

Northwest Territories

LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Training

Aug 22: The GNWT outlined a [new “critical path” plan](#) to support access to quality education and employment programs following the closure of Aurora College’s Community Learning Centres earlier this year. Among other things, the government will partner with a Northern organization to deliver Employment Readiness Training in communities across the territories.

New Laws

Sep 9: Northwest Territories will receive over \$18.7 million from the Canada Community-Building Fund in the 2025-2026 fiscal year. The GNWT will distribute the money to municipalities in the territories to support new housing and essential infrastructure construction across 19 different project categories.

New Laws

Sep 2: The federal government increased the Northwest Territories Nominee Program 2025 allocation by 47 nominees, bringing the total to 197. While this is good news for employers seeking skilled labour, the increase doesn’t fully restore the territory’s allocation to 2024 levels, which had been cut in half by the Trudeau government.

Action Point: Find out [whether you must provide multilingual safety training](#) to your non-English speaking workers.

Industry Challenges

Sep 1: Northwest Territories’ new *Builders’ Lien Act* and regulations to ensure that construction contractors, subcontractors, and workers get paid officially took effect. The new lien laws replace the old *Mechanics Lien Act* to align construction payment rules with modern industry practices and the laws of other jurisdictions.

Environmental

Aug 14: The GNWT opened public consultations on a [proposal](#) to up-list the current *Species At Risk Act* listing of the Northern leopard frog from Threatened to Endangered and re-list the Western toad as Threatened. Deadline to [comment](#): November 15.

Environmental

Aug 27: The GNWT issued a [What We Heard Report](#) summarizing the public feedback it received on the draft 2025–2029 NWT Climate Change Action Plan. Key findings: Northerners want the government to take more decisive and immediate climate action but also do a better job of communicating the rules and timelines.

Environmental

Aug 28: Northwest Territories and Nunavut signed an updated Memorandum of Understanding to work together to manage shared populations of caribou herds. The MOU provides for sharing of caribou monitoring data, research on barren-ground caribou range predators and the addition of Peary caribou and Dolphin and Union caribou herds.