

Regional Wellness Council and Tłı̨chǫ Community Services Agency Chairs

Chair, Beaufort Delta Regional Wellness Council

Ms. Ethel-Jean Gruben was most recently appointed by the Minister on January 2, 2024, for a 2.5-year term. She resides in the Town of Inuvik on the east channel of the Mackenzie River delta. Mrs. Gruben previously served six consecutive years in this role from 2016 to 2022.

Mrs. Gruben has a background in human resources, and enjoys working for the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation. She is active in the Inuvialuit cultural community and serves on the Environmental Impact Review Board over-seeing environmental reviews of development projects within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region.



Chair, Sahtu Regional Wellness Council

Ms. Gina Dolphus was most recently appointed by the Minister on January 1, 2023, for a 1.5-year term. She lives in the community of Délı̨nę on the western shore of Great Bear Lake. Ms. Dolphus previously served six consecutive years in this role from 2016 to 2022.

Ms. Dolphus has a background in social work, and is currently a member of the Department's Indigenous Advisory Body and a Councillor for the Délı̨nę Got'ı̨nę Government.



Chair, Dehcho Regional Wellness Council

Mr. Muaz Hassan was appointed by the Minister for an initial term of three years on August 1, 2023. He lives in the Village of Fort Simpson, at the confluence of the Liard and Mackenzie Rivers.

Mr. Hassan is a businessman and entrepreneur, and has served as a Councillor with the Village of Fort Simpson. He is also a member of the Dehcho Divisional Education Council.



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Chair, Yellowknife Regional Wellness Council

This position is currently vacant.

Expecting appointment soon.

Chair, Fort Smith Regional Wellness Council

Ms. Dianna Korol was appointed by the Minister for an initial three-year term on August 1, 2024. She lives in the Town of Fort Smith, just a few kilometres from the NWT-Alberta border north of Wood Buffalo National Park.

Ms. Korol is retired from a career in health and social services, and is a former Councillor for the Town of Fort Smith (2021-2024).



Chair, Hay River Regional Wellness Council

Ms. Barb Hart was appointed as Chair by the Minister on August 1, 2025, for a three-year term. She lives in the Hamlet of Enterprise, which lies south of Hay River between Great Slave Lake and the NWT-Alberta border.

Retired from a 35-year career in health care, Barb came North in 2012 and remains active on the Hamlet Council and has been a strong advocate for communities, representing a voice to speak on their behalf.



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Vice Chair, Tłı̨chǫ Community Services Agency

Mr. Alex Nitsiza is originally from Whatì, and currently resides in Yellowknife.

Over the course of his career, Alex has worked in Yellowknife for a decade in the mining recorder office and the GNWT Department of Finance before getting a position with the federal government based in his hometown of Whatì. Afterward, he was president of a successful family business in Whatì for over 20 years. He has also been elected to many diversified community and regional positions.

