

THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, TOURISM AND INVESTMENT
TRADITIONAL ECONOMIES



a) Local Wildlife Committee (LWC) Funding - \$258,000

Purpose

To provide financial assistance to organizations recognized by the Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment, (ITI), as representing the interests of hunters and trappers within a particular community.

Eligibility

All active associations in the Northwest Territories (NWT) that are recognized by the Minister of ITI as representing the interest of hunters and trappers within the particular community.

b) Community Harvesters Assistance Program (CHAP) - \$473,000

Purpose

This Program provides General Hunting Licence (GHL) holders with fuel, supplies, and capital assistance, through LWCs.

Eligibility

Recognized LWCs. In the absence of a recognized LWC, the Minister of ITI may allocate assistance directly to holders of General Hunting Licences.

The GNWT has increased the budget for CHAP by \$120,000 for the fiscal year 2007/08 and beyond.

c) Western Harvesters Assistance Program (WHAP)



Purpose

In June 1994, the GNWT approved conditional contributions to regional Aboriginal organizations to assist and promote renewable resource harvesting. The Program was modelled on the Nunavut Fund, under which the GNWT contributed \$15 million matching funds over five years. In the west, \$15 million has been allocated regionally using the GHL database.

Eligibility

Regional or community-based Aboriginal groups showing the active support of their constituent membership may apply. Funding levels are based upon the number of GHLs in the affected communities.

Distribution of the \$15 million was originally established in 1994 as per the following table:

Inuvialuit	\$2,196,428
Gwich'in	\$2,173,928
Sahtu	\$1,918,928
Dogrib	\$1,918,928
Dehcho	\$2,218,928
South Slave	\$2,001,428
Metis	\$2,571,428
Total	\$14,999,996

d) Genuine Mackenzie Valley Fur Program (GMVF) \$345,000

Purpose

To provide NWT hunters and trappers with access to the financial resources necessary to participate in the fur industry.

Eligibility

Individual holders of a valid NWT General Hunting or Trapping Licences who are resident in the NWT are eligible.

Sub Programs

a. Advance

The GMVF Advance Program provides guaranteed advances to trappers delivering prime fur for sale through the GMVF Program. Advances are based largely on anticipated market performance.

b. Prime Fur Bonus

If the trapper's fur is sold for the same value or more than the advance, the trapper is entitled to receive a Prime Fur Bonus. The bonus recognizes that the fur is in good condition and has been well handled by the trapper.

c. Fall Grub Stake

A trapper must harvest 20 or more pelts, to a maximum of 200 pelts of any species in the GMVF Program to receive a payment (minimum \$100; maximum of \$1,000 per trapper).

The GMVF Program also pays for all commissions, shipping and handling fees for fur shipped to auction, as well as any shortfall between the guaranteed prices and the actual auction house selling price.

The GMVF Program is supported through services of Fur Harvesters Auctions Incorporated under terms of a service contract with ITI.

e) Humane Trap Development - \$5,000

Purpose

To support the development of efficient, acceptable, humane traps. The design of humane traps for use by the trapping industry is key to maintaining access to international markets. Any new trap design that meets the prescribed standards benefits all the people engaged in the industry, and the economy of the NWT in general.

The economic impact arising from the design and implementation of traps that meet standards as prescribed by international agreements is particularly important to trappers who stand to gain from the sale of their fur. International markets are key to attracting high prices. The continued investment and improvement in trap design better secures access to these markets.

Eligibility

Residents of the NWT who have developed a prototype of an acceptable humane trapping device or who have developed improvements to existing trapping devices to make them more efficient and humane.

f) Take a Kid Trapping Program

Take a Kid Trapping Programs have been offered since 2001/2002 to school age youth. The Program aims to orient young people to traditional life skills.

Programs that expose youth to hunting, trapping, fishing and outdoor survival are offered often during the spring of each year in schools throughout the NWT. Usually, Programs are delivered by GNWT staff, along with a GMVF certified instructor, in collaboration with school teachers/administrators. Recently, community/regionally based third party agencies have become more involved in the delivery of Programs.

