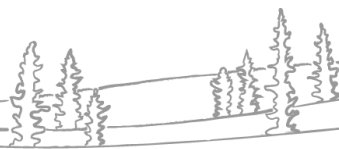




GNWT Airports Safety Management Systems

Newsletter #14 – January 2025



Message from the Safety Management Systems (SMS) Coordinator



*Kevin Rowe,
Safety Management Systems Coordinator*

There has been a significant change in our SMS Program with the departure of the previous SMS Manager. As SMS Coordinator, I would like to assure you that Air, Marine and Safety has been working diligently to fill the Manager position. In addition, Air Safety and Security and all our Airports continue to meet the requirements under the Canadian Aviation Regulations (CARs) and GNWT's Standards and Guidelines.

Most of you are already familiar with the staff here in Air Safety and Security. In addition to

myself, there is Jason Brown, Mike Handley, Hareg Omer, Ralph Sanguetz, and Meag Shouhda. While we all have different areas of responsibilities, we work together as a team and as such we have sufficient background knowledge to be able to assist any Regional Airport Manager in addressing any issues that might arise.

We are all working towards the same goal: providing the travelling public and the air carriers with a safe and reliable air transportation service here in the North. We ask that everyone bring forward any concerns or recommendations they may have.

Every incident signals a problem with staff, procedures, or equipment. We need to investigate, identify the issue, and take action.

Whether you are a traveller, an airline or government employee, or a contractor, please contact us if you observe a safety hazard or if you have a safety concern.

The various ways to reach us are:

- **Email:** airportsincidents@gov.nt.ca
- **Online form:** Incident, Hazard, or Suggestion Reporting Form
- **Hard copy form:** Incident, Hazard, or Suggestion Reporting Forms are located on the SMS Centres in the air terminal buildings.
- **Phone:** Call the 24/7 toll free number: 1-877-989-1400

Your correspondence will be acknowledged, the concern you identified will be reviewed, and we will notify you of the results of the investigation. If you report anonymously, the results of the investigation will be communicated through either the following SMS Newsletter or an SMS Bulletin. Thank you for helping to keep our airports safe.

Airport Maintenance Training

Jason Brown and Ralph Sanguéz, as Airport Operations and Training Officers, will continue to provide high-quality instruction to community members as required.

Conducting Airport Maintenance Training in the communities has allowed us to focus and tailor the training on specific sites to assist in the retention of information.

Regional Winter Maintenance Courses will be run in:

- Nahanni Butte;
- Jean Marie River; and
- Possibly Déline.

Airport Live Exercises

All Live Exercises for the 2024-25 fiscal year have been conducted.

Quality Assurance Audits

Quality Assurance Audits will continue to be conducted by Air Safety and Security staff during the fiscal year. The audits will include a review of airport plans, staff interviews and onsite inspections to verify that plans, procedures, inspections, training, and programs are in place and are being followed.

Quality Assurance Audits are currently scheduled as follows:

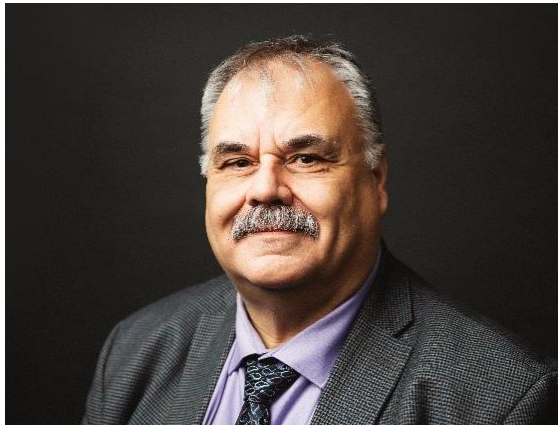
2024-2025

- Fort Simpson;
- Fort Smith;
- Gamet;
- Łutsel'ę;
- Wekweèt; and
- Whatì

2025-2026

- Aklavik;
- Fort McPherson;
- Inuvik;
- Paulatuk;
- Sachs Harbour;
- Tuktoyaktuk;
- Ulukhaktok; and
- Yellowknife

Message from the Accountable Executive



*Stephen R. Loutitt,
Deputy Minister
Department of Infrastructure, and SMS Accountable Executive*

I would like to sincerely thank all our dedicated staff, both GNWT and contracted, for the outstanding work they do through their diligence and professionalism that continues to keep our airports operating safely and efficiently.

At every level, you all have continued to advance our SMS Program into the excellent Program it is today. You, the staff at all levels, continue to demonstrate your commitment to safety in protecting workers, passengers, and visitors through promoting a culture of safety.

Please continue to think proactively about safety and to pass on any ideas or comments to your supervisors, or regional airport managers, to support the SMS Program and to enhance airport safety.

Our Airports Safety Program at all our airports is dependent on the vital part each one of you plays in being observant of hazards and providing your ideas for enhancing safety. These are a critical part of our safety culture and continue to help keep airports safe for everyone.

Although our work to promote a culture of safety will never end, I am proud to be part of an industry where safety is ingrained in everything we do.

Safety Objectives, Goals, and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for 2024-25

SMS Program Safety Objectives for 2024-25

- Provide a safe and healthy work environment for all Employees, Business Partners, and the Public.
- Promote Safety Awareness, Compliance, and Education to all.
- Identify and eliminate Hazardous conditions.

Goals and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

- Complete SMS Investigation, Risk Assessment, Short Term CAPs and follow-ups within 90 days.
- Document and complete seasonal inspection follow up items for remote sites within a fiscal year.
- No more than 3 incursions in two areas:
 - All but Construction Contractor; and
 - Construction Contractor.
- Complete all mandatory Training listed in SMS Manual.
- Verify, update, and produce AVOP files to HQ.

Questions, comments, or concerns?

Contact us:

By Mail:

SMS Manager
Air, Marine and Safety Division
Department of Infrastructure
Government of the Northwest Territories
Box 1320
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

By Phone:

1-877-989-1400

By Email:

airportsincidents@gov.nt.ca

By Fax:

1-867-873-0297

