guidelines; total metals elevated with high suspended solids.
- Peel River shows climate change impacts: permafrost thaw, slumping, increased sediments/metals in the water.

For integrated decision-making, connect on-the-ground, collaborative work with communities and industry, and influence policy and decision making.

Aquatic Quality network questions:

- Is the water healthy?
- Is the quality of the water changing?
- Can we drink the water?
- Do local, regional, or outside-the-NWT activities make the water unhealthy?
- Are there cumulative effects of many different stressors on the water quality ?
- Is water quality affecting the health of fish and wildlife?
- Are stressors affecting water quality?



Ecotoxicology and Monitoring of Cumulative Effects on the Slave River

Presenters: Ryan Pischinger, Fort Smith Metis Council & Chris Cunada, GNWT-ECC

Fort Smith Metis Council works with GNWT-ECC to monitor water quality, suspended sediment and fish.

- Partners & funding: FSMC Guardians, GNWT CIMP, Oil Sands Monitoring (OSM), GNWT Waters Division (in-kind lab support).
- Targeting data gaps and potential impacts at Bell Rock, dump, and sewage lagoon.

Western science results:

- Water quality analysis is ongoing (not all results are back from labs).
 - ▶ Preliminary analyses do not indicate difference to past data.
- Sediment and fish:
 - ▶ Data analysis ongoing.

Monitoring Plan: Continue community-based monitoring throughout the year, use the same methods as GNWT-ECC, maintain water sampling equipment, and add more sites.

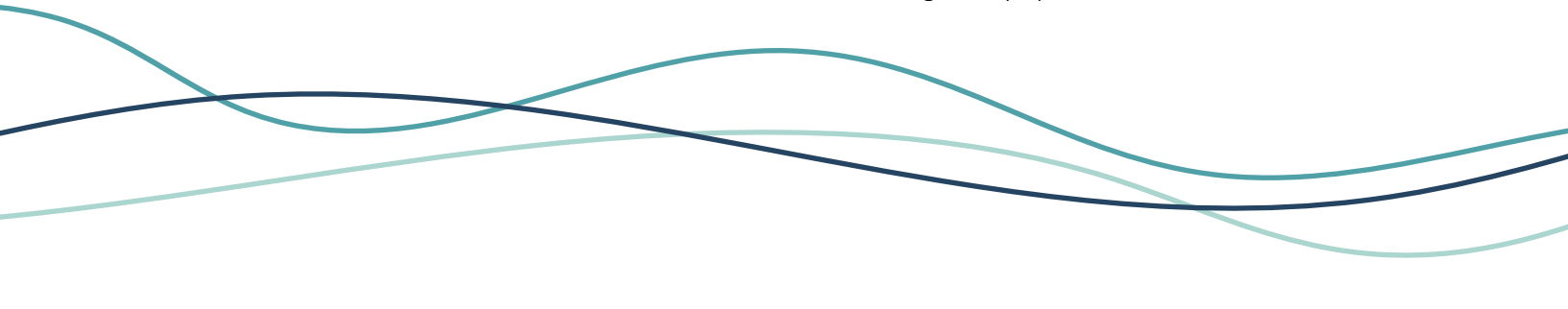
FSMC Water Monitoring

- Continue CBM monitoring throughout the year
- Use the same methods as the NWT CBM
 - Maintain water sampling equipment in the Town's water intake building
 - PMDs (polyethylene membrane devices)
- Try SPMDs (semipermeable membrane devices)



Potential Oil Sands Mining Effluent Regulations

Presenters: Jane Amphlett and Nicole Folliet—Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)

- Why is ECCC involved in management of oil sands mining effluent?
 - ▶ Responsible for protecting the environment and administering parts of the *Fisheries Act*.
 - ▶ Exploring federal rules for treated oil sands mine water release and options for addressing the accumulation of oil sands mine water (OSMW).
 - ▶ Recognizes potential impacts to Indigenous rights.
 - OSMW and tailings:
 - ▶ Oil sands mining processes require large amounts. OSMW contain compounds harmful to human health and environment if released.
 - ▶ Stored in tailings ponds, which pose risks of seepage, dam failure, wildlife impacts, and greenhouse gas emissions.
 - Crown Indigenous Working Group (CIWG) role:
 - ▶ Address concerns about potential impacts to environment and human health.
 - ▶ Assess alternatives and need for release and develop rules.
 - Examples of alternatives considered:
 - ▶ Reuse in fracking operations.
 - ▶ Treat and pipe to Southern Alberta for irrigation.
 - ▶ Reuse in oil sands: in-situ mining or share among operators.
 - ▶ Deep well injection.
 - No single alternative fully eliminates water; likely need portfolio of options.
 - Treat and release under federal regulation:
 - ▶ Guiding principles: See picture on the next page.
 - ▶ Water quality: Government sets safe levels for chemicals to protect environment and human health. ECCC uses the levels to set limits and operators must sample water to ensure compliance.
 - Examples of treatment technologies that can remove harmful substances:
 - ▶ Petcoke
 - ▶ Constructed wetlands
 - ▶ Reverse Osmosis
 - Ongoing Work:
 - ▶ OSMW characterization
 - ▶ OSMW management options, including alternatives to release
 - ▶ Risk assessment of OSPW, including naphthenic acids
 - ▶ Whole effluent toxicity (aquatic)
 - Next Steps:
 - ▶ Future discussion papers.
 - ▶ Continue exploring alternatives and regulatory options.
- 

