



NWT  
**RECREATION  
& PARKS**  
ASSOCIATION

# 2018–2019 **Annual Report**



*The NWT Recreation & Parks Association was established in 1989 to promote the benefits of recreation. Today, the NWTRPA promotes recreation by supporting leaders, communities, and partners through training, advocacy, and networking.*



# 2018-2021 Strategic Plan

The NWT Recreation & Parks Association envisions a territory where everyone has access to recreation programs and spaces that foster healthy families, strong cultures, and vibrant communities.

Below is a summary of 2018-2019 strategic plan activities. For a complete version of the NWTRPA 2018-2021 strategic plan, please visit [www.nwtrpa.org](http://www.nwtrpa.org).

NWT On The Land Collaborative Learning Tour, Mackenzie Delta, 2018.

## 2018-2019 Activities

**Goal #1** – The NWTRPA is working with intention to advance decolonization and reconciliation through its work, workplaces, and relationships.

- Hosted Indigenous Self-Determination, a workshop presented by Dene Nahjo at April 2018 Board meeting.
- Continuing our commitment to offer sessions and speakers at our annual conference that help us better understand the relationship between recreation and colonialism.
- Working with Crystal Fraser, Paul Andrew, Sharon Firth, and Lorna Storr to develop a travelling public exhibit on the histories of recreation and residential schooling in the North.
- Advocating for the Canadian Parks & Recreation Association to address the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, adopt the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and take action on reconciliation.

Cover Photo: May Andre teaches her granddaughter Holly May which berries to pick and eat.  
Generations on the Move photo contest submission from Jayda Andre.





**Goal #2** – The NWTRPA is a valued organization, driven by community and membership, and committed to ethical governance and management.

- Membership approved constitution and bylaw changes at the 2018 AGM.
- Board election procedure changes were made and implemented for the 2018 AGM.
- Board approved a course fee schedule in March 2019.
- Active Communities Coordinator position created for a 3-year term and a new Director – Research & Innovation permanent job position was approved by the Board in March 2019.
- Board moved to dissolve the NWTRPA partnership with the Trans Canada Trail in March 2019 and to dissolve the NWTRPA Aquatics Committee in March 2019. These decisions were made in order to focus resources on new strategic directions.

**Goal #3 – NWT leaders, communities, and NWTRPA partners understand recreation and recognize that it is essential to healthy minds, bodies, families, and communities.**

- Promoted June is Recreation and Parks Month (JRPm) campaign by offering Get Active grants. Awarded 68 June Get Active grants in 2018.
- Working with the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs to develop a Sport, Physical Activity, and Recreation (SPAR) Framework, guided by: *Canadian Sport Policy*, *A Common Vision for Increasing Physical Activity*, and *Framework for Recreation in Canada*. The NWTRPA has been meeting with Ministers, MLAs, and partners to advance the SPAR Framework. Additionally, the NWTRPA hosted a follow-up workshop in response to a draft of the SPAR Framework and will continue to invest resources to ensure the Framework reflects the priorities of our sector.
- Met with MLAs to discuss changes to the *Western Canada Lottery Act* approved in 2018.
- Met with new Dene National Chief Norman Yakelaya to discuss common priorities.
- Presented five awards at the 2019 Conference (see page 10 for information on the 2018 Awards recipients).
- Increased focus on creating and sharing digital content. The NWTRPA website, social media outlets, and e-news all saw increased traffic and engagement. Our e-news subscribers and Instagram followers rose by 26% and 56%, respectively, while more than 14,000 people visited our website last year.

Legacy and New Directions Conference, Hay River, 2000.







Community Leaders Retreat, Blachford Lake Lodge, 2019.

