



Budget Dialogues Survey

The Budget Dialogues is an opportunity for residents of the Northwest Territories (NWT) to learn more about how the Government of the Northwest Territories' (GNWT) budget works and to share their views on spending priorities.

The following survey has 12 questions and should take between 10-15 minutes to complete. You may add additional pages, as needed, to provide us with any additional information.

Additional information on the GNWT budget and fiscal and economic situation is also available to help inform your responses:

Economic Situation and Outlook

https://www.fin.gov.nt.ca/sites/fin/files/resources/budget_dialogues_2020-economic_situation_and_outlook.pdf

Fiscal Situation and Outlook

https://www.fin.gov.nt.ca/sites/fin/files/resources/budget_dialogues_2020-fiscal_situation_and_outlook.pdf

Revenue Options

https://www.fin.gov.nt.ca/sites/fin/files/resources/budget_dialogues_2020-revenue_options.pdf

A. GNWT Fiscal Performance

1. How do you feel about each of the following statements?

| | Agree | Disagree | Don't know |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| The GNWT manages its budget effectively | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The GNWT budget focuses on the right things | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The GNWT budget is easy for me to understand | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The GNWT provides enough information about the budget | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

B. Spending Priorities

2. How do you think the GNWT should allocate its budget (select one)?

- ☐ Spend more on programs and services at the expense of infrastructure
- ☐ Spend more on infrastructure at the expense of programs and services
- ☐ Keep the current spending balance between programs and services and infrastructure
- ☐ Don't know

3. How would you change GNWT spending in the following areas?

- Bracketed amounts refer to the spending per person for each area.
- For more information about the programs and services that fall under each area, please refer to the Appendix at the end of this survey.

| | Spend more | Spend the same amount | Spend less |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Health Services & Health Programs (\$10,786) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Infrastructure Services (\$5,876) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Early Childhood & Schools (\$4,701) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Income Security & Cost of Living (\$3,742) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Administration & Internal Services (\$3,415) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Community Supports & Services (\$3,072) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Environment & Energy (\$2,465) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Law Enforcement (\$2,373) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Adult Education (\$1,582) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Economic Development & Industry (\$1,331) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Social Service Programs (\$761) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Land Management (\$521) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Language & Culture (\$415) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Heritage Fund Allocation (\$170) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- Please use the program and service areas listed in #3 to reply to the following questions.

4. Please rank your three most important program and service areas, in order of importance:

1st: _____

2nd: _____

3rd: _____

5. Please rank the top three program areas where you think the GNWT can find savings to support increases in other areas. Please explain *how* you think the GNWT can find savings in each area.

1st: _____

2nd: _____

3rd: _____

C. Revenues

The GNWT is experiencing a mismatch between money coming in and what it is spending. If nothing is done to address this now, the situation will become more severe in the years ahead.

6. What is the best course of action to address this mismatch?

- ☐ increase taxes
- ☐ introduce new taxes
- ☐ reduce programs and services
- ☐ reduce infrastructure investments
- ☐ N/A

7. Using “1” to “5”, where “1” is the most important, please choose five of the following areas that you think the GNWT should focus on to support the territorial economy in the future:

- Agriculture
- Alternative and renewable energy
- Building roads to communities
- Cold climate and climate change research
- Commercial fishing
- Community infrastructure
- Community market-driven activities
- Cultural sector: cultural arts, crafts and festivals; performing arts, film and broadcasting
- Entrepreneurship
- Food processing/manufacturing
- Health, wellness, and care programs
- Manufacturing
- Mining, oil and gas resources
- Research institutes & post-secondary university/college
- Traditional hunting and harvesting
- Transportation
- Tourism – international and local
- Others – please specify

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

7.a. Do you have any suggestions for how the GNWT can support these sectors?

8. What barriers do local, private sector businesses face in the NWT? How can the GNWT help to remove these barriers?

9. Is there anything else you would like to add about the budget?

D. Demographics

10.Where do you live?

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aklavik | <input type="checkbox"/> Fort Simpson | <input type="checkbox"/> Paulatuk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Behchokò | <input type="checkbox"/> Fort Smith | <input type="checkbox"/> Sachs Harbour |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colville Lake | <input type="checkbox"/> Gamètì | <input type="checkbox"/> Sambaa K'e |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Délı̨nę | <input type="checkbox"/> Hay River | <input type="checkbox"/> Tsiigehtchic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Detah | <input type="checkbox"/> Inuvik | <input type="checkbox"/> Tuktoyaktuk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Enterprise | <input type="checkbox"/> Jean Marie River | <input type="checkbox"/> Tulita |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fort Good Hope | <input type="checkbox"/> Kakisa | <input type="checkbox"/> Ulukhaktok |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fort Liard | <input type="checkbox"/> Kátł'odeeche | <input type="checkbox"/> Wekweètì |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fort McPherson | <input type="checkbox"/> Łutselk'e | <input type="checkbox"/> Whatì |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fort Providence | <input type="checkbox"/> Nahanni Butte | <input type="checkbox"/> Wrigley |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fort Resolution | <input type="checkbox"/> Norman Wells | <input type="checkbox"/> Yellowknife |