Principles

The CIWG have developed preliminary guiding principles for the potential regulations (*see Discussion Paper*)

WHAT ECC IS CONSIDERING FOR REGULATIONS



Knowledge Sharing Sessions (Day 1) – Highlights

The Day 1 knowledge sessions provided an interactive and informal space for participants to learn about the projects and initiatives represented at the workshop. These sessions aimed to foster discussion, encourage questions, and share perspectives, creating opportunities for cross-learning and collaboration.

Format:

- Table leads presented their topic in a format of their choice—slides, posters, handouts, or informal discussion—and facilitated conversation, answered questions, and gathered informal feedback.

Intended Outcomes:

- Provide participants with a clear, concise overview of each topic or project.
- Enable participants to engage in dialogue, ask questions, and share insights.
- Facilitate connections between participants and session leads, creating opportunities for further engagement or collaboration.

Session 1: NWT Flood Mapping Program—highlights

Flooding is one of the most significant hazards for riverine communities in the NWT. Thanks to federal funding under the Flood Hazard Identification and Mapping Program, new flood maps are being developed for communities at highest risk of flooding. As many NWT communities depend on flood maps produced in the 1980s, these new flood inundation and flood hazard maps are important tools to support emergency planning, land use planning and mitigation. Community

observations, historical flood data, water level and flow data, high watermarks, air photos, satellite imagery, bathymetric surveys, and technical modeling are used to produce accurate, scenario-based maps authenticated by engineers. Completed flood maps are available for Aklavik, Fort Simpson, Nahanni Butte, Kátł'odeeche First Nation and Hay River. More flood mapping is in progress and planned for completion by March 2028 for Fort Good Hope, Fort Liard, Jean Marie River, Tulita and Fort McPherson.

MACA floods page: <https://www.maca.gov.nt.ca/en/services/be-ready-emergencies/be-ready-floods>

Interested to learn more or have questions?

Contact: Anna Coles at anna_coles@gov.nt.ca or Michele Culhane at michele_culhane@gov.nt.ca

Session 2: Learning about Source Water Protection

Developing Your Source Water Protection Plan

Purpose of Source Water Protection:

- Protect public health, reduce water treatment challenges and costs, and promote environmental stewardship.

Five Stages of Source Water Protection Planning:

- Form a Steering Committee, conduct a Source Water Assessment, establish and implement land management actions, and regularly review the SWP plan.

Key Benefits of Source Water Protection:

- Preventative and proactive; strengthens relationships and communication; leverages additional funding; easier and cheaper

to prevent contamination than to clean it up; protects public health; promotes environmental stewardship; reduces treatment plant challenges and costs.

To learn more:

[Developing Your Source Water Protection Plan \(R. Patrick, 2018\)](#)

Contact: Dr. Robert Patrick, University of Saskatchewan at robert.patrick@usask.ca

Session 3: Learning more about Canada Water Agency's Freshwater Ecosystem Initiative

A presentation on this initiative was made available prior to the knowledge session, allowing participants to familiarize themselves with the program and key objectives in advance. Feedback from workshop participants was being sought to help inform future Calls for Applications in the Mackenzie Basin.

Questions explored during the session:

- What do you see as the biggest gaps in knowledge around fresh water in the Mackenzie River basin?
- Are there additional water topics or priorities you would like to identify for us?
- Are there concrete actions that could be taken to improve freshwater quality and water stewardship?
- Where do you see opportunities for collaboration?

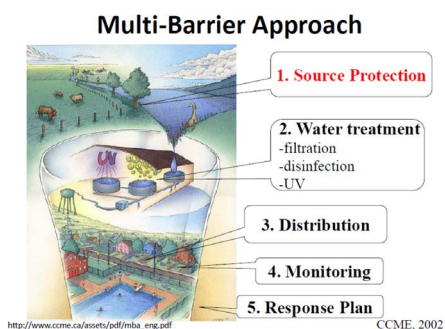
Below is a summary of the collective participant discussions guided by the questions above:

- The biggest freshwater gaps in the Mackenzie River Basin include knowledge gaps (e.g., emerging algal blooms in northern

waterbodies, the impacts of droughts, groundwater, and food security in a changing climate), accessible reporting, and youth involvement.

- There is a lack of lake monitoring (both Arctic Great Lakes and inland lakes), the need to determine baselines in a changing north, and concerns surrounding emerging contaminants.
- Concrete actions could be taken to improve accessible reporting and data access, increase freshwater funding, and add accessible year-round source water monitoring stations.
- The primary opportunity for collaboration is through land-based community partnerships (Traditional Knowledge holders and Western scientists respectfully working together in-person on the land and in communities)

Interested in learning more? Contact: Morna Hussey at morna.hussey@cwa-aec.gc.ca



The Multi-Barrier Approach (CCME, 2002).