In 2005/06 the Minister of Youth, the Honourable Michael McLeod agreed to cost share delivery of the Program.

g) Support to the Fur Industry - \$15,000

Purpose

To provide support for promotion of the fur industry.

Eligibility

Organizations recognized by the Minister of ITI as having an interest in the promotion of the fur industry.

h) Hunters and Trappers' Disaster Compensation - \$15,000

Purpose

To assist harvesters who sustain substantial financial losses due to unavoidable natural disasters except for forest fires.

Eligibility

Residents of the NWT who:

Hold a GHL or are land claim beneficiaries;

- Are regularly and actively engaged in renewable resource harvesting activities; and
- Earned at least 25 percent of gross income from renewable resource harvesting for the period of 12 months immediately prior to the incident.

Compensation will not be made for losses due to carelessness or poor judgment.

Shares of Program proceeds directed to residents of the Sahtu:

a) LWC:

In the Sahtu, funds for this Program have historically been blended into the CHAP.

b) CHAP

The following figures below reflects blended payments involving both the CHAP and LWC Program made to communities in the SAHTU in 2006/07. The figure also provides for projected payments to the same communities reflecting the increase in budget for the CHAP.

Community	2006/07	2007/08
Colville Lake	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 13,350.00
Déline	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 29,205.00
Fort Good Hope	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 31,205.00
Norman Wells	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 12,915.00
Tulita	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 28,915.00
Total	\$ 95,000.00	\$ 115,590.00

c) GMVFP

The following tables show total Program activity for 2005/06 for all of the NWT as well as for Sahtu. Results are based upon the trapping season. The 2006/07 trapping season concludes on or about June 30, 2007.

Results for 2005/06:

Total Value of fur sold	Total Value unsold	Total Pelts	Prime Fur Bonus	Grubstake Payments	Total Value to NWT Trappers
\$1,400,605	\$21,310	23,920	\$304,178	\$96,985	\$1,823,078

Results for Sahtu Residents for 2005/06:

Total Value of fur sold	Total Value unsold	Total Pelts	Prime Fur Bonus	Grubstake Payments	Total Value to NWT Trappers
\$324,829		3194	\$71,727	\$14,265	\$410,821

d) Western Harvesters Assistance Program

Funds Distributed in the Sahtu:

Community	Funds	Years
Colville Lake	\$99,000	1996-2006
Déline	\$668,000	1995-1998
Fort Good Hope	\$652,000	1995-1998
Norman Wells	\$160,000	1995-1999
Tulita	\$340,000	1997
	\$1,919,000	

Program commitments for the WHAP for Sahtu have been paid out in full.

e) Humane Trap Development - \$5,000

Only one application for funding has been received for this Program in the last five years. The Sahtu Renewable Resources Board applied for and received funding in 2006/07 in the amount of \$2,750 in support of the certification of the Sauvegeau Quick Kill Trap # 2001-6.

f) Support to the Fur Industry - \$15,000

Funds from this Program are paid annually to the Fur Institute of Canada in support research and Program development in support of trapping in Canada.

g) Disaster Compensation Program:

In 2005/06 total Program payments amounted to \$33,000. Payments to Sahtu residents amounted to \$13,500.

In 2006/07 total Program payments made amounted to \$112,474.00. There were no claims approved for residents in the Sahtu.

h) Take a Kid Trapping Program:

In 2005/06 the total Program paid out \$227,000 across the NWT. In terms of the Sahtu there were four community initiatives funded through the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board for a total of \$20,000. In addition to these initiatives \$20,000 worth of traps and gear were purchased for distribution in the Sahtu through the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

For 2006/07 the total Program payments to Regions amounted to \$166,000 with \$42,000 directed to the Sahtu. In the Sahtu 5 initiatives were implemented through the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board.

Sales results and regional percentage of sales:

Regional Summary

01 FORT SMITH	\$157,487.82	20%
02 NORTH SLAVE	\$186,702.82	23%
03 SAHTU	\$243,723.41	31%
04 INUVIK	\$89,591.57	11%
05 FORT SIMPSON	\$117,551.25	15%
	<u>\$795,056.87</u>	