



PROPOSED REGULATIONS TO FULFILL THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES *MINERAL RESOURCES ACT*

PROJET DE RÈGLEMENT POUR METTRE EN ŒUVRE
*LA LOI SUR LES RESSOURCES MINÉRALES
DES TERRITOIRES DU NORD-OUEST*

Le présent document contient la traduction française de l'introduction.

Government of Northwest Territories Gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest

K'áhshó got'íne xadā k'é hederí ʔedjhtl'é yeriníwē nı dé dúle.
Dene Kádá

ʔerihł'ís Dēne Sų́lné yatı t'a huts'elkēr xa beyáyatı theʔą ʔat'e, nuwe ts'ēn yółtı.
Dēne Sų́lné

Edı gondı dehgáh got'je zhaté k'éé edat'éh enahddhē nıde naxets'é edahlı.
Dene Zhaté

Jii gwandak izhii ginjik vat'atr'ijāhch'uu zhit yinothtan jı', diits'āt ginohkhii.
Dinjii Zhu' Ginjik

Uvanittuaq ilitchurisukupku Inuvialuktun, ququaqluta.
Inuvialuktun

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Inuktitut

Hapkua titiqqat pijumagupkit Inuinnaqtun, uvaptinnut hivajarlutit.
Inuinnaqtun

kīspin ki nitawihtīn ē nīhīyawihk ōma ācimōwin, tipwāsinān.
nēhiyawēwin

Tłıchq yatı k'èè. Dı wegodi newq dè, gots'o gonede.
Tłıchq

Indigenous Languages
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Introduction

In 2014, the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) inherited the responsibilities for mineral resource administration from the federal government through the enactment of the **Northwest Territories Devolution Act**. While this transfer marked a significant shift in governmental oversight, the **administration of mineral tenure**—spanning from exploration and discovery through mine development, construction, operation, and eventual closure and remediation—has remained largely unchanged for decades.

Upon devolution, the existing **federal Northwest Territories Mining Regulations** were mirrored and adopted under GNWT jurisdiction. These regulations are now administered by the GNWT in **collaboration with Indigenous governments**, as set out in the **2014 Intergovernmental Agreement on Lands and Resources Management**. This agreement established a framework for cooperation and coordination on matters related to land and resource management, while fully respecting the autonomy and decision-making authority of each government involved.

Since then, a collaborative process has been underway to modernize the regulatory regime. The **Mineral Resources Act (MRA)**, passed in 2019 by the Legislative Assembly of the NWT, provides the foundation for this transformation. The accompanying summary of proposed **Mineral Resources Regulations**, developed through extensive collaboration, are designed to implement the goals of the MRA and reflect the values and priorities of residents, communities, and Indigenous governments.

As the NWT moves forward, the **exploration and mining environment will undergo significant change**. The new regulatory approach aims to reflect **global best practices**, while aligning with the

unique environmental, social, and economic context of the territory. The modernized regime seeks to support responsible development, promote sustainable land use, and ensure that the benefits of mineral resources are shared equitably among all people in the Northwest Territories.

The mutually shared *MRA* goals, as outlined in the purpose section of the *MRA*, are to:

1. regulate mineral interests efficiently, effectively and in a transparent manner;
2. support the economy of the Northwest Territories;
3. realize benefits from mineral development for Indigenous governments and organizations, communities and the people of the Northwest Territories;
4. ensure that wealth generated by mineral resources will be used for the benefit of present and future generations of the people of the Northwest Territories;
5. encourage positive relationships between proponents, Indigenous governments and organizations, communities and the Government of NWT;
6. respect Aboriginal and treaty rights;
7. complement the systems for collaborative management of land and natural resources in the Northwest Territories;
8. improve geological knowledge in the territory; and
9. recognize sustainable land use.

Introduction

En 2014, le gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest (GTNO) a hérité des responsabilités du gouvernement fédéral en ce qui a trait à l'administration des ressources minérales lors de l'entrée en vigueur de la ***Loi sur le transfert de responsabilités aux Territoires du Nord-Ouest***. Bien que ce transfert ait marqué un changement important dans la supervision gouvernementale, **l'administration des titres miniers** – qui va de l'exploration et la découverte à l'établissement, la construction et l'exploitation de mines, puis, finalement, à leur fermeture et à la remise en état du site – reste quant à elle largement inchangée depuis des décennies.

Lors du transfert des responsabilités, le ***Règlement sur l'exploitation minière dans les Territoires du Nord-Ouest*** alors en vigueur sous le régime du gouvernement fédéral a été repris et adopté par le GTNO. Ce règlement est désormais appliqué par le GTNO, **en collaboration avec les gouvernements autochtones**, comme décrit dans ***l'Entente intergouvernementale sur la gestion des terres et des ressources de 2014***. Cette entente a permis d'établir un cadre de coopération et de coordination sur les questions liées à la gestion des terres et des ressources, tout en respectant pleinement l'autonomie et le pouvoir décisionnel de chaque gouvernement concerné.

La mise en place d'un processus collaboratif est en cours depuis lors, afin de moderniser le régime réglementaire. La ***Loi sur les ressources minérales (LRM)***, adoptée en 2019 par l'Assemblée législative des TNO, jette les bases de cette transformation. Le résumé du projet de **règlement sur les ressources minérales**, élaboré grâce à une étroite collaboration, est conçu pour concrétiser les objectifs de la LRM et refléter les valeurs et priorités de la population, des collectivités et des gouvernements autochtones.

À mesure que ces travaux progressent aux TNO, le **secteur de l'exploration et de l'exploitation minières connaîtra d'importants changements**. La nouvelle approche réglementaire vise à tenir

compte des **pratiques exemplaires à l'échelle mondiale**, tout en s'alignant sur **le contexte environnemental, social et économique unique** du territoire. Le régime modernisé cherche à soutenir une mise en valeur responsable, à promouvoir une utilisation durable des terres et à garantir que les avantages des ressources minérales soient répartis équitablement dans l'ensemble de la population des Territoires du Nord-Ouest.

Les objectifs communs de la LRM, tels que décrits dans l'article sur l'objet de la LRM, sont les suivants :

1. Régir les intérêts miniers avec efficacité, efficience et transparence;
2. Soutenir l'économie des Territoires du Nord-Ouest;
3. Réaliser les avantages provenant de projets miniers pour les gouvernements et organisations autochtones, les collectivités et la population des Territoires du Nord-Ouest;
4. Assurer que la richesse générée par les ressources minérales profitera aux générations actuelles et futures d'habitants des Territoires du Nord-Ouest;
5. Encourager des relations positives entre les promoteurs, les gouvernements et organisations autochtones, les collectivités et le gouvernement des Territoires du Nord-Ouest;
6. Respecter les droits ancestraux ou issus de traités des peuples autochtones;
7. Complémenter les systèmes de gestion collaborative des terres et des ressources naturelles dans les Territoires du Nord-Ouest;
8. Améliorer la connaissance de la géologie du territoire;
9. Reconnaître l'utilisation durable des terres.

General Regulations

#	Relevant clause from the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i>	Topic	Proposed policy intent for regulations to fulfill the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> clause	What is changing with the retirement of the <i>Northwest Territories Mining Regulations</i>	Why the new or updated regulation is being proposed and how it is suggested to be implemented
1.0	S.47; Production S.40; Cancellation of mineral lease	Relief from Deadlines – NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exceptional circumstances will be considered, including when a person: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> is deceased and has no executor appointed to their estate; becomes incapable of managing their financial affairs; or becomes bankrupt or insolvent. Relief from deadlines may be considered if a person was unable to meet a deadline imposed by the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> or its regulations due to exceptional circumstances beyond their control. The person can apply to the GNWT for relief from a deadline, no less than 30 days before that deadline, by submitting an approved form, along with a non-refundable fee and any other information required by the GNWT. The application must include details of the exceptional circumstances that were beyond the applicant’s control. The Mining Recorder will grant an extension if satisfied with the application. They will issue a notice to the applicant indicating the name of the person receiving the extension, a description of what is being extended, along with the duration and reasons for the extension. The GNWT will not grant an extension if they are not satisfied with the application and they will provide notice to the user with reasons. 	<p>Under the <i>Mining Regulations</i>, a claimholder may apply for a suspension of time for one year if they are unable to do work for reasons beyond their control, or if they are waiting for a public authority to give an authorization or decision.</p> <p>Under the MRA regulations, this will be done under Relief from Deadlines, as suspensions result from non-compliance of the Act or Regulations.</p>	<p>Why?</p> <p>Relief from deadlines applies when a person is unable to comply with a deadline imposed by the Act or regulations due to exceptional circumstances. It suspends MRA or regulation deadlines for a period of time (up to one year). This allows a claim, lease or production licence holder flexibility when unforeseen circumstances arise that may impede the ability to meet a deadline (e.g., waiting for the issuance of a Land Use Permit to be able to complete their work program; the death of a claimholder leading to a transfer of ownership; a wildfire burning in the area of their intended work).</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Thirty (30) days before the deadline, the applicant may submit a request through the new on-line Mineral Administration and Registry System (MAARS) system to the GNWT for relief from a deadline. If the GNWT is satisfied that it is reasonable to grant the relief from the deadline, they shall do so and issue a notice to the applicant indicating the duration of the relief that has been approved.</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An extension cannot last for more than one year. • To obtain further extensions, the person must submit another application. • The GNWT can grant an extension of time, on their own initiative, if they are satisfied that exceptional circumstances exist beyond the control of the person or class of persons, or if it would be unreasonable to require the person or class of persons to apply for an extension. • When relief is granted, any consequences from missing a deadline do not apply. 		
1.1	S.29(5); Notice to Indigenous Governments or Organizations (IGOs)	Notifications – NEW SECTION!	<p>Notifications to Indigenous Governments or Organizations (IGOs) incorporate information-sharing elements for key milestones and activities in a claim life.</p> <p>The following notices apply to Mineral Claims, Mineral Leases and Production License's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice of Application for claim, lease and production licence • Notice of Issuance of claim, lease, production licence • Rejection of application for production licence • Changes to Area • Transfer • Change of Name • Suspensions • Cancellations • Notice of lease renewal <p>The following are specific to the Claim and Lease stages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice of Intended Work <p>The following is required to apply for a mineral lease:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of Deposit Technical Report 	Notification of Application to Record is currently implemented through policy only. No other notifications are currently sent out to IGOs.	<p>Why?</p> <p>To ensure transparency and ongoing communication in the administration of minerals.</p> <p>To encourage relationship building between Indigenous Governments and Organizations and mineral rights holders (one of the key goals of the MRA).</p> <p>Notifications are expected to provide positive outcomes such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IGO awareness that prospectors will be working on their lands. • An opportunity for prospectors to reach out to IGOs and vice versa to build relationships, help find local people/contractors to hire, and let local people know what type of work will be happening. • Early relationship building that will aid in the development of Benefit Agreements which will

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			<p>Notifications will also be sent out when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A project has reached the threshold where a benefit agreement will be necessary • Material change has occurred 		<p>be required for a mine to go into production (i.e. to obtain a production licence).</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Notifications will be distributed to IGOs through the on-line MAARS.</p>
1.2	S.1; Definitions	Production - NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production means the removal of minerals from a mine for the purpose of their sale. • A person shall not engage in production unless: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ The weight and any other information necessary to establish the value have been determined and recorded in books of account; and ▫ The person holds a production licence. • A person may remove minerals for assaying and testing purposes to determine the existence, location, quantity, quality or economic potential of a mineral deposit on the property. • The definition of "minerals" includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Industrial minerals, dimension stones, mineralized fill ▫ Remnants, pillars, low-grade mineralization, stockpiles, dumps, tailings and other remnant materials ▫ Minerals extracted from liquid brine, metallic or non-metallic minerals extracted by solution mining methods and lignite ▫ Excludes peat, and paleontological objects 	This is a new definition under the MRA.	<p>Why?</p> <p>It is important to have a definition of production because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clear, consistent definition ensures equal treatment of all mining proponents under the law. • It helps distinguish between exploration and actual production, which have different regulatory, financial, and environmental obligations. • The government collects royalties on minerals extracted during production. • The start of production and the payment of royalties are key elements for the ownership of the minerals to move from the government to the company. <p>How?</p> <p>The definition of production will be regulated in the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> regulations.</p>
1.3	S.16; Training requirements	Prospector's Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If an individual is applying, they must complete the Prospector's Awareness Course (PAC) before they are eligible to obtain a Prospector's Licence. 	There is currently no requirement to complete a course prior to obtaining a Prospector's Licence.	<p>Why?</p> <p>The PAC training will ensure that prospectors are aware of the historical and current land rights of</p>

