



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.

Incomes 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.