One of the knowledge sharing sessions at the NWT Water Stewardship Strategy guided by the CWA (Morna Hussey, Jeffrey Cederwall) and MRBB Secretariat (Paula Siwik).

Session 4: Learning more about the Crown-Indigenous Working Group for Potential Oil Sands Mining Effluent Regulations

A presentation summarizing the alternatives and context for the Working Group was shared prior to the session, providing background information for participants.

Discussion points raised by participants included:

- The type of regulations, and similarities with existing ones such as the *Fisheries Act*, and whether oil sands industry is asking for special exception for their effluents.
- Questions regarding the occurrence of meaningful involvement throughout the permitting, monitoring and enforcement phases.
- Concerns about Alberta's "performative checkbox engagement" as supposed to following NWT's meaningful co-management model.
- Equity and Downstream Impacts: Treated water should not flow north into shared waters and should be managed within Alberta. Environmental equity concerns for NWT and Indigenous communities. Suggestions for piloting water treatment locally in Alberta before full-scale release.
- Technical and Environmental Challenges: Tailings ponds, deep well disposal capacity, recycling water and salinity, reverse osmosis and wetland reintegration, and effects of treated effluent on aquatic life.
- Risk Management and Transparency: Request for more information on how industry handles risk for potential tailings containment failures, public access to information, and interjurisdictional data sharing.
- Economics of Effluent Treatment: Ideas like tying ambient water quality standards

to operator fees, using collected fees for remediation or monitoring, and overcoming regulatory silos.

Interested to contribute or have questions?

- What do you think about these alternatives? Pros & cons?
- What impacts do you foresee these alternatives may have?
- Are these alternatives better/worse than treating and releasing the water and in what ways?
- What would you want to see in a regulation to increase trust in the water being safe?

Contact: Jane Amphlett at Jane.Amphlett@ec.gc.ca or ECCO oil sands team at sb-os@ec.gc.ca

Session 5: Mackenzie DataStream: Supporting Collaboration and Action for Freshwater

[Mackenzie DataStream](#) is an online portal for accessing and sharing water monitoring results collected by communities, governments and researchers across the Northwest Territories and the whole of the Mackenzie River Basin. Map-based search, data visualization tools, science explainers and a focus on storytelling through blogs and video help make Mackenzie DataStream and the information it contains accessible to a broad audience.

People interested in exploring the platform further or discussing topics such as the type of information available, how to access the data, or future plans are encouraged to reach out to the session lead.

Visit: <https://mackenziedatastream.ca/> or

Contact: Lindsay Day at lindsay@datastream.org

Introduction to the NWT Groundwater Monitoring Wells Portal

**Presenters: Isabelle de Grandpré, GNWT-ECC & Maurice Bowen,
GNWT-Centre for Geomatics**

Background & Purpose:

- Groundwater data in the NWT are scarce and not easily accessible.
- The portal consolidates groundwater monitoring information for public, community, and research use.
- Aims to support decision-making and community awareness.

Current Portal Status:

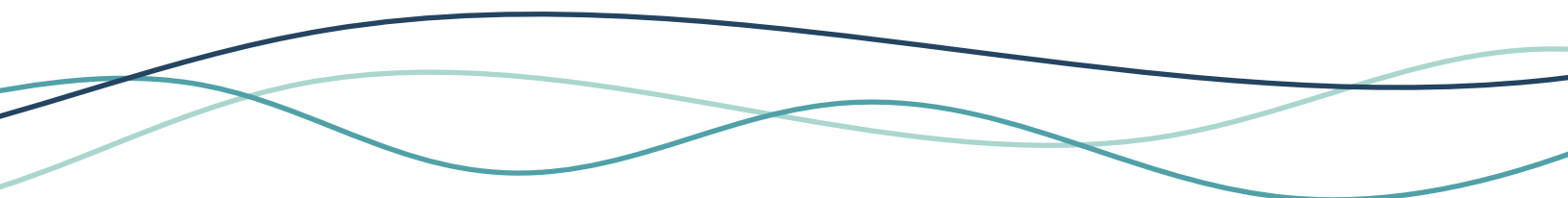
- Contains data for 385 wells across the territory (depths 1–150 metres).
- Provides information on:
 - ▶ Well locations
 - ▶ Well installation details
 - ▶ Water levels
 - ▶ Borehole logs

Next Steps:

- Add water quality data
- Include temporal (time series) data
- Incorporate additional wells

Key Takeaway:

- A central, accessible portal is being developed to improve NWT groundwater knowledge and support community and decision-making.



Tłıchq Community-based Fish and Water Monitoring Programs in the NWT

Presenters: Dr. Paul Vecsei & Terrell Knapton-Pain, Tłıchq Government

Purpose & Goals:

- Address community concerns by tracking metals in fish.
- Collect fish life history data, test water and sediment.
- Engage youth in data gathering.

New threat: Climate change affecting the north.

