



April 16, 2020

Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce  
#21 4802 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 1C4

Dear Mrs. Everett and Mr. Syer,

**Re: Support for Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce's Municipal, Territorial and Federal Recommendations**

The NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines would like to express our support for your recommendations to the City of Yellowknife, Government of the Northwest Territories and Government of Canada.

In our April 6, 2020 letter to Northern Affairs Minister Vandal, we recommended changes to the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy that would allow active mining operations, exploration and development companies with active exploration programs and mineral industry service companies to be eligible for the wage subsidy program, regardless of the 30% revenue shortfall requirement. In particular, we support your recommendation to waive this requirement for all NWT businesses.

A number of your territorial recommendations will directly benefit the mineral and exploration industries. For example, an amendment to the *Employment Standards Act* will provide our members with the ability to recall staff that have been laid off because of suspended operations as a result of COVID-19. This recommendation will also ensure we have a strong workforce once we enter post-pandemic economic recovery.

In addition, your recommendation to waive WSCC premiums for 2020 along with your municipal recommendations to defer property taxes and waste/wastewater payments, will benefit our membership by providing cash flow relief during this time of crisis.

The northern minerals industry will play a critically important part in the North's economic recovery and we urge all levels of government to act on these recommendations quickly.

Yours truly,

**NWT & NUNAVUT CHAMBER OF MINES**

Ken Armstrong  
President