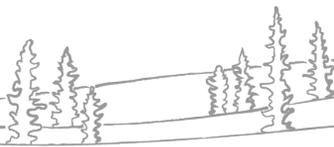




Emerging Stronger

Planning the NWT's Social and Economic Recovery Together – June 2022 Update



Emerging Stronger, the Government of the Northwest Territories' COVID-19 social and economic recovery plan, builds on the commitments made in the *Mandate of the Government of the Northwest Territories, 2019-2023* (the Mandate) to revitalize the Northwest Territories' (NWT) economy and support communities and people to recover from the economic impacts of the pandemic, and to bridge the social gaps exposed by the pandemic.

Emerging Stronger is the GNWT's vision for social and economic development post-COVID and commits the GNWT to actions under the following themes:

- Continue to adapt and respond to challenges in an efficient, coordinated and evidence-based way.
 - Build stronger partnerships with Indigenous governments and organizations, community governments, and the non-profit and charitable sector
 - Advance emergency response work based on lessons learned from initial stages of pandemic
 - Further efforts to support broadband infrastructure for fast and reliable internet services across the NWT
 - Meet the needs of vulnerable populations
 - Improve services and expand equitable access to care for all Northerners
 - Provide accessible, quality education and training
 - Better support and integrate work-force development within infrastructure projects
 - Ensure that GNWT capital planning supports equitable opportunities throughout the territory, and a greener more climate resilient territory
 - Support the Hardest Hit Sectors
 - Better support businesses
 - Expand and diversify the economy
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Emerging Stronger – June 2022 Update highlights the progress the GNWT has made to recover from the pandemic over the course of the past year despite numerous challenges both in terms of the spread of COVID- 19 and broader economic uncertainty and social instability, and identifies actions and commitments to continue the NWT's social and economic recovery. Some of the actions identified in the updated plan include:

- Improve community emergency planning based on lessons learned from the pandemic, including resuming emergency planning workshops, developing an online tutorial for communities for updating emergency plans, and establishing regional EMO staff.
 - Begin work on the Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk fibre line to provide higher reliability, faster speeds and greater capacity.
 - Implement a new Income Assistance program geared toward Seniors and Persons with Disabilities, and improve the existing program for adults.
 - Review shelter funding arrangements.
 - Complete the Polytechnic University Facilities Master Plan and comprehensive technology needs assessment.
 - Improve access to childcare and enhance childcare affordability for NWT families through the Child Care Fee Reduction Subsidy and creation of 300 licensed early learning and childcare spaces by 2026.
 - Develop an Energy Plan to guide future investments to reduce emissions related to residential space heating.
 - Work with the NWT Tourism on implementing the Resident Readiness Strategy
 - Work with local and national partners to create opportunities for NWT artists, including supporting their attendance at events to show and sell their artwork; and delivering a workshop series to provide information to artists on selling their work.
 - Undertake public engagement and work with the federal government to advance the work on the NWT remediation economy.
 - Implement the Skills 4 Success Action Plan (2021-2025) to meet the demand and supply needs of the NWT labour market.
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