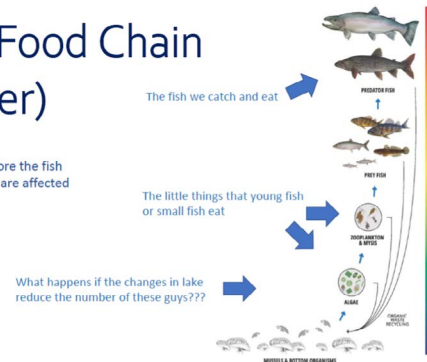
Programs Overview: Designed to be outdoor, interactive classroom experience. 3 programs run consecutively.

1. Tłıchq Aquatic Ecosystem Monitoring Program (TAEMP)
 - ▶ Rotates to 1 of 4 communities each year.
 - ▶ Monitors fish, water, and sediment over time.
2. Marian River Watershed Stewardship Program (MWSP)
 - ▶ Focused on detecting pollution from proposed development.
3. Dinàgà Aquatic Ecosystem Monitoring Program (DAEMP)
 - ▶ Added in 2022, annual program.
 - ▶ Affected by fire evacuations (2023) and low water levels (2024).

All programs are typically done in the summer to early fall.

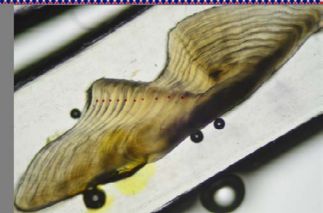
Tłıchq Food Chain (in water)

- A lot happens before the fish you catch and eat are affected



Results: Fish Age

- Growth is important for determining health of a fish population
 - Age needed to determine *growth rates*
- This Walleye was 11 years old based on the growth rings
- **Climate change:** In 30 years, why would growth rate be any different?



Preparing for Climate Change

- We can't stop it
- But we can prepare and adapt
- Impacts will be a mixed bag of good and bad
- A reason for us to continue our programs! Remember, it's all about detecting change over time!



Knowledge Sharing Sessions (Day 2) – Highlights

For those interested in learning more about specific topics or exploring related questions, you are welcome to connect directly with the session leads listed below. These conversations are an opportunity to gain deeper insights, share perspectives, and contribute to ongoing discussions.

Session 1: Groundwater in the NWT

This session continued the presentation shared earlier in the workshop, giving participants an opportunity to interact informally and provide feedback to the session leads.

Have questions about NWT groundwater work or how to access the information?

Contact: GNWT at nwtwaterstrategy@gov.nt.ca

Session 2: Coming Together - Exploring Opportunities for Water Stewardship Hubs NWT

This session explored opportunities to strengthen collaboration among communities, governments, and organizations engaged in water stewardship across the NWT. Participants discussed the concept of Water Stewardship Hubs as a way to foster collaboration, enable more regular alignment, support shared learning, and pursue joint funding for watershed stewardship and implementation.

Topics and questions explored included:

- How to bring people together more regularly to align on watershed priorities and implementation.
- The purpose of Water Stewardship Hubs — building partnerships for collective action, supporting access to safe drinking water, engaging youth, and sharing monitoring and research tools.
- Opportunities for knowledge mobilization, data sovereignty, and capacity building.
- Identifying connections, resources, and funding needed to strengthen collaboration, including proposal development and partnership planning.

Interested to learn more or have questions?

Visit: <https://ourlivingwaters.ca>

Contact: Natalija Vojno, Our Living Waters (OLW) at natalija@ourlivingwaters.ca

Session 3: Identifying Climate Change and Water Stewardship Capacity and Training Needs

This session explored current capacity and training gaps for climate change monitoring and water stewardship in the NWT. Participants discussed designing flexible, community-informed courses—ranging from micro-courses on topics like eco-anxiety to skills for climate-related employment—tailored to northern realities. They also emphasized the importance of land based learning and highlighted storytelling as a

meaningful form of climate change monitoring. Throughout the discussion, participants stressed the value of collaborating with local communities, existing programs, and employers to ensure training responds to real needs and complements what is already available.

For additional information or to contribute to future discussions, **contact:** Roxanne Springer at Roxanne_Springer@gov.nt.ca

Session 4: Ensuring safe drinking water in the NWT

This session explored challenges and discussions around drinking water safety, funding, governance, and community engagement in the NWT.

Key discussion points:

Funding & Governance:

- MACA funds water systems in communities too small to support these systems via municipal taxes.
- ECC plays a role in protecting the source of drinking water. MACA and communities rely on receiving water of treatable quality.
- Climate change is contributing to increased turbidity and degraded water sources, requiring treatment plant upgrades (e.g., Déliné).

Ownership & Infrastructure Barriers:

- Audience concerns about upgrading water treatment plants, responsibility, and funding.
- MACA explained limitations under the *Indian Act*, which prevents bands from owning treatment plants, and workarounds via hamlets and government subsidies.
- Treatment Plant Technology & Operations:

- The session participants discussed new technologies, such as filtration membranes, and major costs like backwash disposal.

