



Northwest Territories Tourism Resolutions Submitted by Membership

Northwest Territories Tourism members address their concerns by adopting resolutions during the Annual General Meeting. Once presented to the membership at the Annual General Meeting and adopted as resolutions, they become the official position of Northwest Territories Tourism. Adopted resolutions are sent to the Government of the Northwest Territories or to other applicable Government/Agencies for consideration and response. The resolutions are discussed as agenda items during meetings of the Board of Directors to ensure these items remain priority and progress on these issues is advanced among other items.

2023 AGM Resolutions

The following resolutions were approved at the 2023 Annual General Meeting

RESOLUTION #1 – AIR ACCESS INTO AND WITHIN THE NWT

Be it resolved that NWT Tourism continue to advocate to the airlines for increased access to and within the north, that the flight schedules be consistent and reliable and meet the needs of the tourism sector, that airlines recognize the impact their schedules have on tourism businesses and work with the industry when changes to long standing schedules are required, and that the planes flying into the north have the ability, and the consistency, to bring the cargo and baggage required for guests visiting the NWT.

Status: ONGOING

NWT Tourism worked very closely with airline and industry partners to highlight the tourism industry's concerns and needs. We have established open and consistent lines of communication with the airlines that service the NWT tourism industry. We are continuing to work with the airlines to promote the routes for the NWT, as well as be aware of routes that connect with the hubs that serve the NWT for further marketing opportunities to help ensure the routes to the NWT continue to be viable. We will continue to work with the airlines and industry partners to ensure that the tourism industry is top of mind.

RESOLUTION #2 - ENHANCE TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES ALONG THE DEMPSTER HIGHWAY

Be it resolved that NWT Tourism advocate to the Department of Infrastructure, Government of the Northwest Territories, to provide these services at the locations identified above and adequately maintain said services.

Status: CLOSED

In working with GNWT – Dept of Infrastructure, the Department of Infrastructure (INF) has procured waste disposal units which were installed at the Peel and Mackenzie River ferry crossing locations over the weekend of July 13-14, 2024. INF will commit to leaving the waste disposal units in place so long as they do not begin to attract unwanted wildlife, placing the public or operational staff in danger. INF and

the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI) met to discuss providing pull-outs along the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway (ITH). Improvements to the ITH will soon be underway, but this previously developed scope of work did not include provision of pull-outs, and cannot be accommodated within the current budget. INF commits to including pull-outs in future scopes of reconstruction work for the ITH. Once pull-outs are in place, ITI can determine if they will provide interpretive signage or other facilities at those locations.

RESOLUTION #3 – TRANSPORT CANADA FLIGHT AND DUTY TIME REGULATIONS

Be it resolved that NWT Tourism continue to support and advocate for northern airlines and the businesses that rely on them, to find a reasonable path forward amidst a severe pilot shortage, and the significant impact of the newly implemented flight and duty time regulations. Furthermore, NWT Tourism will work with partners to pursue the possibility of a pause and/or exemption on the flight and duty time regulations for the north until the regulations can be reviewed further and procedures can be put in place that work for northern airlines and the businesses to which they provide service to.

Status: ONGOING

NWT Tourism attended the Northern Air Transport Association (NATA) annual conference to assist in raising awareness of the unique challenges and operating conditions of the air industry in the north and continue to work with NATA to advocate for our industries' concerns and needs. We will continue to work with the airlines and industry partners to ensure that the tourism industry is top of mind.

RESOLUTION #4 – IMPORTANCE OF THE WORKFORCE TO THE SUCCESS OF BUSINESSES IN THE TOURISM SECTOR

Be it resolved that NWT Tourism work with the GNWT departments and Aurora College to determine the status of the Tourism Training Action Plan, and further work with GNWT departments of ECE and ITI to determine if there is an avenue to deliver tourism entry level program in NWT high schools. Furthermore, be it resolved that NWT Tourism continue to work with all governments, federal, Indigenous, territorial, and municipal, to find ways to mitigate the threat the labour shortage poses to the tourism industry in the NWT and capitalize on the significant opportunities that exist for NWT residents to be a part of the tourism industry workforce.

Status: CLOSED

NWT Tourism has met and discussed with several different levels of government and organizations over the last couple of years, GNWT-ECE, Government of Canada-Immigration, CDETNO, Future Skills Canada, PTTIA, Tourism HR, TIAC, the many issues around labour shortages. The labour shortage is nationwide and is a very big concern in all industries.

We will continue to work with our partners at GNWT-ITI to advocate for training opportunities for residents of the NWT in the tourism industry, and will share all opportunities with our members as they arise.

This year we also introduced a new member benefit, a group health and benefits plan, in hopes that this will allow tourism businesses to attract and retain more employees to the industry.

RESOLUTION #5 – REDUCING THE IMPACT OF LAND LEASE COST INCREASES ON OUTFITTERS WITH OUTPOST CABINS

Be it resolved that NWT Tourism work with GNWT department of Environment and Climate Change (ECC) for a land lease solution that enables the Outfitters outpost cabins to be listed on a base/main camp(s) lease(s) and that single outpost cabins can be constructed by outfitters without the requirement of a lease.

Status: ONGOING

We have been in discussion with the GNWT-Dept of Environment and Climate Change as they are now the department responsible for Lands. We have been assured that we will be a member of the Technical Advisory Panel for the Public Lands Act Regulations review, however the review is dependent on the progress of the Technical Working Group, and we are still waiting for an update on the process and timeline of this work.

There is still work to do with this resolution and it will be ongoing into the next year.

RESOLUTION #6 – ENFORCEMENT OF AURORA TOURISM OPERATOR LICENSES

Be it resolved that NWT Tourism advocate to the Government of the Northwest Territories, Department of Industry, Tourism, and Investment that Aurora tour operations are being monitored for safe practices, that activities are being delivered by licensed tour operators, and that the regulations under the Tourism Act of the GNWT are being enforced, and furthermore that GNWT-ITI review criteria for Aurora tourism operator licensing in consideration of adding mandatory training requirements to ensure they have significant and reliable knowledge to provide service with quality, and enhance the experience for our visitors from around the world.

Status: CLOSED

In working with the Government of the Northwest Territories, Department of Industry, Tourism, and Investment (GNWT-ITI) they have implemented a visual decal for all Aurora tour vehicles operating in the North Slave region, to easily and readily identify Aurora operators that have obtained the proper licensing. Further to this have conducted spot checks to ensure that operators have all adequate paperwork while operating tours. We will continue to work with GNWT-ITI to ensure that regulations under the Tourism Act are being enforced, and to highlight opportunities for further training programs.

