2024–2025 Annual Report on the Implementation Plan for MMIWG2S+ Strategy

Changing the story to upholding dignity and justice



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Territorial acknowledgement

We respectfully acknowledge that this work has taken place on the traditional Territories of Yukon First Nations. We honour the histories, cultures and enduring presence of Indigenous Peoples across this land.

We recognize that the impacts of colonization have contributed to the violence experienced by Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people. The strategy is grounded in respect, partnership and a shared commitment to reconciliation, safety and justice.

We acknowledge the leadership of families, survivors, Elders, knowledge keepers and communities who continue to guide this work. Their voices and experiences remain central to implementation and accountability.



"Checking the Net with My Sister" by Violet Gatensby

Message from Minister Lang

As the Minister responsible for the Women and Gender Equity Directorate, I am pleased to present this Annual Report for 2024-25. I would like to thank all the partners who continue to undertake activities related to the Yukon's MMIWG2S+ Strategy; and provided their input for this report.

Our government remains committed to supporting the continued implementation of Yukon's MMIWG2S+ Strategy in partnership with signatories, Indigenous women's organizations, Yukon First Nation governments and the Government of Canada.

Since becoming Minister responsible for the Women and Gender Equity Directorate in November, I have approached this role with a deep sense of responsibility and commitment to listen and learn. Before entering elected office, I spent more than two decades working in the Yukon public service, including leadership roles in Health and Social Services and the Yukon Housing Corporation. Through that work, I saw firsthand how housing, health, safety and community wellbeing are deeply connected. I also saw how systems can either support people in moments of vulnerability or fail them. Those experiences continue to shape how I approach this work today.

I want to acknowledge the leadership of the past Yukon Advisory Committee, whose members helped guide the early years of implementing Yukon's MMIWG2S+ Strategy. Their work laid an important foundation for collaboration and accountability. As governance structures evolve, that commitment to shared leadership continues.

At the centre of this work must always be families and survivors. Their voices, experiences and advocacy have brought us to this point, and they must continue to guide how we move forward. Ensuring their leadership is reflected in governance, accountability and implementation is essential if we are to achieve lasting change.

While the Government of Yukon plays an important role, the success of this Strategy depends on the collective efforts of all partners. The priorities and actions outlined in this report reflect shared responsibilities and jurisdictions. Meaningful progress will only be achieved through collaboration, mutual accountability, and a shared commitment to prioritizing and advancing this work together.

The vision that guides this strategy is clear: healthy, safe and violence-free communities where all people are respected, valued and treated with dignity and justice. As Minister, I remain committed to supporting that work and to walking alongside partners and communities as we continue moving it forward.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Laura Lang
Minister responsible for the Women and Gender Equity Directorate

Purpose of this report

Changing the Story to Upholding Dignity and Justice: Yukon's Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit+ People Strategy and its Implementation Plan are whole-of-Yukon documents. Their implementation extends beyond any single government or organization.

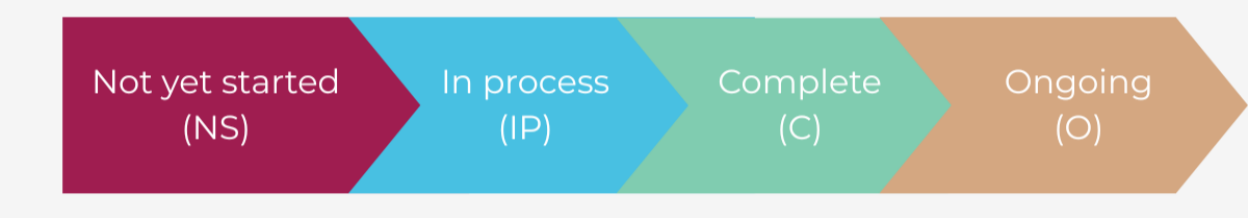
The strategy and Implementation Plan are intended to remain flexible and responsive to changing community priorities while supporting accountability through regular reporting and engagement.

This report provides a summary of progress based on information submitted by participating organizations during the 2024–25 fiscal year, specifically the period between April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025. In its role as Secretariat, the Women and Gender Equity Directorate collected and compiled the information provided by partners.

The report reflects the collective efforts of Indigenous women's organizations, First Nations governments, territorial and federal governments and non-governmental organizations. It reinforces the shared commitment to implementation and accountability established through the 2020 MMIWG2S+ Declaration.

The report uses colour coding and letter abbreviations to show the status of each milestone in the Implementation Plan:

- Not yet started – NS
- In process – IP
- Complete – C
- Ongoing – O



Under each objective, the Women and Gender Equity Directorate has also provided a summary based on the actions reported by partners.

This is the second annual report on implementation of the strategy. It builds on the foundation established through the first annual report and supports continued analysis, collaboration and accountability.

Through the Accountability Forum, Family Gathering and other accountability measures will help identify progress and opportunities to improve future reporting. This process will also help strengthen the implementation approach and accountability to families, survivors, others directly affected and implementation partners.

Background

Following the long-standing advocacy from families and communities, the Government of Canada launched the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in 2016. Yukon families were among the first in Canada to share their experiences through testimony.

The National Inquiry's Final Report, Reclaiming Power and Place, was released in June 2019. It included 231 Calls for Justice and identified systemic and ongoing human and Indigenous rights violations as root causes of violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQIA+ people.

In the Yukon, the Advisory Committee on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two-Spirit+ People was established in 2015. Its initial role was to support regional engagement and connect families, survivors, and communities with the

National Inquiry process. Following the release of the Final Report, the committee's mandate expanded to include the development and implementation of a Yukon-specific response.

This work led to the development of a coordinated strategy that brings together governments, organizations and communities. The approach recognizes that implementation and accountability are shared responsibilities. The Yukon's MMIWG2S+ Strategy was released in December 2020 and signed by more than 50 partners, including all orders of government in the territory.

Early implementation efforts identified both progress and ongoing gaps. At the first MMIWG2S+ Accountability Forum in May 2022, partners shared examples of work underway across the territory. Families and survivors identified areas requiring greater attention, including engaging men and boys in ending violence and improving access to safe and affordable transportation.

In response, the Yukon Advisory Committee identified 12 priority action items to support focused and coordinated implementation. Released in December 2022, these actions set out key objectives and milestones to guide progress over time. The Implementation Plan, released in May 2023, provides a framework to help partners coordinate their work, track progress and maintain accountability across the strategy's four interconnected paths.

Where we are now

Implementation of Yukon's MMIWG2S+ Strategy continues to build on the foundation established through the strategy, priority actions, and Implementation Plan. Work is advancing across all four paths and is guided by shared goals, priority areas and ongoing engagement.

Since the release of the Implementation Plan in 2023, partners have worked to strengthen coordination, improve access to services and support culturally grounded approaches. Responsibility for implementation remains shared among Indigenous women's organizations, First Nations governments, territorial and federal governments, and community partners.

The Yukon Advisory Committee completed its mandate following the development and publication of the strategy and the Implementation Plan. Since then, conversations have continued about establishing a new governance to support implementation.

A governance would help determine how partners respond to annual reporting, guide communications, ensure accountability and adapt the implementation approach as circumstances and priorities change. It would also support continued engagement with families, survivors and communities so that implementation remains informed by lived experience and community priorities.

Implementation will continue to evolve as partners build on existing work and respond to the emerging priorities within their scope. This reflects a commitment to sustained action, continuous improvement and shared accountability.

Collaboration with implementation partners

Implementation of the strategy depends on coordinated efforts among governments, organizations and communities. Progress requires shared leadership, coordinated action and continued engagement among partners. Implementation partners identified in this report include:

- Assembly of First Nations Yukon Region
- BYTE - Empowering Youth Society
- Carcross/Tagish First Nation Government
- Council of Yukon First Nations
- Government of Canada
- Government of Yukon
- Kluane First Nation Government
- Kwanlin Dün First Nation Government
- Liard Aboriginal Women's Society
- Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation Government
- Na-Cho Nyäk Dun First Nation Government
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- Ta'an Kwäch'än Council Government
- Territorial Youth Collective
- Whitehorse Aboriginal Women's Circle
- Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council
- Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+

MMIWG2S+ Declaration 2020

The MMIWG2S+ Declaration reflects a shared commitment among Yukon partners to take action to end violence and uphold dignity and justice for Indigenous women, girls, and Two-Spirit+ people.

The signatories acknowledge the findings of the National Inquiry and the leadership of families and survivors in advancing this work. The declaration affirms that all partners have a responsibility to contribute to the implementation of the strategy through coordinated and sustained action.

It also establishes a commitment to accountability. Partners recognize that they are accountable to families, survivors, other partners and all Yukoners for the progress made in implementing the strategy.

“Together, and as individuals, we are committed to do our part to take action for the implementation of Changing the Story to Uphold Dignity and Justice: Yukon’s MMIWG2S+ Strategy, and initiatives that contribute to the vision set out in the strategy. We commit to end violence, including all forms of race and gender-based violence, and to uphold dignity and justice for Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people in the Yukon. We commit to be accountable to families, survivors, other partners, contributors, and Yukoners for implementation of this Strategy.”

Implementation principles

The implementation principles guide how partners work together and carry out the strategy across the Yukon. They support a coordinated and consistent approach in all areas of implementation.

Inclusivity and interconnection

Implementing the strategy requires coordinated action by governments, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the Yukon residents. The needs and experiences of women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people living with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder or other disabilities must be fully included and considered.

Equity and equality

Social inequities and inequalities contribute to violence. The implementation of the strategy must identify and address racism, sexism, discrimination and bias to advance justice, equality and equity for people throughout the Yukon.

Sustainability

Partners must come together and invest in changing systems, improving services, providing comprehensive, multi-year funding and in developing First Nations and the Yukon service providers in all relevant fields over the long term to embed changes.

Accountability

All contributors to the development and implementation of this strategy must hold themselves and each other accountable for their commitments in leading or partnering on the implementation and action plans applicable to them.

Implementation plan goals

- Implement coordinated and effective violence prevention, intervention, and crisis response across the Yukon that contribute to safer and healthier communities for Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people.
- End violence against all Indigenous people in the Yukon, in particular women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people in the Yukon.
- Increase the economic independence of Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people.
- Increase public awareness and community involvement in ending violence against Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people.

Priority action items

The Yukon Advisory Committee identified 12 priority action items under the MMIWG2S+ Strategy. These items highlight areas requiring focused and coordinated action. They are incorporated throughout the Implementation Plan and continue to guide implementation efforts.

Action items:

- Commemoration
- Land-based infrastructure and programming
- The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Community safety assessments, plans and implementation
- Strengthening and improving sexualized assault and violence response programs
- Resource extraction and major infrastructure projects
- Safe housing and freedom from poverty
- Indigenous women's organizations
- Strategy accountability framework
- MMIWG2S+ Trust Fund
- Transportation and communication
- Engaging men and boys in ending violence against women

Implementation Plan

Four paths to changing the story

Path 1: Strengthening connections and supports focuses on strengthening relationships, supports, and cultural foundations that contribute to the safety and well-being of Indigenous women, girls, and Two-Spirit+ people. It centres families and survivors and supports their involvement in implementation. It also includes access to culturally relevant services, such as mental wellness supports, land-based programming and community-led initiatives. Strong connections to culture, community and supports are important to prevention, healing and overall well-being.

Path 2: Community safety and justice focuses on improving community safety and strengthening justice systems so they better meet the needs of Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people. It includes community safety planning, improved access to justice services and culturally relevant approaches to prevention and response. This work must be trauma-informed and culturally appropriate and must support safety, dignity and respect. Effective coordination across safety and justice systems is an important part of this work.

Path 3: Economic independence and education focuses on improving access to education, training, employment and economic opportunities. This includes supporting culturally relevant education, skills development and participation in the workforce and local economies. It also emphasizes reducing barriers and creating inclusive environments so that Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people can pursue education and employment opportunities. Economic stability and access to education are important to supporting well-being and reducing vulnerability to violence.

Path 4: Community action and accountability focuses on strengthening public awareness, community action and accountability for implementation of the strategy. This includes education and training, promoting greater understanding and helping systems and organizations respond appropriately to the needs of Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people. It also includes approaches for tracking progress and supporting transparency. Shared responsibility and ongoing accountability are central to achieving the strategy's objectives.

Implementation progress across the strategy

During the 2024–25 reporting period, partners across the Yukon reported work under the strategy's four paths and 12 priority action areas. This work reflects a shared commitment to collaboration, accountability and Indigenous-led approaches.

These efforts have supported improved access to services and greater coordination among partners. At the same time, areas requiring further work continue to be identified through ongoing reporting and engagement.

The following sections summarize key activities and progress under each path of the strategy.

Path 1: Strengthening connections and supports

Work under this path focused on strengthening relationships, cultural connections and support systems for families and survivors. Activities aimed to improve access to culturally grounded services and enhance community-based supports that contribute to safety and well-being.

1.1 MMIWG2S+ family/survivor support and involvement

Keep families at the heart of “Changing the Story” by providing ongoing support and involvement including the implementation of this strategy.

1.1.a. Establish a network and interagency system to support affected families and survivors.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Directory of affected families and survivors to remain engaged with the implementation of the strategy. (Years 1-5)	Indigenous women’s organizations	O
Network of advocacy services and supports for Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people. (Years 1-5)	Indigenous women’s organizations	O
A memorandum of understanding with British Columbia, Northwest Territories and Alaska. (Years 1-5)	Indigenous women’s organizations	IP
The development of a protocol document guiding a coordinated emergency response for Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people. (Years 1-5)	Indigenous women’s organizations	IP

Summary:

During the reporting period, the Yukon Aboriginal Women’s Council (YAWC) focused on strengthening practical and accessible supports for families and survivors of MMIWG2S+ through improved coordination and information sharing.

YAWC continued to use and promote its interagency road maps and community resource materials, responding to ongoing requests from staff, clients, and other First Nations for smaller, easy-to-share versions to support frontline use and outreach. At the same time, YAWC prioritized strengthening relationships beyond Yukon by advancing connections with partners in British Columbia, Alaska, and the Northwest Territories to improve cross-jurisdictional collaboration for families seeking justice and continuity of support. Families identified aftercare as a critical gap, and this feedback informed YAWC’s planning efforts, including the intention to host a gathering with MMIWG2S+ families. This gathering is intended to identify priority needs and inform the development of a coordinated emergency response team for Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people, reinforcing a family-centred and interagency approach to support.

1.1.b. Honour MMIWG2S+ people.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Public memory book and family tree of the MMIWG2S+. (Years 1-5)	Indigenous women's organizations	O
Identify monuments yet to be established. (Years 1-5)	Indigenous women's organizations	IP
MMIWG2S+ monuments throughout the Yukon. (Years 5-10)	Indigenous women's organizations	IP
Family gatherings with leadership and RCMP. (Years 1-15)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon; Yukon First Nations	O

Summary:

Partners across the Yukon continued to honour missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people through community-led commemorative and relationship-building activities. These activities centred families, cultural practices, healing and ongoing accountability.

Carcross/Tagish First Nation hosted family feasts, Red Dress Walks, engagement sessions, community barbecues and funerals. These gatherings created space for remembrance, collective support and healing. RCMP members participated in several activities, including serving meals and joining community members, which helped strengthen relationships and trust.

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation also reported regular RCMP participation in family and community gatherings, including National Aboriginal Awareness Week and family week events organized by their health teams, reinforcing a visible commitment to respectful engagement.

The Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council (YAWC) continued long-term commemoration work by collecting articles and updating the MMIWG2S+ family tree to ensure individuals are named, remembered, and connected within the public record. YAWC also supported place-based remembrance through the installation of a commemorative bench in Watson Lake and facilitated discussions with MMIWG2S+ families during accountability forums to ensure commemoration efforts reflect family wishes. Annual

Sisters in Spirit Vigil walks remained a key activity, honouring families and advancing the Calls for Justice from the National Inquiry. In addition, YAWC met with the RCMP Historical Case Unit in 2024, with this engagement intended to continue, and began developing aftercare supports for MMIWG2S+ families and First Nation leadership to better address ongoing needs linked to commemoration and justice processes.

In its Secretariat role, the Women and Gender Equity Directorate worked with Indigenous women's organizations to plan and secure funding for community engagements with families. These engagements provided information on the annual reporting process and created opportunities for families to share recommendations on future governance structures, helping ensure that honouring MMIWG2S+ people remains grounded in family leadership, transparency, and shared accountability as the work moves forward.

1.1.c. Create a space and treat Indigenous and Yukon youth as a priority to eradicate violence within Yukon society.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Invite Yukon youth groups to become signatories to the Strategy. (Years 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	C
Engagement roundtable to determine the needs of Yukon youth and partnership opportunities to eradicate violence against Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people. (Years 1-5)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+; Youth group signatories	IP
Incorporate the Youth for Dignity in Relationships program as part of the Government of Yukon's education curriculum. (Years 1-5)	Government of Yukon	IP

Summary:

As part of its work to centre youth voices and prevention, the Department of Education approved locally developed courses created in partnership with Youth for Dignity. These courses give students opportunities to learn about healthy relationships, respect, and violence prevention. Including this content in the education system helps young people build the knowledge and skills needed to recognize, challenge and prevent violence in their schools and communities.

1.1.d. Support programs for men and boys seeking to end violence.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Invite men and boys' groups seeking to end violence to become signatories to the Strategy (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	IP

Summary:

During the reporting period, First Nations partners advanced culturally grounded programs that support men and boys, strengthen their roles in families and communities, and help prevent violence.

Kwanlin Dün First Nation (KDFN), through its Justice Department, initiated the Cultural Projects and Land Pursuits team known as The Uncles. This program is led by three KDFN citizens who serve as positive role models and bring extensive cultural and traditional knowledge to their work. Through paid, land-based projects, The Uncles engage vulnerable men and boys in meaningful activities that build skills, responsibility, and connection. Current work includes wood harvesting project at a KDFN wood lot near Mount Sima, where participants learn safe harvesting practices and contribute firewood to KDFN citizens. This work is expected to transition into longer-term projects on KDFN traplines. Beyond skills development, the program has created space for relationship building, trust, and informal learning, with time on the land enabling natural conversations that support healing, accountability, and violence prevention. Growing interest from other community members has highlighted the program's value and informed plans to host workshops with men and boys to guide future activities. KDFN identified that sustained funding is needed to expand participation, stabilize employment, and allow time to evaluate outcomes and secure longer-term support, recognizing that meaningful employment is a key protective factor linked to violence prevention.

Teslin Tlingit Council (TTC) also advanced its commitment to ending gender-based violence through a proposed expansion of healing and prevention programming for men and boys, led collaboratively by the Health and Wellness Department, Justice Department, and the Clan-based Healing Strategy Committee. The initiative builds on TTC's community healing strategy, approved by resolution at the August 2022 General Council, and positions gender-based violence prevention as integral to overall

community wellness. Planned activities include bi-weekly healing circles in both Teslin and Whitehorse that address the root causes of violence, such as grief, trauma, addictions, emotional regulation, and intergenerational impacts. In addition, TTC is proposing seasonal, multiday land-based camps held on traditional territory, where participants will engage in cultural practices rooted in Tlingit language, values, and life skills, alongside facilitated discussions about healthy relationships and well-being. Guided by Haa Kusteeyi (Our Way), the initiative is Indigenous led, inclusive of all TTC citizens who identify as male, and grounded in local knowledge and strengths. Through connection to land, culture, and community, TTC aims to foster accountability, resilience, and healthier relationships, contributing to long-term reductions in gender-based violence and stronger outcomes for families and future generations.

1.2 Commemoration (Priority action item #1)

The Yukon acknowledges the lives lost and changed because of violence against Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people and will honour and commemorate MMIWG2S+ Yukoners and those connected to the Yukon families by assisting with restoring graves, fencing and markers.