Lead in School Drinking Water:

- Session participants raised concern about lead testing, media coverage, and past sampling protocols.
- MACA clarified testing was scientific; media reporting misrepresented sampling issues.
- Lead testing responsibility lies with individual building owners (e.g., YK1).
- Inactive interdepartmental drinking water committee highlighted as a factor in coordination challenges.
- Gaps noted in source water protection, varying water board capacities, and the need for coordinated governance under the Water Stewardship Strategy.

Public Education & Community Outreach:

- Discussions included explaining treatment logistics and underutilized MACA services.
- Public education limited by staffing capacity and low traffic to existing online resources.

Contact for more information:

Greg Hamann at Greg_Hamann@gov.nt.ca or
Chirag Rohit at Chirag_Rohit@gov.nt.ca

Session 5: Transboundary Water Management Agreements and Implementation

This session outlined transboundary water governance under the *Mackenzie River Basin Transboundary Waters Master Agreement* and related Bilateral Water Management Agreements (Bilateral Agreements).

Key points and highlights

Purpose of the Bilateral Agreements:

- Improve communication and information sharing between jurisdictions.
- Facilitate joint learning and jointly funded research and monitoring in the transboundary region to increase knowledge and detect change.
- Assess and report on the health of the aquatic ecosystem.

Research and monitoring efforts (to facilitate joint learning):

- Water Quality: Increased water quality sampling in the Hay River Basin.
- Biology: Small and large-bodied fish sampling; benthic macroinvertebrate sampling.
- Indigenous Knowledge: Development of a Wayfinding Guide; Indigenous community-based monitoring.
- Groundwater: Groundwater research.
- Water Quantity: Hydrological model for the Hay River.

Bilateral Agreements are key cooperative mechanisms to manage transboundary waters to support decision-making, maintain the ecological integrity of aquatic ecosystems.

- Governance is supported by a Bilateral Management Committee.

Limitations:

- Agreements are cooperative, not regulatory.
- Need to show potential to affect transboundary waters.

Discussion and Participant Questions:

During the session, participants raised questions and concerns regarding transboundary water issues on the following topics:

- Sharing information with the communities on transboundary agreement implementation and where reports and plain language summaries can be found.
- The need to address community issues outside the scope of the transboundary agreement, for example, local impacts from mining and uranium in Great Slave Lake.
- Information on the types of monitoring under the agreement and if snow and ice are monitored.
- Potential impacts of upstream hydroelectric development on NWT's water level and the need to be kept informed of releases and informing the communities.

Have further questions or interested in learning more about Bilateral Agreements?

Contact: GNWT at NWTtransboundarywaters@gov.nt.ca

NWT Water Strategy Action Plan Development Engagement Sessions

Facilitators: MNP Consulting Services

Objectives:

- Develop the next 5-year Action Plan for the NWT Water Stewardship Strategy.
- Identify pressing water stewardship issues, priorities, and alignment with existing frameworks.
- Explore current governance and collaborative structures.
- Capture past successes and identify areas for improvement.

Engagement Principles

- Respect all perspectives; focus on ideas, not individuals.
- Share participation opportunities equally.
- Use Mentimeter for interactive, real-time input.
- Emphasis on creativity in visual and collaborative exercises.

Key Activities and Interactive Exercises

- “What is Water Stewardship?” Table Activity
Participants collaboratively created a “Water Stewardship Boat” representing their collective vision.
- Water Stewardship Issues and Priorities
 - ▶ Using Mentimeter, participants identified key priorities such as Indigenous knowledge, information and data sharing, collaboration, and youth involvement.

- Alignment of the Water Strategy
 - ▶ Group discussions explored how current plans and frameworks align with the Water Strategy, including the Climate Change Action Plan, Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program, Northern Contaminants Program, and the National Indigenous Fisheries Institute etc.
- Current Goals and Governance
 - ▶ Coordinated by the GNWT-Department of Environment and Climate Change.
 - ▶ Discussions focused on the roles of water partners, the Indigenous Steering Committee, and potential improvements to governance structures.
 - ▶ Participants noted that the shared governance diagram did not fully capture the essence of the Water Strategy, emphasizing that, as a partnership-based strategy, no single diagram may fully represent its collaborative nature.
- Past Successes and Future Improvements.
Individual “Star and Wish” activity:
 - ▶ **Star:** Achievements in implementing the Water Strategy.
 - ▶ **Wish:** Areas participants hope to see improved.

Next Steps

- Key learnings and detailed summaries from this session will be developed by MNP Consulting Services and included as an appendix to this report or referenced as appropriate.

Workshop Wrap-Up and Closing

Julian Kanigan, ADM, closed the workshop by thanking participants for their engagement and the staff for organizing the event. Over the two days, a diverse group of water partners from across the NWT and beyond came together to strengthen relationships and build collaboration. Updates were shared on key projects and initiatives, including NWT groundwater information, water levels, and the water quality monitoring network, as well as the Freshwater Ecosystem Initiative and more. Youth voices enriched the discussions, bringing energy and new perspectives to the dialogue.

