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COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

DOING BUSINESS DIFFERENTLY

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COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITIES TO:

- Identify local issues and plan to solve them in a local way**
- Take responsibility for the design and delivery of programs and services**
- Take control of GNWT resources and use them more effectively and flexibly**



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITIES TO:

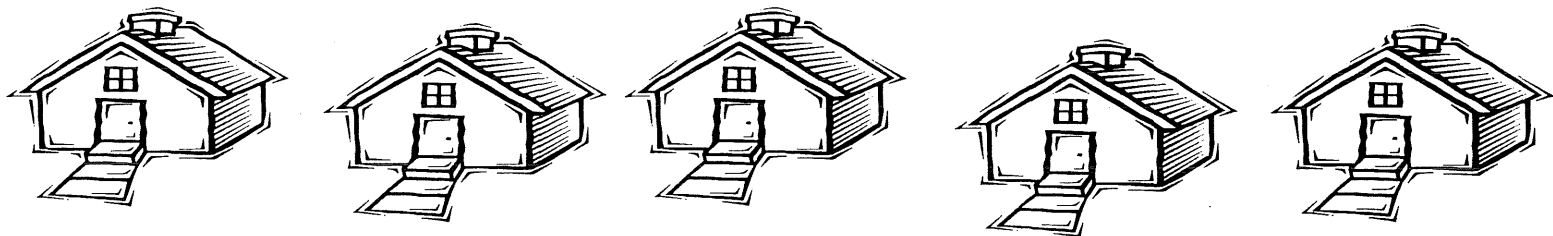
- Further develop their planning processes to take advantage of opportunities**
- Assess their capacity to take on more programs and services**
- Increase accountability to local residents**
- Improve accountability to GNWT**



WHY EMPOWER COMMUNITIES?

COMMUNITIES:

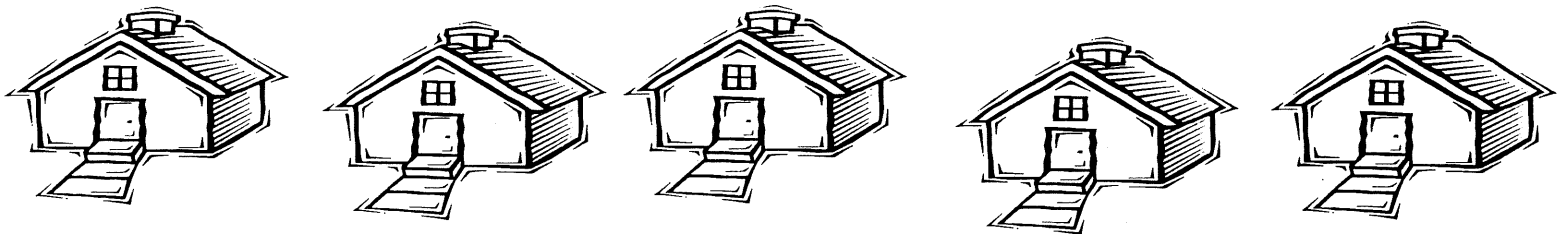
- have been asking for more control over local programs for many years
- can do more to solve local issues with the same amount of money
- have the ability, experience and expertise to do more



WHY EMPOWER COMMUNITIES?

COMMUNITIES:

- need more flexibility to design and deliver programs and to use local resources to solve local problems
- will get more authority as a result of division, constitutional development and self-government negotiations