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		Course (PAC) – NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a company is applying, two representatives from the company must complete PAC before the company is eligible to obtain a Prospector's Licence. The Prospector's Awareness Course will be designed to give prospectors an understanding and appreciation of the value and importance of meaningful collaboration with Indigenous Governments and Organizations. The course will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> create awareness of the NWT's political, cultural, ecological and legal systems; encourage engagement between companies and Indigenous Governments and Organizations; and encourage activities and behaviours that support the long-term success of mineral prospecting, exploration, development and production in the NWT. The course takes approximately four hours to complete and is valid for five years. 	<p>Under the new MRA regulations, if an individual is applying, they must have completed the PAC in order to obtain a prospector's licence. If a company is applying, two representatives from the company must complete the PAC to be eligible for a prospector's licence.</p> <p>The PAC is valid for five years.</p>	<p>Indigenous Governments and Organizations in the NWT.</p> <p>The knowledge sharing gained through the training will help in the understanding of who prospectors should engage with and why, starting the relationship between a prospector and IGOs.</p> <p>The PAC is a prerequisite for obtaining and maintaining a Prospector's Licence, as per section 16 of the MRA.</p> <p>The PAC validity period is aligned with the 5-year validity timeframe of the Prospector's Licence.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Complete the on-line Prospector's Awareness Course through a GNWT website.</p>
1.4	S.29(3); Application to record staked claim S.27; where prospector's licence is required	Prospector's Licence – UPDATED!	<p>A Prospector's Licence is required for any individual or corporation engaging in activities governed by the MRA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UPDATED! Valid for five years from date of issuance UPDATED! Must be age of majority (19 years) under the MRA UPDATED! Three categories: individual, individual resident, or corporation NEW! Must complete the Prospector's Awareness Course (PAC) to apply for a Prospector's Licence NEW! Prospector's licence will be posted on the public registry. 	<p>Under the current NWT <i>Mining Regulations</i>, the Prospector's Licence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> is only valid for up to one year (expires annually on March 31); the age of majority is 18 years of age or older; and there are only two categories: individual or corporation. 	<p>Why?</p> <p>The Prospector's Licence is a way to maintain a comprehensive list of contacts for individuals and companies who are 'eligible' to prospect in NWT. Having a Prospector's Licence indicates that the individual or company has the knowledge and awareness gained through the Prospector's Awareness Course.</p> <p>Administrative changes are to accomplish the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new 5-year timeframe will reduce the administrative burden on GNWT and industry

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				Also, there are no requirements to complete the Prospector's Awareness Course, nor are there any obligations to post the prospector's licence on the public registry.	<p>and is consistent with other Canadian jurisdictions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The age of majority was updated to ensure consistency across varying legislation. The addition of the individual resident category was created so that a separate set of rules can be developed and applied to residents (e.g. reduced fees) <p>How?</p> <p>Complete the Prospector's Awareness Course.</p> <p>Complete an on-line Prospector's Licence application.</p>
1.5	S.27(2); Eligibility S.27(3); Issuance	Prospector's Licence Eligibility UPDATED!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UPDATED! There are three classes of prospector's licences: resident individual, non-resident individual, and corporate. UPDATED! Any individual can apply for a prospector's licence if they're at least 19 years of age and have completed the Prospector's Awareness Course in the past six months. NEW! A corporation in good standing can apply for a prospector's licence if at least two of the following individuals have completed the Prospector's Awareness Course on behalf of the corporation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a director or officer; an individual in charge of conducting activities in the NWT; and a professional engineer or geoscientist. NEW! If the corporation only has one director or officer, it can apply for a prospector's licence if that director or officer has 	<p>Currently,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident individual and non-resident individual licences are treated the same. The age requirement for a prospector's licence is 18 years old. There is no requirement to complete a Prospector's Awareness Course <p>Under the new Regulations there will be a resident individual category, the age of requirement is</p>	<p>Why?</p> <p>Having different categories of individual licences allows for the possibility of providing additional support or privileges to resident individuals in the future, in order to better support Northwest Territories residents.</p> <p>The update in the age requirement for a prospector's licence aligns it with the age of majority in the Northwest Territories.</p> <p>The prospector's awareness course requirement ensures that licensees have an awareness of Indigenous Government and Organizations historical and current land rights in the NWT.</p>

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			<p>completed the Prospector's Awareness Course on behalf of the corporation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a person is ineligible for a prospector's licence based on these criteria, a Mining Recorder will reject their application. • A prospector's licence holder can prospect for the purpose of staking a claim, to stake a claim, and conduct any other prospecting activity granted to a licence holder under this Act or its regulations. • A prospector's licence authorizes the holder, or a person authorized by the holder, to prospect for the purpose of staking a claim, to stake a claim and to carry out certain activities and amend their recorded claim on their behalf. 	19 and a Prospector's Awareness Course must be completed.	
1.6	S.27(1); Where prospectors license is required S.27(4); Terms and conditions	Applying for Prospector's Licence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To apply for a prospector's licence, an individual or corporation will submit an Application for Prospector's Licence and a non-refundable application fee to a Mining Recorder, along with any other information a Mining Recorder requires. • A Mining Recorder issues the prospector's licence. • A prospector's licence cannot be transferred. 	No changes under the new MRA regulations.	

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1.7	S.25(13); Renewal S.27(4); Terms and conditions	Renewal – UPDATED!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEW! A prospector's licence holder can apply to renew their licence if they have completed the Prospector's Awareness Course within six months of submitting their application. A licence is valid for five years. To renew their prospector's licence, the licence holder will submit an Application for Renewal of Prospector's Licence and a non-refundable application fee to a Mining Recorder, along with any other information a Mining Recorder requires. 	<p>Prospector's licences are currently valid for one year. Under the new MRA regulations, they will be valid for 5 years.</p> <p>The applicant will be required to complete the Prospector's Awareness Course again before they are eligible to renew their licence.</p>	<p>Why? Licences will be renewed less frequently than before to reduce the administrative burden on both licence holders and the GNWT. As part of the renewal process, licence holders will be required to retake the Prospector's Awareness Course to refresh their knowledge of relevant information after five years.</p> <p>How? Renewals can be applied for through MAARS, by filling out the required form and submitting an application fee once the Prospector's Awareness Course is completed.</p>
		Change of Name - UPDATED!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As in current state, companies or individuals can change their name and have the change reflected for each mineral interest held. A request to change their name will update their prospector's licence, all claim holdings, all lease holding and all prospector's licences. For clarity, a change of name is different than a transfer to a new holder. NEW! The Mining Recorder will notify interested Indigenous Governments and Organizations and update the public registry with the new name. 	<p>Name changes occur frequently in current state. However, under the new regulations, there will be a new requirement to notify Indigenous Governments and Organizations so that they are informed of the name change.</p>	<p>Why? Ensures a seamless transition in cases where a company mineral interest holder changes name.</p> <p>Ensures that the Indigenous Governments and Organizations and the public understand^s that it is the same company/individual who is working on a mineral interest as it was before, and that there has not been a change in holder.</p> <p>How? A request to change the name of an interest holder will be available on MAARS and Indigenous Governments and Organizations will be emailed, and the change will be posted on the public registry.</p>

Mineral Claims

Secti on #	Relevant clause from the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i>	Topic	Proposed Policy Intent for regulations to fulfill the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> clause	What is changing with the retirement of the <i>Northwest Territories Mining Regulations</i>	Why the new or updated regulation is being proposed and how it is suggested to be implemented.
2.0	S.29(1); Staking a claim:	<p>Claim Identification Tags</p> <p>Staking a Claim</p> <p>Legal Posts</p>	<p>Similar to current state, the following will continue to apply under the new MRA regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> After prospectors have obtained their prospector’s licence and purchased claim tags, they can stake a claim in available areas. Purchasing tags to stake a claim will occur in the Office of the Mining Recorder, as it is currently done, until online map staking (OMS) is available. Obtaining land access approval, staking a claim and placing legal posts will remain in current state until OMS is available. A Prospector’s Licence holder or, a person authorised by the Prospector’s licence holder may continue to stake a claim in accordance with the current rules regarding size, shape and the placement of legal posts. Staking is permitted only on lands that are not withdrawn, restricted, or protected; do not have an active claim, lease, or prospecting permit; and where exploration activities are compatible with existing land use plans. 	No change until OMS is in place (approximately 2028).	<p>Why?</p> <p>Ground staking must continue to be done until an Online Map Staking (OMS) system is ready.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>OMS is a specific user interface system that is currently under development.</p> <p>Training will be available on how to use the new system in approximately 2028.</p>
2.1	S. 29(2); Interfere	Interference	Similar to current state, the following will continue to apply under the new MRA regulations:	Legal enforcement is being enabled to clarify penalties	<p>Why?</p> <p>Legal posts must remain on the land as the key markers of where and when a claim was staked. For this reason, it is important to protect them.</p>

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	nce with posts		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A person cannot interfere with legal post unless they have been authorized to do so. Further clarification will be provided on who is authorized to relocate or alter the position of a legal post, along with a defined procedure outlining the steps to follow if relocation becomes necessary. <p>NEW! Interfering with a legal claim post under the new act could have legal repercussions.</p>	relating to interference with a legal post.	<p>However, in times where the location of the legal post is incompatible with surface activities, regulations will allow for the careful and considerate movement of these posts.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>The procedures for obtaining authorization to relocate a legal post, or for notifying the Office of the Mining Recorder of any alterations, may be completed via email to the Mining Recorder.</p> <p>In situations required, orders or tickets could be issued by an MRA authorized inspector.</p>
2.2	<p>S.29(1); Staking a claim</p> <p>S.29.(3); Applying for a Recorded Claim</p> <p>S.29.(5); Notice to Indigenous Governments or</p>	<p>Applying for Recorded Claim</p> <p>Notifications to Indigenous Governments or Organizations – NEW SECTION!</p> <p>Notification to the public of a staked claim - NEW SECTION!</p>	<p>Similar to current state, the following will continue to apply under the new MRA regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A prospector’s licence holder may apply to a Mining Recorder to record a staked claim within 60 days of staking by submitting an Application to Record a Claim and appropriate fee. A Mining Recorder will accept the application once determining if it is valid (i.e. staked within the past 60 days and within locations available for issuing interests). NEW! While assessing the area of the claim, the Mining Recorder will determine whether it lies within or overlaps the settlement area or asserted traditional territory of an Indigenous Government or Organization, and will issue a 	<p>The addition of Notice of Application to Record</p> <p>The addition of a 30-day period for dialogue between the proponent and Indigenous Governments and Organizations.</p> <p>Increase public transparency on applications to record a claim while maintaining the protection of intellectual property.</p>	<p>Why?</p> <p>A Notification of Application to Record (NAR) for a claim was approved in the MRA. The Indigenous governments and the public felt that it was a very important change to ensure that mineral exploration begins with sharing the information in both directions about exploring in specific areas.</p> <p>This early notification allows applicants to begin building relationships with IGOs at the outset of the mineral development process. IT also allows IGOs to identify any concerns they may have with exploration in the proposed area.</p> <p>A public notification is also important to the people of the NWT for those who may have cabins, operations, municipalities other interests etc. In the location where the exploration activities will occur.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>A Notification of Application to Record a Claim will be sent from the Mining Recorder to the IGOs through email to begin a 30-day dialogue period.</p>

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	Organiza tion's S.7; Public registry		<p>notice of application to record a claim to those identified.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEW! The Mining Recorder will process the application to record the claim 30 days after the notice was sent to relevant Indigenous Governments or Organizations • NEW! The notice of application to record a claim will also be posted on the Public Registry for all public to view. This will contain information such as staking date, submission date, applicant name and NTS map sheet. • NEW! During the dialogue period applicants may reduce the requested claim area in their application or withdraw their application. Application fees will be reimbursed for any area withdrawn. 		A Notification of Application to Record a Claim will be posted publicly on the ITI registry for all public interest.
2.3	S.29(6); Recordin g of Claims	Applying for Recorded Claim – Processing of Applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After the 30-day dialogue period the Mining Recorder will process the application by approving the application, record the claim and NEW! issue a certificate of the Recorded Claim. • NEW! To strengthen the GNWT's ability to uphold its duty to consult and accommodate under Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, new flexibility has been introduced into the recorded claim process. Where there is a potential for recorded claim issuance to infringe 	<p>Under the MRA, a Mining Recorder will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • approve an application with certain terms and conditions • reject an application 	<p>Why?</p> <p>GNWT knows it is important for applicants to have the certainty that their claim application will be approved, particularly after they have incurred significant costs on ground staking. However, GNWT has a legal duty to consult with Indigenous groups when contemplating actions that could affect their rights. GNWT also has a duty to accommodate, where appropriate, to address potential impacts on Aboriginal and treaty rights. Legislation is required to include the discretion for conditions to accommodate rights.</p>