## Goal #4 – The NWTRPA is a vital resource for and champion of community-directed on the land programs.

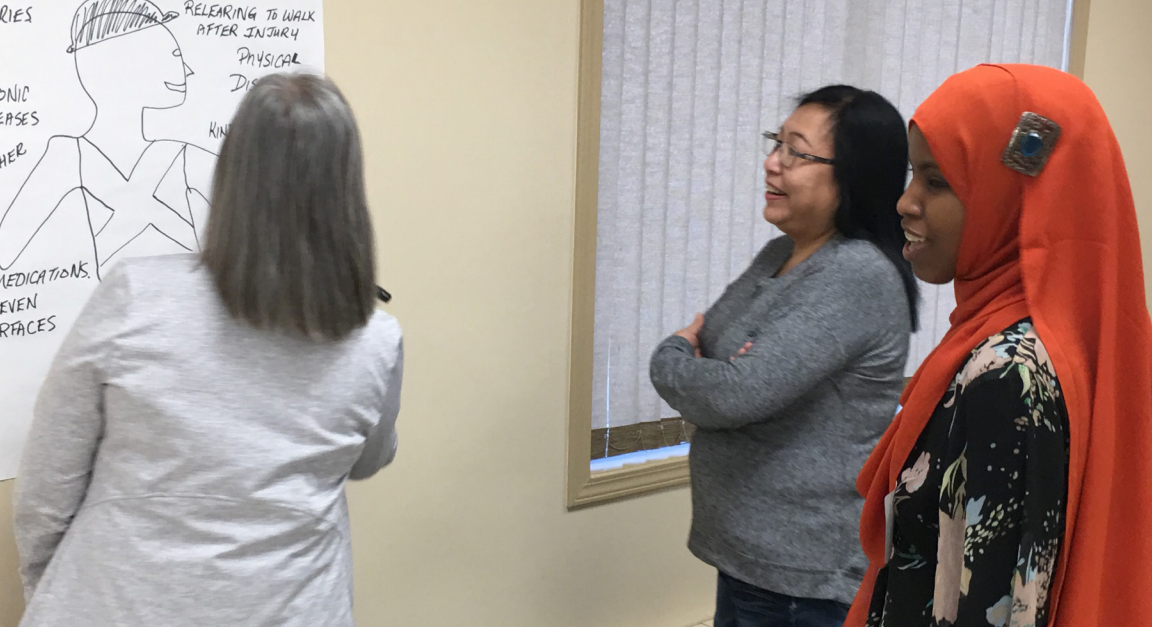
- Continued participation on the administrative team for the NWT On the Land Collaborative. In 2019, the Collaborative distributed 1 million dollars in grants to 48 projects. The Collaborative was a recipient of a 2018 Premier's Award for Collaboration.
- Offered in-kind training to 13 Collaborative grant recipients, including hosting 8 canoeing and wilderness first aid courses in 5 communities with a total of 74 participants.
- Supported: Chief Paul Niditchie school in Tsiigehtchic with canoe training and on-trip mentorship; PWK High School in Fort Smith with canoe training and mentorship; Ne K'édíkə Camp in Fort Good Hope with evaluation; and the Sahtú Renewable Resources Board with risk management.
- Hosted the 2019 World Tour of the Paddling Film Festival in Fort Smith and Yellowknife.
- Presented at the Framework for Recreation National Symposium about the Collaborative and at the NOLS Wilderness Risk Management Conference on Living on the Land in a Good Way.
- Co-chaired the NWT Evaluation Symposium in May 2018. Co-hosted a land-based evaluation workshop in November 2018 to explore evaluation methods for on the land programs. Working with Hotìì ts'eeda to conduct a literature review of on the land healing programs and Indigenous-led land-based program evaluation.



Elders in Motion training, Whatì, 2018.

**Goal #5** – More NWT residents of all ages are able to choose active ways of living because of improvements in the accessibility, diversity, and quality of community-based recreation programs.

- Delivered 6 Elders in Motion training events in Whatì and Paulatuk. Hosted a Functional Fitness & Falls Prevention workshop in Yellowknife with participants from 11 communities. A total of 92 participants accessed Elders in Motion training.
- Elders in Motion was selected as a top national innovation by the Canadian Frailty Network. Presented about Elders in Motion at the Framework for Recreation National Symposium.
- Launched a new project, Generations on the Move, in September 2018. Working with Fort Providence, Fort Simpson, Cole Crook Fiddle Association (Hay River), and Paulatuk to support intergenerational recreation programs.
- Hosted an Elders focus group in December 2018 to support the creation of a healthy aging marketing campaign.
- Secured funding from the Indigenous Languages and Education Secretariat to produce a series of Tłıchʔ Camp Yoga videos in Tłıchʔ. The videos support Tłıchʔ language learning and provide Tłıchʔ Elders with appropriate exercises rooted in Tłıchʔ language and culture.
- Distributed 140 Get Active grants to support 230 events with over 9,350 participants.
- 4,825 people in 349 teams from 30 NWT communities participated in 2019 Walk to Tuk. This was again the largest Walk to Tuk event ever.



Functional Fitness for Falls Prevention workshop, Yellowknife, 2019.

