



NWT  
**RECREATION  
& PARKS**  
ASSOCIATION



**NWT Recreation and Parks Association**

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Recreation for Life!



# 2018-2021 STRATEGIC PLAN

The NWT Recreation & Parks Association (NWTRPA) was established in 1989 to promote the benefits of recreation. Since its inception, the NWTRPA has focused on advocacy, training, professional development, information sharing, and networking. Directed by a volunteer Board of Directors, the organization has evolved to become the leading recreation organization in the NWT.



# Goals

## Vision

We envision a territory where everyone has access to recreation programs and spaces that foster healthy families, strong cultures, and vibrant communities.

## Mission statement

The NWTRPA promotes recreation by supporting leaders, communities, and partners through training, advocacy, and networking.

## Values

- We believe RECREATION is ESSENTIAL
- We value RESPECTFUL RELATIONS with each other and the land
- We are INCLUSIVE of all peoples, regions, and cultures
- We value DIVERSITY of people and perspectives
- We work in COLLABORATION and PARTNERSHIP with others
- We work as a TEAM
- We are DEPENDABLE and ACCOUNTABLE
- We value CREATIVITY and are OPEN to new ideas
- We are COMMITTED to LEARNING

The NWTRPA is working with intention to advance **decolonization and reconciliation** through its work, workplaces, and relationships.

- Invest in ongoing staff and Board development related to recreation, colonialism, decolonization, and reconciliation.
- Make decolonization/reconciliation a standing agenda item at all face-to-face Board meetings to consider progress on these strategies and identify future actions.
- Review and update NWTRPA programs to advance decolonization/reconciliation (offerings, content, delivery, protocols).
- Enhance understanding of the relationship between colonialism and recreation in the NWT and advocate for decolonization/reconciliation in the recreation profession.
- Develop/sustain reciprocal relationships with Indigenous governments/organizations that respect community priorities and ways of working.

The NWTRPA is a vital resource for and champion of **community-directed on the land programs**.

- Play a vital role in the NWT On The Land Collaborative.
- Facilitate diverse training opportunities for on the land leaders that reflect local priorities and needs.
- Facilitate the sharing of traditional knowledge and other resources for on the land leaders.
- Provide and/or support opportunities for on the land leaders to connect.
- Celebrate and promote on the land activities and programming.

The NWTRPA is a **valued organization**, driven by community and membership, and committed to **ethical governance and management**.

- Take steps that reduce our negative impacts on the land.
- Grow, diversify, engage, and sustain our membership.
- Diversify revenue sources.
- Increase recognition and value of NWTRPA.
- Increase Board engagement and involvement in policy decisions.
- Enhance staff capacity.
- Focus on and invest in strategic priorities.

NWT leaders, communities, and NWTRPA partners **understand recreation** and recognize that it is **essential to healthy minds, bodies, families, and communities**.

- Develop a culturally appropriate definition of recreation or add Northern context to the National definition of recreation.
- Increase the general public's knowledge of what recreation is and why it is essential to healthy minds, bodies, families, and communities through targeted promotion.
- Collect, create, and share tools for members, partners, and others to use in promoting and advocating for recreation in their communities and regions.
- Advance the relevant priorities of the National Recreation Framework through advocating for investment in recreation by the GNWT.
- Recognize and celebrate innovative, inspiring, and diverse people and programs from across the life course.

More NWT residents of all ages are able to choose **active ways of living** because of improvements in the **accessibility, diversity, and quality of community-based recreation programs**.

- Support the development of community-based fitness programs.
- Increase the interest in and capacity to deliver and sustain safe, engaging, and culturally appropriate recreational programming for older adults.
- Promote and support inclusive community recreation events through funding and the creation, collection, and sharing of resources.
- Promote active living by organizing a sustainable Walk to Tuk.

The NWTRPA is the leading recreation **training organization in the NWT**

- Continue to invest in and grow Recreation North as the standard in recreation leader training.
- Continue to invest in and grow HIGH FIVE® as the quality standard for children's recreation programs.
- Offer training events and resources that meet the needs of NWTRPA members, partners, and communities.
- Promote recreation as a career option.
- Improve the facilitation and mentorship skills of NWTRPA program trainers.