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			<p>upon or adversely impact Aboriginal or treaty rights, the Mining Recorder will have the discretion to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve the application • Approve applications with terms and conditions designed to mitigate or address the identified impacts, or • Reject the application where the potential impacts cannot be reasonably addressed through conditions or accommodations. • NEW! The Mining Recorder will notify interested IGOs of any applications to record a claim that are either approved or denied. They will also publicly post the recorded claim or, the reasons for the rejection, on the Public Registry. • NEW! Regardless of the decision any person with a legal or financial interest in the claim can request the Mineral Rights Review Board review of the Mining Recorder's decision on an application. 	<p>Indigenous Governments or Organizations and the public will be informed of the outcome of an application.</p> <p>The Mineral Rights Review Board will be available for applicants that wish to dispute the Mining Recorder's decision.</p>	<p>There may also be circumstances where impacts are identified that cannot be mitigated through the application of conditions. In such instances, the GNWT requires the ability to reject an application.</p> <p>The application of terms and conditions on a claim can allow exploration activities to proceed while respecting agreed-upon locations that are not to be disturbed. Conditions may be established that indicate areas within the claim boundary that should not be disturbed, likely to reflect and address areas of importance and traditional lifestyles to Indigenous people.</p> <p>To ensure public accountability and transparency, the public and IGOs along with the applicant will be informed of the application outcome through a notice of recording the claim, or the reasons for a rejection.</p> <p>If applicants feel as though there was a mistake made in the decision-making process, they will be able to appeal the decision to the impartial Mineral Rights Review Board.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>All applications will be submitted through the new automated electronic Mineral Administration and Registry System (MAARS). Tracking of the application and outcome will also be completed in MAARS.</p> <p>Notices to IGOs will be emailed automatically to the relevant IGOs.</p> <p>Public notices will be posted on the Public Registry.</p>
2.4	S.29; Staking a claim	Extra- Jurisdictional Recorded Claims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UPDATED! 'Claim holders from other jurisdictions in Canada who discover their claim extends into the Northwest Territories may, within 60 days of discovering this', apply for a 	Currently, if lands covered by a mining claim recorded in another province have a part that falls wholly or partially in the Northwest	<p>Why?</p> <p>This section allows extra-jurisdictional holders with cross-border projects, who may have inadvertently staked within the NWT, to continue exploration without breaching the MRA regulations. The exception for size</p>

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			<p>claim for the portion extending into the Northwest Territories.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the claim holder from another jurisdiction in Canada does not apply for a claim within 60 days of discovery, the portion of the claim in the Northwest Territories is considered void, as of the date the claim was recorded in the other jurisdiction. NEW! A claim holder of the extra-jurisdictional claim in another jurisdiction must meet the eligibility requirements (except for the 25ha minimum size) to successfully apply for a claim in the Northwest Territories including Prospector's Licence. NEW! The claim holder from another jurisdiction must provide the Mining Recorder with GPS corner point coordinates in their application. 	<p>Territories, the claim holder may within 90 days after the determination, apply to the Mining Recorder to have the portion in the Northwest Territories recorded as a separate claim.</p>	<p>allows for the extra-jurisdictional claim to cover only the area that was originally covered by the claim staked across the border.</p> <p>This tool is particularly necessary for borders that have not been surveyed. This can apply to federal administered lands within the NWT or bordering provinces or territories. As all jurisdictions move to online map staking and GPS corners this issue will be unlikely to arise.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Within 60 days of discovery of an error, the extra-jurisdictional holder may apply to have the NWT-portion of the claim recorded in accordance with the MRA regulations.</p>
2.5	S.33; Applicati on for reduced area claim	Changes to Area of Recorded Claims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As long as the claims are in good standing and have a certificate of work of at least \$10/ha an individual or company may modify their claims by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reducing the claim area, NEW! dividing a claim area into two claims, or, 	<p>Claim holders have more administrative abilities and now may combine two or more claims into one without the need to re-stake the larger claim (amalgamation).</p>	<p>Why?</p> <p>As requested by Industry, this allows claim holders administrative flexibility. Holders will be able to adjust the size of their claims through reduction, subdivision and amalgamation to adapt to changing project requirements. Note: subdivisions and amalgamations will adjust the claim boundary lines but will not change the total area that is held under the claim(s).</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ NEW! combining two or more claims into one claim, if all claims have anniversary dates in the same year. • NEW! Claim shape changes must abide by minimum and maximum claim size requirements and in the case of combining claims, they must be adjacent and share at least a 500m boundary. • NEW! GPS locations of claim boundaries are acceptable for recording changes; ground staking is not required. • NEW! All area changes to claims will be posted on the public registry and relevant IGO will receive notice of the area changes. • NEW! Effects of changing the area of a claim include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ The recording date of original or earliest claim(s) will be retained. ▫ Reduced claims: all work credit from the original claim will be retained. ▫ Subdivided claims: work credit will be split between the subdivided claims, pro-rated by area. ▫ Amalgamated claim: all work credit from the original claims will be combined. ▫ The history of the original claim becomes part of the history of each changed area claim after approval. 	<p>Claim holders may also divide one claim into two claims without needing to re-stake the two smaller claims (previously the only option was to reduce a claim).</p> <p>Due to the administrative flexibility new effects need to be quantified and will apply as listed under Proposed Policy intent column.</p>	<p>In the case of a reduction, the area that is held under a claim will change and un-used ground will be freed up for exploration by other proponents.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Submission of Application to Change Area of Recorded Claim form, application fee and any other information required by the Mining Recorder will be completed through an online management system.</p>

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2.6	S.32; Transfer of recorded claim	Transfers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As currently available, claim holders with valid prospector's licences can transfer their claims to another prospector's licence holder through a request to transfer. NEW! Upon receiving a request to transfer, the Mining Recorder will notify each Indigenous Government and Organization of the change in claim holder. NEW! The new claim holder will also be posted on the public registry. 	<p>Notifications are not part of the current NWT Mining Regulations.</p> <p>Although changes in claim holders are currently visible on the Mineral Tenure Viewer, the new public registry will clearly indicate when transfers occur, along with the associated details.</p>	<p>Why?</p> <p>To ensure that Indigenous Governments and Organizations are informed of any changes in claim holders notifications will be sent. This is important to build a relationship with the new claim holder.</p> <p>Posting the new claim holder on the public registry is also important for transparency and ongoing communication about the administration of mineral interests.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Requests to transfer will be processed through the new Mineral Administration and Registry System. Notifications to Indigenous Governments and Organizations will be sent by email and posted to the public registry.</p>
2.7	S.30; Duration of Recorded Claim	Duration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEW! A claim expires 30 years after the date of issue, subject to maintenance requirements. 	<p>The duration of a claim has been extended from 10 years to 30 years.</p>	<p>Why?</p> <p>GNWT is moving towards a merit-based mineral management system. Extending the duration for a claim is essential to ensure there is adequate time for claim holders to prove there is a viable project (i.e. a pre-feasibility stage) needed to secure a mineral lease. Only claims that have this merit level will meet the criteria for a lease.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>If claim maintenance requirements (Work assessment reports filed) are met and a pre-feasibility study is submitted prior to year 28, the claim will not expire for 30 years from the date indicated on the certificate of recorded claim.</p>

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2.8	S.34; Suspendi ng, cancellin g recorded claim	Suspension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEW! GNWT may suspend a claim if the holder does not comply with the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> or regulations, or if the holder fails to reply to communication from the Mining Recorder or Supervising Mining Recorder. Reasons for suspension will be sent to the claim holder and posted on the public registry. • NEW! A suspension of a claim could occur along with an inspector order or a ticket for a non-compliance under the MRA. • NEW! The claim holder will not be able to prospect and explore for minerals or transfer the suspended claim. • NEW! The GNWT may lift a suspension if the claim holder corrects the actions that led to the suspension. • NEW! A notice will be sent out to Indigenous governments and organizations who received a Notice of Application to Record for the suspended claim. • NEW! A notice of the suspension will also be posted to the public registry. 	<p>A suspension will be a punitive action from the Mining Recorder, to ensure that claim holders are complying with both the act and the regulations.</p> <p>Note: “Suspensions”, as they functioned under the current NWT Mining Regulations, will be replaced with ‘exceptional relief’ in the MRA.</p>	<p>Why?</p> <p>If a claim holder is not complying with the MRA and its regulations, the Mining Recorder may suspend the claim and stipulate the necessary conditions for compliance. This ensures that claim holders are respecting the laws and regulations of the Northwest Territories.</p> <p>In cases when holders previously requested a suspension, they may now apply for “exceptional relief”—a pathway that still allows them to carry out exploration work.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Notification of a suspension will be sent to the claim holder. It will identify the claim(s) subject to suspension with the reasons for suspension, the duration and the effect. Under suspension, the claim holder is not allowed to prospect and explore for minerals or transfer a suspended claim. A ticketable offence may also result in a suspension determined by an inspector.</p> <p>Indigenous governments and organizations who received notice of application to record will be notified of the suspension, and a notice will also be posted to the public registry.</p>
2.9	S.34; Suspendi ng, cancellin	Cancellation	<p>Similar to current state, the following will continue to apply under the new MRA regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The GNWT may cancel a claim if the holder does not comply with the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> or 	<p>Ground was previously re-opened for staking at noon on the day following the first business day after the</p>	<p>Why?</p>

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	g recorded claim		<p>regulations, or if the holder fails to reply to communications from the GNWT and will send notice with written reason and effect of the cancellation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following a cancellation a claim holder no longer has any rights to explore the claim as of the cancellation date. NEW! Indigenous governments and organizations will be notified of the cancellation, and a notice will also be posted to the public registry. NEW! A notice will be posted on the public registry stipulating the date when the ground will re-open for staking. The ground will reopen for staking on the 31st day following the cancellation. NEW! if the claim holder has reasons to believe that the cancelation was not justified, they may file an appeal of the cancellation with the Mineral Rights Review Board. 	<p>claim was cancelled. There is now a 30-day period before the ground will re-open for staking.</p> <p>During that 30-day period, claim holders may appeal a cancellation with the Mineral Rights Review Board.</p>	<p>The 30-day period before land is reopened for staking provides a period where the holder may file a complaint with the Mineral Rights Review Board if they feel the cancellation was procedurally unfair.</p> <p>The Mineral Rights Review Board is an impartial third party who can review the cancellation and make a legal determination. This offers a claim holder recourse if they feel like a mistake has been made with regards to the cancellation.</p> <p>The 30-day period also provides public information of the ground availability to ensure fairness of procedure.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Claim holders who have received notice of a claim cancellation and wish to dispute it, may file an appeal with the Mineral Rights Review Board. The cancellation process and the claim will be suspended, while the Board reviews the appeal and renders a decision.</p> <p>Notices to Indigenous governments and organizations will be sent by email and a notice will be posted to the public registry.</p>
2.10	S.36; Inquiry into disputes	Recorded Claim Disputes	<p>Similar to current state, the following will continue to apply under the new MRA regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the situation where there are overlapping claims, a person who thinks they were staked an area first can file a Notice of Protest. 	<p>The result of the claim dispute will be publicly posted.</p>	<p>Why?</p> <p>To ensure fairness and transparency, the results of a claim dispute will be publicly posted on the registry.</p> <p>How?</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Senior Mining Recorder will decide the result of the dispute.• NEW! The results of the dispute will be publicly posted.		Disputes will be filed through the Mining Recorders office for determination. The issues regarding the claims will be investigated, and the resolution will be posted on the public registry.

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2.11	S.42; Work or deposits S.43; Notice of Intended Work	Notice of Intended Work (NOIW) – NOIW - Waiver	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NEW! At least 14 days before starting field work, a claim holder will submit a Notice of Intended Work to the Office of the Mining Recorder for the purposes of distributing the information to relevant IGOs.• NEW! If the claim holder is an IGO and they have written support from the settled or asserted traditional territory of another IGO, they will not be required to submit a NOIW.• NEW! To maintain its effectiveness as an information sharing tool to Indigenous Governments, the NOIW will be shared confidentially.	The Notice of Intended Work will be a new tool under the MRA.	<p>Why?</p> <p>The NOIW is a new information-sharing tool to promote early engagement with relevant IGOs by claim holders.</p> <p>The NOIW ensures that IGOs are informed of the types of activities (including below land use threshold activities) that are taking place on settled or asserted traditional territory. This will allow IGOs to share concerns about the activities planned if necessary.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>NOIW will be shared with relevant IGOs and potentially other government departments but will remain confidential from the general public to allow for sharing of more sensitive information.</p> <p>The NOIW will be a form that the claim holder fills out and submits through the electronic mineral administration system. The claim holder will be responsible for providing an overview of what work will be conducted and the location where it will be conducted.</p>