The workshop also celebrated this year's Water Stewardship Award recipients. Participants were encouraged to carry forward the momentum, continue collaborating across governments, communities, and Indigenous partners, and apply the insights gained—including those shared by youth and community representatives—to advance water stewardship across the NWT, ensuring that NWT waters remain clean, abundant, and productive for generations to come.

Final Reflections:

Leon Andrew (ISC): “We love our homeland, and that gives us strength to carry on what we are doing. One thing my parents always said is, ‘*If you want to live on this land as a free person, you have to work hard—nobody will come over to give you something.*’ We are strong together.”

Tim Heron (ISC): “I’m very happy and proud to see youth being proactive—doing the work, reporting, and contributing scientifically—and sitting in the audience. Good relationships are happening among different partners.”

Thank you to everyone for your continued commitment to water stewardship across the Northwest Territories.



APPENDIX A: WORKSHOP AGENDA

DAY 1: Wednesday October 15, 2025	
8:30am	Registration Coffee/Tea & Snacks <i>Workshop Facilitator: Michele Culhane</i>
9:00am	Welcome and Opening Prayer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening Prayer, Yellowknives First Nation Dene Drummers Welcoming Remarks from Honourable Jay Macdonald, Minister of Environment and Climate Change
9:15am	NWT Water Stewardship Award Ceremony
9:30am	NWT Water Stewardship Strategy Context Setting and Recommendations from the Independent Evaluation of the 2021-2025 Water Strategy Action Plan <i>Kevin Smith, GNWT ECC – Water Monitoring and Stewardship Division</i> <i>Clint Abbott, Hannah McIntyre & Shauna McGarvey - MNP Consulting Services</i>
10:00am	Who's at the table? Interactive Activity <i>Michele Culhane</i>
10:15am	Health Break
10:30am	Reflections on 15 Years of the NWT Water Strategy and Where We Go from Here <i>NWT Water Strategy Indigenous Steering Committee</i>
11:20am	NWT Water Level Update <i>Anna Coles, GNWT ECC – Water Monitoring and Stewardship Division</i>
11:45am	Working Together: Mackenzie River Freshwater Ecosystems Initiative and the Mackenzie River Basin Board <i>Morna Hussey & Jeffrey Cederwall, Canada Water Agency</i> <i>Paula Siwik, Mackenzie River Basin Board</i>
12:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm	Youth Water Stewardship Priorities and Perspectives Panel <i>Moderator: Steph Woodworth</i> <i>Panelists: Gabriel Brost, Reese Wainman, Christan Beaverho</i>
2:00pm	GNWT Aquatic Quality Network Update <i>Gila Somers, GNWT ECC – Water Monitoring and Stewardship Division</i>
2:20pm	Fort Smith Metis Council Ecotoxicology and Monitoring of Cumulative Effects on the Slave River <i>Ryan Pischinger, Fort Smith Métis Council & Christopher Cunada, GNWT ECC</i>
2:40pm	Crown-Indigenous Working Group for Potential Oil Sands Mining Effluent Regulations <i>Nicole Folliet & Jane Amphlett, Environment and Climate Change Canada</i>
3:00pm	Health Break
3:15pm	Knowledge Sharing Sessions (30-minute rotating sessions – Opportunity to visit 3 sessions of your choice) Session 1: NWT Flood Mapping Program <i>Anna Coles, Michele Culhane & Jad Saade, GNWT ECC - Water Monitoring and Stewardship Division</i> <i>Chris Hewitt, GNWT Municipal and Community Affairs</i> Session 2: Learning about Source Water Protection <i>Robert Patrick, University of Saskatchewan</i>

