Backgrounder: Wave 2, Economic Relief Measure Details

The following Economic Support Measures will be implemented immediately by the GNWT:

**Income Assistance – Emergency Allowance**
Spend $1.617 million in income assistance (IA) to create a one-time emergency allowance to provide increased support for IA recipients of $500 for single recipient, or $1,000 for households with two or more people to ensure they have a 14 day supply and are prepared for self-isolation.

**Income Assistance – Exempting Unearned Income**
Spend $270,000 in additional benefits to Income Assistance clients by excluding “gifts or unearned income” from the calculation of earned income till June 30, 2020.

**Income Assistance – Productive Choices and Payrolling**
Non-financial support to ensure Income Assistance clients are caring for themselves and their families while physical distancing or self-isolating. Support is also being provided by extending payroll.

**NWTHC – Emergency Housing**
Provide up to $5 million dollars to create temporary housing for homeless persons to self-isolate and prevent the spread of COVID-19. This includes $1.4 million for the creation of spaces for Yellowknife’s homeless at both Aspen Apartments (36 units) and the Arnica Inn (25 units). $3.6 million will be spent to set up 130 units and provide renovation funding in communities outside of Yellowknife.

**Airport Fees**
Waive leases, licenses and concession fees from April 1st until the end of June for all businesses operating at NWT airports. This will provide immediate financial relief valued at almost $1 million for aviation businesses, taxi and rental car businesses, tourism and service businesses, logistics businesses, and other industrial businesses operating at all 27 NWT airports.

**Interest Relief**
Waive interest charges on all late tax returns between March 15 and June 30, 2020

**Hospitality Industry Assistance**
Northwest Territories Liquor and Cannabis Commission will offer all licensed establishments to purchase back unopened inventory.

**Senior Home Heating Subsidy**
Automatically register into the current year all seniors enrolled in this program last year.

**Fee Reduction**
Provide support to Health and Social Services workers through waiving professional fees for the year valued at $250,000. Also provide support to businesses by waiving fees for food establishment permits for the year valued at $35,000.