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2.12	S.14; fees, deposits and rent S.42; work or deposits	Deposit in Lieu Refund of Deposit in Lieu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deposits can be paid in lieu of reporting the cost of work. UPDATED! A Deposit in Lieu must be made by the claim's Anniversary Date (no grace period). This can be done for the full amount of the required costs of work or a deposit in lieu can be paid to make up the balance of work. This would be determined in the Certificate of Work provided by the Mining Recorder once a work report is submitted by the claim holder. UPDATED! A deposit in lieu must not be made more than nine times in a claim lifetime (now 30 years), and no more than three times in any of the first, second, or third ten-year periods. A Deposit in Lieu is refundable if sufficient work is reported in future years. NEW! A Deposit in Lieu will be forfeited to the GNWT if not refunded within 10 years. 	Current limitation on 'cash in lieu' is three consecutive years. Under the MRA, Deposits in Lieu will be limited to three per decade of claim life. Currently, the holder is allowed 90 days after the Anniversary Date to submit payment or report. Under the new MRA regulations, the deadline will be the claim Anniversary Date.	<p>Why? This allows proponents to maintain their claim in good standing in circumstances where they were unable to conduct work in the required period. The limitation has been adjusted to allow for Deposits in Lieu throughout the 30-year claim life, while limiting its misuse.</p> <p>How? By submitting the payment to the Mining Recorder through the new electronic payment system, by the claim Anniversary Date. The claim will then remain in good standing for an additional year.</p>
2.13	S.114(m) (iii); Regulati ons	Grouping of Recorded Claims	<p>Similar to current regulations, under the MRA regulations the following will continue to apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A claim holder may apply to a Mining Recorder to group claims for administrative needs for addressing work requirements The maximum size of the grouping has been increased to UPDATED! 6,250ha. 	A group could cover no more than 5,000 hectares under the current <i>NWT Mining Regulations</i> (S.46(1)(b)). The new proposed size is 6,250 hectares.	<p>Why? To allow flexibility in the maintenance of work requirements, grouping will be expanded.</p> <p>How? Through filling out the Application for a Grouping Certificate on MAARS and submitting the required fee.</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A group ceases to have effect when any claim in the group is cancelled, becomes a mineral lease, undergoes a change of area or is included in a new group. 		The application must show that each claim in the group is touching at least one other claim and that there is an unbroken chain of touching claims. The application must also show that the group of claims does not exceed a total area of 6,250 hectares and that a mineral lease has not been issued on any of the claims.
2.14	S.42; Work or deposits	<p>Work Assessment Report</p> <p>Work Assessment</p> <p>Past Work</p> <p>Work Credits Confidentiality</p>	<p>Similar to current regulations, under the MRA regulations the following will continue to apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A claim holder will be required to submit a work assessment report detailing work carried out on their claim UPDATED! by the claim Anniversary Date (no grace period). The Mining Recorder verifies that work assessment reports are complete as per the requirements of the regulations. Once their review is complete, the Mining Recorder issues a Certificate of Work which includes the approved costs. This constitutes the work credits. \$1 of justified work earns \$1 of work credit. The amount of work credits that are required for the year depends on what year the claim is in. The work credits are allocated by the claim holder. They can be used to fulfil the minimum work requirements for the current year or to receive a refund of a prior Deposit in Lieu. The claim holder can also allocate them as excess work credits and be used for future years (see allocation of excess work credit section below). 	<p>Currently, holders are allowed 90 days after a claim's Anniversary Date to submit a report. Under the new MRA regulations, the deadline will be the actual Anniversary Date, unless a Short-Term Extension is granted (see section below).</p> <p>Current work requirement is \$10/ha in year 2 and \$5/ha annually thereafter. The minimum work requirements are increasing under the MRA (Year 2 = \$10/ha; Years 3-4 = \$5/ha; Years 5-9 = \$10/h; Years 10-14 = \$20; Years 15-19 = \$25/ha; Years 20-24 = \$30/ha; Years 25-29 = \$35/ha).</p>	<p>Why?</p> <p>Research has indicated that a substantial amount of geoscience work is being conducted on mineral claims but is not being collected by GNWT. To address this gap and ensure that valuable geological information is preserved in the public domain, it is necessary to increase the minimum work requirements for maintaining mineral claims.</p> <p>Raising these requirements—along with implementing escalating work thresholds over time—will help ensure that claim holders are actively contributing new geological data. This change will incentivize future exploration activity and promote the more rapid advancement of claims toward critical project development stages, such as the pre-feasibility study (PFS) phase (see the <i>Evidence of Deposit Technical Report</i> section for more details).</p> <p>These measures serve multiple objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the health of the exploration and mining economy by encouraging continuous meaningful work on mineral claims. Aid government land use planning by improving access to up-to-date, publicly available geological information.

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a Certificate of Work indicates that the approved work credit is less than the minimum amount of work required, the holder of the recorded claim shall, within 60 days, pay a Deposit in Lieu to account for the difference between the approved cost of work and the minimum work required (see Deposit in Lieu section above). • Work conducted in the 2 years before a claim was recorded can be claimed for the first assessment period of the claim as long as the claim holder had a valid prospector's licence and the work was allowable under the licence. • Similar to current regulations, the reporting regulations related to equipment use, retaining receipts, charging for self-compared to others doing the work, including a statement of work, and that the work costs cannot be reported in more than one report will continue to apply under the new MRA regulations. • UPDATED! The minimum work requirements are increasing and escalating over the claim life (see next column for details). • NEW! Indigenous engagement will be allowed as a claimable exploration activity under the MRA. (See Indigenous Engagement Section below.) • UPDATED! Under certain conditions a claim holder can submit a Simplified Work Assessment 	<p>Currently, reports remain confidential for 3 years. Under the MRA regulations, this will change to a 2-year confidentiality period.</p> <p>Indigenous engagement will be allowed as a claimable exploration activity under the MRA. (See Indigenous Engagement Section below.)</p> <p>Simplified reporting requirements have been updated (see below for details).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure claims are being developed with serious exploration intent, rather than being left idle without advancement for speculative purposes. <p>Ultimately, these changes will ensure that the work conducted on mineral claims contributes meaningfully to the public knowledge base, supports responsible resource development, and strengthens the long-term economic and strategic benefits of the territory's mineral sector</p> <p>The confidentiality period was adjusted to 2 years to allow for technical information to be distributed to the public as soon as possible.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Work Assessment Reports will be submitted through MAARS. After a report is assessed by the Mining Recorder, a Certificate of Work will be granted which outlines the approved cost of work and the total work credit available on each claim. Proponents will be able to allocate the work credit to fulfill future work requirements or acquire a refund of a prior Deposit in Lieu (see section on Deposit in lieu above).</p>

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			<p>Report, not requiring professional signoff (see next row for details).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UPDATED! Work Assessment Reports will remain confidential for two years after submission before it is publicly available. 		
2.15	S.42; Work or deposits	Simplified Work Assessment Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UPDATED! The claim holder may choose to file a simplified work assessment report if they meet the conditions for simplified reporting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ They have an individual prospector's licence ▫ The reported cost of work is not greater than the amount which would fulfill the next two years of work requirements, and ▫ The type of work carried out may only include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ examination of outcrops and surficial deposits; ▫ excavation; ▫ sampling; ▫ NEW! Indigenous engagement; and/or ▫ NEW! ground magnetic or ground very low frequency geophysical study or analysis. • Simplified work assessment and reporting is the same as described above under the work assessment and reporting section. • UPDATED! The maximum amount that can be reported under a simplified work assessment 	<p>Previously, one could file a simplified report if the report dealt only with excavation, sampling or the examination of outcrops and superficial deposits and the total cost of work was less than \$10 000. Under the new regulations, a larger variety of activities will be permitted.</p> <p>The total cost of work that can be reported is limited to two years' worth of work based on the year of life of the claim.</p>	<p>Why?</p> <p>Additional activities were included in the Simplified reporting to allow individual prospector's licence holders more flexibility in submitting less detailed reports for smaller or early-stage projects.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Filing a simplified work assessment report will occur in MAARS.</p>

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			report is still two years' worth of work but is updated to reflect the increasing work requirements.		
2.16	S.42; Work or deposits	Short-Term Extension - NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEW! A claim holder may apply to a Mining Recorder for a short-term extension to submit a work assessment report or a simplified work assessment report. NEW! A Mining Recorder may grant a short-term extension of up to 90 days to submit a work assessment report or simplified work assessment report. 	This is an amendment to the current practice which automatically provides a 90-day grace period. Under the MRA, the claim holder will have to request the short-term extension.	<p>Why?</p> <p>To allow flexibility for claim holders to submit a work assessment or simplified work assessment reports as required.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Submit an Application for Short-Term Extension, once approved, this will allow 90 days after the Anniversary Date to submit a report (Note: this ONLY allows for report submission; no Deposit in Lieu payment will be allowed beyond the Anniversary Date)</p>
2.17	S.42; Work or deposits	Indigenous Engagement Work Credits – NEW SECTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEW! Indigenous engagement is now eligible to be reported as work. NEW! If a claim holder has established an agreement with one or more Indigenous Governments or Organizations, they can claim 20 percent of the justified cost of non-Indigenous engagement work in a report as a credit if they provide evidence of the agreement (such as a letter from the Indigenous Governments or Organizations). The claim holder does not need to document the engagement activities in the report of work or simplified report of work. 	<p>Indigenous engagement is not a claimable exploration activity under the current regulations.</p> <p>Indigenous engagement will be able to constitute up to 20% of the total non-Indigenous engagement work claimed on the Work Assessment Report for the first ten years of claim life, and up to a maximum of \$20/ha.</p>	<p>Why?</p> <p>Work credits for Indigenous Engagement have been incorporated into the regulations upon the request of industry. Claim holders will be allowed to claim engagement expenses, such as meetings with Indigenous governments as work expenses on their Work Assessment Report to reflect the efforts made to develop relationships.</p> <p>These engagement credits encourage early, positive relationships between proponents and Indigenous Governments and Organizations (IGOs). These credits recognize that engagement with Indigenous Governments and Organizations is a vital part of the mine development process.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>There are two pathways to claim Indigenous Engagement Credits (IECs) alongside a Work Assessment Report. If the holder submits proof of an</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEW! If a claim holder does not yet have an agreement with an Indigenous Government or Organization, they can document Indigenous engagement work and the associated costs to claim up to 20 percent of the work as a credit. • NEW! Indigenous engagement credits are limited to \$20 per hectare over the life of the claim(s). • NEW! Claim holders can only apply for Indigenous engagement credits during the first 10 years of a claim's life. 		agreement with IGO (e.g. a letter from the IGO), they will earn the maximum allowable amount of IECs with that report. If the holder instead submits receipts of their engagement activities, they will earn IECs for eligible expenses, up to the maximum allowable amount for that report.
2.18	S.42; Work or deposits	Allocation of Excess Work Credits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a claim holder receives a Certificate of Work, they may apply to a Mining Recorder to have any excess credits used to keep their claim in good standing for future years by (UPDATED!) submitting an Application for Allocation of Excess Credits, and providing any other information required by a Mining Recorder. • If a Mining Recorder approves the application, they will issue a Certificate of Allocation of Excess Credits to the claim holder. • NEW! If a Mining Recorder rejects the application, they will provide the applicant with written reasons for the rejection. 	Allocation of excess credit will no longer be completed by the Mining Recorder; the claim holder will need to submit a request for allocation of credits to advance their claims. Credits will only be able to be allocated ten years into the future. Existing credits will not expire.	Why? Requiring allocation of work credit to be submitted by the claim holder and limiting allocation to ten years is intended to ensure claim holders are conducting on-going exploration and actively managing their interests in minerals. How? Holders will be able to submit their desired allocation of work credit via MAARS to advance the claim anniversary date by fulfilling future work requirements. Excess work credit may also be used to trigger a refund of a prior Deposit in Lieu.
2.19	S.46; Develop	Evidence of Deposit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEW! An EDTR or Simplified EDTR is required to be submitted to the GNWT by year 29 of the 	The Evidence of Deposit Technical Report is a new	Why?

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	ment of mine	Technical Report (EDTR)	<p>claim, in order to be able to obtain a lease (see next section for when a simplified EDTR can be submitted).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEW! The Evidence of Deposit Technical Report for the claim must meet the specifications of <i>Form 43-101F1 Technical Report</i> from the <i>National Instrument 43-101 Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects</i> at the level of certainty required for a Pre-Feasibility Study. • NEW! The Evidence of Deposit Technical Report must be prepared by a qualified person. • NEW! The GNWT may reject the submission if no list of claims to support the proposed mine is provided, or the report does not demonstrate sufficient evidence of minerals to support a mine, or it was signed by a qualified person more than 12 months prior to submission. • NEW! The GNWT will notify the claim holder if the submission is accepted or rejected. If rejected the written reasons will be provided. • NEW! Decision can be appealed to the Mineral Rights Review Board if the claim holder feels it was not correct. • NEW! The EDTR will be confidentially shared with Indigenous Governments and Organizations for the purposes of preparing for lease 	<p>requirement that must be submitted prior to being eligible to submit a lease application.</p>	<p>The completion of an EDTR ensures that a project has reasonable economic viability going forward.</p> <p>Requiring that an Evidence of Deposit Technical Report (EDTR) be provided to Indigenous Governments and Organizations ensures that they are engaging only with projects that demonstrate economic viability. This reduces the use of limited resources for negotiating with early-stage or speculative projects that are unlikely to advance.</p> <p>Negotiating with multiple exploration or development projects can place a significant burden on the capacity of smaller Indigenous Governments and Organizations. With the EDTR as a prerequisite for a lease, negotiations can be prioritized for projects that have a Reasonable Prospect for Economic Extraction and a realistic potential to move forward.</p> <p>This approach supports the principle of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) by ensuring that Indigenous Governments and Organizations have access to meaningful technical information. Informed engagement is essential for fair negotiations and long-term partnerships that respect Indigenous rights and interests.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>The EDTR must be prepared by a qualified person at a Pre-Feasibility level to meet the specifications of <i>Form 43-101F1 Technical Report</i> from the <i>National Instrument 43-101 Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects</i>. A valid Pre-feasibility study for the stock exchange would qualify.</p> <p>It is submitted to the Office of the Mining Recorder through MAARS.</p>

