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Department of Municipal and Community Affairs Cost-Shared Water and Sewer Infrastructure Funding

1. Directive

The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA) may provide funding to tax-based community governments to assist in the replacement or construction of water, sewer or solid waste site infrastructure.

2. Principles

The Department of MACA will adhere to the following principles when implementing this Payment Directive:

- (1) Residents of the Northwest Territories are entitled to basic water and sewage services to safeguard their health.
- (2) Tax-based community governments should exercise full authority and responsibility for the construction or maintenance of water and sewage infrastructure within their communities.

3. Scope

The funding associated with this Payment Directive is limited to the provision of water, sewer and solid waste site infrastructure replacement or construction in tax-based communities for the 2004-2005 through 2008-2009 fiscal years only.

4. Definitions

The following terms apply to this Policy:

<u>Infrastructure Funding</u> – Funds allocated to community governments to maintain infrastructure required to provide municipal services.

<u>Eligible Community Governments</u> – Are the municipal taxing authority communities as listed under Schedule A.

<u>Water, Sewer and Solid Waste Infrastructure</u> – Includes, intake and associated pumping facilities, water treatment facilities, reservoirs, distribution

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pipes (mains and laterals), heating and circulation systems, sewage treatment facilities, lift stations, force mains, collectors (mains and laterals), and solid waste disposal sites. Storm sewer systems are not eligible for funding.

5. Authority and Accountability

(1) General

This payment directive is issued in accordance with Financial Management Board (FMB) direction to delegate to Ministers authority to establish grants and contribution programs. Authority and accountability is further defined in Financial Administration Manual directives 401, 401-1, 401-2, and 401-4 and as follows:

(a) Minister

The Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs (the Minister) is accountable to the Financial Management Board for the implementation of this Payment Directive.

(b) Deputy Minister

The Deputy Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs (the Deputy Minister) is accountable to the Minister and responsible to the Minister for the administration of this Payment Directive.

(2) Specific

(a) Minister

The Minister may:

- (i) approve changes to this Payment Directive;
- (ii) approve grants or contributions according to the terms and conditions outlined in this Payment Directive; and



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(iii) delegate the authority to approve grants and contributions to the Deputy Minister.

(b) Deputy Minister

The Deputy Minister has the following authority and accountability, which he or she may delegate to the Director responsible or to Regional Superintendents:

- (i) determines the need for assistance based on consultations with municipal governments and/or department officials; and
- (ii) makes recommendations to the Minister regarding approval of requests for Cost-Shared Water and Sewer Infrastructure Funding.

6. Provisions

(1) Eligibility

Community governments listed in Schedule A are eligible for Infrastructure Funding under this Payment Directive.

(2) Criteria

(a) Funding may be provided to assist with the construction or replacement of water, sewer or solid waste infrastructure.

(3) Applications

- (a) Cost-Shared Water and Sewer Infrastructure Funding will be allocated through a Contribution Agreement.
- (b) Applicants must account for the funding in accordance with the Financial and Audit Reporting Standards issued by the Minister.



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(c) Applicants are required to invest an amount equal to MACA's funding over the five year period of this Payment Directive in their water, sewer or solid waste systems.

7. Financial Resources

Financial resources required under this Payment Directive are conditional on approval of funds in the Main Estimates by the Legislative assembly and there being a sufficient unencumbered balance in the appropriate activity for the fiscal year for which the funds would be required.

8. Prerogative of the Minister

Nothing in this Payment Directive shall in any way be construed to limit the prerogative of the Minister to make decisions or take actions respecting grants or contributions. In this regard, the Minister may approve exception to this Payment Directive. Any exception will require the Minister's written approval.

Henry Zoe		
Minister		
Original Signed	April 2004	
Date		



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Appendix A

ELIGIBLE COMMUNITY GOVERNMENTS

City of Yellowknife

Town of Fort Smith
Town of Hay River
Town of Inuvik
Town of Norman Wells

Village of Fort Simpson