## Goal #6 – The NWTRPA is the leading recreation training organization in the NWT.

- NWTRPA Director – Professional Development is now acting as the Recreation North Program Manager.
- Recreation North launched in November 2018 with a full annual course calendar. 13 online learning events were delivered with an average of 15 participants per event. An additional 4 in-person learning events offered in 4 NWT communities with 23 participants. In total, a completion rate of 80% was achieved by 216 participants.
- Offered 32 HIGH FIVE® events in 13 communities.
- Hosted 2018 conference in Yellowknife. 212 delegates from 28 NWT communities attended.
- Hosted a cannabis webinar in June 2018 with over 20 participants and an evaluation webinar in November 2018 with 8 participants.
- Hosted 17 participants at the biennial Community Leaders Retreat in partnership with the Dechinta Centre for Research and Learning in March 2019.



# 2018-2019 Highlights

## NWTRPA Celebrates 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

On 14 March 1989, roughly two dozen people, including local recreation coordinators and representatives from community recreation committees, gathered in the auditorium at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife for the first annual general meeting of what would become the NWT Recreation & Parks Association. Over the coming months, the inaugural Board of Directors registered the NWTRPA as a society, commissioned a logo, and developed committees for membership, awards, communications, and the conference. Little could they imagine that 30 years later, the NWTRPA would be a vibrant and vital part of the northern recreation sector.

The NWTRPA is celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> birthday by looking back at the people, events, programs, and projects that have made the organization what it is today. Visit our website to learn the story behind our logo, time travel to events we've hosted like the 1996 Arctic Symposium, meet the (17!) people who have led the organization over the last three decades, and much more!

## Generations on the Move » [See front cover.](#)

The first year of Generations on the Move (formerly Active Healthy Intergenerational Connections) was a very positive one! Generations on the Move celebrates the importance of connecting generations through active and healthy pursuits by supporting the development of intergenerational recreation programming. The advisory committee includes the NWTRPA, the NWT Seniors' Society, Municipal and Community Affairs, and Health and Social Services.

Following a public call which received 17 applications, four communities—Fort Providence, Fort Simpson, Hay River, and Ulukhaktok—were selected to participate in the program, which provides communities with support in planning, implementing, and evaluating intergenerational recreation programs. Community events to date have included a regularly scheduled fiddling class, community dances, traditional string games, cookouts, and dance groups. In December, the project team brought together ten older adults and Elders—with at least one from each region—to provide guidance on communications tools that promote active intergenerational programming.

We look forward to 2019-2020 as we further develop the communications strategy, evaluation framework, and more!



## Recreation North

Following a successful pilot year in 2017-2018, the Recreation North Training Program is now fully up and running. Through the program, learners developed a deeper understanding of their communities and the recreation sector. Eighteen learning events have been developed so far, 11 of which were delivered this year.

Participation in the program’s first year was higher than anticipated; learning events often had waitlists. While the training program is available to people in all three territories, 56% of participants this year were from the NWT. Learning event completion rates were 80%, significantly higher than the 20% typical of most online learning. The interactive nature of the online forums and conference calls kept participants engaged and interacting with one another.

Fall 2019 will bring another round of graduates from the program and the addition of two new courses in proposal writing and report writing.



NWTRPA Executive Director, Geoff Ray presents Laurel Irving with the first Certificate in Northern Recreation Leadership in the NWT.



## 2018 NWTRPA and Side Door Award Winners

(L-R): Iris Notley (Executive Director of SideDoor), Hawa Dumbuya-Sesay (on behalf of YWCA), Eunice Nasogaluak, Beth Hudson, Arthur Taylor, Wilson Elliot, Christina Bonnetrouge, Tony Devlin, and Cynthia White (NWTRPA Board President).

## 2018 NWTRPA Award Winners

In October 2018, the NWTRPA celebrated excellence in recreation with our Annual Awards Banquet in Yellowknife. The 2018 award recipients were:

- **Scott McAdam Youth Leadership Award** – Christina Bonnetrouge (Fort Providence) and Wilson Elliot (Yellowknife)
- **Active Elder** – Eunice Nasogaluak (Tuktoyaktuk)
- **CPRA Award of Merit** – Tony Devlin (Inuvik)
- **Innovation Award** – Beth Hudson (for work in Fort Providence)
- **Award of Excellence** – Arthur Taylor (Fort Smith)

## Thank You!

We owe our successful year to the dedication of our Board of Directors, volunteers, staff, and our members. Thank you to our funders and sponsors who make our work possible. We look forward to another great year ahead!



