

Date: October 21, 2026

Location: Virtual

## Supporting Teams and Building for the Future

The Hockey NWT Board of Directors met on October 21 to review financial planning, approve support for the 2027 Canada Winter Games hockey teams, and receive updates on organizational priorities and upcoming events.

### **Supporting Team NWT**

The Board approved funding for the 2027 Canada Winter Games Teams.

### **Financial Planning**

Updated financial reports are expected at a future meeting. The Board also reviewed the intended use of restricted bingo funds. These funds support Canada Winter Games and Arctic Winter Games participation, with eligible expenses including travel, accommodation, honoraria and per diems, particularly for youth travelling from smaller communities.

### **Leadership and Governance**

Hockey NWT received nine applications for the Executive Director position and shortlisted five candidates. A five-person panel, including two external representatives, two Board members and the President, will conduct interviews. A decision is anticipated in early November.

Work is also continuing on terms of reference for Hockey NWT committees and the future recruitment of Board and external committee members. No new updates were presented on the bylaws or Sport Integrity Policy Suite.

### **Hockey Helps the Homeless**

The Board received an update on Hockey Helps the Homeless, planned for February 18 to 21, 2027.

Current plans include youth practices, an alumni game and free FanFest at the Multiplex, and an evening fundraising gala at the Chateau Nova. Confirmed alumni and special guests include Adam Graves, Luke Gazdic, Ben Scrivens and Ron MacLean.

Beneficiary partners are expected to be identified by the end of October. Proceeds will support organizations addressing homelessness and food insecurity in Yellowknife and across the Northwest Territories. Details regarding possible support for Canada Winter Games athletes and volunteer participation will be confirmed as planning continues.

## **Operations and Identity**

Hockey NWT is coordinating additional cleanup and organization at the ARCAN facility, including work in the storage containers and possible participation by the Canada Winter Games teams. Items no longer needed may be included in a future garage sale.

The Board also reviewed the new Hockey NWT brand identity process. Proposed logo directions and a feedback questionnaire will be shared with Board members, Canada Winter Games athletes and coaches.

Hockey NWT has also secured ownership of the hockeynwt.ca domain, strengthening the organization's independent digital presence.

## **Safe Sport and Education**

The Board discussed the transition to Hockey Canada's Shift Forward education program and the different stages of implementation among minor hockey associations.

Hockey NWT will continue working with Hockey Canada and local associations to clarify requirements and develop a coordinated implementation plan. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

## **Looking Ahead**

The coming weeks will focus on:

- Preparing the Canada Winter Games teams and December camps.
- Completing the draft operational budget and updated financial reports.
- Interviewing shortlisted Executive Director candidates.
- Collecting feedback on the proposed Hockey NWT brand identity.
- Developing committee terms of reference and recruiting members.
- Continuing preparations for Hockey Helps the Homeless.
- Working with Hockey Canada and minor hockey associations on Shift Forward.
- Continuing the cleanup and organization of the ARCAN facility.

The next Hockey NWT Board meeting will take place virtually on November 18, 2026, at 7:00 pm NWT time.

Hockey NWT thanks its Board members, volunteers, coaches, officials, athletes, families and partners for their continued commitment to strengthening hockey across the Northwest Territories.