

NTWWA AGM 2005 Executive Director Report

By Matthew Hough, P.Eng.

The Northern Territories Water & Waste Association's mandate is:

- The advancement of knowledge in the design, construction, operation, and management of water works, wastewater treatment and disposal works, and solid waste site works;
- The encouragement amongst its members of a friendly exchange of information and experience in an effort to continuously improve the provision of water and sanitation provided to the public; and
- The improvement of the professional status of all personnel engaged in any aspect of the provision of water and sanitation services to the public.

Over the last nine years, the NTWWA has fulfilled its mandate by hosting an annual conference, training operators, and circulating newsletters. This association has provided a forum for a small but indispensable industry in the North. Through representation to the Canadian Water & Wastewater Association (CWWA), the NTWWA has also brought the views and needs of its members to the national stage.

In a climate of improving water and waste regulations and an increased public awareness of the need for the provision of sustainable municipal services, contributions by professionals such as Ron Kent and Bob Phillips have established this association to connect the people who work to achieve these goals on a daily basis.

Today the NTWWA continues to play an important role in the water and waste industry across Nunavut and the Northwest Territories. The NTWWA is a volunteer organization with a Board of Directors who meet via conference call once a month. Administration of the organization is handled by myself and Pearl Benyk, our part time administrator.

The primary focus of the NTWWA continues to be the annual conference. Over the past decade this conference has been held in a variety of places in both territories. I have no doubt that we will continue to enjoy the participation of professionals from all areas of the water and waste sector. The formal exchange of ideas and the informal opportunity to put faces to names and get to know the people who supply, design, and operate key elements of municipal infrastructure across the territories is invaluable.

The annual conference is an event that regular attendees mark in their calendars many months in advance. As it is the practice to alternate between Nunavut and the Northwest Territories, I recommend the conference be held in Yellowknife in 2006.