1.2.a. Restoration and commemoration of MMIWG2S+ resting places.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Invite the Yukon Coroner's Service to become a signatory to the Strategy. (Years 1-5)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	C
Restoration and commemoration program and fund for families (Years 1-5)	Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	IP
Dedicated counselling services and supports for family members of MMIWG2S+ people. (Years 1-15)	Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	O

Summary:

During the reporting period, the Government of Yukon continued to support families in honouring their loved ones, finding information and accessing care.

Through the Department of Justice, the Victim Services Branch's Family Information Liaison provided dedicated, family-centred support to family members of MMIWG2S+ people. This role assists families in learning more about their loved one's case,

navigating government processes, and accessing available information in a trauma-informed and respectful manner, helping reduce barriers during an already difficult process.

The Women and Gender Equity Directorate also provided financial support to Indigenous women's organizations to strengthen their operational capacity, enabling the delivery of counselling services and family supports connected to commemoration and healing. Funding through the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence supported enhancements to the Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council's Elders-in-Residence and Counsellors-in-Residence programs in 2024–25 through the Victim Support Fund. These investments contributed to culturally grounded, accessible supports for families as they engage in remembrance, restoration, and ongoing healing related to MMIWG2S+ commemoration.

1.2.b. First Nations reclamation of residential school sites, restoration of gravesites, fences and markers.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Invite the Yukon Residential Schools and Missing Children Working Group to become a signatory to the Strategy. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	NS
Dedicated counselling services and supports for families affected by unmarked graves. (Years 1-5)	Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	O
Collection of residential school, government and church records. (Years 1-5)	Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	IP
Establish residential school database (Years 1-15)	Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	IP

Summary:
During the reporting period, the Government of Yukon continued to support First Nations–led work to reclaim former residential school sites and locate, document and honour children who went missing or died while attending residential schools.

Through Aboriginal Relations, Yukon government provided funding and coordination support in 2024–25 to the Yukon Residential School Missing Children Project (YRSMCP). This support included resources for archival research and ground penetrating radar searches at former residential school sites, as well as coordination

with Health and Social Services to ensure mental health and wellness supports were available when the project undertook witness interviews or community meetings. Counselling and mental wellness services remain available across Yukon communities to support families and community members as this work continues.

Yukon Archives, within the Department of Tourism and Culture, worked collaboratively with Know History, a historical research firm contracted by YRSMCP, to support access to relevant records over the past 18 months. This collaboration focused on advancing archival research objectives identified by YRSMCP, including locating unmarked burial sites, identifying children buried at or near residential school sites, creating a registry of Yukon First Nations children who died or went missing during attendance, and documenting institutional histories connected to residential schools. To support this work, Yukon Archives provided Know History with access to publicly available government records under the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, as well as time limited access to certain restricted records through a special researcher agreement that met privacy and security requirements. Records are being securely scanned and stored, with plans to transfer the research findings and database to YRSMCP or the Council of Yukon First Nations once the project's database is ready. Where possible, Yukon Archives has also facilitated access to relevant private collections, subject to rights holder and institutional consent.

The Department of Justice supported Aboriginal Relations through interdepartmental collaboration to respond to information requests from the Independent Special Interlocutor for Missing Children and Unmarked Graves and Burial Sites associated with Residential Schools. This contribution supported the preparation of the Interlocutor's October 2024 Final Report on the Missing and Disappeared Indigenous Children and Unmarked Burials in Canada.

Together, these efforts support First Nations-led truth-seeking, commemoration and healing while helping ensure trauma-informed supports remain available as this sensitive work continues.

1.2.c. Yukon First Nations residential school database.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Collection of residential school, government and church records. (Years 1-5)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	IP
Establish residential school database. (Years 1-15)	Indigenous women's organizations; Yukon First Nations	IP

Summary:
Work continued toward the development of a Yukon First Nations–led residential school database to support truth-seeking, commemoration and long-term stewardship of records.

The Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council contributed by ensuring relevant materials were archived with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. It also continued to collect statistical information on Indian Residential School Survivors and intergenerational Survivors through its in-house capacity. This work helps strengthen the available record while maintaining alignment with survivor centred and Indigenous led approaches to data collection.

The Government of Yukon, through Aboriginal Relations, continued to support the Yukon Residential School Missing Children Project (YRSMCP) by funding and coordinating archival research. Know History, contracted by YRSMCP, designed a database to organize research findings related to residential school attendance, missing and deceased children, and associated institutional histories. Once the research phase is complete, all findings and the database will be transferred to YRSMCP for housing and future use. Consistent with direction provided at the time by Premier Silver, Yukon government is not positioning itself as the long-term custodian of this information; instead, decisions about where and how the database will be housed will be led by Yukon First Nations leadership.

Yukon Archives, within the Department of Tourism and Culture, supported this work by collaborating with Know History over the past 18 months to facilitate access to relevant records. This included granting access to publicly available government records under the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, as well as time limited access

to select restricted records through formal researcher agreements that met privacy and security requirements. Records are being securely scanned and stored, with plans to transfer them to YRSMCP or the Council of Yukon First Nations once the database is ready. Where possible and appropriate, Yukon Archives has also supported access to private records, such as photographs and church archives, subject to rights holder and institutional consent. Together, these efforts reflect a coordinated approach that prioritizes Indigenous leadership, data stewardship, and respectful handling of highly sensitive residential school records.

1.3 Strengthen First Nations identity and connections

Acknowledge and increase actions that strengthen connections to the land, language, culture, spirituality and traditional livelihoods.

1.3.a. Increase opportunities for Indigenous women and families to reconnect to their First Nations communities and cultures.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Community gatherings to promote community awareness and to celebrate and strengthen family and community connections. (Years 1-5)	Yukon First Nations governments	O
Dedicated services, informed by cultural protocols, for family reunification and community integration. (Years 1-15)	Indigenous women's organizations	O
Adequate funding for Yukon First Nations governments and Indigenous women's organizations. (Years 1-15)	Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	O

Summary:

Across the Yukon, First Nations governments, Indigenous women's organizations, and government partners advanced a wide range of land-based, cultural and community-led initiatives. These activities helped Indigenous women and families in reconnecting with their identities and traditions.

Carcross/Tagish First Nation hosted multiple commemorative and cultural events, including an MMIWG2S+ Red Dress Walk attended by approximately 75 community members, with red dresses placed along highways to honour those who have gone missing. Additional activities included sacred fires, family feasts, community celebrations, and a community dinner and dance celebrating Elders and sobriety, which

drew approximately 100 participants. These events provided culturally grounded spaces for remembrance, healing, and connection.

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation (LSCFN) continued to host an annual Aunties Retreat in partnership with two other Northern Tutchone Nations. This week-long retreat supports women in reconnecting with culture, land, and one another. LSCFN's Lands Department also administered a traditional pursuits program that provided funding to citizens for cultural activities of their choice and hosted family harvesting activities and fish camps to encourage intergenerational cultural transmission.

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council reported ongoing community engagement through seasonal gatherings, including Christmas and Halloween events, fish camps, youth camps, and family gatherings that supported citizen connection and cultural continuity.

At the national level, the Government of Canada flowed approximately $21 million in prevention funding through the First Nation Child and Family Services program to Yukon's 14 First Nations in 2024–25. This funding supported community designed prevention services that strengthen family well-being and promote connection to land and culture. An additional $80,000 was provided through the First Nation and Inuit Cultural Education Centres Program to support the preservation, revitalization, and promotion of First Nations cultural heritage.

The Yukon government's Community Development Fund awarded $370,580 in 2023 to three Indigenous women's organizations Whitehorse Aboriginal Women's Circle, Kaushee's Place Housing Society, and Liard Aboriginal Women's Society. Funded projects addressed grief and loss related to addiction, improved transitional housing, and supported the revitalization of a gravesite for missing and murdered Indigenous women. The Labour Market Development branch also supported First Nations governments and community organizations delivering women specific programming, including supports through Skookum Jim Friendship Centre such as prenatal nutrition, women's legal advocacy, land-based programs, and Yukon First Nation Wildfire Warrior initiatives.

The Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council hosted on the land camps specifically for families of MMIWG2S+ people. These camps incorporated ceremonies, workshops, support circles, and traditional activities led by Elders, creating culturally safe environments for healing, learning, and reconnection.

The Department of Health and Social Services worked with the Council of Yukon First Nations (CYFN) to support evaluation of the Cultural Connections Project. In 2024, HSS provided input on the evaluation framework, and in 2025 began sharing quantitative data and participating in interviews with CYFN's evaluator to assess outcomes and inform future culturally rooted programming.

Through the Department of Tourism and Culture, the Yukon government supported First Nations cultural infrastructure and heritage work via the Museum Contribution Program and the Special Projects Program. Eight Yukon First Nation Cultural Centres received operational support, while funded projects in 2024–25 included artist residencies, heritage and collections care, repatriation related training, and technical support for culturally significant items such as clan blankets and interpretive centre collections. Additional initiatives under the Palaeontology Program provided Yukon First Nations youth with opportunities for cultural and scientific learning connected to ancestral landscapes.

The Women and Gender Equity Directorate allocated $600,000 in operational funding in 2024–25 through the Indigenous Women's Equality Fund to support Yukon's three Indigenous women's organizations and their role in implementing the strategy. An additional $340,000 supported projects on violence prevention, victim services, meal programs, and Accountability Forum activities, further enabling culturally grounded, community driven supports.

1.3.b. Support First Nations children and youth to be educated in accordance with their culture, informed by traditional knowledge, Indigenous languages, First Nations teaching methods and lived experience.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Dedicated supports and services for First Nations children to access culturally informed and based programs. (Years 1-15)	Yukon First Nations governments	O

Milestones	Lead	Status
Policy and mandates to support First Nations-led conservation and environmental stewardship initiatives informed by traditional knowledge. (Years 1-15)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon	O
Yukon education policies to support First Nations students in gaining extracurricular credit for culturally based activities. (Years 1-15)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon	C
First Nations educators and First Nations educational support services throughout Yukon schools. (Years 1-15)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon	O
Yukon school curriculum development to be Yukon-centric and informed by Yukon First Nations lived experience and standards, taking into consideration intergenerational impacts of residential schools on First Nations cultures and customs. (Years 1-15)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon	O
Yukon school curriculum to include education on the history and impacts of residential schools (Years 1-15)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon	O

Summary:

Partners across the Yukon continued to support culturally grounded education for First Nations children and youth through school programming, land-based learning, language revitalization and curriculum development. This work helps ensure that Yukon First Nations knowledge, values and lived experience are reflected in education.

Carcross/Tagish First Nation (C/TFN) supported culturally informed education by employing a dedicated staff member who works with youth and families to create workshops and on the land gatherings. C/TFN offered language camps and activities such as Tlingit Bingo, with Tlingit language instruction taking place in both the school and daycare. Cultural learning was further supported through the presence of Elder advisors in the school, language teachers working directly in classrooms, and a broad range of school based cultural and land-based activities, including culture camps, beaver camps, fur camps, and seasonal on the land learning. These initiatives support students in learning through First Nations teaching methods rooted in lived experience and intergenerational knowledge transfer.

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation (LSCFN) reported ongoing support for culturally based education through annual on the land activities hosted by the school during harvesting season, with the First Nation contributing financial resources and staff capacity. LSCFN Lands also successfully secured funding for a First Nation–led cumulative effects study within its traditional territory, informed largely by traditional knowledge interviews with citizens. Carmacks school continues to benefit from a high number of First Nations educators, and LSCFN added an additional school liaison position beginning in the 2024–25 school year. A knowledge keeper role, filled by a First Nation Elder, is also supported within the school, strengthening cultural continuity and student connection to Elders.

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council (TKC) supported its citizens through two dedicated school-based roles, a Youth Outreach Support Worker and a Community Education Liaison Worker, who work across Whitehorse schools to support Ta'an Kwäch'än students and families. TKC is also an active participant in the Joint Education Action Plan committee with Yukon government, contributing to efforts to ensure First Nations education, perspectives, and cultural content are embedded within the broader Yukon school curriculum.

The Government of Yukon advanced systemic supports for culturally informed education through multiple departments. The Department of Education implemented the Yukon First Nations Traditional Knowledge, Cultural and Language Learning Policy as of September 30, 2024, supporting the accreditation of culturally based learning. First Nation Education Consultants continued to support Yukon schools, educators, and students, and agreements were in place with three First Nation governments to integrate First Nation wellness roles within schools, with ongoing discussions to expand this approach. The Department of Education also supported locally developed courses rooted in Yukon First Nations ways of knowing, doing, and being, including courses such as Ancestral Technology, First Fish, YFN Leadership, Youth for Dignity, and Yukon Outdoor Education. Ongoing educator training on Yukon First Nations history and experiences continued through initiatives such as the Blanket Exercise, Giant Floor Map, Village Exercise, and YFN 101 training. Yukon focused Indian

Residential School curriculum units for Grade 5 and Grade 10 remained in use, with educators receiving annual training.

Through the Department of Environment, Indigenous leadership in conservation and land stewardship continued to support cultural learning for youth. In 2024–25, funding agreements under the Canada–Yukon Nature Agreement supported Indigenous led conservation initiatives, including youth culture camps, guardian programs, and community stewardship projects that emphasized Elder to youth knowledge sharing. The department also collaborated with First Nations on fish and wildlife work plans informed by traditional and local knowledge and supported hands-on learning initiatives such as trapping programs, cultural camps, and stewardship events like Drin Jëjik (Moose Day) led by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in.

The Department of Tourism and Culture supported culturally grounded education through Historic Sites programming. At Tséi Zhéłe / Sinwaa Éex'i Yé / Conrad Historic Site, co-owned and co-managed with Carcross/Tagish First Nation, a matriarchal led interpretation program was supported that centres First Nations women, youth, and children. Led by C/TFN Elders and interpreters and rooted in traditional knowledge, language, and teaching methods, the program strengthens connections to land and culture while deepening understanding for students and visitors.

Together, these initiatives support an education system that better reflects Yukon First Nations knowledge, cultures and lived experience. They also strengthen identity, resilience, cultural continuity and long-term well-being for First Nations children and youth.

1.4 Community-based mental wellness support

Provide and improve community-based, culturally relevant mental wellness support for victims of violence, perpetrators of violence, children witnessing violence, victims of sexual abuse, and other family and community members. Develop community-led accessible and appropriate options for detox, treatment, aftercare, healing, and recovery.

1.4.a. Increase and improve access to mental wellness support services that are culturally based.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Dedicated mental wellness counselling support services for individuals and families to be accessible in First Nations communities. (Years 1-15)	Yukon First Nations governments	O
Education and career development to increase First Nations counsellors. (Years 1-15)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Canada; Government of Yukon	IP
Yukon First Nations Cultural Wellness Health Strategy. (Years 5-10)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Canada; Government of Yukon	IP
Centre for Indigenous Cultural Wellness in the Yukon to provide dedicated supports and services to First Nations individuals, families and communities. (Years 5-10)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Canada; Government of Yukon	IP

Summary:
First Nations governments and partners across the Yukon continued to strengthen culturally grounded mental wellness supports in response to community needs and service gaps.

Carcross/Tagish First Nation improved access to mental wellness services by hiring a counsellor within its Health and Wellness Department. This position provides accessible counselling, addiction, and mental health supports to all citizens, supporting timely, community-based care grounded in trust and cultural understanding.

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation (LSCFN) worked collaboratively with the Government of Yukon to ensure community members could access counselling services through HUB services. In the interim, while awaiting permanent staffing, LSCFN contracted Northern Focus to deliver counselling services to citizens in Carmacks, Whitehorse, and virtually, ensuring continuity of support regardless of where citizens reside. LSCFN also supported citizen education and capacity building in wellness related fields. In 2024–25, this included supporting a citizen to pursue addictions

counselling training, strengthening long term community capacity to provide culturally informed supports.

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council continued to provide counselling, and wellness supports for all of their citizens. Dedicated positions, including an Education and Employment Training Coordinator and a Post-Secondary Coordinator, support citizens in accessing education pathways that contribute to individual wellness, employment stability, and healing, recognizing the links between education, well-being, and violence prevention.

At the federal level, Indigenous Services Canada, through CIRNAC's Yukon Regional Office, administered the Post-Secondary Student Support Program to reduce financial barriers for Yukon First Nations and status Indigenous students pursuing higher education. Over $1.4 million in funding was provided to students in 2023–24. In 2024–25, the regional office also funded the Council of Yukon First Nations (CYFN) with $250,000 for the first year of the Indigenous Human Services Diploma, delivered in partnership with Nicola Valley Institute of Technology. This program builds Indigenous led capacity in counselling, mental wellness, and social services. In addition, ISC's Mental Wellness Program supported organizations such as the Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council to deliver culturally relevant mental wellness programming.

The Government of Yukon supported mental wellness access through multiple departments. Yukon Education maintained agreements with three First Nation governments to support First Nation wellness roles within schools, with ongoing discussions to expand these roles to additional communities. These positions contribute to early intervention, culturally safe support, and stronger connections between students, families, and schools.

The Department of Health and Social Services supported Indigenous led, community based mental wellness infrastructure through the opening of the CYFN Family Preservation Centre in August 2025. The Centre provides Indigenous led programming for women and children and offers temporary housing for Yukon First Nations and Indigenous women and children who may be fleeing violence, experiencing homelessness, or dealing with mental health and addictions challenges, including those identifying as 2SLGBTQIA+. The Centre represents a significant step toward

integrated, culturally grounded supports that centre safety, healing, and family preservation.

Together, these initiatives strengthened access to culturally grounded mental wellness services and supported healing, recovery and resilience across Yukon communities.

1.4.b. Support strategies to change the violent behaviors of male offenders

Milestones	Lead	Status
Establish dedicated, culturally based programs, supports and counselling services for male offenders who perpetuate violence against Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people. (Years 1–15)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon; Yukon First Nations	O

Summary:
Across the Yukon, First Nations governments, Indigenous organizations, and territorial departments continued to support trauma-informed and culturally grounded approaches that help men take responsibility for harm, address the causes of violence and build healthier relationships.

Carcross/Tagish First Nation supported alternatives to punitive responses using restorative justice approaches, including peace-making circles and the involvement of justice workers. These practices create space for accountability, healing, and relationship repair, while grounding responses to harmful behaviour in cultural values and community responsibility.

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council (TKC) continued to work with individuals on a case-by-case basis, recognizing that behaviour change requires tailored, relationship-based supports. This individualized approach allows TKC to respond to the specific circumstances, needs, and strengths of each person, supporting meaningful personal growth and reduced risk of future violence.

The Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council continued efforts to engage with corrections services to introduce cultural activities into correctional settings. This work aims to ensure that Indigenous men who are incarcerated or under correctional supervision have access to cultural connection as part of their healing and accountability journey.

Through the Department of Justice, the Whitehorse Correctional Centre provided one-on-one and group sessions facilitated by certified counsellors focused on gender-based violence and intimate partner violence. These sessions emphasize accountability, emotional regulation, empathy development, and healthy relationship building. While designed to address harmful attitudes and behaviours associated with violence, participation is available beyond those with documented violent offences, allowing inmates to proactively engage in self-reflection and skill development that support violence prevention.

The Justice Wellness Centre (JWC) further supported behaviour change through individualized programming for offenders involved in therapeutic courts. When participants are Indigenous, JWC works in partnership with First Nations and Indigenous organizations to provide on the land and other culturally relevant programming. The Centre employs an Indigenous peer support worker and contracts two cultural consultants who provide guidance, mentorship, ceremonies, and culturally grounded interventions that reinforce accountability and healing.

The Department of Health and Social Services (HSS) continued to support intimate partner violence prevention initiatives for men in partnership with First Nations. Through the land-based healing fund, HSS supported programs such as the Healing Our Warriors, Men's Recovery Retreat, delivered collaboratively by the Council of Yukon First Nations, Cedars Recovery, and Rose Haven Association. These initiatives address trauma, substance use, and emotional regulation within culturally safe, land-based environments.

The Women and Gender Equity Directorate, through National Action Plan to End Gender Based Violence funding, supported First Nations led responses coordinated by the Department of Justice. This included funding for Indigenous peer support workers within the Domestic Violence Treatment Option (DVTO) Court to support Indigenous participants, as well as contracting Elder cultural practitioners to deliver workshops, groups, ceremonies, and mentorship for both DVTO participants and staff.