3:15pm	<p>Session 3: Learning more about Canada Water Agency's Freshwater Ecosystem Initiative <i>Morna Hussey & Jeffrey Cederwall, Canada Water Agency</i> <i>Paula Siwik, Mackenzie River Basin Board</i></p> <p>Session 4: Learning more about the Crown-Indigenous Working Group for Potential Oil Sands Mining Effluent Regulations <i>Nicole Folliet & Jane Amphlett, Environment and Climate Change Canada</i></p> <p>Session 5: Mackenzie DataStream: Supporting Collaboration and Action for Freshwater <i>Lindsay Day & Jessica Lagroix, DataStream</i></p>
4:50pm	Wrap-Up
DAY 2: Thursday October 16, 2025	
8:30am	Registration Coffee/Tea & Snacks
9:00am	Welcome and Day 2 Agenda Overview
9:10am	Introduction to the NWT Groundwater Monitoring Wells Portal <i>Isabelle de Grandpré, GNWT ECC</i> <i>Maurice Bowen, GNWT - NWT Centre for Geomatics</i>
9:30am	Tłı̨chq Community-based Fish and Water Monitoring Programs in the Northwest Territories, Canada <i>Dr. Paul Vecsei & Terrell Knapton-Pain, Tłı̨chq Government</i>
10:00am	Health Break
10:15am	<p>Knowledge Sharing Sessions (30-minute rotating sessions – Opportunity to visit 3 sessions of your choice)</p> <p>Session 1: Groundwater in the NWT <i>Isabelle de Grandpré, GNWT ECC - Water Monitoring and Stewardship Division</i></p> <p>Session 2: Coming Together - Exploring Opportunities for Water Stewardship Hubs NWT <i>Natalija Vojno, Our Living Waters</i></p> <p>Session 3: Identifying Climate Change and Water Stewardship Capacity and Training Needs <i>Hannah Ascough, Aurora College</i> <i>Roxanne Springer & Tonya Makletzoff, ECC Climate Change Unit</i></p> <p>Session 4: Ensuring safe drinking water in the NWT <i>Chirag Rohit, Chief Environmental Health Officer, GNWT HSS</i> <i>Greg Hamann, Water Quality Environmental Specialist, GNWT MACA</i></p> <p>Session 5: Transboundary Water Management Agreements and Implementation <i>Meghan Beveridge & Christopher Cunada, GNWT ECC - Water Monitoring and Stewardship Division</i></p>
12:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm	<p>NWT Water Strategy Action Plan Development Engagement Session 1: Water Stewardship <i>Clint Abbott, Hannah McIntyre, Shauna McGarvey - MNP Consulting Services</i> <i>Virtual Session facilitators: Mirella Chiappe and Sadie Arcega—MNP Consulting Services</i> <i>GNWT ECC – Water Monitoring and Stewardship Division</i></p>
3:00pm	Health Break
3:15pm	<p>NWT Water Strategy Action Plan Development Engagement Session 2: Collaboration and Partnerships <i>Clint Abbott, Hannah McIntyre, Shauna McGarvey - MNP Consulting Services</i> <i>Virtual Session facilitators: Mirella Chiappe and Sadie Arcega—MNP Consulting Services</i> <i>GNWT ECC – Water Monitoring and Stewardship Division</i></p>
4:45pm	<p>Wrap-Up <i>Closing Remarks from Julian Kanigan, Assistant Deputy Minister, Environment and Climate Change</i></p>

APPENDIX B: LIST OF ATTENDEES

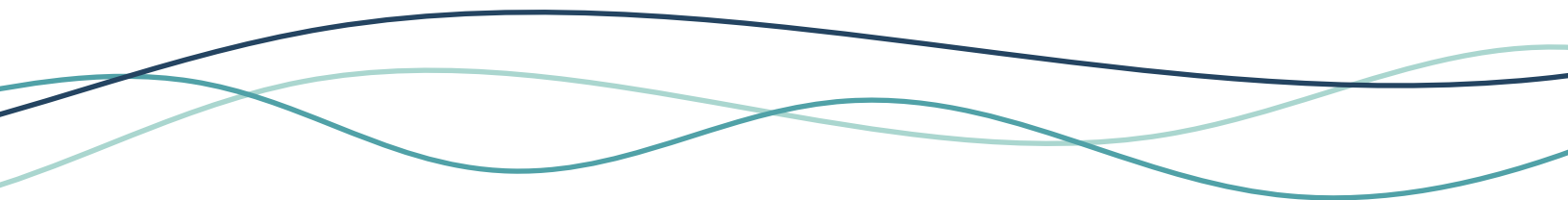
PARTICIPANTS (123 IN-PERSON
AND 12 ONLINE)

Indigenous Government, Indigenous Organizations, and Communities	
Ashton Gahdele	Łutsël K'é Dene First Nation
Charlie Catholique	Łutsël K'é Dene First Nation
Claudia Azigwe	Katlodeeche First Nation (KFN)—ISC member
Dustin Hessdorfer	Tthebatthie Denesųliné Nation (TDN)
Ethel Blondin-Andrew	National Indigenous Fisheries Institute
Forrest Catholique	Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation
Gabriel Brost	Youth (Panelist)
Gerry Larkin	Yellowknives Dene First Nation—University student (YKDFN-Student)
Greg Lafferty	Deninu Kųę First Nation (DKFN)
James (Jimmy) Sanderson	DKFN
Jessica Jumbo—online	Dehcho First Nations
Jocelyn Zoe	Tłıchų Government (TG)
Kelly Mandeville	TDN
Leah Mercredi	Fort Smith Métis Council (FSMC)
Leon Andrew	Sahtú Secretariat Inc.—ISC member
Margaret (Margo) Edjericon	DKFN
Marilyn Mandeville	TDN
Mateo Blacquiere	Inuvialuit Regional Corporation—ISC member
Max Zoe	TG
Melaine Simba	Ka'a'gee Tu First Nation
Nicole Drybones	YKDFN-Student
Paul Vecsei	TG
Peter Zoe	Community Government of Behchokų
Ramona Fordy	DKFN
Ray Edjericon	DKFN
Reese Wainman	Youth (Panelist)
Ryan Pischinger	FSMC
Shalbe Betsina	YKDFN-Student
Shaun Moosenose	TG
Shelagh Montgomery	YKDFN-Student
Sherri Zoe	TG
Shyenne Jumbo—online	Sambaa K'e First Nation
Shirley Coumont	North Slave Métis Alliance—ISC member

