



## Community Update – May 11

### COVID-19 Website

The GNWT launched a new unified Covid-19 response website over the weekend. The new site [www.gov.nt.ca/covid-19](http://www.gov.nt.ca/covid-19) is your home for reliable, accurate information about how to keep yourself safe, the rules for keeping others safe, and changes to how our government delivers services in this unprecedented time.

### Rent Relief to Lease Holders

COVID-19 has created new and very real economic stress on NWT residents, families, businesses, Indigenous governments and communities. To ease some of the burden, Shane Thompson, Minister of Lands announced the GNWT Department of Lands intends to waive rent on existing surface dispositions on public land, for the fiscal year 2020-21. Rent relief is available to all holders of existing recreational, residential, and commercial and mining surface dispositions on public land. Surface dispositions are usually leases, but there are a small number of other types of dispositions such as easements or licences of occupation, that will also be eligible for relief. The rent relief applies retroactively from April 1, 2020 until March 31, 2021. The rent relief does not apply to new applications received after April 1, 2020.

### Support for Regional Airlines

The GNWT announced it will allocate \$8.7 million in funding to support NWT passenger-based airlines who offer scheduled service during the COVID-19 pandemic. This support is part of the \$130 million announced by the federal government to help the territories and northern businesses during the pandemic to ensure that these companies can continue to provide scheduled connections into communities, providing essential goods, like food and medical supplies.

The GNWT will allocate the funding, as follows:

Canadian North	\$5,372,000
Air Tindi	\$1,565,000
Northwestern Air Lease	\$793,000
North Wright Airways	\$589,000
Aklak Air	\$381,000

This new funding is in addition to previously announced waiving of all landing fees at NWT airports, as well as leases, licences, and concession fees for all businesses operating at NWT airports. These previously announced supports are expected to save NWT aviation businesses approximately \$2 million.

For further information visit [www.normanwells.com](http://www.normanwells.com) or call the Town Office at 587-3700 during our business hours of 8:30AM – 5:00PM. You may also email us at [towninformation@normanwells.com](mailto:towninformation@normanwells.com)