Together, these initiatives supported approaches to changing harmful behaviour that centre accountability, cultural connection, healing and prevention while prioritizing safety and the well-being of women, children, families and communities.

1.5 Community and Land-based Infrastructure and Programming (Priority Action Item #2)

Invest in community and land-based infrastructure and programming including aftercare and development of facilities and camps to ensure options are available that align with community priorities.

1.5.a. Land-based healing and recovery centres throughout the Yukon.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Land-based healing summit. (Years 1–5)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	C
Land-based health strategy. (Years 1–5)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	IP
Report and recommendations: infrastructure and capital plans. (Years 1–15)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	IP

Summary:
Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation (LSCFN), in collaboration with Selkirk First Nation and Na-Cho Nyäk Dun First Nation, continued to lead land-based healing activities across Northern Tutchone territory.

Each year, the three Northern Tutchone nations share responsibility for hosting traditional land-based camps for Elders and citizens, including the Aunties Retreat for women and the Uncles Retreat for men. These camps provide culturally grounded spaces for healing, learning, and reconnection with Northern Tutchone laws, values, and ways of living. In addition, the three nations rotate hosting the annual Northern Tutchone Elders Gatherings, which strengthen intergenerational knowledge sharing and collective leadership.

Building on this work, Selkirk First Nation, Na-Cho Nyäk Dun First Nation, and LSCFN's Dooli Team and Elders agreed to offer land-based Traditional Law Knowledge Teaching Camps. These camps focus on passing down traditional laws, teachings, and practices that support healthy living and responsible citizenship for future generations of Northern Tutchone people. As part of accountability and transparency, LSCFN requires departments and staff involved in these initiatives to provide reports to the General Assembly and the community, ensuring citizens are informed about program activities, outcomes, and ongoing priorities.

At the federal level, Indigenous Services Canada continued to support community infrastructure through the Capital Facilities and Maintenance Program and the Health Facilities Program. In 2024–25, these programs provided flexible funding to advance housing repairs, roadwork, and water and wastewater infrastructure in First Nations communities, enabling self-determined planning and local project delivery. This included partnering with Liard First Nation and the Government of Yukon to support the development of an Elders Housing Complex in Watson Lake, providing a safe, comfortable, and culturally appropriate living environment that supports Elders' autonomy, well-being, and connection to community.

Together, these initiatives strengthened land-based healing, cultural learning and community infrastructure in ways that reflect First Nations priorities.

1.5.b. Permanent land-based camps throughout the Yukon.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Land-based camp planning committee of professionals, Elders, leadership and youth. (Years 1–5)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	IP
Develop a Yukon-wide strategy informed by Yukon First Nations best practices. (Years 1–5)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	IP
Establish land-based camps. (Years 1–15)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	O

Summary:

Yukon First Nations and government partners continued to invest in permanent and recurring land-based camps that support healing, cultural continuity, and community wellness. These camps provide stable, culturally grounded spaces where individuals, families, and communities can engage in traditional teachings, address trauma, and strengthen relationships.

Kluane First Nation hosted two weeklong land-based camps within its traditional territory, one for men and one for women. During these camps, youth and adults participated in traditional teachings led by Elders and cultural leaders, focusing on traditional gender roles, responsibilities, and values. Programming included discussions on traditional parenting, with a specific focus on supporting parents of boys; teachings on menstrual cycles and women's well-being; self-defence; and the protector roles of young men. Harvesting activities supported learning related to traditional food gathering, preparation, and handling, reinforcing culturally specific gender-based roles and responsibilities. Traditional healers and counsellors were present to provide support related to gender-based violence, trauma, and personal healing. Evening circle talks around the fire emphasized community inclusion, peaceful dialogue, the roles of Elders, Aunties, and Uncles, and the integration of traditional and western perspectives on gender roles. The camps concluded with a community feast hosted by participants, celebrating shared learning, collaboration, and diversity, and following traditional practices consistent with the potlatch system.

Carcross/Tagish First Nation (C/TFN) continued to operate permanent on the land infrastructure through Skookies Camp, Jack Pine Camp, and Racine Camp. These camps provide long-term spaces for cultural programming, land-based learning, healing activities, and community gatherings, supporting ongoing access to culturally rooted programming aligned with C/TFN priorities.

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation (LSCFN) continued its long-standing land-based camp programming through the Traditional Law and Dooli Department. Originating in the early 2000s, land-based camps were established by Northern Tutchone Dooli Team members and Elders to ensure that traditional knowledge, laws, and history are passed on to future generations. LSCFN expanded its camp at Victoria Creek to better support

future hunting camps and cultural practices. The LSCFN Dooli Team works collaboratively with the Northern Tutchone Dooli Team and provides regular updates to the General Assembly, ensuring accountability and community oversight of land-based programming.

A significant milestone was reached through the Department of Justice in early 2025, when Teslin Tlingit Council, the Government of Yukon, and the Government of Canada finalized an agreement establishing Teslin Tlingit Council's corrections and community services model under its Administration of Justice Agreement. A core component of this model is the creation of a permanent, year-round land-based healing camp. The camp will provide services for individuals in violation of Teslin Tlingit law, as well as broader programming for all citizens focused on holistic community wellness, family and clan-based healing. The agreement includes one-time federal funding of $2.95 million and $2.05 million in ongoing annual funding to support implementation.

The Department of Health and Social Services (HSS) also supported permanent and recurring land-based healing initiatives. In August 2024, Mental Wellness and Substance Use Services' Child, Youth and Family Treatment Team hosted a family camp titled Strengthening Family Connection, with programming continuing beyond the initial camp. In the 2024–25 Main Estimates, HSS increased funding for the Land Based Healing Program by $4.35 million, supporting expanded capacity across Yukon. Throughout the year, Mental Wellness and Substance Use Services staff supported land-based programming in communities when invited, working in coordination with local First Nations governments.

Together, these initiatives expanded access to permanent and recurring land-based spaces for healing, recovery, cultural learning and long-term community well-being. They also supported First Nations leadership and priorities in the design and delivery of this work.

1.6 Indigenous children and families

Improve and expand culturally appropriate supports to Indigenous families, so that Indigenous children are raised in their own safe and loving families and communities.

1.6.a. Support Indigenous children to be reconnected and raised with their First Nations families and in their First Nations communities.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Identify First Nations parents' and children's needs to inform program and support services. (Years 1–5)	Yukon First Nations governments	O
Homecoming ceremonies. (Years 1–15)	Yukon First Nations governments	IP
Encourage each First Nation to establish a community-based process to help separated families and children reconnect. (Years 1–15)	Yukon First Nations governments	O
Monitor and report on progress with implementing the 2022 *Child and Family Services Act* to eliminate custody violence against Indigenous children. (Years 1–15)	Government of Yukon	O

Summary:
First Nations governments, Indigenous organizations, and government partners continued to support family reunification, prevent unnecessary separation and strengthen long-term family stability.

Carcross/Tagish First Nation continued to support families through a combination of Jordan's Principal initiatives, First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS), financial assistance programs, emergency supports, and "reaching home" funds. FNCFS funding is used primarily to support prevention and reunification efforts, helping families address immediate needs and reduce the likelihood of child apprehension. These supports assist families to remain intact or to reunify safely when separation has occurred.

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation (LSCFN) completed a comprehensive wellness plan that guides decision making for programs and support services, ensuring a coordinated and culturally grounded approach to family well-being. LSCFN's family support team works directly with families who have experienced separation, providing

assistance to support reconnection, healing, and reunification within the community wherever possible.

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council reported a family centred approach through its Wellness Department, where supports are tailored on a case-by-case basis. TKC works closely with each family to identify and respond to their specific needs, including supporting families who have been separated to safely regain and reconnect with their children and extended family networks.

At the federal level, Indigenous Services Canada continued to deliver the First Nations Child and Family Services program, which aligns with Calls for Justice 12.5 and 12.11 by requiring funded service providers to operate in accordance with the principles of An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families. The program supports prevention focused services and funds post majority support for youth formerly in care up to age 26 (or the age defined in Yukon legislation, whichever is greater), helping young people maintain connections to family, culture, and community as they transition to adulthood.

The Government of Yukon, through the Department of Health and Social Services, continued to advance policies and practices that prioritize family connection and reunification. Family and Children's Services (FCS) reported annually on services delivered under the *Child and Family Services Act*, with the 2023–24 report published on May 14, 2025. FCS' first placement priority, when children cannot safely remain with their parents, is extended family care. Through Extended Family Agreements, FCS provides funding and supports to relatives, allowing parents to retain custody while ensuring children's safety. As of July 2025, 94 children were placed with extended family members, and 96% of those children were Indigenous.

FCS also continues to fund children and youth in out of home care to attend ceremonies, cultural activities, and visits in their home communities. In February 2025, this support was expanded to include youth aged 16–18 under Agreements with Support Services for Youth, as well as young adults aged 19–26 who were formerly in out of home care. Reunification with family remains the overarching goal for all children in out of home care.

Together, these initiatives helped Indigenous children and youth remain connected to their families, cultures and communities. They also supported prevention, safe reunification, and culturally grounded approaches to reducing unnecessary family separation.

1.6.b. Provide culturally based programs and services to support and nurture First Nations family units.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Invite the First Nation School Board and Yukon First Nation Education Directorate to become signatories to the Strategy. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	NS
Identify family-focused counselling needs. (Years 1–5)	Yukon First Nations governments	O
Community-delivered family programs. (Years 5–15)	Yukon First Nations governments	O
Establish dedicated family-focused counselling and therapy support services informed by Yukon First Nations languages and cultures. (Years 1–5)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon	O

Summary:
First Nations governments and partners across the Yukon continued to provide culturally grounded programs and services that strengthen families, support healing and promote well-being at all stages of life. These approaches recognize how trauma, grief, violence and systemic harms can affect individuals, families and communities.

Carcross/Tagish First Nation provided a range of integrated family supports addressing mental health, trauma, grief, abuse, and addictions. Programming included services delivered through the Canadian Prenatal Nutrition Program, Supportive Intervention for Wellness and Addictions Treatment Team. Coordinator programming, Family and Children Services support workers, and supportive housing for families involved with child and family services. Together, these supports aim to stabilize families, meet basic and emotional needs, and reduce the likelihood of family separation.

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation supported family well-being through its family support team, which hosted multiple events each month focused on healthy, family-

oriented activities. These programs create safe spaces for families to connect, strengthen relationships, and support healthy lifestyles within a culturally grounded, community driven setting.

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council continued to support and fund counselling services for its citizens as part of a holistic approach to family wellness. These supports are designed to respond to the needs of families and individuals, contributing to stability, healing, and resilience within family units.

Through the Department of Justice, the Whitehorse Correctional Centre (WCC) supported family connection and reintegration by offering programming facilitated by First Nations Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and Indigenous Liaison Officers. This programming supports cultural teachings, ceremony, and guidance grounded in First Nations languages, values, and kinship systems. WCC partnered with Yukon University to provide parental education and post release family reintegration programming, including the For the Sake of the Children course and life skills learning circles. WCC case managers also collaborated with community partners such as the Family Resource Unit, Safe at Home Society, and Blood Ties Four Directions to help connect incarcerated individuals and their families to external supports.

The Department of Health and Social Services advanced culturally based family supports through multiple initiatives. In August 2024, Mental Wellness and Substance Use Services' Child, Youth and Family Treatment Team hosted a family camp titled *Strengthening Family Connection* on the traditional territory of Champagne and Aishihik First Nations. Family and Children Services partnered with Yukon University to deliver two offerings of *Yukon First Nations 101* to caregivers supporting children in out of home care and worked with the Council of Yukon First Nations to deliver cultural connections training. These initiatives enhanced caregiver understanding of First Nations cultures and strengthened their ability to support Indigenous children in maintaining cultural and community connections.

Together, programs supported stronger family relationships, healing and prevention while helping ensure services reflect First Nations identities, values and community priorities.

1.7 Improvements in health and social programs and services

Work with partners to appropriately implement *Putting People First*: The final report of the comprehensive review of Yukon's health and social programs and services (2020).

1.7.a. Include representatives from Indigenous women's organizations to be invited and included as part of the Government of Yukon's implementation of Putting People First.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Advocate and ensure Indigenous women's organizations are included in the implementation of Putting People First. (Years 1–3)	Yukon First Nations governments	O
Designated consultations with Indigenous women's organizations to identify recommendations on priorities. (Years 1–3)	Indigenous women's organizations	IP

Summary:
Indigenous women's leadership and advocacy continued to shape work related to Putting People First, particularly where health and social services affect the safety and well-being of Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people.

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council reported ongoing advocacy for citizens who are at risk of MMIWG2S+. Chief and Council remain actively engaged at territorial and federal levels to raise concerns and advance system level changes that better reflect the needs of Indigenous women and families. This advocacy supports the broader implementation of Putting People First by ensuring Indigenous perspectives are consistently elevated within health and social policy discussions and reforms.

The Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council (YAWC) contributed to this work through the development of the YAWC MMIWG 2023 Strategy, which identifies service gaps, emerging needs, and priorities informed directly by client experience. The Strategy provides practical guidance that aligns with the principles of Putting People First, including culturally safe, client centred, and Indigenous led approaches to health and social services. YAWC continues to use this Strategy to advocate for meaningful inclusion of Indigenous women's organizations in planning, implementation, and accountability processes related to system transformation.

Together, these efforts strengthened the role of Indigenous women in shaping health and social services that are culturally grounded, responsive and accountable to the communities they serve.

1.7.b. Implement Improvements to Government of Yukon systems to improve health programs and services for First Nations individuals, families and communities.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Invite the Office of the Yukon Ombudsman to become a signatory to the Strategy. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	NS
Develop a joint policy and design a model that supports the devolution of program and service delivery in First Nations communities in the areas of health and child protection. (Years 1–3)	Yukon First Nations governments	IP
Establish and implement a territory-wide strategy to eradicate racism within all governments. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon	O
Mandatory First Nations cultural orientation of government employees. (Years 1–15)	Government of Yukon	O
Work with the Office of the Yukon Ombudsman to develop an Indigenous-focused campaign to improve access to services. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations	NS
Work with the Office of the Yukon Ombudsman to advance policies and practices to ensure cultural awareness and sensitivity. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations	IP

Summary:
Governments continued to make system-level changes to improve the cultural safety, accessibility and responsiveness of health, justice and social services for First Nations individuals, families and communities. This work focused on addressing systemic racism, strengthening Indigenous-informed practices and building the knowledge and skills of employees.

Indigenous Services Canada continued funding national and regional Indigenous led initiatives in 2024–25 to address anti-Indigenous racism within health systems. These included Indigenous health system navigator and patient advocate programs, the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations' First Nations Ombudsperson Office, the

Métis Nation of British Columbia's Métis Health Experience Program, and Two Spirited People of Manitoba Inc.'s information sessions focused on informed consent and rights awareness. ISC also supported midwifery and birth support initiatives across Canada, including programming serving Yukon, the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, Nunavut, and Kuujjuaq, contributing to culturally safe maternal and reproductive health services.

Within the Government of Yukon, the Department of Justice continued to embed cultural orientation and anti-racism training across its workforce. Mandatory First Nations cultural orientation is in place for all Yukon government employees, including those working in the Whitehorse Correctional Centre and Yukon Community Corrections. In addition, several Justice branches require staff to complete courses such as *Yukon First Nations 101: History of Yukon First Nations and Self Governmen*t, the Blanket Exercise, *Anti-Racism in the Workplace*, and *Introduction to Cultural Safety*. These measures support improved understanding and application of culturally informed practices when delivering justice related and correctional services.

The Department of Health and Social Services continued its participation in health system transformation, specifically within the cultural safety work stream, in partnership with the Council of Yukon First Nations (CYFN) and Yukon Hospital Corporation. This work is leading to the development of a Yukon First Nations Cultural Safety Strategy to be implemented across the health system. HSS also supported the delivery of significant cultural safety and humility content during the 2025 Tri-Territorial Health and Social Professional Conference, contributing to workforce learning and system wide awareness.

Within Family and Children Services, culturally informed practice was further strengthened through mandatory completion of Yukon First Nations 101 for all staff. FCS partnered with Yukon University to deliver two offerings of Yukon First Nations 101 to caregivers supporting children in out of home care. In collaboration with CYFN, FCS also delivered cultural connections training sessions designed to enhance caregivers' understanding of First Nations cultures and strengthen their ability to support Indigenous children in maintaining cultural and community connections.

Public Service Commission (PSC) advanced government wide improvements through the work of its Diversity and Inclusion Branch, which continued development of a Yukon government–wide Cultural Safety and Anti-Racism Strategy. In 2024–25, DIB undertook research, jurisdictional scans, and dedicated staffing to progress the work, with completion targeted for 2026–27. In parallel, the Organizational Development Branch (ODB) offered a wide range of training sessions to Yukon government employees, including Yukon First Nations 101, Residential School Awareness, Introduction to Cultural Safety, The Blanket Exercise, Trauma Informed Care, Anti-Racism in the Workplace, Bystander Intervention, Unconscious Bias, Conversations on Diversity, and 2SLGBTQIA+ Awareness. ODB also offered the Intercultural Development Inventory assessment and related training to support deeper reflection on bias, cultural competence, and inclusion.

In addition, PSC launched a new Investigations Office in 2023–24 to support Yukon government employees, supervisors, and human resource professionals in responding to harassment, abuse of authority, discrimination, sexual harassment, and violence within the workplace, further strengthening accountability and safe work environments.

Together, these actions supported ongoing improvements in cultural safety, anti-racism and Indigenous-informed practices across public systems. They also advanced the goals of Putting People First by helping services become more equitable, respectful and responsive to First Nations individuals, families and communities.



“Memories of Loved Ones" by Violet Gatensby

1.7.c. Increase and improve medical and health services, both traditional indigenous and conventional western services, in rural communities.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Traditional medicine programs, supports and services. (Years 1–15)	Yukon First Nations governments	O
Develop a Yukon First Nations community health co-management strategy. (Years 1–5)	Yukon First Nations governments	IP
Implement the Yukon First Nations community health co-management strategy. (Years 5–10)	Yukon First Nations governments	NS
Educational and workplace incentives to increase First Nations healthcare capacity. (Years 1–15)	Government of Yukon	O
Establish a Yukon First Nations lodge to meet the needs of families accessing Whitehorse-based healthcare services. (Years 1–5)	Government of Yukon	NS
Medical and healthcare program services in all rural communities. (Years 1–15)	Government of Yukon	O

Summary:

Partners continued working to improve access to culturally appropriate and coordinated health services in rural Yukon communities. This work supported traditional Indigenous healing practices alongside western medical care.

Carcross/Tagish First Nation supported this objective through its Heritage and Lands Department, which includes dedicated staff responsible for ensuring that traditional knowledge, land-based practices, and cultural priorities are respected and incorporated into community wellness initiatives. This role supports the ongoing integration of traditional and contemporary approaches to health and well-being.

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation, together with Selkirk First Nation and Na-Cho Nyäk Dun First Nation, continued to provide traditional medicine making and knowledge sharing during the Aunties Retreat, Uncles Retreat, and Northern Tutchone Elders Gatherings. These gatherings create important spaces for the transmission of traditional healing knowledge and promote holistic wellness rooted in Northern Tutchone culture and laws, particularly for citizens living in or connected to rural communities.

The Government of Yukon, through the Department of Health and Social Services (HSS), supported access to culturally grounded wellness services by ensuring that Mental Wellness and Substance Use Services staff in rural communities routinely assist with land-based programming when invited, working in coordination with local First Nations governments. This approach supports community led healing initiatives and strengthens collaboration between clinical services and traditional practices.