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			application and eventual production of a project.		
2.20	S.46; Develop ment of Mine	Simplified Evidence of Deposit Technical Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEW! A Simplified Evidence of Deposit Technical Report can be submitted for a small-scale mine in lieu of an EDTR. This is for potential operations estimated, over the course of their life, to have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> less than \$50 million in capital spending; and less than 100 person-years of employment. NEW! A Simplified Evidence of Deposit Technical Report will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a description of the mine; a geological description of the proposed mine; a plan for extracting minerals, including the extraction methods; a human resources plan for the duration of the proposed mine; and a summary of operational and capital spending for the proposed mine. NEW! The GNWT will reject the submission if: the report does not demonstrate sufficient minerals on the claims to support the proposed mine; or there is not sufficient evidence that the proposed mine is a small-scale mine. 	<p>This section is new, as the Evidence of Deposit Technical Report is a new requirement under the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i>.</p> <p>The Simplified EDTR is an option that smaller mines (below the thresholds) can submit instead of an EDTR.</p>	<p>Why?</p> <p>The simplified EDTR recognizes the importance of a small-scale project to the NWT economy and that small-scale projects have less resources than larger ones. A Simplified EDTR requires less information from the claim holder.</p> <p>The scale of the project also helps communicate expectations related to benefits.</p> <p>This eases the burden on a smaller project</p> <p>How?</p> <p>It is submitted to the Office of the Mining Recorder through MAARS.</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The GNWT will notify the claim holder if the submission is accepted or rejected. If rejected, the reasons will be provided. 		
2.21	S.59; Confiden tiality of informati on	Confidentiality NEW SECTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEW! An Evidence of Deposit Technical Report or Simplified Evidence of Deposit Technical Report accepted by a Mining Recorder is kept confidential for two years. An EDTR will be shared confidentially with IGOs. NEW! EDTR will have a confidentiality period of two years unless public elsewhere or unless the interest in minerals is cancelled. 	This section is new, as the Evidence of Deposit Technical Report is a new requirement under the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> .	<p>Why?</p> <p>The confidentiality period exists for the benefit of companies who may not wish for their data to be made public immediately. This would use the same confidentiality requirements as other technical reports such as assessment reports.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>The confidentiality period of two years allows coordination between interest-in-mineral requirements and private financing requirements. However, it should be noted that the purpose of both an EDTR and an NI 43-101 report is public disclosure, and the contents of the report should reflect that.</p>
2.22	S.116.(1) ; Claims marked or staked	Plan of Survey	<p>The plan of survey remains very similar to the plan of survey in the current regulations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Before applying for a mineral lease, the claim holder must obtain a plan of survey of the claim by a Canada Lands Surveyor and provide a report of any overlapping boundaries with other claims and all adjacent claims. UPDATED! If the holder of multiple adjacent claims intends to apply for a single mineral lease in respect of that area, the perimeter of those 	<p>Perimeter surveys will no longer have the 1,250-hectare size limit. They will now be able to be of any size.</p> <p>The formula for calculating the excess area fee has changed. It now will charge for the minimum work requirements required to go to lease, instead of</p>	<p>Why?</p> <p>Perimeter surveys no longer have a size limit, as leases themselves are no longer subject to size restrictions. Since a lease can be as large as desired, a size limit on perimeter surveys is no longer necessary.</p> <p>Excess area charges under the escalating work system will use the minimum work requirements to allow for project variations and to simplify administration for all proponents. This maintains mineral attractiveness while upholding the minimum work requirements before acquiring a lease.</p> <p>How?</p>

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			<p>claims may be surveyed as one parcel. Claim boundaries must overlap by a minimum of 500m to be eligible for inclusion in a perimeter survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEW! If a plan of survey on a claim exceeds the area outlined in the Certificate of Recorded Claim, the claim holder must pay to meet the minimum work requirements to go to lease for the additional area, determined by the following formula: • $XC = XA \times F$ where XC is the excess area fee in dollars; XA is the excess area in hectares; and F is the fee of \$70 per hectare. • If a plan of survey on claims adjacent to each other exceeds the area outlined in the Certificate of Recorded Claim, the claim holder will pay the difference to meet the minimum work requirements to go to lease for the additional area determined by the following formula: • $XC = (XA/N) \times F$ where XC is the excess area fee in dollars; XA is the excess area in hectares; N is the number of claims in the survey; and F is the fee of \$70 per hectare. 	charging per year of claim life.	Applicants will be obtaining plans of survey in the same way as they would underneath the current regulations. The only changes relate to the size of the area being surveyed and the way that the area change formula is being administered.

Mineral leases

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3.0	S.38(1); Who may apply for mineral lease	Lease Application UPDATED!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A claim holder can apply to the GNWT for a mineral lease by submitting an Application for Mineral Lease six months prior to the end of the duration of the claim. NEW! There is no longer any maximum size for a lease UPDATED! To be eligible to apply for a Mineral Lease, a claimholder must have an approved plan of survey, an <i>Evidence of Deposit</i> Technical Report approved by the Mining Recorder, and work expenditures of at least \$70 per hectare, as confirmed by Certificate(s) of Work. UPDATED! A Mining Recorder will reject a Mineral Lease application if the cost of work described in the Certificate of Work is less than \$70 per hectare, or if the total cost of the plan of survey and the construction of any roads, airstrips, or docks exceeds \$15 per hectare. An application will also be rejected if it is submitted after the claim—or any claim within a group of claims—has expired. NEW! If an application for a lease is rejected, the Mining Recorder will provide the applicant with the written reasons for the rejection. 	<p>Previously, the maximum size for a lease was 1,250 hectares. There is now no maximum size limit.</p> <p>Under the new MRA regulations, either an Evidence of Deposit Technical Report or a Simplified Evidence of Deposit Technical Report is required for a lease application (see the respective sections for details). A plan of survey will continue to be required.</p> <p>Currently, to obtain a lease, the cost of work reported in Certificate(s) of Work must be at least \$25 per hectare, and the construction costs of any roads, airstrips, or docks must not exceed \$5 per hectare. These requirements will be changing: the minimum cost of work will increase to \$70 per hectare, with total cost of plan of survey, and the construction of roads, airstrips, or docks being capped at \$15 per hectare.</p> <p>Under the new MRA regulations, a Notice of Mineral Lease Application</p>	<p>Why?</p> <p>There is no longer a maximum size for a lease, which will reduce the cost of acquiring a survey for the mine footprint and will ease administrative burden for proponents.</p> <p>The maximum size was removed because all recorded claims which are eligible for lease will now be identified as part of the mine property in an EDTR submission. If the EDTR is certified, it has been accepted that those recorded claims are necessary to advance to lease as components of the mine footprint (either a mineral deposit exists within the recorded claim, or the area of the recorded claim will be used to support the infrastructure, operations, and/or processing for the mine site). If the mine footprint has been accepted, it is unnecessary to require an individual lease for each recorded claim within the mine footprint.</p> <p>The Evidence of Deposit Technical Report/Simplified Evidence of Deposit Technical Report demonstrates that a project has reasonable economic viability going forward. This ensures that Indigenous Governments and Organizations are not spending limited resources negotiating with projects that are not economically viable.</p> <p>The increased work requirement confirmed by the Certificate of Work better reflects the actual exploration work being done towards defining resources to a level where mine production could reasonably be expected to follow.</p> <p>The Notice of Lease Application provides a period of time during which Indigenous Governments and Organizations can engage with the proponent to discuss the lease application. The issuance of a lease is</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEW! An applicant will have the opportunity to appeal a rejected application with the Mineral Rights Review Board NEW! After receiving the application for the proposed mineral lease, the Mining Recorder will issue a Notice of Lease Application to Indigenous Governments and Organizations whose settlement area or asserted traditional territory is within or overlaps the area of the proposed lease. They will provide the contact information of the proponent. NEW! There will be a 30-day period after the Notice of Lease Application has been sent to Indigenous Governments and Organizations before a decision is made by the Mining Recorder. 	will be sent to IGOs and a there will be a 30-day legislated time period between the Notice of Lease Application being sent out and the lease being issued. This was not a previous requirement.	<p>both a significant milestone for a project and a point at which there is potential for infringement on Aboriginal rights.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>The EDTR must be prepared by a qualified person and meet the specifications of <i>Form 43-101F1 Technical Report</i> from the <i>National Instrument 43-101 Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects</i> to a minimum of pre-feasibility level and submitted to the Office of the Mining Recorder.</p> <p>The Lease Application will be sent to IGOs with settled or asserted territory that overlap with or fall wholly within the area of the proposed lease. Thirty (30) days after this, the Mining Recorder may make a decision with regards to the lease application.</p>
3.1	S.38 (2); Issuance	Lease Issuance UPDATED!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The mineral lease will be valid for a period of 21 years, if it remains in good standing. For a lease to be issued, the Mining Recorder must approve the application, and the holder must have paid the first year of rent on the lease. NEW! A Mining Recorder will notify each IGO that was given a Notice of Lease Application. 	<p>There is the new ability for the Mining Recorder to approve an application with terms and conditions.</p> <p>Under the new MRA regulations, if the application for a lease is rejected, the applicant may request a review from the Mineral Rights Review Board.</p>	<p>Why?</p> <p>To strengthen the GNWT's ability to uphold its duty to consult and accommodate under Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, new flexibility for accommodation has been introduced into the lease issuance process. Where there is a potential for mineral lease issuance to infringe upon or adversely impact Aboriginal or treaty rights, the Mining Recorder will have the discretion to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve application with terms and conditions designed to mitigate or address the identified impacts, or

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				Indigenous Governments or Organizations and the public will be informed of the outcome of an application.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reject the application in the rare circumstances where the potential impacts cannot be reasonably addressed through conditions or accommodations. <p>The Mineral Rights Review Board provides an impartial third party who can review and resolve disputes related to mineral administration.</p> <p>To ensure transparency and accountability, the public and IGOs will also be notified of the outcome of an application.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>If the Mining Recorder issues a mineral lease subject to terms and conditions, they will specify what those conditions are.</p> <p>Proponents may file a complaint with the Mineral Rights Review Board if they feel there was procedural unfairness in a decision made over lease application. The board will review the decision and determine if there was a procedural error or not.</p> <p>The Mineral Map Tenure Viewer will be updated when a lease application is either approved or rejected. The Mining Recorder will also send a notification directly to IGOs.</p>
3.2	S.39; Renewal of Mineral lease	Lease Renewal UPDATED!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A mineral lease can be renewed by submitting an application and a fee to the Mining Recorder. This must be completed no later than six months before the expiry of the mineral lease. • NEW! A Mining Recorder will notify each IGO that was sent the Notice of Lease Application. • NEW! To qualify for renewal, the lease holder must be able to demonstrate that: 	Under the new regulations, each IGO that was sent the Notice of Lease Application will be notified of its renewal.	<p>Why?</p> <p>The GNWT is committed to establishing a mineral administration system that ensures clear communication and transparency for Indigenous Governments and Organizations (IGOs) and industry stakeholders.</p> <p>Under the merit-based system, a lease is meant to be an interest that is held for the purpose of production or getting to production, and therefore the holder should demonstrate why they qualify for renewal.</p> <p>How?</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The production of minerals has occurred continuously for more than one year since the issuance or last renewal of the lease; or The lessee has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Mining Recorder that a reasonable effort has been made to bring the property into production; and The lease must be in good standing to be eligible for renewal 		Notifications will be sent through the automated electronic Mineral Administration and Registry System (MAARS).
3.3		Lease Rent UPDATED!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UPDATED! The annual rent for a mineral lease is \$10 per hectare If rent is not paid within 30 days of the rent due date, the Mining Recorder will issue a notice of lease cancellation. 	Rent will be \$10 per hectare instead of the current \$2.50 per hectare for the first term and \$5.00 per hectare for each renewed term.	<p>Why?</p> <p>Rent will be adjusted due to inflation that has occurred since the rate was set under the Canada Mining Regulations.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Rent payments are made to the Office of the Mining Recorder on or before the anniversary date. If rent is not paid by the anniversary date, an overdue notice will be sent giving 30 days from the date rent was due to make a rent payment. If, after 30 days the rent is not received, the lease shall be cancelled.</p>
3.4	S.45; No removal in accordance with Act (2) Holder of recorded claim or mineral lease	Change to Area of Mineral Lease UPDATED!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UPDATED! A mineral lease holder can apply to reduce the area of their mineral lease, subdivide it or to combine two or more of their leases into one single larger lease. An application to Change Area of Mineral Lease must be made no later than one year before the mineral lease expires. <p>To apply to change the area of a mineral lease:</p>	<p>Previously, leases could only have their area reduced and only at the time of renewal. Now, leases can now be amalgamated into one larger lease or subdivided into multiple smaller leases and the change of area can take effect at the next anniversary date.</p> <p>IGOs will be informed of the area change upon completion and the</p>	<p>Why?</p> <p>This was requested by industry, as it allows lease holders administrative flexibility. Holders will be able to adjust the size of their leases through reduction, subdivision and amalgamation in order to adapt to changing project requirements. Note: Subdivisions and amalgamations will adjust the lease boundary lines but will not change the total area that is held under a lease.</p> <p>IGOs will be informed of any area changes to promote transparency and partnership with industry.</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ The mineral lease must be in good standing; ▫ All rents up to the next anniversary date must be paid; ▫ All fees, royalties and penalties must be paid; ▫ The area that is the subject of the application must be at least 25 ha, unless the area is infill and bounded by other claims/leases or lands where the issuance of interests in minerals is prohibited or restricted ▫ The lease holder must provide an updated legal survey ▫ After approving a change of area application, a Mining Recorder will record the change of area, issue a Mineral Lease to the applicant for each new lease, and issue a Notice of Change to each relevant IGO. <p>Effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The recording date of original or earliest leases(s) will be retained. • The history of the original mineral lease becomes part of the history of each combined area mineral lease and the original lease is cancelled. • The area of the original lease that is no longer included in the reduced area lease, will be cancelled. 	change will also appear on the public Mineral Tenure Map Viewer.	<p>How?</p> <p>Submission of Application to Change Area of Recorded Lease form, application fee and any other information required by the Mining Recorder through MAARS.</p>

