

WHAT IS MACA DOING?

THE NEW DEAL FOR NWT COMMUNITY GOVERNMENTS

This section of the MACA Update provides information on what MACA is doing to prepare for the New Deal, what will change, and when, and how the change will benefit communities. This information will also help MACA and community governments track progress and will also serve as the basis for MACA to report to community governments on the achievement of activities.

Activities:

MACA will transfer authority for responsibility for community public infrastructure to community governments, and provide capital funding on a formula basis.

What does MACA have to do to make this happen?

- Develop a funding formula to allocate MACA's capital budget to communities
- Establish a stable, predictable funding pot for community infrastructure, separate from the GNWT's overall capital budget
- Develop a policy framework to guide how funding is provided to community governments
- Provide access to NWT community governments to investment pools low-cost borrowing
- Provide project management and capital planning support to communities
- Develop new training programs for community governments and staff
- Conduct an up-to-date assessment of all community infrastructure so community governments have complete information

What will change?

- MACA will no longer make decisions about what facilities get built in communities
- Community governments will make decisions about what facilities are built and set priorities
- Community governments will choose the project management approach that works best for their community
- Community governments will make decisions on project scope, financing and scheduling

How will this benefit communities?

- Communities will have access to a stable, predictable source of funding that can be used as the basis for planning—this will allow community governments to borrow to finance infrastructure projects
- Projects that are community priorities will be built when the communities want them
- Communities will have more flexibility in financing projects, entering into partnerships, and changing project plans

When will this happen?

- Between the fall of 2006 and April 2007, MACA will be working with each community to prepare the communities' first capital investment plans.
- Partial capital funding will be provided in April 2007.
- Full capital funding will begin in April 2008 and continue each year after