

DECLARING A STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

FOR NWT LOCAL AUTHORITIES



WHAT IS A STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY?

A State of Local Emergency (SOLE) is a formal declaration that community governments (local authorities) make when it is determined additional powers are needed to take immediate action in an emergency.

WHY DECLARE A SOLE?

Community governments would consider declaring a SOLE to use additional powers they wouldn't usually have, to respond to an emergency. Examples could include:

- Taking over use of vehicles or property to respond to the emergency
- Causing an evacuation of all or a portion of the community and restricting access to a disaster area
- Authorizing qualified individuals to provide services or aid in the emergency response



WHO DECLARES A SOLE?

A community government can declare a SOLE under the *NWT Emergency Management Act* (EMA).



WHERE DOES A SOLE TAKE PLACE?

A SOLE takes place in the community where it is declared. It can include all or parts of the community. For example, if a flood only affects a certain portion of one community, a local emergency can be declared for the affected location specifically.



HOW IS A SOLE DECLARED?

Community governments by Council resolution. Once the declaration is made community government must then inform community residents and the Minister of the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA) through the MACA Regional Office. It must explain what the emergency is and where it is happening.



- Valid for seven days
- Terminated at any time, or renewed as needed
- Requires public notification of declaration, renewal, or cancellation
- Does not implement the GNWT Disaster Assistance Policy or grant access to federal or territorial funding. Automatically activates the community emergency plan
- Not required in order to request GNWT assistance