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3.5	S.41; Transfer of mineral lease	Transfers UPDATED!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To transfer a mineral lease to another person, the lease holder must submit a Notice of Transfer of Mineral Lease and a non-refundable fee to a Mining Recorder. The person acquiring the lease must have a valid prospector's licence along with security for any amount of unpaid royalties on the lease due to the Minister. NEW! A Mining Recorder will provide a Notice of Transfer to each IGO that was sent the Notice of Lease Application. 	The Mining Recorder will notify each Indigenous Government and Organization of the transfer.	<p>Why?</p> <p>To ensure that IGOs are informed of any changes in claim ownership on their traditional lands.</p> <p>To indicate that there is a new proponent so that a new relationship-building process can begin.</p> <p>To ensure transparency and ongoing communication in the administration of minerals.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Through a notification that is automatically sent out from MAARS to the IGOs that were give a Notice of Lease Application.</p>
3.7	S.40; Cancellation of mineral lease	Suspension NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Supervising Mining Recorder/Mining Recorder can suspend a mineral lease if the holder fails to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ comply with the lease agreement □ comply with the Act or regulations; or □ reply to communications from the Supervising Mining Recorder or a Mining Recorder. A lease can also be suspended at the recommendation of an inspector. Under the suspension, interest in minerals and the rights conveyed by the mineral lease are suspended (including the right to prospect and explore for minerals, the right to extract and stockpile minerals, below 	Leases cannot be suspended under the current system, so everything in the lease suspension section is new.	<p>Why?</p> <p>The option for the Supervising/Mining Recorder to suspend a lease ensures that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lease holders are respecting the laws and regulations of the Northwest Territories; and Proponents have an opportunity to comply with the Act or regulations (rather than cancellation of the lease). <p>Proponents are able to submit a complaint to the Mineral Rights Review Board if they believe an error has been made on the lease suspension.</p> <p>The Mineral Rights Review Board provides an impartial third party who can review suspensions upon request of the holder of the suspended lease.</p>

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			<p>threshold construction and anything that would advance the project, but without encumbering activities that may be needed to satisfy other authorizations relating to surface rights, use of water, etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the duration of a mineral lease suspension the holder cannot transfer or change the area of the lease. • Annual mineral lease reporting is not required during the suspension. • Rent payments are still required. • The Supervising Mining Recorder may lift the suspension if the mineral lease holder corrects the deficiency that gave rise to the suspension. • GNWT will notify the proponent(s), QIGO(s), and the public of the suspension of lease. 		<p>To ensure transparency and accountability, the public and IGOs will also be notified of the suspension.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>The Supervising Mining Recorder/Mining Recorder will provide a Notice of Suspension to the lease holder, outlining what deficiencies gave rise to the suspension and what corrective actions may be taken in order to get the suspension lifted.</p> <p>A suspension may accompany a ticketable offence given by an inspector.</p>
3.8	S.40; Cancellation of mineral lease	Cancellation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UPDATED! The Mining Recorder can cancel a mineral lease if the holder fails to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ pay rent; ▫ comply with the lease agreement; ▫ comply with the Act or regulations; ▫ reply to communications from the Supervising Mining Recorder or a Mining Recorder; or ▫ remove, dispose, or destroy minerals or processed minerals in accordance with 	Previously, a lease could only be cancelled for failure to pay rent, or by request of the lease holder. Those two pathways for cancellation remain. However, under the new regulations, there will also be the possibility for cancellation for other reasons as laid out in the box to the left of this.	<p>Why?</p> <p>The option for the Supervising/Mining Recorder to cancel a lease ensures that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lease holders are respecting the laws and regulations of the Northwest Territories.

#	Relevant clause from the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i>	Topic	Proposed Policy Intention to fulfill the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> clause	What is changing with the retirement of the <i>Northwest Territories Mining Regulations</i>	Why the new or updated regulation is being proposed and how it is suggested to be implemented
			<p>the Removal of Minerals (ROM) Mineral Resources Act or regulations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cancellation can also be due to a court order or at the Minister’s discretion following a conviction. • A mineral lease holder loses the rights to their lease as of the date of cancellation. • NEW! When the Mining Recorder decides to cancel a lease, they will send a Notice of Cancellation. There will be a 30-day buffer period before the ground reopens for staking, where the holder could file a complaint with the Mineral Rights Review Board. If a complaint is filed, then the period prior to ground reopening will be paused, pending the Board’s review. • NEW! GNWT will notify the proponent(s), QIGO(s), and the public of the cancellation of lease. 		<p>The 30-day buffer period allows the leaseholder to appeal the cancellation with the Mineral Rights Review Board if they believe the cancellation was procedurally unfair.</p> <p>The Mineral Rights Review Board is an impartial third party authorized to review cancellations and make a legal determination. This process provides leaseholders with recourse in the event they believe an error has been made regarding the cancellation of their lease.</p> <p>Otherwise, ground will reopen for staking 30 days after the Notice of Cancellation is sent by the Mining Recorder.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>The Mining Recorder will send a Notice of Cancellation to the proponent. There will be a 30-day buffer period before the ground reopens for staking, where the holder could file a complaint with the Mineral Rights Review Board. If a complaint is filed, then the period prior to ground reopening will be paused, pending the Board’s review.</p>
3.9		Annual Mineral Lease Report NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Annual Mineral Lease Report (AMLR) must be submitted no later than January 31 of each calendar year, documenting the previous calendar year. It will be a requirement in the lease agreement. The AMLR requires one of the following: • Option 1: Report signed by a professional engineer or a professional geoscientist as defined in the Practice of Engineering, 	There is currently no mandatory lease reporting, so the Annual Mineral Lease Report will be a new mandatory requirement.	<p>Why?</p> <p>Under the current system, companies are not required to report exploration activities conducted on a lease, resulting in unreported and often unknown activities. This creates a significant knowledge gap that affects policy development and hinders the GNWT’s ability to respond effectively to market changes. Additionally, verifying exploration expenditures— which are deductible—can be challenging, as these activities often occur years before the first royalty return is submitted. The introduction of the Annual Mineral Lease Report</p>

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			<p>Geoscience and Applied Science Technology Act, consisting of the following components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Exploration Expenditures: Spending related to exploration within the lease area. ▫ Economics Data: Capital and operational expenses for the year ▫ Declaration of Accuracy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 2: A declaration from the leaseholder that no exploration activities occurred during the prescribed reporting period. • Additional requirement for projects <u>below benefits threshold</u>: Employment statistics from previous calendar year. • Geoscience data may be provided voluntarily. Any accepted reports, once verified by both NTGS and DRFA, will be eligible for royalty deductions, with all other expenditures requiring validation at the time of submission. • Annual Mineral Lease Report data will be published annually by the GNWT. GNWT will publish a calendar year mining report which is project based on exploration expenditures and Statistical Returns. • Geoscience reports, if provided, will remain confidential for 2 years 		<p>addresses this issue by enabling the GNWT to collect exploration expenditure data in a timely and consistent manner.</p> <p>Reporting will be required on all leases where no active production licence exists, allowing for agile policy response and transparent governance.</p> <p>Voluntary geoscience reporting on leased land would enhance the overall understanding of the mineral potential in the Northwest Territories, while also making the associated expenditures eligible for royalty deductions.</p> <p>Including AMLR as a regulated requirement of the lease agreement ensures there's a clear enforcement pathway, and that it's well communicated to lease holders.</p> <p>The GNWT will publish an annual mining report summarizing exploration expenditures because ITI wants to follow good practices with regards to transparency and publish data publicly as permitted according to confidentiality rules. This allows the public of the Northwest Territories to be informed of mineral exploration activities that are occurring on the land surrounding them.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Companies will submit an Annual Mineral Lease Report once yearly through MAARS.</p>

Production Licences

#	Relevant clause from the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i>	Topic	Proposed policy intent for regulations to fulfill the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> clause	What is changing with the retirement of the <i>Northwest Territories Mining Regulations</i>	Why the new or updated regulation is being proposed and how it is suggested to be implemented
4.0	S.47(2); Production licence	Updated Evidence of Deposit Technical Report (EDTR) NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An updated EDTR is a requirement for a production licence application, only when more than two years have elapsed since the original EDTR was submitted. It will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The work reported in the original EDTR. Report work completed since the original EDTR was submitted. Provide information at the pre-feasibility or preliminary feasibility study level (or higher), as defined for the purposes of National Instrument 43-101 Mineral Resource Reporting. Format the report to meet the standard as required by Form 43-101F. Provide, under Item 24 ‘Other Relevant Data and Information’ of Form 43-101F1 (Form 43-101F1), annual estimates for material change baseline data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment – Estimates of annual person-years of employment (including sub-contractors) Production Rate - Average tonnes per day. Capital Costs - As defined in the <i>Income Tax Act</i>. Mine Life - Simply just the number of years the mine will operate (this is inherent in the other estimates). If the last EDTR approved remains accurate, a letter declaring that may be submitted instead of an updated 	This is a new requirement introduced under the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> . It is a prerequisite for applying for a production licence, which itself is a newly established requirement under the Act.	<p>Why?</p> <p>A project’s parameters may change substantially as a result of work completed after transitioning to mineral lease. For example, additional drilling will affect a resource estimate. It is important that this work be considered when finalizing benefit agreements.</p> <p>The baseline data will give projections for tracking the scope of economic benefits provided by a project and for enabling the GNWT to declare a material change when there is a significant shift in benefits associated with the project. The baseline will be compared against annual reporting from statistical returns to track if a material change has occurred.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>The report will be filled out according to the form and submitted to the MRO through MAARS.</p>

#	Relevant clause from the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i>	Topic	Proposed policy intent for regulations to fulfill the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> clause	What is changing with the retirement of the <i>Northwest Territories Mining Regulations</i>	Why the new or updated regulation is being proposed and how it is suggested to be implemented
			EDTR, along with a summary of the data outlined above against which material change may be assessed.		
4.1	S.47(2); Production licence	Production Licence Application NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A lease holder may apply for a production licence through the Mining Recorder by submitting:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▫ An Application for Production Licence;▫ The fee;▫ A list of all mineral leases that make up the mining property;	Production licences are a new requirement under the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> and Regulations. A lease holder is required to get	Why? The production licence introduces a new tenure step that requires ministerial approval. Because Benefit Agreements and Socio-Economic Agreements are prerequisites for applying for a production licence, this step ensures that

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	<p>S.47(3); Issuance</p> <p>S.47(4); Mackenzie Valley Land use Regulations Permit</p> <p>S.48; Transfer of production licence</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Confirmation of any required benefit or socioeconomic agreements. These agreements are mandatory if the proposed mine is expected to require more than 250 person-years of labour in total, or if projected expenditures exceed \$75 million (in 2021 dollars). ▫ An Updated EDTR (only if more than two years have elapsed since the original EDTR was submitted). • After receiving an application for a production licence, the Mining Recorder shall give a Notice of Production Licence Application to each affected Indigenous Government or Organization with settled or asserted territory that is within or overlaps with the area of the proposed production licence. • The Mining Recorder shall not make a decision in respect of the application for 30 days from the date the Notice of Production Licence Application was sent. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If an application for a production licence is rejected, the applicant may appeal the rejection with the Mineral Rights Review Board. • The Mining Recorder will notify each Indigenous government or organization that received a Notice of Production Licence Application of any decisions made regarding the production licence. If a Mining Recorder makes a decision regarding an application for a production licence, any person with a legal or beneficial interest in the subject of that application may, in accordance with the Mineral Rights Review Board Regulations, request a review of the decision. 	a production licence before production can commence.	<p>Indigenous Governments and residents of the Northwest Territories are benefitting from the sale of natural resources in the territory. Production licences support transparency and help build trust among governments, industry, and other stakeholders.</p> <p>A production licence also marks the point at which a mineral project is authorized to sell produced minerals. In addition to granting the authority to sell, production licences establish reporting obligations necessary for maintaining the licence. To enhance the functionality of the Act, all production licence holders will be required to report data relevant to these obligations. This will enable the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) to verify compliance and administer the system effectively.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>The proponent will negotiate Benefit Agreements and Socio-Economic agreements with Indigenous Governments and the GNWT respectively. They will then submit their application for a production licence through MAARS, including all of the required documentation.</p>