In 2024, HSS opened a new Health and Wellness Centre in Old Crow, named Natr'idizhii Srii Tr'agwandaii Hah Zheh, meaning "place for healing and wellness." The Centre operates under a collaborative care model and provides a range of integrated health care and social services tailored to the needs of the Old Crow community. This investment represents a significant step toward improving access to comprehensive, culturally respectful health services in one of Yukon's most remote communities.

Together, these initiatives supported stronger rural health services by bringing traditional healing and western medical care together and ensuring that services reflect community priorities and First Nations leadership.

1.7.d. Create and improve systems that address the substance-use health emergency and supports Indigenous people to access culturally appropriate detox, drug and alcohol treatments, and health and wellness supports.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Develop a joint addictions strategy that is inclusive of youth to address and eradicate drug trafficking and the substance-use health emergency throughout the Yukon. (Years 1–3)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada; RCMP	IP
Review, in consultation with Yukon communities, supervised consumption sites and safe supply programs and services in urban and rural communities. (Years 1–5)	Government of Yukon	IP
Advocate for legislative changes to improve sentencing considerations specific to substance abuse, possession and trafficking. (Years 1–5)	Yukon First Nations governments	NS
First Nations policies to support those Indigenous individuals who wish to move from substance abuse towards health treatment. (Years 1–5)	Yukon First Nations governments	IP

Summary:
Governments and First Nations partners continued to respond to the substance use health emergency by improving access to treatment, prevention, harm reduction and culturally appropriate supports. This work emphasized timely help, flexible services and community-led approaches.

Carcross/Tagish First Nation reported a commitment to immediate and barrier free support for citizens seeking help with substance use. Individuals who reach out are not turned away and are referred to accredited treatment centres as soon as space becomes available, ensuring timely access to detox and treatment services when they are ready to engage in care.

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation continued to support all citizens who wish to enter treatment programs, helping individuals navigate and access detox, drug and alcohol treatment, and recovery-oriented supports. This approach reflects LSCFN's commitment to wellness, prevention, and supporting citizens through all stages of recovery.

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council (TKC) supported citizens experiencing addictions through individualized, client centred approaches. Working on a case-by-case basis, TKC tailored supports to meet each person's needs, recognizing the importance of flexible, relationship-based responses in addressing substance use and supporting long-term healing.

The Government of Yukon advanced system level responses through multiple departments. Through the Department of Justice, the Government of Yukon increased investigational capacity within the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods unit as part of the Substance Use Health Emergency Strategy, including the addition of one fulltime equivalent position. This expanded capacity supports a civil response to drug trafficking and organized crime, contributing to broader efforts to reduce the harms associated with illicit substances in communities.

The Department of Health and Social Services supported planning and engagement to strengthen prevention, harm reduction, and treatment options. In 2024–25, community

engagements for Community Health and Wellness Plans included gathering input on desired substance use initiatives, such as prevention programming, harm reduction measures, treatment options, supervised consumption services, and safe supply. This engagement helps ensure that responses to the substance use health emergency are informed by community priorities and support culturally appropriate and accessible services.

Together, these actions improved access to treatment and recovery supports, strengthened prevention and harm reduction efforts, and supported more responsive services for Indigenous people and communities across the Yukon.

1.8 International agreements on rights (Priority action item #3)

Explore options to consider the application of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) in the context of Yukon's Final Agreements, other modern treaties, and the evolving relationship with First Nations governments without agreements.

1.8.a. Evaluate the voices and perspectives of families and survivors of MMIWG2S+ people in the UNDRIP to modern treaties, laws and relationships that impact and affect their lives.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Government funding to support the participation of families and survivors of MMIWG2S+ to inform the application of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP). (Year 1)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada; Assembly of First Nations Yukon Region	NS
Establish a specific Indigenous women's engagement forum to examine UNDRIP in an Indigenous women's context. (Year 1)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada; Assembly of First Nations Yukon Region	IP
Develop recommendations to address how UNDRIP can uphold the principles and implement the objectives of UN conventions. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada; Assembly of First Nations Yukon Region	IP

Summary:

There were no reported actions taken on the objectives of 1.8 in the 24/25 fiscal year reporting.

Path 2: Community safety and justice

Work under this path focused on improving community safety and strengthening justice systems to better respond to the needs of Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people. Efforts emphasized prevention, system coordination, and culturally informed approaches to safety and accountability.

2.1 Community safety assessments, plans and implementation (Priority action item #4)

Conduct community-based safety assessments designed by communities to identify factors contributing to the ongoing perpetuation of violence and unsafe conditions in each community. Develop and implement community safety plans that address these factors and conditions.

2.1.a. Complete community assessments in all 14 Yukon First Nations Communities.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Required community assessments. (Year 1)	Yukon First Nations governments	IP
Completed community assessments. (Years 1–5)	Yukon First Nations governments	IP
Summary report of assessments and recommended environmental designs to improve public safety. (Year 5)	Yukon First Nations governments	IP

Summary:
During the reporting period, Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation began planning for the development of a community safety plan.

The First Nation worked with Public Safety Canada to begin a community safety assessment. Planning and assessment activities are expected to begin in the 2025–26 fiscal year.

The assessment will help identify local safety concerns and guide the development of a community-led safety plan that reflects the priorities and well-being of Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation citizens.

2.1.b. Long-term funding for community safety initiatives.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Cost-shared funding model for community safety initiatives. (Years 1–5)	All governments	O

Summary:
Long-term funding continued to support Yukon First Nations in developing community-led safety and well-being initiatives that reflect local priorities.

Carcross/Tagish First Nation (C/TFN) reported ongoing support through Public Health funding to deliver a Community Safety and Wellness Program. This funding enables C/TFN to implement prevention-focused activities that address community safety concerns, promote wellness, and support coordinated responses to safety and social issues.

Through the Department of Justice, the Government of Yukon provided funding support to five Yukon First Nations for Community Safety and Well-being planning or for the implementation of community safety activities. In addition, Yukon connected nine First Nations governments to the federal Canada Aboriginal Community Safety Planning Initiative, with five First Nations currently working in partnership with both Canada and Yukon to advance safety planning efforts.

The Government of Yukon and the federal government also continued to jointly fund a range of long-term community safety and justice initiatives through cost shared agreements. This includes Community Tripartite Agreements with eleven Yukon First Nations, which support enhanced, culturally responsive policing services, as well as cost shared funding for the Community Safety Officer program in four First Nations communities. Further supports include cost shared funding for the Community Justice Program in eight First Nations and the Indigenous Court worker Program in twelve First

Nations, both of which contribute to crime prevention, access to justice, and community-based safety responses.

Together, these funding arrangements helped Yukon First Nations strengthen local capacity, prevent harm and develop culturally grounded approaches to safer and healthier communities.

2.1.c. Community networks to increase public safety.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Develop a Yukon-wide safety campaign. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon	IP
Safety information workshops and toolkits. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon	O
Crisis support teams and 911 supports throughout Yukon communities. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon	O
Yukon-wide community bulletin program. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon	IP

Summary:
Community-led networks continued to strengthen public safety, improve information sharing and reduce risks for individuals, families and businesses.

The Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council (YAWC) advanced ongoing community-based safety initiatives focused on harm prevention and awareness. This included the continuation of a taxi safety campaign, involving surveys, printed brochures, safety stickers, and meetings with Friendly Taxi Service to collaboratively develop a safety plan for clients. YAWC also maintained a community bulletin board at its Whitehorse office to share safety information and resources, with planning underway to expand this approach through satellite locations. In addition, YAWC identified the need to further develop and regularly update its MMIWG2S+ webpage and Facebook presence to improve access to timely safety information and community alerts.

Through the Department of Justice and Executive Council Office, the Government of Yukon provided funding for a Whitehorse Community Safety Pilot Program aimed at addressing concerns related to crime, theft, and workplace violence. The pilot includes security assessments, safety and de-escalation training, and the development of a

modernized resource toolkit to help businesses strengthen their security practices. Yukon also supported community safety more broadly by funding and assisting multiple First Nations governments with community safety and well-being planning and by co-chairing, alongside the Council of Yukon First Nations (CYFN), the Community Safety Committee, which supports coordination and shared problem-solving across jurisdictions.

To enhance emergency response capacity, Yukon increased support for the RCMP's Emergency Response Team, strengthening readiness to respond to higher-risk or critical incidents that impact public safety.

The Department of Health and Social Services (HSS) contributed to community safety in downtown Whitehorse by hiring a Library Outreach Worker, providing library patrons with access to supports and service navigation. HSS also supported the operationalization of the Moccasin Mobile, a CYFN-led mobile downtown outreach initiative that provides after-hours and weekend support services, helping address safety, wellness, and immediate needs in the community.

Together, these initiatives strengthened public safety through prevention, outreach, information sharing and collaboration among Indigenous organizations, First Nations governments, community partners and territorial departments.

2.2 Evaluating sharing common ground

Sharing Common Ground Final Report: Review of Yukon's Police Force (2010) is the final report of the review in the Yukon focusing primarily on the RCMP. The evaluation should review the status of the implementation of the recommendations and identify emerging needs.

2.2.a. Evaluate the implementation of Sharing Common Ground recommendations (2010) that support the objectives of Yukon's MMIWG2S+ Strategy to identify gaps and emerging needs.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Indigenous women's and Two-Spirit+ people's recommendations on next steps. (Year 1)	Indigenous women's organizations	IP

Milestones	Lead	Status
Dedicated resources for participation in evaluation. (Year 1)	Yukon First Nations governments	IP
Report on emerging needs to support families of MMIWG2S+ people. (Years 1–5)	Government of Yukon; RCMP	IP
Provide ongoing financial resources for women's organizations. (Years 1–15)	Government of Canada	O

Summary:

During the reporting period, the Government of Yukon continued work that supports the goals of the Sharing Common Ground Final Report, particularly culturally responsive policing, stronger accountability and improved relationships between the RCMP and Yukon First Nations.

Through the Department of Justice, the Government of Yukon has worked closely with the RCMP and Yukon First Nations to strengthen delivery of the First Nation and Inuit Policing Program. This program provides enhanced, dedicated RCMP policing services in First Nations communities. To support improved oversight and implementation, Yukon created a dedicated position to oversee the FNIPP, with a focus on increasing RCMP accountability and transparency and strengthening relationships with First Nations governments and communities.

The Government of Yukon also advocated for increased policing resources to better respond to community-identified safety needs. As a result, policing capacity was expanded in several First Nations communities, including First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun, Champagne and Aishihik First Nations, Kluane First Nation, and Ross River Dena Council. These increases respond to ongoing concerns related to community safety, prevention, and trust-based policing.

In addition to territorial actions, Yukon signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the State of Alaska, strengthening cross-border cooperation and information sharing related to community safety and MMIWG2S+. This agreement supports improved coordination on cases, mobility, and safety issues that affect families and communities across the international border.

Together, these actions support the recommendations in Sharing Common Ground related to culturally respectful policing, accountability and stronger partnerships with First Nations. They also help identify remaining needs in rural and cross-border communities and support the broader safety and justice goals of Yukon's MMIWG2S+ Strategy.

2.3 Restorative justice

Improve options and coordination for youth and adult restorative justice in Yukon communities with a focus on the safety and dignity of victims.

2.3.a. Increase culturally sensitive restorative justice programs, supports and services for Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people throughout the Yukon.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Establish community-delivered restorative programs and services that include but are not limited to: • family mediation; • community conflict resolution; • family group conferencing (child protection); and • victim impact panels, victim offender mediation, and circle sentencing in the criminal law context. (Years 1–5)	Yukon First Nations governments	O
Establish Yukon First Nations policy guidelines to protect the safety and dignity of Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people in the various restorative processes. (Years 1–15)	Indigenous women's organizations	IP
Provide dedicated core funding to establish, stabilize and operate community-based restorative programs, supports and services. (Years 1–15)	Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	O
Fund annual restorative justice gatherings/conferences to advance and share best practices. (Years 1–15)	Government of Yukon	O

Summary:

Across the Yukon, restorative justice approaches continued to grow through Indigenous-led practices, community-based supports and government investments. This work aims to prioritize the safety, dignity and needs of people harmed while supporting accountability, healing and relationship repair.

Carcross/Tagish First Nation continued to apply culturally grounded restorative justice practices, including restorative justice processes, family circles, and healing circles. These approaches are rooted in community values and emphasize accountability, relationship repair, and collective responsibility, creating safer pathways for addressing harm while centring the needs of those impacted.

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, while not currently operating a justice department, supports citizens who are involved in the court system through its Wellness Department. Supports are provided based on individual needs and circumstances, ensuring that citizens have access to culturally appropriate assistance that addresses wellness, healing, and stabilization alongside justice processes.

At the federal level, Indigenous Services Canada, through CIRNAC's Yukon Regional Office, continued to deliver the Family Violence Prevention Program, which provides funding to Yukon First Nations governments and Indigenous organizations to operate shelters and deliver projects addressing community-identified priorities related to women's safety and wellness. In 2024–25, more than $4 million was provided across Yukon, supporting prevention, culturally responsive services, and safer outcomes for Indigenous women, youth, and Two-Spirit+ people.

The Government of Yukon, through the Department of Justice, advanced restorative justice capacity within corrections and communities. Yukon Community Corrections introduced a new Outreach Worker role dedicated to providing culturally safe support and resources to clients, including those impacted by MMIWG2S+. This role strengthens community partnerships, improves access to services in Whitehorse and surrounding areas, and helps clients navigate available supports, contributing to safer, more responsive justice outcomes. Additionally, the Yukon and Canada continued to provide funding and support for eight First Nations–led community restorative justice programs, strengthening local capacity to deliver culturally relevant alternatives to conventional justice responses.

To further build capacity, the Government of Yukon hosted restorative justice training for First Nations and partners, funding two representatives from each First Nation to

participate. This training supports shared understanding, skill development, and consistency in restorative practices across communities.

Together, these initiatives expanded access to culturally grounded justice approaches that support safety, healing, accountability and long-term community well-being.

2.4 Whitehorse Correctional Centre and community justice services

Partner with the Whitehorse Correctional Centre and the Department of Justice to improve programs, services, and supports for Indigenous people while incarcerated and support reintegration into the community with a focus on upholding the safety and dignity of Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people.

2.4.a. Improve institutional programs, services and supports for incarcerated Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit people.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Needs assessment informed by Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people with incarceration-lived experiences. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations	IP
Review the correctional facility, the Women's Transitional Living Centre and associated policies. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon	IP
Recommendations to address the needs and safety interests of incarcerated Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon	IP
Indigenous policy and program support to provide dedicated internal programs, supports and services for Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people, inclusive of community reintegration considerations. (Years 5–10)	Indigenous women's organizations; Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon	IP

Summary:

During the reporting period, the Department of Justice continued to improve programs and supports for Indigenous women and Two-Spirit+ people at the Whitehorse Correctional Centre (WCC).

In 2024, WCC developed the Female Inmate Programs Booklet, which provides a clear overview of all programs available to female inmates. This resource improves accessibility and awareness of supports, helping inmates better navigate available services while incarcerated.

WCC also completed a comprehensive review of existing program streams for women, assessing the breadth and effectiveness of therapeutic counselling, trauma-informed group programming, cultural activities, spiritual supports, and educational opportunities. This review informed ongoing improvements and ensured programming aligns with the lived realities and gender-specific needs of inmates.

To support sustainability and quality of services, WCC increased stable funding dedicated to gender-specific and culturally grounded programming. In parallel, WCC began updating internal policies to better reflect gender-responsive approaches and ensure institutional practices support the safety, dignity, and well-being of incarcerated women and Two-Spirit+ people.

Indigenous-led programming remained a core component of WCC services. Inmates had access to cultural workshops facilitated by First Nations Elders and Knowledge Keepers, supported by First Nations Liaison Officers. Programming included trauma-informed counselling, traditional healing circles, sweat lodge ceremonies, and smudging. These initiatives integrate clinical, cultural, and therapeutic supports, addressing root causes of harm such as trauma, gender-based violence, and intimate partner violence, while fostering accountability, cultural connection, and pathways toward healing.

Together, these clinical, cultural and therapeutic supports help address trauma, gender-based violence and intimate partner violence while supporting accountability, cultural connection, healing and successful reintegration into the community.

2.4.b. Improve the administration of justice and access to justice for Indigenous women, children and Two-Spirit+ people.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Access to justice gap-analysis with recommendations to inform institutional changes and programs and services requirements. (Years 1–2)	Indigenous women's organizations; Yukon First Nations governments	IP
Dedicated advocacy services and supports for Indigenous women, children and Two Spirit+ people. (Years 2–5)	All governments	O
Dedicated legal services for Indigenous women, children and Two-Spirit+ people (child protection, victims of violence) during court proceedings. (Years 2–5)	All governments	O
Dedicated counselling and advocacy support for children who are victims of sexualized violence (connects to Implementation Plan objectives 2.5 and 2.6). (Years 2–5)	All governments	O
Evaluation of Gladue sentencing principles and court decisions to identify successful cases and requirements to improve the safety of victims of violence (individuals and communities). (Years 2–5)	All governments	IP
Consider the establishment of a child and youth advocacy centre for victims of sexualized violence. (Years 10–15)	All governments	NS

Summary:
First Nations governments and departments of Justice, Health and Social Services continued working to improve access to justice. This work focused on making justice processes more culturally responsive, trauma-informed and supportive of the safety and dignity of Indigenous women, children and Two-Spirit+ people.

Carcross/Tagish First Nation supported access to justice through a coordinated, family-centred approach. A Family and Child Services Outreach Worker and Justice Coordinator work closely with individuals and families to address justice-related concerns. In addition, an Indigenous Court Worker attends court with individuals, providing advocacy, cultural support, and navigation of court processes to reduce barriers and stress for those involved in the justice system.

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation strengthened culturally informed justice practices by ensuring staff completed Gladue training, increasing awareness of the systemic and historical factors affecting Indigenous peoples and supporting more informed advocacy and engagement within justice processes.

The federal Department of Justice continued to invest in the Indigenous Court worker Program, providing $14 million over five years and $3.5 million in ongoing funding to support the production and delivery of Gladue reports. In 2024–25, this funding supported cost sharing agreements with multiple provinces and territories, including Yukon, enhancing access to Gladue informed services and culturally relevant court support for Indigenous people.

Through the Government of Yukon's Department of Justice, the Whitehorse Correctional Centre (WCC) strengthened collaboration with community organizations to support justice-involved individuals and their families. The WCC Case Management team works closely with partners such as Safe at Home Society, Blood Ties Four Directions, Connective, Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, and the Family Resource Unit to support advocacy and access to housing, harm reduction, health services, addictions recovery, and family reintegration. WCC also works closely with Yukon Legal Aid to ensure incarcerated Indigenous women and Two-Spirit+ people have low- or no-barrier access to legal representation and legal advice.

To further reduce access barriers, WCC facilitates video court appearances and video case conferences and coordinates with legal counsel to support participation in justice processes when in person attendance is challenging. WCC also collaborates with the Victim Services Branch to support individuals impacted by crime. WCC houses female inmates aged 18 and older and has capacity to house gender diverse offenders, applying an individualized approach to care that reflects Gladue principles and recognizes each person's unique history, needs, and circumstances. Trauma-informed practices are used, and inmates are connected with cultural advocates, Elders, and Knowledge Keepers to support healing, identity, and accountability.

The Department of Justice's Victim Services Branch continued to provide supports, advocacy, and justice system navigation for child and youth victims of crime and their families, helping ensure that children and youth receive appropriate and compassionate support when interacting with the justice system.

The Department of Health and Social Services also supported access to justice-related care for children by arranging treatment services for children who have experienced

sexualized violence on a case-by-case basis. Services are accessed through Yukon Government programs, private practitioners, or out-of-territory resources as required, with associated costs covered by Family and Children Services. This approach ensures timely, trauma-informed care that prioritizes the safety and well-being of children and families.

Together, these initiatives supported a more accessible, culturally grounded and trauma-informed justice system for Indigenous women, children and Two-Spirit+ people.

2.5 Sexualized assault and violence response (Priority action item #5)

Improve victim-centred and crisis-responsive supports for victims of gender-based violence and sexualized assault.