Stanley Mackenzie	YKDFN-Student
Tammy Steinwand-Descambeault	TG
Tanisha Beaverho	TG
Terrell Knapton-Pain	TG
Tim Heron	Northwest Territory Métis Nation—ISC member
Troy Beaulieu	YKDFN-Student
Tyler Michel	TG
Yellowknives Dene Drummers (4)	YKDFN
Academia	
Beth Parker	University of Guelph
Colby Steelman	University of Waterloo
Élise Devoie	Queen's University
Fernando Galvez	Aurora College
Hannah Ascough	Aurora College
Isabel Hilgendag	Wilfrid Laurier University
Izaz Ali Shaw	University of Montreal
Kelly Skinner	University of Waterloo
Mylene Ratelle	University of Montreal
Olivia Locke	Queen's University
Robert Patrick	University of Saskatchewan
Stephanie Wright	Queen's University
Xiaying Claire Xin	Queen's University
Federal Government	
Anita Gue	Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)
Jane Amphlett	Government of Canada
Jeffrey[MB1.1] Cederwall	Canada Water Agency & Mackenzie River Basin Board (CWA & MRBB)
Maria Dolan	ECCC
Mark Fisher	CWA
Marlene Evans—online	ECCC
Morna Hussey	CWA
Nicole Folliet	ECCC
Paula Siwik	CWA
Government of the Northwest Territories	
Ahmed Shalaby	Government of the Northwest Territories-Environment and Climate Change (GNWT-ECC)
Aida Nciri	GNWT-ECC
Anna Coles	GNWT-ECC
Annie Levasseur	GNWT-ECC

Bethany Nesbitt	GNWT-ECC
Catherine Graydon	GNWT-ECC
Chirag Rohit	GNWT-Health and Social Services (GNWT-HSS)
Chloe Dawley	GNWT-HSS
Chris Hewitt	GNWT-Municipal and Community Affairs (GNWT-MACA)
Christopher Cunada	GNWT-ECC
Daniel Drimes	GNWT-MACA
Erin Goose	GNWT-ECC
Gila Somers	GNWT-ECC
Greg Hamann	GNWT-MACA
Guyline Ross	GNWT-ECC
Honourable Jay MacDonald	Minister-ECC
Iqbal Arshad	GNWT-MACA
Isabelle de-Grandpré	GNWT-ECC
Jad Saade	GNWT-ECC
Jarret Hardisty	GNWT-ECC
Julian Kanigan	GNWT-ECC
Kevin Smith	GNWT-ECC
Krista Chin	GNWT-ECC
Laura Krutko	GNWT-ECC
Lauren Nolan	GNWT-ECC
Maria McCormick	GNWT-ECC
Maurice Bowen	GNWT-NWT Centre for Geomatics
Meghan Beveridge	GNWT-ECC
Michael Palmer	GNWT-ECC
Nicole Beningabire Twagira	GNWT-ECC
Razu Ahmed	GNWT-Remote Sensing & Western Centre for Geomatics
Robert Jenkins	GNWT-ECC
Robin Staples—online	GNWT-ECC
Roxanne Springer	GNWT-ECC
Tobenna Uzuegbunam	GNWT-ECC
Tonya Makletzoff	GNWT-ECC
Regulatory, Industry, Non-Government Organizations, and Other	
Allison Rubin—online	Alberta Geological Survey
Becky Edward—online	Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC)
Bijaya Adhikari	Inuvialuit Water Board (IWB)
Catarina Owen—online	Sahtú Renewable Resources Board (SRRB)
Christan Beaverho	Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB)

Clint Abbott	MNP
Dawn Tremblay	Ecology North
Delores Harley	IWB
Derek Simmers	Ecology North
Donna Schear	MVEIRB
Hannah McIntyre	MNP
Heather Scott	Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB)
Heidi Desjardins	Mildred Hall—Grade Z
Jessica Lagroix	DataStream
Katie Scott—online	PGL Environmental Consultants
Kyanna Dolphus-Lennie —online	SRRB
Kylie McLeod—online	DUC
Lillith Brook	Nature United
Lindsay Day	DataStream, The Gordon Foundation
Malorey Nirlungayuk	MVEIRB
Martina Simons	Sahtú Land Use Planning Board
Natalija Vojno	Our Living Waters
Shauna McGarvey	MNP
Stacey Menzies	MVEIRB
Steph Woodworth	Northern Youth Leadership
Tanya Lantz	MVEIRB
Tony Maas	Nature United
Vernon Blaine Amos—online	Environmental Impact Screening Committee
Extended List: No Organization Listed Please let us know your organization/group to update our report	
Chase Lockhart	
Dalphus Nitsiza	
Joseph Labine	
Lexi Mercredi—online	
Marlene Grooms	
Mary Ann Williams	
Peyton Simba	
Richard Wilson	
Sunrise Lockhart	



16th Annual Water
Stewardship Strategy
Implementation
Workshop

SUMMARY REPORT

October 15–16, 2025 | Chateau Nova, Yellowknife, NT

16^e atelier annuel de
mise en oeuvre de la
Stratégie sur la gestion
des eaux des TNO

SOMMAIRE

15 et 16 octobre 2025 | Chateau Nova, Yellowknife, TNO