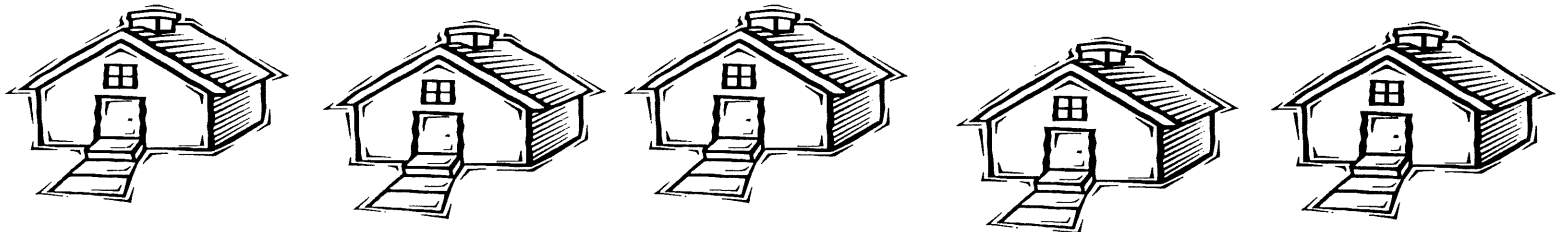
WHAT WILL THE GNWT DO?

- **Work with communities to plan for more responsibility and the future**
- **Develop tools to help communities assess their ability**
- **Work with communities to identify training necessary to organize for, design and deliver programs/services**
- **Provide information on program and service resources**



WHAT WILL THE GNWT DO?

- Provide adequate levels of funding through multi-year block funding, within fiscal limitations of GNWT
- Transfer ownership and/or maintenance of capital assets
- Clearly define community and GNWT responsibilities
- Amend, eliminate or create new legislation



WHAT WILL COMMUNITIES DO?

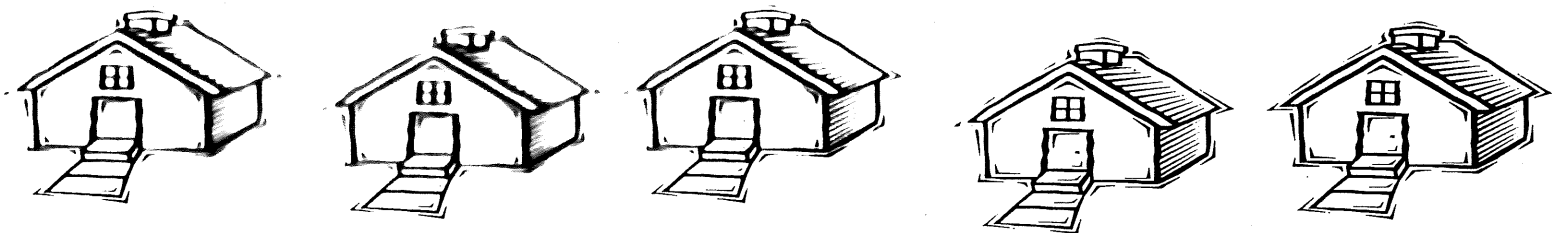
- Say they are interested in working toward empowerment
- Complete an assessment with the help of the GNWT
- Involve all residents in deciding goals and priorities
- Develop a plan based on what residents want to do
- Decide what programs or services or infrastructure they wish to take over



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

•**Q:** Do communities have to take part in community empowerment?

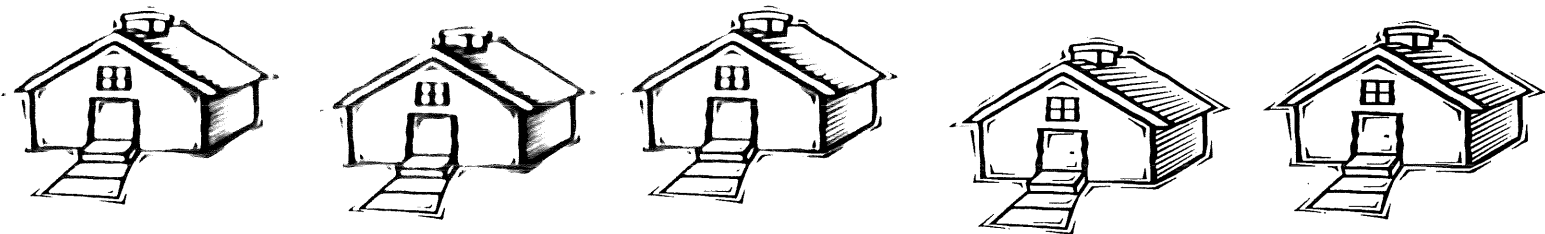
•**A:** No, but they are strongly encouraged to do so in order to make the best use of the fewer resources available. The GNWT cannot afford to keep doing things the way it has in the past.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

•**Q:** Will communities be able to use money from one program in another e.g move money from infrastructure to human services?