2.5.a. Establish Indigenous designed, victim-centred crisis responsive programs, services and supports.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Victim-centered crisis strategy: inventory and gap analysis. (Years 1–5)	All governments	IP
Indigenous representation on the Sexualized Assault Response Team. (Years 1–5)	All governments	IP
Sexualized Assault Response Team services in rural communities. (Years 1–5)	All governments	IP

Summary:
During the reporting period, partners worked to strengthen sexualized assault response services, expand access outside Whitehorse and include Indigenous perspectives in service planning and delivery.

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation (LSCFN) supported this work by ensuring staff participate in ongoing workshops and training related to sexualized assault and gender-based violence response. This ongoing professional development helps maintain up-to-date knowledge and strengthens the ability of staff to respond in trauma-informed, victim-centred, and culturally respectful ways.

Through the Department of Justice, the Government of Yukon advanced implementation of the Sexualized Assault Response Team (SART) Expansion Action Plan, which outlines steps to improve access to coordinated sexualized assault services across the territory. As part of this expansion, transportation supports for victims of sexualized violence are now accessible to individuals in all Yukon communities, reducing a key barrier for rural and remote survivors. In addition, rural community members can access immediate support through the 24/7 Yukon-based SART Support Line, ensuring timely crisis response regardless of geography.

The Women and Gender Equity Directorate played a key role in supporting the Department of Justice with planning for the expansion of sexualized assault services beyond Whitehorse. This work included ensuring Indigenous representation in planning processes and contributing leadership on communications, planning, and service prioritization. As part of this engagement and planning process, the What We Heard – Sexualized Assault Response Team report was released in April 2024, capturing feedback from communities and stakeholders to inform a more inclusive, culturally responsive service model.

Together, these actions strengthened coordinated and victim-centred responses to sexualized assault and improved access to timely, culturally respectful support across Yukon communities.

2.6 Violence prevention and response programs (Priority action item #5)

Review violence prevention and response programs and services and associated funding programs in the Yukon to improve sustainability, positive outcomes and alignment with First Nations' needs.

2.6.a. Transform the delivery of government response programs and services to eradicate prejudicial treatment of Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people and their families.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Zero-tolerance policy against discrimination. (Years 1–15)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	IP

Milestones	Lead	Status
Cultural diversity training programs for child protection, health, social and justice departments. (Years 1–15)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	O
Media campaigns to promote healthy cultural relationships. (Years 1–15)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	IP

Summary:

Across the Government of Yukon, departments continued working to strengthen cultural safety, humility, and anti-racism in policies, services and staff training.

Within the Department of Justice, staff in several branches and units are required to complete Cultural Safety training, which introduces core concepts such as cultural safety and humility, decolonization, diversity, and the examination of personal and systemic bias toward First Nations peoples and other marginalized groups. This training supports justice staff in identifying and addressing prejudicial treatment within program delivery, decision-making, and interactions with Indigenous women, families, and communities.

The Department of Health and Social Services continued to embed cultural safety and humility across the department by encouraging staff and supervisors to build self-awareness, value diversity, and foster welcoming and respectful environments for Yukon First Nations, Inuit, Métis, and other diverse populations. Mandatory training, including Yukon First Nations 101 and San'yas Indigenous Cultural Safety training, is required for many staff and all Community Nursing professionals, with broad departmental support for additional learning opportunities through YG Learn. Culturally grounded practices are incorporated into day-to-day operations, such as Elder knowledge sharing at the Sarah Steele Building, traditional programming and sharing circles in Continuing Care, and collaboration with the Council of Yukon First Nations to ensure social work training reflects appropriate cultural knowledge. Dedicated leadership roles, including the Cultural Wellness Consultant within Mental Wellness and Substance Use Services and the Manager of Clinical Infrastructure and First Nations Policy in Community Nursing, provide guidance on reconciliation, engagement, and culturally responsive service delivery. All Family and Children Services (FCS)

workers are expected to complete Yukon First Nations 101 and Residential School Awareness training and are encouraged to deepen their understanding of Yukon First Nations history, land claims, and self-government frameworks through recommended readings and learning resources.

The Public Service Commission (PSC) supported system-wide transformation through both strategic and operational initiatives. The Diversity and Inclusion Branch continued work on a Yukon government-wide Cultural Safety and Anti-Racism Strategy, including jurisdictional scans, research, and the allocation of dedicated resources, with completion planned for 2026–27. PSC also launched a new Investigations Office in 2023–24 to support Yukon government employees, supervisors, and HR professionals in addressing harassment, abuse of authority, discrimination, sexual harassment, and violence, strengthening accountability within the public service.

The Organizational Development Branch (ODB) delivered numerous training opportunities to Yukon government employees, including staff from Health and Justice. These offerings included Yukon First Nations 101, Residential School Awareness, Introduction to Cultural Safety, The Blanket Exercise, Anti-Racism in the Workplace, Trauma-Informed Care, Bystander Intervention, Unconscious Bias, 2SLGBTQIA+ Awareness, and other diversity and inclusion-focused sessions. ODB also offered the Intercultural Development Inventory assessment and related training to support deeper reflection on bias, cultural competence, and inclusive practice.

Training participation continued to grow. In 2024–25, 201 employees completed Introduction to Cultural Safety, and 113 employees completed Residential School Awareness. Looking ahead to 2025–26, additional offerings are planned, including Lateral Kindness and expanded participation in Bystander Intervention Training, further strengthening Yukon's capacity to prevent harm and respond to violence with equity and respect.

these actions strengthened the Government of Yukon's ability to provide more culturally safe, respectful and responsive services and workplaces.

2.6.b. Community-based First Nations violence-prevention programs, supports and services.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Evaluation of violence prevention and response programs and services as well as current funding levels throughout the Yukon. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	IP
Summary report and recommendations. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	IP
Indigenous family violence-prevention programs and services guide to inform the funding and delivery of violence-prevention services for Indigenous women, children, Two-Spirit+ people and families. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	IP
Dedicated domestic violence-prevention programs that are child and youth-focused. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	O
Dedicated legal representation for victims of violence. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	O

Summary:

Community-based and First Nations-led programs remained an important part of Yukon's response to gender-based violence. Ongoing funding supported prevention, healing and victim-centred services grounded in local priorities, culture and self-determination.

The federal Family Violence Prevention Program provided more than $4 million across Yukon in 2024–25. This funding supported First Nations governments and organizations in operating shelters and delivering community-led programs focused on women's safety, security and wellness.

More than $21 million was also provided directly to Yukon First Nations for prevention-focused child and family services. This funding supported community programs, administration and other services intended to reduce family violence and strengthen family well-being.

The Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council (YAWC) continued to deliver and refine community-based violence-prevention initiatives. This included ongoing use of its newly created inter-agency road maps, with smaller, user-friendly versions under development to improve accessibility for organizations and clients. YAWC also hosted family and youth on-the-land camps centred on culture, traditions, and healing,

strengthening protective factors through cultural connection and intergenerational learning. In addition, YAWC supported clients who required assistance to attend court, with the Women's Advocate providing accompaniment and support to victims navigating justice processes.

Through the Department of Justice, the Justice Wellness Centre supported community-based restorative and therapeutic programming by providing counselling and related supports to Liard First Nation's Dene Keh Justice program and the Carcross/Tagish First Nation Justice program, particularly for clients participating in the Domestic Violence Treatment Option. These supports strengthen First Nations-led justice responses by integrating culturally relevant counselling and therapeutic services.

The Department of Justice's Negotiations, Collaborations and Partnerships unit supported prevention-focused, community-based programming through targeted funding. This included support for Athletics Yukon's Fireweed Running Camp for Girls and the Boys and Girls Club's Healthy Gender Groups project, both of which provided age-appropriate opportunities for youth to learn about healthy relationships, consent, and gender identity and expression as a means of preventing gender-based violence.

Victim-centred legal supports continued through the Independent Legal Advice Program delivered by the Victim Services Branch of Yukon Justice. This program provides free legal advice and information to victims of intimate partner violence and sexualized violence and is available to victims of all genders and ages, supporting informed decision-making and access to justice.

The Women and Gender Equity Directorate (WGED) advanced system-level sustainability for community-based violence-prevention services by completing a sector-wide review in Spring 2025. The review examined service gaps and organizational workload pressures and resulted in the development of an operational funding model for the sector, including Indigenous women's organizations. The model emphasizes collective impact and includes a strengthened data-collection framework to support accountability and long-term planning. WGED also provided ongoing operational funding to support frontline advocacy, allocating $93,000 annually for the Women's Legal Advocate program at Skookum Jim Friendship Centre and $100,000 annually for the Women's Advocate program at Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre. These programs support legal navigation and client advocacy for women experiencing violence.

Together, these programs and investments strengthened community-led violence prevention, healing, legal support and advocacy. They also supported safer families and

communities through culturally grounded services shaped by First Nations and community priorities.

2.7 Update the MMIWG2S+ record

Update the record of MMIWG2S+ with current information and include those who were not included in the original Yukon Sisters in Spirit research project and create a record of missing and murdered Indigenous people in addition to the MMIWG2S+ record.

2.7.a. Ensure an accurate account of missing and murdered Indigenous people.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Dedicated financial resources. (Years 1–5)	Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	IP
Ongoing financial support for a digital database and repository to ensure technical support, access, privacy and security. (Years 1–15)	Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	IP
Develop guidelines to conduct research to re-establish and update the records in consultation with Indigenous women's organizations. (Years 5–10)	Indigenous women's organizations	IP
Research report, informed by the permission of the families, accounting for the deaths and disappearances of Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people since the Yukon Sisters in Spirit project of 2010. (Years 5–10)	Indigenous women's organizations	IP
Research report informed by the permission of the families on the deaths and disappearances of Indigenous men and boys. (Years 5–10)	Indigenous women's organizations	IP

Summary:

There were no reported actions taken on the objectives of 2.7.a. in the 24/25 fiscal year reporting.

2.8 Transportation and communication (Priority action item #11)

Create safe and affordable transportation and communication options to and between Yukon communities.

2.8.a. Safe, accessible and affordable transportation services for Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people in need.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Evaluation report of community transportation needs for safety purposes and provide recommendations for transportation system service within Whitehorse and between communities with safety and mobility considerations for Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people. (Years 1–5)	All governments	IP
Expedite 5.9 of Putting People First. (Years 1–5)	All governments	IP

Summary:
Partners continued working to improve safe and reliable transportation for people travelling to medical appointments, wellness supports and services related to gender-based violence.

Carcross/Tagish First Nation supported community-based transportation needs through a combination of Community Safety and Wellness programming, dedicated Outreach Workers, Medical Transportation and Elders support, and access to an on-call driver. These coordinated resources help ensure community members can travel safely for medical appointments, wellness supports, emergencies, and other essential needs.

Through the Department of Justice, the Government of Yukon strengthened transportation supports for victims of gender-based violence. A data-collection tool was developed to support evaluation of the Gender-Based Violence Travel Assistance Program, helping improve accountability and service planning. Justice also established a roster of on-demand transportation providers to support victims who require immediate travel for safety or access to services when no other transportation options are available.

The Department of Justice advanced transportation access through funding provided under the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence. This funding supports a low-barrier transportation project that assists victims of violence to travel to Whitehorse or other communities, such as Dawson, to access services. The funding is administered by Victim Services in collaboration with several non-governmental organizations, ensuring coordinated and victim-centred delivery. In addition, during 2024–25, HSS community engagements for Community Health and Wellness Plans

included the collection of feedback on ongoing transportation challenges and needs, helping inform future improvements to safe travel options.

The Women and Gender Equity Directorate supported broader coordination by organizing a facilitated workshop in September 2024. Seven Government of Yukon departments came together to identify transportation gaps, improve coordination and explore practical ways to make transportation safer and more accessible. The Directorate will lead the next steps in this work.

Together, these initiatives improved access to immediate and essential transportation while supporting longer-term planning for safer and more reliable travel across the Yukon.

2.8.b. Reliable and affordable communications systems (telephone and internet services) throughout the Yukon.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Invite Northwestel to become a signatory to the strategy. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	C
Invite Telus and Rogers to become signatories to the strategy. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	NS
Invite the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission to become a signatory to the strategy. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	NS
Reliable and affordable communication systems (telephone and internet services) throughout the Yukon. (Years 1–15)	Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	O

Summary:
The Government of Yukon continued to improve telecommunications infrastructure across Yukon. Reliable telephone and internet services are important for public safety, emergency response, access to services and community well-being.

Through the Department of Highways and Public Works, the Government of Yukon completed the Dempster Fiber Line project, which adds a critical backup telecommunications route for communities along the Dempster Highway. The new fiber line enhances system redundancy, reducing the risk of service outages and improving the overall reliability of internet and cellular services in the event of disruptions to existing networks. The project reached substantial completion on August 9, 2024, and

commissioning by Northwestel was anticipated to be completed before the end of 2024. Once fully operational, this infrastructure is expected to significantly improve connectivity resilience for northern and remote communities, supporting safer communication, emergency response, and access to online services across the region.

Together, improvements strengthen connectivity and community safety for Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people and all Yukon residents.

2.9 Research projects

Identify research priorities under the leadership of Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people and conduct individual and/or joint projects to advance knowledge and information available on specific topics including human trafficking affecting Yukon Indigenous people.

2.9.a. Establish and Indigenous research house of learning to promote, develop, support and house Indigenous-led research on topics of importance to the equity and equality, health and wellness, and safety of Indigenous, women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Invite Yukon University to become a signatory to the strategy. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	IP
Invite the Yukon Status of Women Council to become a signatory to the strategy. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	C
Research report on various forms of human trafficking in the Yukon and recommendations to eradicate these human rights violations. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations	NS
Research report on the relationships and common factors between violence and lateral violence, and the impacts of colonization, racism, patriarchy, oppression and social inequity. (Years 1–5)	All governments	IP
Establish an Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people research chair for the Yukon. (Years 1–5)	All governments	NS

Summary:

The Government of Yukon took an early step toward supporting Indigenous-led research on gender-based violence.

Through the Department of Justice, a literature review examined how colonization, racism, patriarchy, oppression and social inequity contribute to violence against Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people. The review brought together findings from 81 academic and policy articles.

The findings will help inform future training and learning for public servants. They also provide a stronger shared understanding of the systemic causes of gender-based violence and the importance of Indigenous-led approaches to research and knowledge sharing.

A formal Indigenous research house of learning has not yet been established. However, this work helps build some of the knowledge and tools that may support future Indigenous-led research related to equity, safety and wellness under Yukon's MMIWG2S+ Strategy.

Path 3: Economic independence and education

Work under this path focused on expanding access to education, training, and economic opportunities. Activities addressed barriers to participation while supporting culturally relevant learning environments and community-driven economic development.

3.1.a. Economic independence and education

Milestones	Lead	Status
Invite the Yukon First Nation Education Directorate, the Skookum Jim Friendship Centre and the Yukon Learn Society to become signatories to the Strategy. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	NS
Consult with Indigenous students, youth and adults to identify obstacles and needs to increase employment of Indigenous people to inform government-related policies and strategies. (Years 1–15)	Yukon First Nations governments	O
Implement policies to support a safe educational environment. (Years 1–15)	Government of Yukon	O

Summary:

Partners across the Yukon continued to support education, training, employment and safer learning environments. These initiatives helped reduce barriers and strengthen

pathways to greater independence for Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people.

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council reported that efforts to support economic independence and education are ongoing through its Development Department. This work includes supporting citizens' access to training, education, and employment opportunities aligned with community priorities and individual goals.

Indigenous Services Canada introduced the First Nations Adult Education Program in Yukon and the Northwest Territories. The program supports locally designed and delivered adult education initiatives and provides enhanced student supports to improve access to education in northern and remote communities, contributing to increased educational attainment and economic participation.

Through Community Development Fund the Government of Yukon supported the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun in developing an all-inclusive, multi-platform Northern Tutchone Language App. The app supports language revitalization and cultural continuity, while also building digital skills and creating opportunities for community led innovation that contributes to long-term social and economic resilience.

The Department of Economic Development provided support to the Northern Cultural Expressions Society by offering specialized training in tools such as laser engravers, CNC machines, and Illustrator software, helping participants expand their technical and artistic capabilities. Additionally, in 2024–25, the Yukon government invested $1.76 million in labor market initiatives aimed at empowering Indigenous organizations, participants, and women in trades and technology. These projects focused on building capacity within First Nation governments, delivering industry-specific skills training, and creating employment opportunities through programs like Skills for Success. Altogether, these efforts benefited approximately 300 individuals, including 63 Indigenous apprentices who received assistance to attend technical training

The Department of Education advanced several system-level initiatives that support safe, inclusive, and culturally responsive learning environments. The Department continued implementing SOGI 1-2-3 as a key measure to reduce bullying and

discrimination, with a particular focus on 2SLGBTQIA+ students. Evidence continues to show that this approach reduces bullying for all students, contributing to safer and more supportive schools. Cultural safety is also being addressed through the renewed Joint Education Action Plan, which includes commitments to Indigenize curriculum content and implement mandatory cultural awareness training specific to Yukon First Nations history and cultures.

The Department of Education further strengthened student protections by updating its Student Protection Policy, with revisions focused on safeguarding children from harm by adults, anticipated for winter 2025. In addition, the Integrated Outcome Strategy for Yukon Learners, released in spring 2025, set out goals for a strong education system and empowered learners. Key pathways emphasize Indigenizing and decolonizing education, building capacity, collaborative planning, and shared accountability.

The Women and Gender Equity Directorate supported these efforts by coordinating the LGBTQ2S+ Inclusion Action Plan, which includes multiple actions aimed at creating safer and more inclusive school environments. In 2024–25, the Directorate continued to work closely with Yukon Education to update the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity policy, further embedding inclusive practices across the education system.

Together, these initiatives improved access to education and employment, supported safer and more culturally responsive learning environments, and strengthened pathways toward economic independence and self-determination.

3.1.b. Support Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people with health conditions, impairments, disabilities and neurodiversity to actively participate in education, leadership and economic opportunities.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Invite Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Society Yukon (FASSY), Autism Yukon, Opportunities Yukon, the Yukon Learn Society to become signatories to the strategy. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	NS
Dedicated programs and supports that address health conditions, impairments, disabilities and neurodiversity and provide access to accommodation, employment, and leadership opportunities. (Years 1–15)	All governments	O

Summary:
Partners across the Yukon continued to support more inclusive and flexible access to education, employment and leadership opportunities. This work recognized that disability, neurodiversity and health conditions can create additional barriers for Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people.

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council (TKC) reported that supports are provided on a case-by-case basis, with programming tailored to the specific needs, strengths, and goals of each individual. This individualized approach allows TKC to respond holistically and flexibly, ensuring that citizens facing barriers related to health or disability can access appropriate supports to participate in education, training and employment opportunities.

Indigenous Services Canada, through CIRNAC's Yukon Regional Office, provided $150,000 through the Income Assistance First Nation Youth Employment Strategy Program (pilot). This funding supported a project focused on providing participants with opportunities to build skills in traditional hospitality, creating inclusive pathways to employment that value cultural knowledge while supporting workforce participation for youth who may face barriers.

The Department of Education continued to improve equity in access to learning supports through system-level changes. During the reporting period, Student Support Services centralized waitlist tracking, enabling better monitoring of equitable access and reducing the likelihood that students with complex needs are missed or delayed in receiving services. Clear training was also provided to Learning Assistance Teachers on accessing consultation and assessment services, including psychology, positive behaviour supports, speech and language pathology, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, Deaf and Hard of Hearing services, and Blind and Low Vision supports. The Department of Education also transitioned to competency-based goal setting and Individualized Education Plans, which better align with Indigenous ways of knowing and doing by focusing on strengths, lived experience, and holistic growth rather than deficit-based measures.