### The NWTRPA Board of Directors

*(L-R): Betty Ann Drybones, Maria Catholique, Rena Chapple, Nathan McPherson, Mary Gordon, Cynthia White, and Lorna Storr (missing: Jill Gilday).*

## 2018-2019 Board of Directors

- **Cynthia White** (Fort Smith) – President
- **Mary Gordon** (Aklavik) – Director-at-Large
- **Maria Catholique** (Łutsël K'éd) – South Slave Regional Director
- **Nathan McPherson** (Fort Simpson) – Dehcho Regional Director
- **Betty Ann Drybones** (Behchokò) – North Slave Regional Director
- **Jill Gilday** (Yellowknife) – Yellowknife Regional Director
- **Rena Chapple** (Tulít'a) – Sahtú Regional Director
- **Lorna Storr** (Aklavik) – Beaufort/Delta Regional Director





*(L-R): Sheena Tremblay, Amanda Grobbecke, Stefanie Miklosovic, Geoff Ray, Jess Dunkin, and Jennifer Rafferty.*

## 2018-2019 Staff

- **Robin Young & Stefanie Miklosovic** – Membership & Communications Manager
- **Jennifer Rafferty** – Active Communities Coordinator
- **Sheena Tremblay** – Director, Active Communities
- **Jessica Dunkin** – Director, On the Land Programs
- **Amanda Grobbecke** – Director, Professional Development
- **Geoff Ray** – Executive Director

The NWTRPA hosted 73 training events in 19 communities with 981 participants.



# NWT Recreation & Parks Association

## Statement of Operations

For the year ended March 31,	Budget 2019	Actual 2019	Actual 2018
<b>Revenue</b>			
Contributions			
Corporate contributions	\$ 24,000	\$ 29,607	\$ 18,263
GNWT Education, Culture and Employment	-	15,000	-
GNWT Health and Social Services	57,435	57,479	61,898
GNWT Industry, Tourism and Investment	-	-	4,209
GNWT Municipal and Community Affairs	170,000	170,000	150,000
NWT Ski Division	-	-	6,229
NWT Sport and Recreation Council	800,000	821,000	821,000
NWT Senior Society	170,000	180,000	50,000
Tlicho Government	-	16,000	-
Fees	45,000	83,138	60,392
Membership income	6,000	6,780	3,667
Other income and interest income	-	1,793	-
	1,272,435	<b>1,380,797</b>	1,175,658
<b>Add: Transfer from deferred revenue prior year</b>	178,982	<b>187,712</b>	57,821
<b>Less: Transfer to deferred revenue current year</b>	(53,000)	<b>(326,671)</b>	(187,712)
	1,398,417	<b>1,241,838</b>	1,045,767
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Accounting and legal	30,000	35,115	36,738
Advertising and promotion	67,585	43,830	12,662
Amortization	-	3,286	3,659
Conferences and workshops	124,050	117,285	91,089
Dues and fees	11,700	10,730	10,988
Equipment	-	5,702	1,724
Grants and contributions	133,348	106,960	82,475
Insurance	8,000	5,689	6,349
Interest and bank charges	1,500	2,689	3,309
Office	15,000	9,903	10,445
Program contractors	86,400	47,441	13,579
Program materials and supplies	99,684	83,091	86,256
Rent	14,792	21,274	21,250
Telephone and internet	10,258	13,676	11,397
Travel	251,500	196,038	202,861
Wages and benefits	544,600	535,514	440,803
	1,398,417	<b>1,238,223</b>	1,035,584
<b>Excess revenue before other items</b>	-	<b>3,615</b>	10,183
<b>Transfer from Tangible Capital Asset Fund</b>	-	<b>5,702</b>	-
<b>Refundable portion of contributions received</b>	-	<b>(1,935)</b>	-
<b>Excess revenue</b>	\$ -	<b>\$ 7,382</b>	\$ 10,183



# Statement of Financial Position

As at March 31,	2019	2018
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 630,071	\$ 550,759
Accounts receivable (Note 3)	67,838	60,220
Prepaid expenses	804	794
	<b>698,713</b>	611,773
<b>Tangible capital assets (Note 4)</b>	<b>11,012</b>	8,596
<b>Restricted investments</b>		
<b>Legacy and Contingency Funds (Note 5)</b>	<b>455,112</b>	385,785
	<b>\$ 1,164,837</b>	\$ 1,006,154
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 6)	\$ 74,400	\$ 87,473
Payroll liabilities (Note 7)	37,258	29,915
Contributions repayable (Note 8)	1,935	-
Deferred revenue (Note 9)	326,671	187,712
	<b>440,264</b>	305,100
<b>Fund Balances</b>		
<b>Unrestricted net assets</b>	299,190	294,224
<b>Internally restricted tangible capital asset fund</b>	11,012	8,596
<b>Internally restricted legacy fund</b>	332,502	316,955
<b>Rona Williams Tai Chi endowment fund</b>	11,869	11,279
<b>Internally restricted contingency fund</b>	70,000	70,000
	<b>724,573</b>	701,054
	<b>\$ 1,164,837</b>	\$ 1,006,154



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