•**A:** Yes, under block funding agreements, communities may use resources in the way they feel is best. Expected results in areas of territorial interest (as outlined in the agreements) will have to be delivered



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **Q:** Will communities be able to keep surpluses from one year to use the next?
- **A:** Yes, as long as all territorial requirements are met. Communities will also be responsible for deficits resulting from over-spending.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

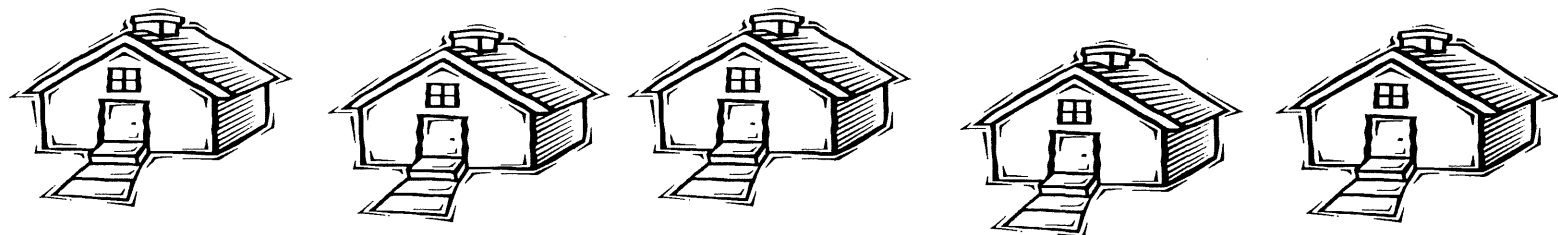
- **Q:** Who will help communities do the work?
- **A:** Municipal and Community Affairs is the lead department but staff from all departments will support and work with communities to plan and work toward their goals.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

•**Q:** Isn't this just a way for the government to save money?

•**A:** There is less money available. This is a way for communities to take control and, if necessary, decide for themselves where cuts will be made.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **Q:** How long is all of this going to take?
- **A:** Communities will decide the pace.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

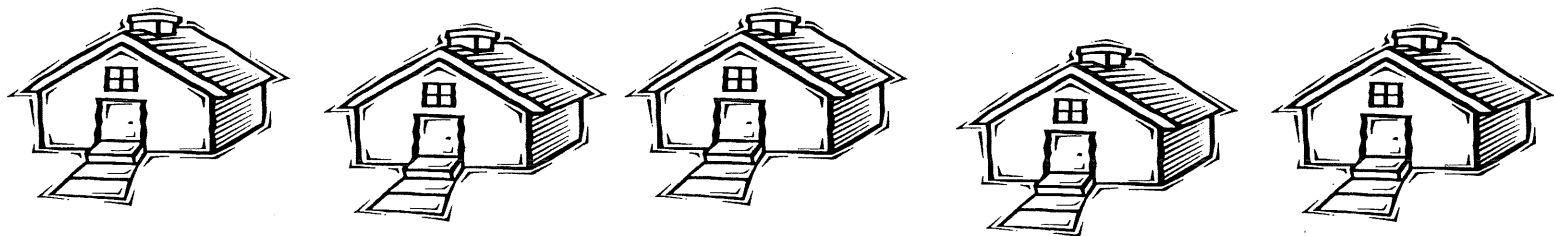
•**Q:** Is community empowerment the same as self-government?

•**A:** No, but there is a relationship. If a community becomes as empowered as it can be, the negotiation of self-government can concentrate on specific aboriginal issues and perhaps on gaining even greater authority.



WHAT'S NEXT?

- It's up to the community
- Think about it for a while?
- Contact Regional MACA or other GNWT staff and say you want more information?
- Hold public meetings?
- Start planning?
- Do a self assessment?
- Request a transfer?



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