



Minister's Office
PO Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6

August 19, 2026

Chief Superintendent Lindsay Ellis
Commanding Officer, RCMP "M" Division
4100 4th Avenue, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 1H5

Dear Chief Superintendent Ellis,

Re: Yukon's Policing Priorities for 2026-28

I am writing to formally outline Yukon's policing priorities for the 2026-28 period.

I would like to first extend my appreciation to the RCMP for their ongoing commitment to public safety, and for fostering strong partnerships with First Nations governments, local communities, and territorial stakeholders. This collaborative approach has been essential in advancing shared public safety goals.

These priorities have been developed and informed by input from the Yukon Police Council, analysis by the Department of Justice, and meaningful engagement with First Nations governments, stakeholders, and community partners. They reflect both the evolving public safety context in Yukon and the shared goals that policing services remain fair, effective, and trusted.

Communication and collaboration among the Department of Justice, Yukon Police Council, RCMP, and community partners form the cornerstone of our collective efforts in recent years on reinforcing community-oriented policing. These priorities build upon this foundation by emphasizing relationship-based strategies, enhanced public safety, and coordinated responses to improve outcomes for victims, vulnerable individuals, and communities across Yukon. Across all priorities, continued support for victims and vulnerable people remains critical. This involves acknowledging the complex intersections of mental health, substance use, trauma, and social vulnerability in a modern policing environment.

The Yukon Police Council, through their engagement with Yukoners, has identified several recurring themes: growing concerns regarding community safety and visible disorder; the significance of culturally responsive and relationship-based policing; demands related to RCMP capacity, visibility, and responsiveness; and the necessity for strong governance, accountability, and coordination among partners.

The policing priorities for 2026-28 are as follows:

Priority 1 – Enhancing Public Safety and Community Confidence

Building trust, and strengthening public confidence through responsive, professional, and community-oriented policing to reflect the unique needs of Yukoners. This includes ongoing efforts to address criminal activity, visible disorder, and public safety concerns throughout Yukon communities while fostering strong relationships and enhancing Yukoner's perceptions of safety.

This priority underscores the importance of building public trust and ensuring Yukoners feel secure. It further reinforces the necessity of professionalism, respect, compassion, and accountability, along with sustained focus on member wellness.

The primary objectives of this priority include the following.

- Continuing prevention and enforcement efforts related to property crime, theft, and repeat victimization.
- Supporting collaboration with justice and community partners on addressing safety concerns in downtown areas and high-risk zones.
- A visible and approachable police presence in a manner responsive to local needs and circumstances.
- Continuing efforts related to road safety and traffic enforcement in support of safer roads and the prevention of dangerous driving, impaired driving, and repeated traffic offenses.
- Supporting ongoing opportunities to share appropriate information with Yukoners regarding policing efforts, public safety issues and community safety initiatives
- Building public trust through professionalism, respect, compassion and accountability.

Priority 2 – Targeted Policing of Organized Crime, Drug Trafficking, and Serious Offenders

Organized crime, illicit drug trafficking, serious criminal activity, and repeat offending continue to pose substantial risks to community safety in Yukon. This priority recognizes the importance of continued strategic and targeted policing efforts, supported by collaboration with Justice, Health, Indigenous governments, and community partners, to strengthen coordinated responses and advance public safety across the territory.

Yukon continues to face significant challenges related to organized crime and the illegal drug trade, including violence and community harm. This priority supports prioritized focus on enforcement related public safety outcomes complemented by collaborative partnerships.

The primary objectives of this priority include the following.

- A continued focus on organized crime and criminal networks involved in drug trafficking, firearms, associated violence, and intercepting the supply and distribution of toxic illegal drugs.
- Continuing to support broader territorial responses to substance use-related harm, including appropriate collaboration with community and government partners.
- Collaboration with partners to support effective responses to repeat and serious offenders.

Priority 3 – Policing in Communities Through Strong Relationships

Relationship-based and culturally informed policing remains essential to public safety in Yukon. Continued work with Yukon First Nations governments, municipalities, and communities is necessary to strengthen relationships, support reconciliation, and respond to community-specific safety priorities.

Effective policing in Yukon relies on enduring, respectful relationships. Advancing reconciliation and supporting community-led safety initiatives remain priorities, including collaboration in prevention, restorative justice, and reintegration efforts.

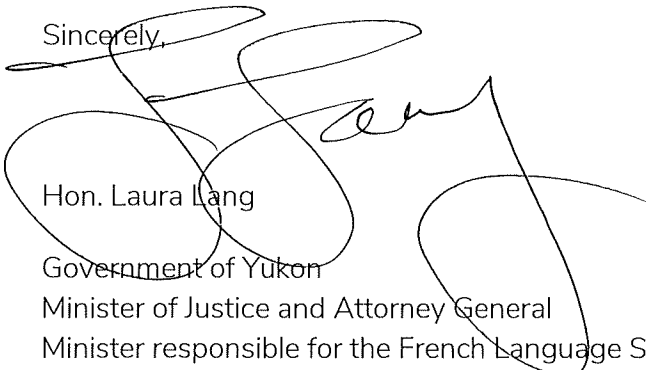
The primary objectives of this priority include the following.

- Supporting deepened trust and continued collaboration with First Nations governments, municipalities, and rural communities to support policing services and priorities for First Nations communities.
- Supporting and participating when appropriate in local cultural events and orientation along with RCMP learning opportunities that foster shared understanding and principles of reconciliation.
- Promoting consistent, community-integrated policing and relationship-building in a manner responsive to local needs and circumstances.
- Engaging youth and community leaders to support long-term safety and prevention initiatives and community-led events that strengthen relationships.

I wish to commend the Yukon RCMP for their noteworthy achievements under previous policing priorities. The professionalism, dedication, and adaptability of "M" Division amid rising demands has been invaluable to community safety throughout the territory.

I look forward to hearing from you about your progress in working on these priorities during the 2026-28 period. My office and the Department of Justice remain committed to collaborating with the Yukon RCMP, Yukon First Nations, and community partners to support a coordinated, evidence-based, and sustainable approach to policing and community safety.

Sincerely,



Hon. Laura Lang

Government of Yukon

Minister of Justice and Attorney General

Minister responsible for the French Language Services Directorate

Minister responsible for the Women and Gender Equity Directorate

Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Board