The Public Service Commission (PSC), through its Diversity and Inclusion Branch (DIB), supported leadership development and inclusive participation through ongoing learning and engagement opportunities. DIB hosted a series of “Conversations with Diversity” keynote events focused on equity, diversity, and inclusion, open to all levels of employment within the public service. In addition, PSC co-hosted Indigenous Leadership Conferences in July 2023 and March 2025, which received strong positive feedback. These conferences included participation from Yukon First Nations government employees and supported leadership development opportunities for Indigenous participants with diverse lived experiences. Planning has commenced for a future Indigenous Leadership Conference in 2026, further supporting inclusive leadership pathways.

Together, these initiatives helped reduce barriers and create more inclusive pathways to education, employment and leadership. They also supported approaches that recognize individual strengths, cultural knowledge and diverse needs.

3.1.c. Decolonize education and ensure that the curriculum as informed by Yukon First Nation cultures and lived experiences.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Curriculum at all educational levels that supports and advances First Nations cultural life skills, heritage, languages and subsistence-based economies. (Years 1–15)	First Nations governments; Government of Yukon	O

Summary:
The Department of Education continued working with Yukon First Nations governments to decolonize the education system through the Joint Education Action Plan.

During the reporting period, the plan was renewed for another 10 years, from 2025 to 2035. This reflects a long-term commitment to reconciliation and meaningful change in Yukon’s education system.

Culture and language remain one of the plan’s four priority areas. This includes expanding Yukon First Nations culture and language curricula, strengthening

Kindergarten to Grade 12 language programs, and increasing access to land-based, experiential and culturally relevant learning.

These approaches bring Yukon First Nations histories, knowledge, languages, and lived experiences to schools. They help First Nations students see their cultures and identities reflected in their education while giving all students opportunities to learn about Yukon First Nations ways of knowing.

The continued implementation of the Joint Education Action Plan places First Nations leadership and partnership at the centre of curriculum development, program design and educational practices. This supports a shift away from colonial approaches and toward education grounded in respect, cultural continuity and Indigenous self-determination.

3.1.d. Support and advance the development of First Nations economies and strengthen Indigenous participation in the economy.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Invite Yukon First Nations Culture and Tourism Association, Yukon First Nations development corporations, däna Näye Ventures, and the Yukon First Nation Chamber of Commerce to become signatories to the Strategy. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	NS
Economic strategies, initiatives, incentives and supports to advance cultural and land-based businesses and Indigenous arts and tourism led by Indigenous women and Two-Spirit+ people. (Years 1–15)	Indigenous women's organizations; Yukon First Nations governments	O
Strategies, initiatives, incentives and supports to advance Indigenous-led business economic participation. (Years 1–15)	Indigenous women's organizations; Yukon First Nations governments	O

Summary:

Partners across the Yukon continued to strengthen First Nations economies and support Indigenous participation in education, employment, tourism, arts and cultural industries. These initiatives were designed to reflect community priorities, cultural values and long-term self-determination.

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council continued to support citizens through its Education and Employment Training Coordinator, who works directly with individuals to address

education and training needs. This role supports citizens in identifying pathways to employment, skills development, and career advancement, contributing to increased economic participation and workforce readiness.

Through the Department of Tourism and Culture, the Government of Yukon supported Indigenous-owned tourism businesses and Yukon First Nations cultural centres. The Tourism Cooperative Marketing Fund helped promote these businesses and centres and increase their visibility to visitors.

The Community Tourism Destination Development Fund and the Spark Tourism Micro-Grant Program also supported projects led by Champagne and Aishihik First Nations and the Deisleen Development Corporation.

The Community Tourism Destination Development Fund provides approximately $1.6 million each year for tourism projects across Yukon. The Spark program provides grants of $1,000 to $5,000 to help Yukon entrepreneurs, First Nations governments and development organizations create new visitor experiences.

The Department of Tourism and Culture also worked with Yukon First Nations communities, entrepreneurs, knowledge holders and the Yukon First Nations Culture and Tourism Association. This included business-development missions, trade shows, events and partnerships that supported Indigenous-led tourism.

The Indigenous Artists and Cultural Carriers Micro-Grant provided up to $5,000 to Indigenous artists and cultural carriers for activities such as creating art, mentorship, travel, workshops and business planning. Most recipients identified as women.

In 2024–25, the program supported 54 projects, helping Indigenous artists earn income and strengthen their work, particularly in rural and remote communities. An Indigenous Outreach Liaison based in Dawson also helped artists prepare applications and plan projects.

Culture Quest supported First Nations cultural projects, including festivals, storytelling, song revitalization, regalia making and traditional dance. Other funding supported

youth-focused cultural programming through organizations such as the Northern Cultural Expressions Society.

Ongoing funding for the Yukon First Nations Culture and Tourism Association supported broader development of the sector, including tourism guidelines and protocols for activities on First Nations traditional territories.

Together, these initiatives supported Indigenous-led economic development through education, skills training, tourism, arts and culture. They also strengthened economic opportunities for Indigenous women, families and communities while supporting reconciliation and self-determination.

3.2 Post secondary education and professional development

Improve funding for and access to culturally relevant career counselling, post-secondary education programs, and community education outreach.

3.2.a. Promote and support First Nations careers that are key to ending violence against Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit people.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people studies as part of the Yukon education curriculum. (Years 1–15)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	IP
Increase representation of Indigenous women and Two-Spirit+ people in teaching all levels of educational studies. (Years 1–15)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon	O
Increase representation of Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people in the student body in the areas of health, mental wellness, social work, and justice. (Years 1–15)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon	O
Practicum placement within First Nations communities. (Years 1–15)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon	O
Program specific scholarships, bursaries and grants for Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people. (Years 1–15)	All governments	IP

Summary:

First Nations governments, Yukon University, and government partners continued to support education and training pathways into professions that directly contribute to safer communities, healing, and long-term system change.

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation (LSCFN) reported that several citizens are engaged in post-secondary education across key fields that support violence prevention and community wellness. This includes members enrolled in education programs, with one citizen currently working toward completion of the Yukon Native Teacher Education Program (YNTEP) and others pursuing studies that may lead to education degrees. Additional LSCFN citizens are advancing careers in criminology, rural and remote nursing, child and youth care, and addictions and community support work, all of which play critical roles in addressing trauma, supporting victims, and strengthening prevention and early intervention services in communities.

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council continued to support citizens by providing financial assistance for education costs, helping reduce barriers to post-secondary participation and enabling individuals to pursue careers aligned with personal goals and community needs.

The Department of Economic Development provided support to the Carcross/Tagish First Nation Labour Market Program, helping CTFN citizens and community members progress toward greater labour market self-sufficiency. This initiative focused on empowering participants through targeted training, employment readiness, and capacity-building opportunities designed to strengthen local economic independence and foster sustainable community development.

The Department of Education continued to support the recruitment and retention of Indigenous educators. Changes to collective agreements helped reduce wage differences between Yukon First Nations language teachers and other teachers.

Schools also continued partnerships with the ARC Foundation, including engagement with a local Two-Spirit person who works with schools to help develop safe and inclusive spaces for students.

Yukon University continued to play a central role in supporting Indigenous participation in post-secondary education and professional pathways. In September 2023, the University Board of Governors approved the Strategic Enrolment Management (SEM) Plan, which commits to increasing overall enrolment by 20% by 2030 while maintaining an aspiration that 25% of students across programs are Indigenous, with a specific emphasis on recruiting Yukon First Nations citizens. As reported in Yukon University's 2023–24 Year in Review, 26% of the student population identified as Indigenous, demonstrating progress toward this goal.

Through the School of Health, Education and Human Services, Yukon University continued to provide practicum placements within First Nations communities for students in Education (YNTEP and Bachelor of Education After Degree), Early Learning, and Social Work. The Early Learning program's rural delivery model combines virtual instruction with intensive in-person sessions and enables students to complete practicum placements in their home communities, with offerings delivered in communities including Dawson, Mayo, Carmacks, Pelly Crossing, Watson Lake, Teslin, Carcross, Old Crow, and Haines Junction. Yukon University also coordinated Social Work practicums in partnership with First Nations such as Carcross/Tagish First Nation and supported students seeking placements in their home communities where capacity allows.

In support of reducing financial barriers, Yukon University continued work to develop a framework and policies for ethical giving, including exploring ways to increase scholarships, bursaries, and grants reserved specifically for Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people. This work is guided by commitments to reconciliation, decolonization, accessibility, sustainability, and the recognition of Indigenous knowledge systems and traditions.

Together, these initiatives strengthened pathways into education, health, justice, social services and other professions that support healing and violence prevention. They also helped Indigenous people pursue leadership and professional roles that contribute to safer families and communities.

3.2.b. Align Yukon University accreditation standards with Yukon First Nations standards.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Prioritize the hiring and retention, and ensure equitable compensation, of Indigenous representation in Yukon University. First Nations community-based education courses equivalent to college and/or university accreditation. (Years 1–5)	Yukon First Nations governments	O
Transform Yukon University accreditation standards to be inclusive and reflective of Yukon First Nations standards, including policy and legislation where appropriate. (Years 1–15)	Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon	IP

Summary:
Yukon University continued working to better reflect Yukon First Nations knowledge, values and priorities in its academic programs, faculty recognition and institutional policies, while maintaining nationally recognized credentials.

The Dechinta Centre for Research and Learning continued to contribute to this alignment by delivering land-based, university-accredited programming across the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, and Yukon. Dechinta's model blends academic instruction with on-the-land learning led by Elders, faculty, and Indigenous knowledge holders, demonstrating an approach that centres Indigenous pedagogy while meeting post-secondary accreditation requirements.

Within Yukon University, several significant institutional changes advanced recognition of Yukon First Nations knowledge and standards. Following the ratification of a new collective agreement in June 2023, Article 26 introduced formal faculty title and rank structures while explicitly recognizing Traditional Knowledge as a distinct pathway into faculty ranks. Under this framework, self-identified Indigenous faculty members who are recognized by their communities as traditional knowledge holders may be appointed to faculty ranks, including Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, or Professor, without holding a master's or doctoral degree. Indigenous faculty members may also choose to include an equivalent Indigenous title alongside their academic

rank, strengthening respect for Indigenous knowledge systems within university governance and accreditation practices.

Yukon University also advanced work on an Ethical Compensation Framework, led by a cross-functional committee, to better support respectful engagement with Indigenous peoples through appropriate and culturally grounded compensation methods. In addition, a formal Elders on Campus program, implemented in Spring 2024, strengthened recognition of Elders' contributions to students and the broader university community, reinforcing Indigenous standards of learning, mentorship, and knowledge transmission.

Recruitment and employment practices continued to prioritize Indigenous participation. Yukon University includes priority consideration for Yukon First Nations citizens in recruitment advertisements and actively seeks Indigenous candidates for senior leadership roles, with preference afforded to Yukon First Nations applicants at the interview stage, where appropriate.

Yukon University also expanded community-based programs designed in response to local priorities. Programs such as the REAL (Readiness for Employment and Living) program were delivered in communities including Old Crow, Pelly Crossing, Mayo, and Ross River, with program content tailored to community identified needs such as culinary skills or camp maintenance. The First Nations Arts Certificate further supported Indigenous artists in developing skills to bring creative work to market. While these programs do not yet provide direct transferability to accredited academic credentials, they build essential employability, problem-solving, and confidence-building skills and reflect Indigenous standards of experiential, community driven learning.

To strengthen alignment over the long term, Yukon University committed to developing a new policy on collaborative program development with Yukon First Nations. This policy will formalize the university's approach to co-creating new academic programs and degrees with First Nations partners. Current engagement on programs in development is being treated as action research to inform this policy.

Yukon University also worked with the Government of Yukon to develop a University Accountability Framework under the *Yukon University Act*. Yukon First Nations provided input through a government-led engagement process, and the framework prioritizes accountability measures related to Indigenous student outcomes, co-created research, and credit and non-credit learning pathways developed and delivered with Yukon First Nations.

While Yukon University does not set its own accreditation standards, its programs are assessed by the Campus Alberta Quality Assurance Council, ensuring national equivalency and credential portability across Canada. Within this context, Yukon University deliberately integrates its commitments to reconciliation, Indigenous engagement, and Yukon First Nations priorities, articulated in its academic plan and reconciliation framework, into accreditation reviews.

Together, these actions represent meaningful progress toward aligning Yukon University's accreditation practices, faculty recognition, program design, and accountability structures with Yukon First Nations standards, while maintaining national academic credibility. This work supports Indigenous self-determination in education and strengthens culturally grounded pathways for Indigenous women, girls, and Two-Spirit+ people.

3.2.c. Increase the representation of Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people in sports and recreation.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Invite sport organizations including the Yukon Aboriginal Sport Circle and Sport Yukon to become signatories to the strategy. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	NS
Financial resources for equitable sponsorship for Indigenous sports. (Years 1–15)	Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	O

Summary:
The Government of Yukon continued to support greater participation by Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people in sport and recreation through Indigenous-led and culturally relevant programs.

Through the Department of Community Services, the Government of Yukon provided annual funding to the Yukon Aboriginal Sport Circle through the Sport Canada bilateral agreement. This funding supported community-based sport and recreation programs for Indigenous children and youth. The programs focused on cultural relevance, inclusion and safe participation.

The Yukon Aboriginal Sport Circle also supported Indigenous coaches, mentors and community leaders, helping build long-term leadership and capacity in sport and recreation.

Together, these investments improved access to physical activity and supported confidence, well-being, leadership and stronger community connections.

3.2.d. Increase the representation of Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people in trades.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Programs, supports and work placements for Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people seeking to enter into trades. (Years 1–15)	Yukon First Nations governments	O
Education funding and incentives inclusive of bursaries and forgivable student loans for surviving family members. (Years 1–15)	Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	O
Policy development to ensure the safety of Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people in trades. (Years 1–15)	All governments	IP

Summary:
Partners across Yukon continued to support Indigenous participation in the skilled trades by reducing financial barriers, improving training and apprenticeship supports, and creating more inclusive opportunities for women and gender-diverse people.

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation continued updating its Trades Policy to provide stronger supports for students, including increased tool allowances. This recognizes that the cost of tools and equipment can be a major barrier for young people entering the trades. They also worked with industry partners to create apprenticeship opportunities for youth in Carmacks. This supports local employment and helps build long-term skilled-trades capacity in the community.

The Department of Education invested approximately $2.5 million each year to help apprentices access and complete technical training. Supports included tuition and seat costs through agreements with Yukon University and Alberta's apprenticeship system.

Yukon University has also offered training opportunities specifically designed for women, such as programs focused on women in steel. Eligible apprentices can also access Employment Insurance while attending technical training.

The Working Up program helped apprentices cover costs such as travel, books, transportation, childcare and maintaining a second residence while training. Apprentices who were not eligible for Employment Insurance could also receive living allowances.

Federal loans and grants provided additional support at different stages of apprenticeship, including incentives connected to completing Red Seal certification. Apprentices could also access tutoring and exam preparation through Yukon's Virtual Learning Strategy.

The Department of Education continued to work collaboratively with the Department of Economic Development on skills development funding programs that further advance these objectives.

To strengthen early pathways into the trades, the Department of Education enhanced its Dual Credit program and signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Yukon University, enabling secondary school students to earn high school credits alongside post-secondary credentials. This model provides flexibility for students to explore both academic and trades-based pathways, supports engagement and completion of secondary education, and creates smoother transitions into apprenticeship programs after graduation.

The Government of Yukon advanced gender-inclusive participation in skilled trades through targeted funding initiatives led by the Women and Gender Equality Directorate and the Department of Economic Development. In 2024–25, the Directorate allocated $123,000 in operational and violence-prevention funding to Yukon Women in Trades

and Technology (YWITT), supporting safer workplaces, skill development, and greater representation of women and gender-diverse individuals in non-traditional occupations. The Department of Economic Development continued its partnership with YWITT, which provides hands-on, introductory trade experiences to help participants overcome systemic barriers. Additionally, the department supported the First Kaska Tiny Cabins project, offering practical trades experience through the construction of four residential cabins for Wildland Fire Management fire bases, enhancing both technical skills and community resilience.

Together, these initiatives reduced financial and systemic barriers, strengthened apprenticeship opportunities and supported more inclusive pathways into the skilled trades for Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people.

3.3 Employment livelihoods and entrepreneurial development

Increase and improve opportunities for Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people to create sustainable and self-determined livelihoods and economic independence.

3.3.a. Develop a pathway for Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people to gain economic independence and build sustainable lives.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Invite Yukonstruct to become a signatory to the strategy. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	C
Economic development model to assist Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people who are experiencing economic barriers and poverty, to enter the workforce and economy; and establish their own businesses. (Years 1–15)	Indigenous women's organizations; Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon	IP
Provide federal monies to support the economic development model for Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people. (Years 1–15)	Government of Canada	O
Yukonstruct satellite offices in rural Yukon. (Years 10–15)	Government of Yukon	IP

Summary:

During the reporting period, targeted investments and policy measures supported Indigenous entrepreneurship, employment pathways, and representation within the public service.

Through the Department of Economic Development, the Economic Development Fund provided funding to Kaylyn Baker Designs, a Northern Tutchone/Tlingit-owned fashion business, to advance its participation in Ancestral Bloodlines' PayPal Fashion Week 2024. This support created opportunities for Indigenous creative entrepreneurs to access broader markets, build professional networks, and increase income generation while showcasing Indigenous designs and identity.

The department also supported the First Nation Youth Internships program through the Yukon Hospital Corporation, establishing a sustainable pool of training-focused, unit-specific entry-level casual positions. This initiative offered First Nations youth meaningful opportunities to gain health care skills while emphasizing cultural awareness and community connection. Additionally, Yukon Economic Development advanced the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Capacity and Citizen Development project, strengthening the THFN Human Resources and Education Departments to deliver labour market services and guidance that help citizens achieve their employment goals.

The department also supported Training and Capacity Support for Small Business Development through the Kwanlin Dün First Nation, providing one-on-one business feasibility and planning assistance. Furthermore, the Warrior Program with Yukon First Nation Wildfire empowered youth through a two-week intensive training at the wildfire base facility, followed by employment placement and ongoing case management, building practical skills and pathways to success.

They also provided multi-year funding (2024–25 to 2026–27) to Yukonstruct to expand its community support and pathfinding services to rural Yukon communities outside of Whitehorse. This new service offering supported entrepreneurs and innovators in rural and remote areas by providing mentorship, business development support, and connections to resources, helping reduce geographic barriers to entrepreneurship and innovation.

The Public Service Commission (PSC) continued to advance economic participation and employment equity through Indigenous hiring preferences, introduced in October 2020. In all Government of Yukon hiring competitions, qualified candidates who self-identify as having Yukon First Nations or other Indigenous ancestry receive preference,

supporting increased Indigenous representation across the public service. PSC also continued implementation of Breaking Trail Together, a plan developed in collaboration with Yukon First Nations governments to meet obligations under Yukon First Nation Final Agreements and to build a more representative public service. This work contributes to long-term, stable employment opportunities for Indigenous citizens and supports economic independence through public sector careers.

Together, these initiatives supported Indigenous entrepreneurs, helped youth and citizens develop employment skills, and strengthened pathways to stable careers and economic independence.

3.4 Resource extraction and major infrastructure projects (Priority action item#6)

Eliminate violence related to development projects in both workplaces and communities. Increase the workforce capacity, mitigate negative impacts, and improve the positive benefits for Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people and the Yukon communities.

3.4.a. Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people participation in the resource extraction industry.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Invite the Yukon Chamber of Commerce, Yukon First Nation Chamber of Commerce and Yukon Women in Mining to become signatories to the strategy. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	C

Summary:

There were no reported actions taken on the objectives of 3.4.a. in the 24/25 fiscal year reporting.

3.4.b. Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people participation in policy and legislative development.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Designated industry skill development programs for Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; All governments	IP

Milestones	Lead	Status
Research project to identify and address barriers that affect the employment of Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people within the resource extraction industry. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; All governments	IP
Yukon-wide policy to increase public safety and eradicate violence and racism in the resource extraction industry and major infrastructure projects. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; All governments	O
Legislative framework to increase public safety and eradicate violence and racism in the resource extraction industry and major infrastructure projects. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; All governments	IP

Summary:
Partners across Yukon continued working to include Indigenous perspectives in policy, legislation, major-project reviews, workforce planning and government decision-making. Some initiatives supported direct participation in these processes, while others helped Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people build the skills and experience needed to take part.

The Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council supported participation through its delivery of the Indigenous Skills and Employment Training Strategy program, which is funded nationally. This program supports Indigenous participants to engage meaningfully in employment, training, and leadership pathways that also contribute to informed participation in policy- and system-level discussions affecting their lives and communities.

Major Projects Yukon committed to working with the Women and Gender Equity Directorate to develop guidance for Government of Yukon departments on considering different social impacts, including impacts related to gender and intersecting identities.

This guidance will inform updates to the Major Project Management Framework and help departments identify and address social impacts earlier in project planning and assessment. It will also help ensure that the experiences of Indigenous women and families are considered more consistently, rather than relying on the Directorate to raise these issues during individual project reviews.

The Department of Economic Development continued to fund Yukon Women in Trades and Technology. Its programs encourage girls, young women and gender-diverse people, including Indigenous participants, to explore skilled trades and help identify barriers that can inform labour-market and workforce policies.

The Department of Education expanded the Dual Credit program and signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Yukon University. The program allows secondary students to earn high school and post-secondary credits, including through trades and apprenticeship pathways. The department committed to engaging First Nations governments and non-governmental organizations to ensure program design reflects industry needs and supports Indigenous youth and Two-Spirit+ learners. Education also began early scoping work toward updating apprenticeship program regulations, creating opportunities for Indigenous input into future regulatory change. Ongoing collaboration with the Department of Economic Development on skills-development funding further supports this work.

Since 2021, the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources has worked with the Council of Yukon First Nations, Yukon First Nations governments and transboundary Indigenous governments to develop new minerals legislation through the New Minerals Legislation Steering Committee.

The committee explored socio-economic issues, including employment barriers facing Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people. While the committee concluded that minerals legislation alone is not the appropriate mechanism to address these barriers, the process itself increased Indigenous participation and representation in legislative development and clarified where complementary policy tools may be more effective.

The Women and Gender Equity Directorate continued to support Indigenous perspectives in system-level decision-making by assisting Major Projects Yukon with assessing potential socio-economic impacts during the YESAB process, helping ensure gendered and intersectional considerations are incorporated into project review and recommendations.

The Workers' Safety and Compensation Board, under its updated legislation and regulations, embedded violence and harassment prevention requirements across all workplaces. These provisions require employers to have policies and procedures in place to prevent and respond to violence and harassment, contributing to safer work environments and supporting the participation and protection of Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people in employment-related policy frameworks.

Together, these actions supported greater inclusion of Indigenous perspectives in government decisions, legislative development, major-project reviews, education, workforce planning and workplace safety.

3.5 Workplace physical, psychological and cultural safety

Improve the physical, psychological, cultural and spiritual safety of all Yukon workplaces for Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people.

3.5.a. Keep Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people safe in the workforce of their choice.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Identify workplace safety hazards in both the public and private workforce and requirements for safe work environments. (Years 1–5)	All governments	IP
Establish policies that comply with the Yukon's Workers' Safety and Compensation Act and provide a user-friendly, culturally informed internal complaints process within All governments that is dedicated to Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people (Years 5–15)	All governments	IP
Provide an information campaign to highlight the workplace safety policies and available complaint processes for employees. (Years 5–15)	All governments	IP
Advance Yukon legislation and its application and establish regulations to address and support the physical, psychological, cultural and spiritual safety of Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people in the workplace, to be applied to All governments and employers and to inform contract terms with private companies. (Years 5–15)	Government of Yukon	IP
Develop an information campaign that promotes public awareness of the new legislation and that addresses the importance of creating safe conditions for Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people in the workplace (Years 5–15)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon	C

Summary:
Partners continued to strengthen workplace policies, training and accountability measures to support safer, more respectful and culturally appropriate workplaces.

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council continued reviewing its workplace policies through its Human Resources Department. This work helps ensure policies remain consistent with human rights and workplace safety requirements and protect employees from discrimination, harassment and unsafe working conditions.

Major Projects Yukon continued working with regulators on requirements related to the Coffee Gold Mine project. These requirements include cross-cultural awareness training and training on sexualized and gender-based violence, harassment and discrimination against Indigenous people.

Regulators also considered whether these requirements should apply to other parts of the project beyond the mine site. This would help support safer and more culturally respectful workplaces across the project.

The Department of Health and Social Services continued participating in the cultural safety work stream as part of health system transformation, in partnership with the Council of Yukon First Nations and Yukon Hospital Corporation. This work will result in a Yukon First Nations Cultural Safety Strategy to be implemented across the health system, strengthening culturally safe workplaces for Indigenous employees and improving care environments for Indigenous clients and communities.

The Public Service Commission (PSC) advanced multiple system-wide initiatives to strengthen workplace safety. Health, Safety & Wellness within PSC developed a Violence and Harassment Hazard Assessment Tool to support all Yukon government departments in identifying and mitigating workplace risks. PSC also provides direct support to departments in conducting these assessments. In addition, PSC updated the Corporate Health and Safety Policy (GAM 3.48) to explicitly include psychological safety, encompassing cultural safety, and updated the Respectful Workplace Policy (GAM 3.47) to allow employees to report serious interpersonal misconduct to the Yukon Government Investigations Office. Following updates to territorial Violence and Harassment Regulations in 2021, PSC completed an information campaign and

continues to provide regular updates to employees through internal communications, training, and presentations on complaint processes and available supports.

The Workers' Safety and Compensation Board (WSCB) reinforced organizational commitments to safe and respectful workplaces under its updated legislative framework. Violence and harassment are explicitly prohibited, and WSCB maintains clear policies and procedures to prevent, address, and respond to incidents. Employees are encouraged to report incidents without fear of reprisal and may report concerns to supervisors or alternative trusted contacts if needed. Privacy protections are emphasized throughout the complaint process, and WSCB's prevention policies operate alongside broader human rights and criminal law protections.

The Department of Economic Development supported the development of online tools and a web-based learning platform designed to deliver coursework aimed at preventing lateral violence in workplaces. This initiative specifically targeted First Nations, promoting healthier, more respectful work environments through accessible digital education and culturally informed training resources.

Together, these initiatives strengthened workplace safety, cultural awareness and accountability. They also supported the ability of Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people to participate in workplaces that are respectful, inclusive and free from violence and discrimination.

3.6 Safe housing and freedom from poverty (Priority action item #7)

Appropriately and safely meet the needs of Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people, which includes the provision of gender-specific options for safe and affordable housing, food, clothing and other essentials.

3.6.a. Dedicated emergency and permanent housing options for Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Invite the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Skookum Jim Friendship Centre and Connective to be signatories to the strategy. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	NS
Evaluate existing housing programs, supports and services in all communities. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	IP
Housing strategy, informed by Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people to provide emergency and affordable housing options for families directly affected by domestic violence. (Years 5–10)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	IP

Summary:

Federal, territorial and Indigenous partners continued to support housing development, repairs and emergency accommodation for Indigenous women, families and communities.

The federal government supported housing construction and repairs through the Capital Facilities and Maintenance Program. In 2024–25, work with Liard First Nation, White River First Nation and Ross River Dena Council supported approximately 35 housing projects, representing an investment of about $15 million. These projects helped address overcrowding and improve housing conditions in the communities.

The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) supported northern housing development through the Affordable Housing in the North initiative, which provided supplemental funding to territorial governments in 2022–23 and 2023–24. This initiative complemented National Housing Strategy investments to address critical housing and infrastructure needs in the Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut. In Yukon, this funding supported projects such as the mixed-use housing and health centre in Old Crow, developed by the Government of Yukon in collaboration with Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation. Budget 2022 allocated $150 million over two years for the North, including $30 million for Yukon. In addition, CMHC has conditionally or financially committed $130.65 million to support the development of 377 new housing units across the Yukon and the Northwest Territories, increasing the supply of affordable and supportive housing options.

The Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council continued to address immediate safety needs by providing emergency shelter options for Indigenous women through an agreement with the Yukon Inn, ensuring access to safe, temporary accommodation for those fleeing violence or experiencing homelessness.

The Women and Gender Equity Directorate supported housing-related work through both coordination and funding. The Directorate also supported the Department of Health and Social Services in collaboration with Indigenous women's organizations during the coroner's inquest process and in the implementation of related recommendations, recognizing the links between housing insecurity, safety, and systemic responses.

In 2024–25, the Directorate provided $76,500 to the Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition to support programming at 60 Selkirk – Whitehorse Affordable Family Housing, and WGED continues to chair the program's Oversight Committee, supporting accountability and alignment with community needs.

Yukon Housing Corporation advanced system improvements to better identify and respond to housing needs. An updated community housing needs assessment tool was developed using both qualitative and quantitative data. The next phase of this work includes informing First Nations governments and community governing bodies and releasing the tool to support shared planning and evidence-based decision-making. Yukon Housing Corporation also enhanced access to housing supports for survivors of violence through the Canada–Yukon Housing Benefit, which includes a dedicated stream for survivors of gender-based violence. This stream provides grants for costs such as security deposits, moving expenses, and initial rent, delivered through the Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition, as well as rent subsidies for up to 24 months through Yukon Housing Corporation to help survivors maintain safe and stable housing.

Together, these initiatives supported housing repairs, new development, emergency accommodation and longer-term housing stability. They also helped survivors of violence and families facing poverty access safer housing options.

Path 4: Community action and accountability

Work under this path focused on strengthening public awareness, community action, and accountability for implementation of the strategy. Efforts supported training, system change, and improved tracking of progress across partners and sectors.

4.1 Public information, training and education

Provide culturally relevant public education about MMIWG2S+ issues and related priority topics, including violence prevention and healthy masculinities that contribute to the elimination of racism, oppression and violence.

4.1.a. In partnership with local champions and Indigenous women's organizations, develop public education and violence prevention awareness campaigns and strategies to address MMIWG2S+ issues and priorities.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Develop a Yukon-wide declaration on ending violence against Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	O
Develop a MMIWG2S+ website to advance public awareness campaigns and exchange ideas on how to build healthy and safe communities as Yukoners. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations	IP
Foster conversations and host public awareness forums to address violence against Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people, and identify ways to partner on creating conditions for safe and healthy individuals, relationships, families and communities. (Years 5–15)	Indigenous women's organizations; All governments	IP

Summary:

Community-led and government-supported initiatives contributed to public awareness, inclusion, and accountability around MMIWG2S+ priorities.

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation reported early planning to host its first Pride Parade in 2025–26, with the goal of increasing visibility, awareness, and support for Two-Spirit and 2SLGBTQIA+ citizens within the community. This initiative represents an important public education opportunity to promote inclusion, affirm identity, and foster safer, more accepting community environments.

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council continued internal education efforts by ensuring that newly hired employees receive information on the history of the Ta'an Kwäch'än people as part of onboarding. This practice supports cultural awareness, respect for First Nations history, and understanding of the community context in which employees work, contributing to more informed and culturally grounded interactions.

The Women and Gender Equity Directorate continued to play a central role in public education and accountability related to MMIWG2S+. As a Secretariat, the Directorate worked with the Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+ to plan and host Accountability Forums in 2022, 2023, and 2024. These forums created public spaces to share progress, hear from families and communities, and advance collective understanding of MMIWG2S+ issues and Calls for Justice. WGED continues to support next steps in the evolving governance process in partnership with Indigenous women's organizations, ensuring that public education, transparency, and community-informed dialogue remain central to Yukon's MMIWG2S+ work.

Together, these initiatives supported greater awareness, inclusion and shared responsibility for addressing violence against Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people.

4.2 Intercultural competence training and education

Provide education and training to all relevant public servants, judiciary, and service providers in First Nations, municipal, territorial, and federal governments that are designed and delivered by Indigenous people where possible, with the goal of improving cultural safety.

4.2.a. Promote and support Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people-led training and educational forums to inform the cultural understanding and competence of the public and private sectors.

Milestones	Lead	Status
In partnership with Yukon First Nations, governments and the private industry, design a cultural competence training model that includes information on pre-contact and contemporary Yukon First Nations to	Indigenous women's organizations	IP

Milestones	Lead	Status
promote the cultural awareness, sensitivity and competence within the judiciary, government public service and the private sector. (Years 1–5)		
Include Yukon First Nations cultural competence training model as part of ongoing employee cultural orientation. (Years 5–15)	All governments	IP

Summary:
The Government of Yukon and partners continued to expand Indigenous-informed training and learning opportunities for public servants. This work supports greater cultural understanding, humility and competency across government programs and services.

The Department of Justice's Negotiations, Collaborations and Partnerships Unit commissioned a report and set of recommendations to build upon existing cultural safety training within the Yukon public service. Based on this work, two new courses are planned to further support the Government of Yukon's journey toward improved cultural safety and understanding. The report was shared with the Council of Yukon First Nations (CYFN) and the Department of Health and Social Services to align with broader health system transformation initiatives, including work led by the Health Transformation Advisory Committee.

The Department of Economic Development supported staff learning through sector-specific and foundational training. Media Development staff are encouraged to complete P.A.C.T. training offered by the Shine Network Institute; an online certificate course focused on cultural awareness, humility, and competency for non-Indigenous professionals working in the screen and media sector. In addition, staff in the Regional Economic Development Branch and the Labour Market Development Branch completed Yukon First Nations 101 training, with Labour Market Development staff also participating in the Blanket Exercise, strengthening understanding of Yukon First Nations history and contemporary realities.

The Department of Health and Social Services continued to participate in the cultural safety work stream as part of health system transformation, in partnership with CYFN and Yukon Hospital Corporation. This work will result in the implementation of a Yukon First Nations Cultural Safety Strategy across the health system, supporting culturally

safe workplaces and service delivery for Indigenous patients, families, and communities.

The Public Service Commission, through its Organizational Development Branch (ODB), continued to offer a wide range of cultural safety, anti-racism, and inclusion training to Yukon government employees. Training opportunities included Yukon First Nations 101, Residential School Awareness, Introduction to Cultural Safety, The Blanket Exercise, Anti-Racism in the Workplace, Trauma-Informed Care, Bystander Intervention, Unconscious Bias, Conversations on Diversity, and 2SLGBTQIA+ Awareness workshops. ODB also offered the Intercultural Development Inventory assessment and related training to support deeper reflection on bias and cultural competence.

Yukon Housing Corporation, through the Workers' Safety and Compensation Board, further integrated cultural learning into organizational training by including Yukon First Nations 101 and the Blanket Exercise in its training plan and providing space and flexibility for staff to attend these sessions when available.

Together, these initiatives strengthened Indigenous-informed learning across the Yukon public service. They also supported more culturally safe, respectful and responsive services for Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people.

4.3 Media roles and responsibilities

Improve accurate and respectful reporting of general and race-based violence, and eliminate the inaccurate portrayal of Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people in all forms of media. Work to ensure that the media can access relevant facts from the RCMP and other sources.

4.3.a. Addressing instances of misogynistic and prejudicial targeting of Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people in media.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Invite all Yukon media, the Screen Production Yukon Association, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Committee, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network to become signatories to the Strategy. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	NS

Milestones	Lead	Status
Media training on respectful representation of Indigenous peoples and reporting on missing and murdered Indigenous people. (Year 1)	Indigenous women's organizations	NS
Produce a series on MMIWG2S+ including the experiences and stories of families, survivors and communities. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations	IP
Host a media roundtable to inform and establish an editorial board on MMIWG2S+ to address misogynistic portrayal and treatment of Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people that may occur in Yukon media outlets and promote policies to eradicate violence against Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people. (Years 1–3)	Indigenous women's organizations; Yukon First Nation Governments	NS
Develop an educational campaign to eradicate violence against Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people and address current issues. (Years 1–15)	Indigenous women's organizations; Yukon First Nation Governments	IP

Summary:

While the Department of Tourism and Culture does not directly administer media regulation or oversight, its marketing and promotion activities are guided by a strategic priority that emphasizes environmental sustainability, social equity, diversity, inclusivity, and accessibility. This priority influences decision-making across content development, media relations, and engagement with travel trade and lifestyle media, indirectly supporting efforts to improve representation and reduce harmful or prejudicial portrayals.

As part of this work, Yukon First Nations Culture and Tourism Association's Respectful Travel Guidelines are shared with travel trade professionals and travel and lifestyle media participating in business development missions. These guidelines promote culturally respectful engagement, challenge stereotypes, and encourage accurate representation of Yukon First Nations peoples, cultures, and communities. During the reporting period, the guidelines were shared approximately 35 times through business development activities and were also promoted on multiple occasions through social media channels.

By embedding expectations for respectful representation within tourism marketing, media engagement, and partner relationships, these efforts contribute to broader cultural change in how Yukon First Nations, including Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people, are portrayed. While indirect, this work supports the objectives of Path 4 by fostering improved understanding, reducing the risk of harmful narratives, and promoting media practices grounded in respect, accuracy, and inclusivity.

4.3.b. Increase the representation of Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people in media.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Promote and support the hiring of Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people in government communications. (Years 1–15)	Government of Yukon	O
In partnership with media agencies, develop a strategy to promote, support and employ Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people in all levels and forms of media. (Years 1–15)	All governments	IP
Provide scholarships and bursaries to support Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people to advance education and careers in media. (Years 1–15)	Government of Yukon; Yukon First Nations governments	NS

Summary:
Partners across the Yukon continued to support Indigenous participation in media, communications and storytelling. This work created opportunities for Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people to build skills, pursue careers and strengthen the visibility of Indigenous voices.

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, through its Development Department, supported citizens on an individualized basis by working with each person to identify goals and providing funding toward education, training, or professional development opportunities. This flexible, citizen-centred approach enables Indigenous participants to pursue careers and creative roles, including those in media and communications, aligned with their interests and strengths.

The Department of Economic Development supported Indigenous representation in media and communications both directly and indirectly. The department actively participates in the implementation of Breaking Trail Together, including supporting

secondment opportunities with First Nations governments. These opportunities contribute to Indigenous capacity building and representation within the public sector, including communications and media related roles. Through its Media Development Unit, the Department Economic Development supported Yukon based nonprofits SPYA and Yukon Film Society (YFS) via the Media Training Fund. This funding supported training and workshops that advance Indigenous participation in the screen and media sector, including SPYA's partnership with the Yukon First Nations Culture and Tourism Association on the Walk with Us training sessions and Producer Bootcamp, as well as YFS initiatives such as the Industry Forum and Producer Accelerator delivered through the Available Light Film Festival. The Media Training Fund also supports individual Yukon residents pursuing professional development or postsecondary education in screen sector fields, helping remove financial barriers to career advancement in media.

The Public Service Commission, through its Diversity and Inclusion Branch (DIB), continued to support Indigenous representation in government communications roles through the Indigenous hiring preference, introduced in October 2020 and extended to 2029. This hiring preference applies to all Yukon government recruitment processes and supports increased Indigenous employment across departments, including communications, policy, and planning functions. DIB also strengthened workplace inclusion through the formation of the YG Pride Employee Resource Group, which provides a safe and welcoming space for 2SLGBTQIA+ employees and allies, including those working in communications and media-related roles. In addition, improved tracking of Indigenous representation by job category supports accountability and long-term workforce planning.

Together, these initiatives strengthened pathways into media, communications and storytelling. They also supported greater Indigenous representation, leadership and visibility within the public service and the screen and media sector.

4.4 *Yukon Environments and Socio-economic Assessment Act (YESAA)*

Implement culturally relevant gender-balanced analysis in the *YESAA* processes.

4.4.a. Incorporate First Nations traditional knowledge into *YESAA* evidence and evaluation process.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Invite the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board to become a signatory to the strategy. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	NS
Support and use traditional knowledge, lived experience and cultural perspectives as evidence in the socio-economic assessment process. (Years 1–15)	Yukon First Nations governments	IP
Develop a policy to promote and support the hiring, board representation, orientation and retention of Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people. (Years 1–15)	Indigenous women's organizations; Yukon First Nations governments; Government of Yukon	IP

Summary:
First Nations governments remain key contributors to *YESAA* processes through the provision of traditional knowledge, community-based evidence, and cultural perspectives.