11. What is your gender?

- ☐ Man (including transgender men)
- ☐ Woman (including transgender women)
- ☐ Two-spirit
- ☐ Non-binary
- ☐ Prefer to self-describe: I describe myself as: _____
- ☐ Prefer not to say

The Financial Management Board uses gender-based analysis as a part of its decision making process. Identifying your gender may allow us to identify gender-based differences to responses.

12. How old are you?

- ☐ 17 or younger
- ☐ 18-39
- ☐ 40-59
- ☐ 60 or older

Responses to this question will help us to identify whether or not there are any differences in the survey results according to age.

E. Appendix

| | Category by theme | Dollar Amount (\$millions) | Per cent of total spending | Spending per capita (\$) |
|----|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | Administration and Internal Services | 153 | 8% | 3,415 |
| 2 | Adult Education | 71 | 4% | 1,582 |
| 3 | Community Supports and Services | 138 | 7% | 3,072 |
| 4 | Early Childhood and Schools | 211 | 11% | 4,701 |
| 5 | Economic Development and Industry | 60 | 3% | 1,331 |
| 6 | Environment and Energy | 110 | 6% | 2,465 |
| 7 | Health Services and Health Programs | 484 | 26% | 10,786 |
| 8 | Income Security and Cost of Living | 168 | 9% | 3,742 |
| 9 | Infrastructure Services | 263 | 14% | 5,876 |
| 10 | Interest Charges | 16 | 1% | 352 |
| 11 | Land Management | 23 | 1% | 521 |
| 12 | Language and Culture | 19 | 1% | 415 |
| 13 | Law Enforcement | 106 | 6% | 2,373 |
| 14 | Legislative Assembly | 23 | 1% | 507 |
| 15 | Resource Revenue Allocation (includes Heritage Fund) | 18 | 1% | 395 |
| 16 | Social Service Programs | 34 | 2% | 761 |
| | GRAND TOTAL | 1,896 | 100% | 42,294 |

CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS

1. Administration & Internal Services

- Legislative & Executive Branch Operations
 - Executive & Intergovernmental Affairs
 - Budgeting & Other Financial Management
- Services to Government
 - Human Resources Services
 - Legal Services
 - Financial andS
 - Employee Shared Services
 - Information Systems
 - hared Services & Enterprise Systems
 - Technology Service Centre & Corporate Information Management

2. Adult Education

- Adult Education
- Adult Education & Training
- Student Financial Assistance

3. Community Supports & Services

- Public Safety
- Youth Programs & Sport
- School of Community Government
- Legal Aid
- Other Justice Services to the Public
- Air, Marine and Safety, Licensing & Inspections
- Support to Community Governments
- Community Government Grants & Contributions

4. Early Childhood & Schools

- Early Childhood Programs
- School Services

5. Economic Development & Industry

- Business Support
- Mineral & Petroleum Resources
- Tourism & Parks
- Economic Diversification

6. Environment & Energy

- Environmental Protection
- Forest Management
- Water Management
- Wildlife
- Environmental Stewardship
- Energy Programs
- On the Land Programs

7. Health Services & Health Programs

- Diagnostic & Therapeutic Services
- Nursing Services
- Residential Care
- Emergency Services
- Out of Territory Health Services
- Specialty Clinics
- Community Health Clinics
- Community Mental Health & Addictions
- Community Wellness
- Home Care
- Supplementary Health Benefits
- Medical Travel
- Employee Dental & Medical Travel
- Health System Administration

8. Income Security & Cost of Living

- Territorial Power Subsidy
- NWT Child Benefit
- Cost of Living Tax Credit
- Carbon Tax Offsets
- Income Assistance
- Seniors Supplementary Benefit & Heating
- Housing

9. Infrastructure Services

- Airports, Highways, Facilities & Marine Operations
- GNWT Asset Management
- Other Infrastructure Programs
- Mackenzie Valley Fibre Link

10. Interest Charges

11. Land Management

- Land Administration
- Land Use Planning & Coordination

12. Language & Culture

- Francophone Affairs Secretariat
- Arts & Other Heritage
- Indigenous Languages

13. Law Enforcement

- Community Justice
- Policing
- Corrections
- Court Services

14. Legislative Assembly

15. Resource Revenue Allocation

- Heritage Fund Contributions
- Net Fiscal Benefit to Indigenous Governments

16. Social Service Programs

- Adult Support & Family Violence
- Children & Family Services