#	Relevant clause from the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i>	Topic	Proposed policy intent for regulations to fulfill the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> clause	What is changing with the retirement of the <i>Northwest Territories Mining Regulations</i>	Why the new or updated regulation is being proposed and how it is suggested to be implemented
4.2		Transfer NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To transfer a production licence to another person, the licence holder must submit a Notice of Transfer of Production Licence and a non-refundable fee to a Mining Recorder. To transfer a production licence, the person acquiring the production licence must have a valid prospector's licence, along with security for any amount of unpaid royalties on the mining property due to the Minister. All mineral leases associated with the production licence must also be transferred to the new licence holder. The transferee will assume and be bound by the benefit and socio-economic agreements in place for the project. The person holding the underlying mineral leases and the production licence must be the same person. A Mining Recorder shall notify each Indigenous Government or Organization that was given a Notice of Application for Production Licence 	Production licences are a new requirement under the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> and Regulations.	<p>Why?</p> <p>It is quite common for ownership of mining operations to change hands. In the event a person/entity purchases a mine that is already in operation, the associated mineral leases and production licence must be transferred to the new owner before they can begin their own production from the mine.</p> <p>Benefit and socio-economic agreements would also be transferred to maintain stability by preserving the terms originally negotiated under the production licence.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>This is done by the production licence holder submitting a Notice of Transfer to the Mining Recorder through MAARS.</p>
4.3	S.38(3); Duration S.27(4); Terms and conditions	Duration of Production Licence NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The duration of a production licence is the lesser of the mineral lease life, including lease renewals, or the life of mine, including extensions. A production licence will be automatically renewed when the underlying lease is renewed. 	Production licences are a new requirement under the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> and its Regulations.	<p>Why?</p> <p>Production cannot occur without an underlying lease; therefore, the production licence will be cancelled if the lease expires without renewal. If the lease(s) are renewed, the production licence will be automatically renewed alongside the lease.</p>

#	Relevant clause from the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i>	Topic	Proposed policy intent for regulations to fulfill the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> clause	What is changing with the retirement of the <i>Northwest Territories Mining Regulations</i>	Why the new or updated regulation is being proposed and how it is suggested to be implemented
					<p>At the end of a mine's life, when production ceases, the production licence will also expire. There is no need for a production licence if there is no production.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>If the leases expire, or the mine has officially reached the end of its life, the production licence will expire.</p>
4.4	S.49; Cancellation of production licence	Suspension NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Supervising Mining Recorder or a Mining Recorder can suspend a production licence if the holder fails to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> comply with the production licence; comply with the Act or regulations; or reply to communications from the GNWT (time frame will be specified by the GNWT in the communication). For the duration of a production licence suspension, the holder cannot continue production from the mine covered by the licence and cannot transfer or change the area of the licence. Royalties owing at the time of suspension must be paid, but no new royalties will be owing during the suspension. The Supervising Mining Recorder can lift the suspension if the production licence holder corrects the actions that gave rise to the suspension. Suspension may be appealed through the Mineral Rights Review Board 	Production licences are a new requirement under the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> and Regulations.	<p>Why?</p> <p>If a production licence holder is not complying with the MRA and its regulations, the Supervising Mining Recorder or Mining Recorder may suspend the production licence and stipulate the conditions for its reinstatement. This ensures that production licence holders respect the laws and regulations of the Northwest Territories.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Notice will be sent to the production licence holder with the reasons for suspension, the duration of the suspension, as well as the actions that the holder must undertake in order to remove the suspension. The production licence holder is not allowed to be in production or to transfer their production licence. A ticketable offence may also result in a suspension determined by an inspector.</p> <p>Indigenous governments and organizations who were provided a Notice of Application for Production Licence will be notified of the suspension, and a notice will also be posted to the public registry.</p>

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4.5	S.49; Cancellation of production licence	Cancellation NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Supervising Mining Recorder or a Mining Recorder can cancel a production licence if the holder fails to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> comply with the production licence; comply with the Act or regulations; or reply to communications from the Supervising Mining Recorder or a Mining Recorder. applies for a voluntary cancellation of the production licence A production licence holder loses the rights to their production licence as of the date of cancellation. Cancellation may be appealed through the Mineral Rights Review Board Indigenous governments and organizations who were given a Notice of Application for Production Licence will be notified of the cancellation, and a notice will also be posted to the public registry. 	<p>Production licences did not exist under the <i>Mining Regulations</i>. When a production licence is cancelled, production is no longer allowed on the lease.</p> <p>The lease stays intact.</p>	<p>Why?</p> <p>Typically, a suspension will precede a cancellation, and the Notice of Suspension will provide the corrective actions necessary for a production licence to be reinstated. A cancellation would only occur if no or insufficient corrective actions were taken on behalf of the production licence holder.</p> <p>The holder may file a complaint with the Mineral Rights Review Board, if they feel the cancellation was procedurally unfair.</p> <p>The Mineral Rights Review Board is an impartial third party who can review the cancellation and make a legal determination. This offers a production licence holder recourse if they feel a mistake has been made with regards to the cancellation.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Production licence holders who have received a notice of cancellation and wish to dispute it may file an appeal with the Mineral Rights Review Board.</p> <p>Indigenous governments and organizations who were provided a Notice of Application for Production Licence will be notified of the cancellation, and a notice will be posted to the public registry.</p>
4.6	S.61; Statistical returns	Reporting (Statistical Return) NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statistical Returns cover the period of activity between January 1 to December 31, covering one calendar year. 	<p>Production licences did not exist under the <i>Mining Regulations</i>.</p>	<p>Why?</p> <p>Statistical Returns serve to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote transparency and accountability

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A production licence holder must submit a Statistical Return that includes Production data, Economic data and Exploration Expenditure data. • The Production data will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Mine details, ▫ Operator details, ▫ Quantities, ▫ Processing details, ▫ Drilling costs, and ▫ Operating costs. • The Economic data will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Gross value of all produced metals, minerals and mineral products produced from the mine, ▫ Net value of the metals, minerals or mineral products produced from the mine after deducting the cost of making sales, transportation and treatment of the ore, ▫ Data on actual economic results (Benefits) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Person-Years of employment broken down by demographic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NWT indigenous residents, • NWT non-indigenous residents, and • Southern. b. Production rate of mill, c. Any changes to mine plan or life of mine, d. Capital expenditures. ▫ Projected data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Employment, in person-years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demographics not required for projections of future years 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate informed policy and regulation • Monitor production activities • Improve stakeholder confidence • Align the Northwest Territories with global standards <p>They will allow the GNWT and the public of the Northwest Territories to have a more accurate understanding of the producing mines in the NWT.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Statistical Returns will be submitted once a year to the GNWT.</p> <p>The GNWT will use this report to publish a calendar year mining report based on statistical returns.</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Expected changes in rate of mill, ▪ Expected changes in mine plan or life of mine, ▪ Expected capital expenditure. ▫ Reserves: Year-end ore reserves, classified by grade and category, including stockpiled ore. ▫ Additional data as may be required by the Minister under the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i>. • The Exploration Expenditures data will include detailed accounts of expenditures related to exploration activities within the production licence area. • A production licence holder must submit their annual Statistical Return no later than March 31 of the following year. 		
4.7		Royalties UPDATED!	<p>The Royalty Regulations are being mirrored for the release of the Mineral Resources Act regulations. As part of this mirroring process, only minor changes have been made. While some wording may be adjusted to improve clarity and ensure consistency, the overall system will remain largely unchanged until the Royalty Regulations are reviewed and updated independently at a later date.</p>	<p>The main changes in the royalty regulations under the mirroring will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The replacement of the position titled “Chief” with the position titled “Supervising Royalties Director” -Changes in how the Mining Reclamation Trust is administered in order to ensure that it fits with the current NWT securities requirements where the 	<p>Why?</p> <p>The structure of the Royalties regime and the calculation system were mirrored. However, elements of the text were changed in order to reflect a consistent drafting language, and to accommodate the new elements that have been introduced to the regulations, such as the addition of the production licence. Wording was updated and changes were made to reflect the roles of different parts of the government. This includes how the Mine Reclamation trust can be administered, as it must be in alignment with the requirements of Environment and Climate Change to meet their mandate.</p>

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				Land and water boards set the amount and the reclamation process is administered by the Minister of ECC.	

Drill Cores and Removal of Minerals

#	Relevant clause from the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i>	Topic	Proposed policy intent for regulations to fulfill the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> clause	What is changing with the retirement of the <i>Northwest Territories Mining Regulations</i>	Why the new or updated regulation is being proposed and how it is suggested to be implemented
5.0	S.50; Drill cores, cuttings and samples	Interpretation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drill core includes a drill core, cuttings or samples obtained by drilling. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This section of the regulations does not apply to those portions of the drill core used for production or geotechnical purposes, assaying, testing, metallurgical, mineralogical, or other scientific studies. As is current practice, the owner or company that drills the core, as well as any holder of the mineral interest to whom the interest is transferred, shall retain the right to utilize the core at their discretion. 	The 'Drill Cores' section is a newly added component of the MRA, encompassing all relevant details pertaining to drill core management and usage.	<p>Why?</p> <p>The main reason for this new section is that the GNWT aims to preserve drill core whenever possible, to maintain knowledge related to drill cores, as well as the geology and mineral resources of the Northwest Territories.</p> <p>Geological models and commodity prices evolve over time, leading to drill core often being re-sampled and re-logged by various proponents in the mineral industry. In addition, academia government (i.e., geologic surveys), and industry will re-examine the core for geological mapping, research, and other special studies to further geologic knowledge.</p> <p>If core can be preserved and catalogued in a publicly accessible system, industry can use this catalogue as a cost-effective means of re-exploring the same area. This will reduce industry costs and facilitate mineral exploration in the Northwest Territories.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Under the new proposed regulations, drill core transported out of the NWT will be tracked, excluding the portions of drill core used for production purposes, assaying, testing, and metallurgical, mineralogical, or other scientific studies.</p>

#	Relevant clause from the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i>	Topic	Proposed policy intent for regulations to fulfill the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> clause	What is changing with the retirement of the <i>Northwest Territories Mining Regulations</i>	Why the new or updated regulation is being proposed and how it is suggested to be implemented
					<p>Drill core may be disposed prior to 90 days after the completion of the drilling program, if it is deemed to be of no value and reported on the drill hole information form. After the submittal of the drill hole information form, drill core may be disposed after receiving acknowledgment that drill core disposal form and associated drillhole information (e.g. drill logs) package was complete.</p> <p>Tampering or damage to drill core is to be reported with the appropriate form, and offenders may face penalties under the Act.</p>
5.1	S.50; Drill cores, cuttings and samples	Prohibitions NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A person cannot seek to obtain a drill core, a cutting, or a sample unless they follow the Act and its regulations. Tampering with drill core means using fraudulent practices to inflate the apparent value of the deposit, a practice sometimes referred to as ‘salting’. 	The 'Drill Cores' section is a newly added component of the MRA, encompassing all relevant details pertaining to drill core management and usage.	<p>Why?</p> <p>Again, the main reason for this new section is that the GNWT aims to preserve drill core whenever possible, to maintain knowledge related to drill core, as well as the geology and mineral resources of the Northwest Territories.</p> <p>The regulations were developed to preserve drill core and knowledge as much as possible, so the regulations must be followed in relation to drill core.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>See below under specific sections.</p>

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5.2	<p>S.51(1); Possession of drill cores</p> <p>S.51(2); Property of the government of the northwest territories</p>	<p>Possession of Holder</p> <p>NEW SECTION!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This applies if a claim holder or lease holder possesses drill core. Within 90 days of completing a drilling program that produces drill core, a claim or lease holder must provide the following information to a Mining Recorder: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the location of the drill program; the location and how the drill core is stored; how the drill core was used; whether each drill core is undamaged, and if damaged or destroyed, when that happened; the location where any drill core is dumped or disposed; and for each drill core: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> drillhole coordinates; drill hole name; information that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> azimuth; dip; depth; downhole survey information; length collar-to-collar; and purpose of drill hole. The claim or lease holder must keep drill core records for the duration of their claim or lease. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a claim or lease expires or is cancelled, the claim or lease holder must turn over all drill core records and information. 	New section	<p>Why?</p> <p>The purpose is to preserve drill core where possible and to retain knowledge related to drill core, geology, and mineral resources in the Northwest Territories. Drill core is extremely important to the mineral resource industry, both present and future, and thus the treatment and preservation of drill cores, cuttings and samples is in the best interest of the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT).</p> <p>In addition, the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM) has Mineral Exploration Best Practises guidelines that give clear recommendations for the mineral industry to preserve core. As such, the mineral industry already has high standards regarding drilling practices, and most regulations will be minimum requirements that will typically be exceeded by proponents.</p> <p>Improved understanding of the Northwest Territories' resource potential, combined with open access to mineral exploration data, provides industry with greater opportunities to assess exploration prospects without the upfront cost of a new drilling program. This approach is highly cost-effective, as the drilling has already been completed.</p> <p>How?</p>

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					The Drill Core Report will be sent to the Mining Recorder through MAARS within 90 days of completing the drilling program.
5.3	S.51(2); Property of the Government of the Northwest Territories S.51; Possession of drill cores	Tampering NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the Mining Recorder believes the claim or lease holder to be tampering with drill cores, they may take action beginning with issuing warnings up to suspending the claim or lease holder's mineral interests and taking possession of all drill cores. 	New section	<p>Why?</p> <p>In order to ensure that there is open access to mineral exploration data for mining proponents, core cannot be tampered with or damaged unnecessarily.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>The Supervising Mining Recorder may issue a Notice of Suspension to the claim or lease holder. This notice will outline any actions the holder may take to lift the suspension, if applicable.</p>
5.4	S.114(s); Drill cores, cutting and samples S.50; Regulations	Transporting NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a claim or lease holder wants to transport drill core within the Northwest Territories, no drill core transportation report is required. If a claim or lease holder wants to transport drill cores outside of the Northwest Territories, they will submit a Drill Core Transportation Report and a fee to a Mining Recorder, as well as any other information required by a Mining Recorder. If, after transferring the core outside of the Northwest Territories, a person transports drill cores to another location outside of the Northwest Territories, the claim or lease holder will submit a new Drill Core Transportation Report to a Mining Recorder to update the transport details. 	New section	<p>Why?</p> <p>Drill core treatment needs to be reported for monitoring and to make sure that any drill core, cuttings, and samples are preserved and maintained, to ensure open access to mineral exploration data in the Northwest Territories.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>The Drill Core Transportation Report will be submitted through MAARS.</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note that this does not apply to portions of drill core used for production or geotechnical purposes, assaying, testing, metallurgical, mineralogical, or other scientific studies. 		
5.5	S.50; Drill cores, cutting and samples S.89; Limitation of liability	Disposal NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a claim or lease holder wants to dispose of drill core outside of the 90 days after the drilling program, they will submit a Drill Core Disposal Request and a fee to a Mining Recorder, as well as any other information required by a Mining Recorder. A Mining Recorder may require additional information from the claim or lease holder after receiving the request. If a Mining Recorder accepts the information, they will issue a notice of acceptance to the claim or lease holder. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A person will not dispose of drill cores unless the claim or lease holder has a notice of acceptance from a Mining Recorder, if the disposal does not occur within the 90-day period for disposals that occur after drilling. 	New section	Why? Drill core treatment needs to be reported for monitoring and to make sure that any drill core, cuttings, and samples are preserved and maintained, to ensure open access to mineral exploration data in the Northwest Territories. How? The Drill Core Disposal Request form will be submitted through MAARS.
5.6	S.50; Drill cores, cutting and samples S.73(8) Liability for damage S.89 Limitation of liability	Damage NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If drill core is damaged, the claim or lease holder will, within 90 days, notify a Mining Recorder of the damage with details of how it happened. The Minister can take possession of drill core if they believe the damage to the drill core was intentional. 	New section	Why? Drill core treatment needs to be reported for monitoring and to make sure that any drill core, cuttings, and samples are preserved and maintained, to ensure open access to mineral exploration data. How? A report will be submitted to the Mining Recorder through MAARS.

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5.7	S.90(1); Abandoned and forfeited things S.90(2); Compensation within one year of sale where owner was unknown	Abandonment NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Minister can take possession of drill core if they believe it has been abandoned. The Minister will make reasonable efforts to notify the last recorded claim or lease holder that they have taken possession of the drill core. If the Minister takes possession of the drill core, it becomes the property of the Government of the Northwest Territories. <p>If a person believes that drill core has been abandoned, they will notify a Mining Recorder, but they will not disturb the drill core.</p>	New section	<p>Why?</p> <p>Drill core treatment needs to be reported for monitoring and to make sure that any drill core, cuttings, and samples are preserved and maintained, to ensure open access to mineral exploration data.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>The Minister may take possession of any drill core that is believed to have been abandoned.</p>
5.8	S.51; Possession of drill cores	Drill Cores in Possession of Minister NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Minister will ensure that drill core in their possession is in a facility maintained by the Northwest Territories Geological Survey at the Geological Materials Storage Facility, or at other locations as deemed appropriate. If the Minister makes the drill core accessible to the public, they may impose terms and conditions on that access and how the drill core may be used. Other core that has been abandoned may remain on the land in neat orderly stacks but still be in the possession of the Minister. The core records will be maintained by the Northwest Territories Geological Survey. 	New section	<p>Why?</p> <p>The Minister will ensure that drill core in their possession is stored and maintained at the Geological Materials Storage Facility, so that the geological data in the drill core is preserved for future governmental, academic and commercial uses.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>By following the practices and guidelines developed for the Geological Materials Storage Facility.</p>
5.9	S.20; Discretion to issue similar interests	Transfer NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a claim or lease is transferred to a new holder, the interest in drill core passes to the new holder. 	New section	<p>Why?</p> <p>To make sure that the new holder has the information required to progress with the creation of a mine.</p> <p>How?</p>

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					It will automatically be deemed to be transferred after the application for transfer is approved.

Removal of Minerals or Processed Minerals

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6.0	S.19(2); Nature of interest: recorded claim	Application to Remove NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A person cannot remove minerals or processed minerals without an Approval to Remove Minerals. A claim or lease holder can apply to remove minerals or processed minerals from a claim or lease by submitting an Application to Remove Minerals and a non-refundable fee to the Supervising Mining Recorder. The application must be received at least 30 days before the removal of minerals or processed minerals starts. An Application to Remove Minerals is not required if the claim or lease holder wants to remove less than 100 tonnes of minerals or processed minerals other than precious stones and gold and the estimated value is less than \$100,000. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An Application to Remove Minerals is not required if the claim or lease holder wants to remove less than 100 kilograms of concentrate. [OBJ] If the Supervising Mining Recorder rejects an application, they will provide written reasons for the decision to the applicant. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the Supervising Mining Recorder approves the applications, they will issue an Approval to Remove Minerals to the applicant. A claim or lease holder can apply to remove 10 kilotonnes or more of minerals or processed minerals from claim or lease by submitting an Application to Remove Minerals (10kt or more) and a non-refundable fee to the Minister, along with any information required by the Minister. The Minister can approve or reject an application. 	New section	<p>Why?</p> <p>This section of the regulations will create the removal of mineral requirements.</p> <p>The concept of bulk sampling is well understood in the mineral industry, but the use of the term ‘bulk sampling’ varies in legislation and other literature. Instead of the term “Bulk Sample”, the MRA uses of the term “removal of minerals” to avoid complications around what a bulk sample is and isn’t.</p> <p>The larger size of a bulk sample is the driver behind the various studies and tests required to determine ore reserves or to evaluate mineral deposit characteristics. Depending on the commodity being explored, the size of the bulk sample collected may have no bearing on the amount or value of minerals it contains. Recovering minerals from the sample or ore may require further processing and treatment, and minerals may need to be sold as part of the evaluation of the deposit to test market delivery.</p> <p>Bulk sampling can blur the line between exploration and small-scale levels of production. Although the definitions vary, removal of minerals generally is conducted using activities that disturb the ground or surface requiring the permitting based on land use or water legislation.</p> <p>How?</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the Minister rejects an application, they will provide written reasons for the decision to the applicant. • If the Minister approves the applications, they will issue an Approval to Remove Minerals to the applicant. • The Minister can impose terms and conditions for the claim or lease holder in the Approval to Remove Minerals. 		<p>It is clear that bulk sampling varies greatly across the Canadian jurisdictions analyzed but the definitions generally include the concept of excavation or extraction, and it may fall under a definition of ‘advanced exploration’.</p> <p>Many of the reviewed jurisdictions make it clear that the limits related to bulk sampling are for claims only (not leases).</p> <p>The Removal of Minerals requirements recognized that the bulk sample could be an activity that is important for a project at all tenure stages.</p> <p>A simple application form was developed that allows the Office of the Mining Recorder to track the activity and its progress. All samples will be required to follow the same application and reporting requirements. The regulation of the financial aspects of testing and selling minerals from a bulk sample do change going from a claim to a producing mine, but the reporting requirements are the same.</p>
6.1		Amendment NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An amendment to the Application to Remove Minerals is required if there is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ an increase in tonnage greater than 10 percent of the originally authorized tonnage will occur; 	New section	<p>Why?</p> <p>Plans may change once a removal program has been initiated. If there is a significant change to the terms of the application,</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ a new location for mineral or processed mineral collections is chosen; or ▫ the mine has expanded to include additional claims or leases. • The claim or lease holder will apply to amend an approval to remove minerals or processed minerals by submitting an Application to Remove Minerals-and a fee to the Supervising Mining Recorder (if less than 10 kilotonnes) or the Minister (if 10 kilotonnes or more), along with any other information that the Supervising Mining Recorder or the Minister requires. • The application must be received before the removal of minerals or processed minerals from the property begins. 		<p>then the GNWT should be informed. Minerals are being removed from the land.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Through an amendment to an Application to Remove Minerals. Application should be resubmitted to the Supervising Mining Recorder through MAARS. But this must occur before shipping of material from the property has started.</p>
6.2	S.40; Cancellation of mineral lease	Cancellation NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the Supervising Mining Recorder has evidence that a claim or lease holder has removed, disposed, or destroyed minerals or processed minerals in contravention of the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> and its regulations, they may issue a Notice of Cancellation of Interest in Minerals to the holder. • The notice will include reasons for the cancellation. • There will be a 30-day buffer period before the ground reopens for staking. • During the period between the notice being issued and cancellation, the claim or lease will be suspended. • When a claim or lease is cancelled, all minerals and processed minerals that have not been removed from the mine become the property of the Government of the Northwest Territories. • The holder of the claim or lease may dispute the cancellation with the Mineral Rights Review Board. 	New section	<p>Why?</p> <p>The removal of minerals without permission is theft. Therefore, cancellation of tenure is a possible consequence of minerals or processed minerals being removed or destroyed in contravention to the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> regulations. Criminal charges may also apply.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>If there is evidence that a claim or lease holder has removed, disposed or destroyed minerals in contravention to the <i>Mineral Resources Act</i> and its regulations, the holder will be issued a Notice of Cancellation. They will have the ability to dispute that</p>

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					cancellation by filing an appeal with the Mineral Rights Review Board, if they view that the cancellation is unjustified.
6.3	S.45; Removal Minerals	Reporting Removal NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A claim or lease holder who has removed minerals must submit a certified report in the approved form by the date specified in the notification of approval to remove minerals. 	New section	<p>Why?</p> <p>The GNWT is looking to govern the removal of bulk samples and other forms of sampling while enhancing the collection of geoscience that it makes accessible to the public. Larger volumes of minerals being removed from a property will now need a notification to the Mining recorder including the details of the plan and provide a report at the end of the project.</p> <p>The technical report will be in the same format as the reporting of other geoscience work. There will also be a reporting of the costs related to the program and a review especially if the minerals are sold. If the report is regarding a recorded claim, the costs can be used as work credits for the maintenance of the mineral tenure.</p> <p>The reporting requirement is for all stages of mineral tenure including leases and operations with production licences. This is to ensure that the GNWT is aware of what minerals are being removed and any stage.</p> <p>How?</p>

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					Through a report that is submitted to the Mining Recorder through MAARS.
6.4	S.90; Disposition of Forfeited or Abandoned Items	Sale NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government of the Northwest Territories retains as its property the minerals or processed minerals, or the proceeds from their sale, of any claim. Revenues from minerals sold from a lease can be used to offset the costs of collecting and processing. Any revenue in addition to those costs will be returned to the GNWT. If a production licence, the costs and revenues from the bulk sample will be reported as part of the annual royalty filing, and royalties will be paid as required. A technical report will still be required, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proceeds from the sale of minerals or processed minerals must be sent to the Government of the Northwest Territories through the Supervising Mining Recorder. 	New section	<p>Why?</p> <p>A production licence is required in order for a holder to be able to sell minerals. The Removal of Minerals exists in order to collect enough material to test the viability and profitability of a deposit. This may include the need to test the marketing of the minerals. It should not be used as a method of small-scale mining of minerals.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Through sending the proceeds of the sale to the Government of the Northwest Territories.</p>
6.5	S.62; Confidentiality of information S.63(1); Minister may direct that information is not disclosed	Confidentiality NEW SECTION!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any removal of minerals reports, or documents submitted or prepared must not be disclosed until two years after the report was submitted or prepared unless the holder of the claim or lease has consented to its release earlier or has publicly released the information elsewhere. If all claims or leases that are the subject of the report are cancelled, any report or document may be disclosed immediately. 	New section	<p>Why?</p> <p>To provide a period of confidentiality for information that may be sensitive. This aligns with work to protect intellectual property.</p> <p>How?</p> <p>Through the aforementioned period of confidentiality.</p>