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation reported that its Lands Department regularly responds to YESAB applications, drawing on traditional knowledge, lived experience, and cultural perspectives in its submissions. These responses help ensure that assessments reflect local land use, cultural practices, environmental relationships, and community-identified concerns, contributing to more comprehensive and culturally grounded evaluation outcomes.

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council (TKC) similarly emphasized the role of its Lands and Resources Department in actively reviewing and responding to projects proposed within its traditional territory and settlement lands. TKC is diligent in providing comments, reports, and traditional knowledge input throughout the *YESAA* process to ensure that Ta'an Kwäch'än perspectives are meaningfully included and that community voices are represented in environmental and socio-economic assessments.

Together, these contributions strengthened the use of Indigenous knowledge and community perspectives in YESAA processes and supported more informed and culturally grounded decision-making.

4.5 Indigenous women's organizations (Priority action item #8)

Informed by a co-developed funding assessment process, provide adequate, long-term funding for Indigenous women's organizations that supports effectiveness and enhanced collaboration.

4.5.a. Long-term operational financial support to Indigenous women's organizations.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Funding needs assessment for the current and future model to support sister satellite offices throughout the Yukon. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	IP
Federal-territorial cost-sharing model to provide operational funding to Indigenous women's organizations. (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; Government of Yukon; Government of Canada	IP

Summary:
The Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council continued to meet with territorial partners and funders to discuss organizational capacity and the need for stable, long-term operational funding. These discussions support shared understanding of the demands placed on Indigenous women's organizations and the importance of predictable funding to sustain core operations, retain staff, and respond to community needs.

Through the Women and Gender Equity Directorate, the Government of Yukon continued to provide operational funding to support Indigenous women's organizations. In 2024–25, the Directorate allocated $600,000 through the Indigenous Women's Equality Fund to support the operations of the three Yukon Indigenous women's organizations. This funding contributes to organizational sustainability, supports delivery of frontline services and advocacy, and enables organizations to participate meaningfully in collaboration, accountability, and implementation of the MMIWG2S+ Strategy.

Together, these actions supported the stability and continued leadership of Indigenous women's organizations in advancing safety, equity and healing across Yukon.

4.6 MMIWG2S+ Strategy accountability framework (Priority action item #9)

Embed an accountability framework into the strategy to ensure continued inclusion and involvement of MMIWG2S+ families, survivors, partners, contributors and all Yukon communities.

4.6.a. Full implementation of Yukon's MMIWG2S+ Strategy.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Independent oversight office to monitor and guide the application of the implementation of the strategy. (Years 1–5)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	IP
Annual reports to MMIWG2S+ families, partners and contributors. (Years 1–15)	Indigenous women's organizations	IP
Accountability Forums (Years 1–15)	Government of Yukon	O

Summary:
The Women and Gender Equity Directorate continued to provide Secretariat support for implementing Yukon's MMIWG2S+ Strategy Working with the Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+. The first annual report on the implementation of the strategy was released in October 2024 for the period 2023-2024. The Directorate helped plan and host Accountability Forums in 2022, 2023 and in October 2024. These forums provided opportunities to share information about implementation, hear from families and Indigenous women's organizations, and identify priorities, concerns and areas requiring further work.

The Directorate also supported Indigenous women's organizations in applying for federal funding to visit communities and engage directly with families and survivors. These visits helped bring forward lived experiences and community perspectives, including those from rural and remote communities. These visits help ensure that strategy implementation is informed by lived experience and community-based feedback, particularly from families, survivors, and rural and remote communities. By supporting this outreach, the Directorate is helping to strengthen two-way accountability, between government and communities, while reinforcing Indigenous leadership in monitoring and shaping the strategy's ongoing implementation.

Together, these activities supported information sharing, community engagement and accountability under the strategy. A new governance structure is still needed to provide ongoing direction, respond to reporting and ensure families and partners continue to have a meaningful role in guiding implementation.

4.7 2SLGBTQIA+ advocacy and public education

Assess needs and resources of organizations that engage in advocacy and education on anatomical sex, sexual orientation, sexualities, gender expression, and identities to address colonial violence against all genders and sexualities, promote understanding, and create safety, equality, and justice for 2SLGBTQIA+ Yukoners.

4.7.a. Provide safe spaces and communities for all genders.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Invite Queer Yukon and All Genders Yukon Society to become signatories to the strategy. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+; All governments	IP
Implement the LGBTQ2S+ Inclusion Action Plan. (Years 1–3)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+; All governments	IP
In partnership with 2SLGBTQIA+ communities, develop public education materials and campaigns to address gender-based violence and inform violence prevention. (Years 1–15)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+; All governments	O

Summary:
During the reporting period, several initiatives supported the creation of safer, more inclusive spaces for 2SLGBTQIA+ people, particularly Indigenous women, girls, and Two-Spirit+ community members.

Through the Department of Justice, Negotiations, Collaborations and Partnerships developed a draft online gender-based violence course intended for the public service, frontline workers, and the public. Once finalized, the course will be publicly available and provide foundational knowledge on the root causes of gender-based violence, including intersections with colonialism, gender identity, and sexual orientation. The course is designed to support prevention by improving awareness, recognition, and early response to gender-based violence across communities and systems.

The Department of Economic Development supported community-led, culturally grounded healing spaces through the Community Development Fund, which provided $29,741 to the Queer Yukon Society. This funding supported the delivery of an on-the-land camp for women and 2SLGBTQIA+ community members who have experienced gender-based violence. The camp provided a safe, affirming environment centred on land-based healing, peer connection, and trauma-informed support.

The Women and Gender Equity Directorate continued to coordinate implementation of the LGBTQ2S+ Inclusion Action Plan, a cross-government initiative involving nine Yukon government departments. The Action Plan advances policy, program, and workplace changes to improve safety, inclusion, and equity for 2SLGBTQIA+ Yukoners and is scheduled to conclude in 2026. This coordinated approach helps embed inclusion across multiple systems rather than relying on isolated initiatives.

In addition to policy coordination, the Directorate provided $375,000 in operational funding to support the Queer Yukon Society, strengthening organizational stability and capacity to deliver advocacy, education, and community-based support services. Stable operational funding enables the organization to respond effectively to community needs, provide safe spaces, and contribute to public education and systems change.

Together, these initiatives supported safer and more welcoming communities through public education, community-led healing, policy changes and stable funding for 2SLGBTQIA+ organizations.

4.8 MMIWG2S+ Trust Fund (Priority action item#10)

Establish a Trust Fund for families and survivors of MMIWG2S+ to provide resources in priority areas defined by families.

4.8.a. Establish an MMIWG2S+ Trust Fund.

Milestones	Lead	Status
Invite Yukon First Nations development corporations and private sector businesses to become signatories to the strategy. (Year 1)	Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+	O

Milestones	Lead	Status
MMIWG2S+ Trust Fund (Years 1–5)	Indigenous women's organizations; All governments; Trustees	NS
Trust Fund Annual reports (Years 1–15)	Indigenous women's organizations; All governments; Trustees	NS

Summary:

There were no reported actions taken on the objectives of 4.8.a. in the 24/25 fiscal year reporting.

Working toward the implementation goals

In addition to reporting on specific milestones and activities, partners and contributors were invited to share other initiatives that support the four goals of the Implementation Plan. Some of these initiatives are not directly connected to a specific milestone. However, they contribute to the broader goals of Yukon's MMIWG2S+ Strategy.

Goal 1: Implement coordinated and effective violence prevention, intervention, and crisis response across the Yukon that contribute to safer and healthier communities for Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people.

Across the Yukon, Indigenous organizations, youth-serving groups, and territorial partners continued to strengthen coordinated responses to violence through prevention, crisis support and culturally grounded healing.

The Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council continued to strengthen its frontline crisis-response and violence-prevention services. It sought additional funding through the Family Violence Prevention Program to expand its Advocate positions. These positions help families and communities respond to crises, develop safety plans and connect with appropriate services.

The organization also continued its Counsellors-in-Residence and Elders-in-Residence programs. These programs provide accessible, trauma-informed mental wellness and healing supports grounded in Indigenous knowledge, culture and relationships.

BYTE – Empowering Youth delivered prevention programming focused on young people. 42% of its community workshops were part of its Healthy Relationships series, which supports conversations about consent, personal boundaries and healthy relationships.

BYTE also hosted its 11th annual Leaders in Training Gathering on the Traditional Territory of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation in Dawson. Approximately 90% of participants identified as female. Through land-based and cultural workshops led by Elders and Knowledge Keepers, participants explored mental wellness, confidence, cultural connection and resilience.

The Government of Yukon departments also worked to improve coordination. Family and Children's Services participated in a Department of Justice-led working group developing a coordinated process for cases involving children and high-risk intimate partner violence. This work is intended to support safer and more integrated responses.

The Department of Health and Social Services is also preparing to launch a Transitions to Practice Framework in late fall 2025. The framework supports internationally educated registered nurses and new nursing graduates entering the workforce. It includes education on cultural awareness and culturally safe care to strengthen services for Indigenous individuals and families.

The Women and Gender Equity Directorate continued to coordinate implementation of the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence (NAP GBV) in the Yukon. Under a bilateral agreement signed with the Government of Canada in 2023, more than $16 million in federal funding is available from 2023 to 2027, along with territorial cost-matching.

In 2024–25, this included more than $235,000 for three Yukon First Nation governments through the Yukon First Nation Violence Prevention Fund and more than $340,000 for Indigenous women's organizations through NAP GBV Prevention and Victim Support Funds.

The Directorate also supported the departments of Justice and Health and Social Services in strengthening responses to sexualized violence through the Sexualized Assault Response Team. This included communications, planning and coordination related to expanding access to coordinated, victim-centred services across the Yukon. Together, these activities contributed to violence prevention, crisis response, cultural safety and coordination among service providers. Continued work is required to ensure that these supports are accessible and consistent across the Yukon.

Goal 2: End violence against all Indigenous people in the Yukon, in particularly Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people.

Work toward this goal included Indigenous-led services, coordinated system-level investments, and accountability mechanisms that centre healing, safety, and long-term well-being.

The Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council delivered culturally grounded programs for individuals and families affected by violence and related harms. Its Counsellor-in-Residence, Elders-in-Residence, MMIWG Outreach Coordinator, and Women's Advocate programs provided trauma-informed supports to individuals and families experiencing violence or related harms. These services address immediate safety needs while also supporting longer-term healing, cultural connection, and well-being, contributing to reduced risk and increased resilience among clients.

The Women and Gender Equity Directorate continued to lead and coordinate implementation of the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence (NAP GBV). By March 2025, more than $2 million had been distributed to 13 organizations across the Yukon for violence prevention initiatives and victim-centred services.

These investments strengthened community-based responses, expanded culturally appropriate supports, and enhanced coordination among organizations working to prevent and respond to violence.

The Directorate also continued to provide secretariat support to the Yukon Advisory Committee on MMIWG2S+, ensuring ongoing Indigenous leadership, transparency, and accountability in strategy implementation. This included participating in MMIWG2S+ Accountability Forums, supporting public reporting, reflecting progress, and identifying gaps and emerging priorities.

These actions contributed to prevention, healing and improved access to services. Ending violence will require continued Indigenous leadership, long-term investment, coordinated system change and clear accountability across all partners.

Goal 3: Increase the economic independence of Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people.

Progress toward economic independence continued through Indigenous-led workforce development, targeted career supports, and inclusive public-sector employment strategies that reduce barriers and strengthen long-term participation in the economy.

The Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council continued to administer the Indigenous Skills and Employment Training Strategy program. The program provides education, training, and employment supports to help participants enter and remain in the workforce.

This work supports pathways to stable employment and greater economic independence for Indigenous women, youth and Two-Spirit+ people.

The Department of Economic Development's Labour Market Development Branch provided funding to Carcross/Tagish First Nation, Teslin Tlingit Council, and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation for career development initiatives.

These investments helped strengthen locally designed training and employment supports, aligned with community priorities and labour-market needs, to enhance workforce readiness and economic participation.

The Women and Gender Equity Directorate also continued to coordinate the LGBTQ2S+ Inclusion Action Plan. The plan includes actions intended to improve the recruitment, safety, inclusion and retention of 2SLGBTQIA+ employees within the Yukon public service.

Together, these initiatives supported skills development, employment readiness and more inclusive workplaces. By prioritizing Indigenous leadership and inclusive systems, the Yukon is advancing sustainable, self-determined economic outcomes for Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people.

4. Increase public awareness and community engagement in ending violence against Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people.

Across the Yukon, Indigenous organizations, youth leaders, and territorial partners continued to advance public engagement, education, and visibility to build shared responsibility in ending violence and promoting safety, dignity and belonging.

The Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council continued to hold community events and discussions to identify service gaps, hear community concerns and better understand what supports are needed.

These engagements created opportunities for people with lived experience to inform conversations about violence prevention, healing and community action.

BYTE – Empowering Youth hosted a skateboarding competition in partnership with Rise & Shine Skateboarding, a female-led organization that supports women, girls and Two-Spirit youth. The event combined sport, art and mentorship in a welcoming environment. It promoted confidence, belonging and representation in a space thar has traditionally been male-dominated.

The Women and Gender Equity Directorate participated in public events, vigils and marches marking significant dates, including the October 4 Sisters in Spirit vigils and marches and May 5 Red Dress Day.

Implementation of the MMIWG2S+ Strategy, particularly through the hosting of Accountability Forums, has further increased public understanding of violence against Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people and strengthened transparency and community engagement.

In March 2024, the Directorate advanced the first territorial proclamation of Two-Spirit Day in the Yukon. Community engagement and awareness activities associated with the proclamation supported greater understanding of Two-Spirit identities and the effects of colonial violence.

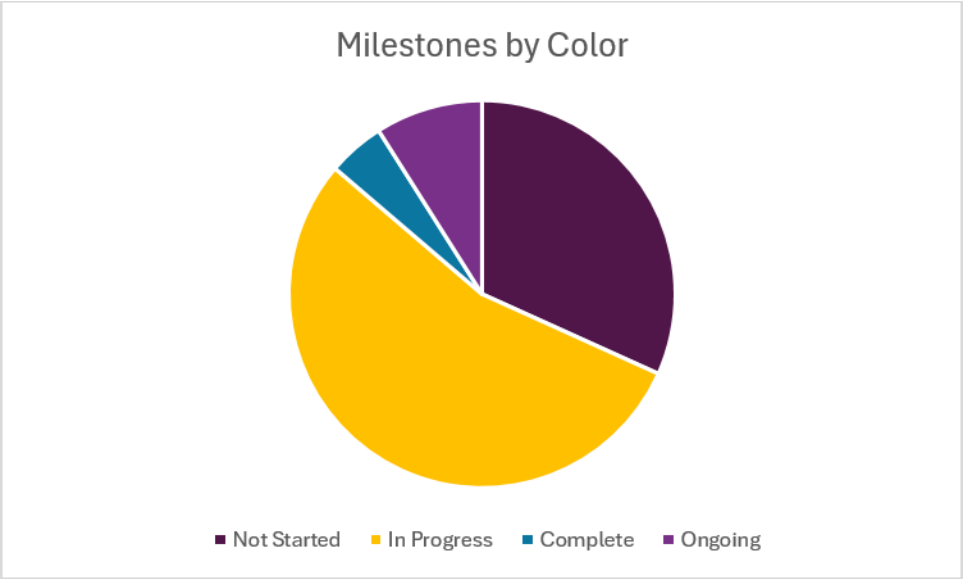
Within the Yukon government, the Directorate also supported the use of Gender-Inclusive Diversity Analysis. This approach helps departments consider how policies, programs and Cabinet decisions may affect different groups of people.

Together, these initiatives contributed to public awareness, education and community engagement. By elevating Indigenous leadership, youth voices, public remembrance, and inclusive education, the Yukon continues to build a more informed, engaged, and accountable society that actively works toward safety, justice, and respect for Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people.



"Checking the Net with My Sister" by Violet Gatensby

Summary of submissions



Compared with the previous reporting year, the number of milestones identified as **Not yet started** decreased from 60 to 58. This indicates that work began on two milestones that had previously not been initiated.

During the 2024–25 fiscal year:

- the number of milestones marked **In process** increased by one;
- the number marked **Complete** increased by one; and
- the number marked **Ongoing** decreased slightly.

It should be noted that several milestones within the Implementation Plan were originally assigned to the **Yukon Advisory Committee**. As the committee is no longer in place, these milestones may need to be reassigned to new leads to ensure continued accountability and progress.

Looking ahead

This second annual report builds on the first report and provides an updated picture of work reported under Yukon's MMIWG2S+ Strategy during the 2024–25 fiscal year. While this report reflects the efforts of identified leads, it also continues to represent a partial view. As implementation advances, there remains an opportunity to broaden participation and include a wider range of organizations, communities and voices contributing to this work.

The report continues to serve as a practical tool for partners, funders, and governments to assess progress, identify gaps, and better understand where responsibility and leadership stand across the Implementation Plan. It supports more informed decision making by highlighting areas where further coordination, investment, or capacity are required. It also provides a basis for identifying effective practices that can be strengthened or adapted, contributing to more consistent and equitable supports across the Yukon.

In keeping with the strategy's accountability commitments, the report will be shared with families, survivors and partners. Feedback received through the Family Gathering, accountability activities and other engagement will help identify where greater attention is required. This feedback may also inform changes to reporting, the assignment of responsibilities and the broader implementation approach.

As implementation moves forward, sustained effort will be required to address gaps, strengthen coordination, and ensure that progress is experienced consistently across the Yukon. Clear responsibilities, transparent reporting and continued engagement with families, survivors and communities will be essential.

All Yukoners are encouraged to continue engaging with Changing the Story to Upholding Dignity and Justice: Yukon's Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit+ People Strategy and its Implementation Plan, and to consider how they can contribute to a shared vision of safety, dignity, and justice. The strategy, Implementation Plan, annual reports and related documents are available at Missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit+ people | Yukon.ca

List of acronyms used throughout the report

AFN	Assembly of First Nations
CIRNAC	Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
CTA	Community Tripartite Agreement
C/TFN	Carcross and Tagish First Nation Government
CYFN	Council for Yukon First Nations
FNLO	First Nations Liaison Officer
FCS	Family and Children's Services
HSS	Health and Social Services
HTAC	Yukon First Nation Health Transformation Advisory Committee
KDFN	Kwanlin Dün First Nation Government
KFN	Kluane First Nation Government
LSCFN	Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation Government
LAWS	Liard Aboriginal Women's Society
MWSU	Mental Wellness and Substance Use Services
NAIG	North American Indigenous Games
PSC	Public Service Commission
SCAN	Safer Neighborhoods and Communities
SART	Sexualized Assault Response Team
TH	Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Government
TKC	Ta'an Kwäch'än Council Government
VGFN	Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation Government
WGED	Women and Gender Equity Directorate
WCC	Whitehorse Correctional Centre
WAWC	Whitehorse Aboriginal Women's Circle
YAC	Yukon Advisory Committee on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit+ People
YASC	Yukon Aboriginal Sports Circle
YAWC	Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council
YFN	Yukon First Nations
YITT	Yukon Women in Trades and Technology

Support is available

Reading about MMIWG2S+ can bring up grief, anger, fear, trauma or other difficult feelings. You do not need to go through this alone. Support is available.

- For immediate emotional support related to MMIWG2S+, call the **Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Crisis Line** at **1-844-413-6649**. This line is free and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- For culturally grounded support for Indigenous people across Canada, call the **Hope for Wellness Helpline** at **1-855-242-3310**. Online chat is also available at hopeforwellness.ca. Support is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- If you are thinking about suicide, worried about someone else, or need immediate emotional support, call or text **9-8-8**. This service is available across Canada 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- If you have experienced sexualized assault, or are supporting someone who has, call Yukon's **Sexualized Assault Response Team (SART) support line** at **1-844-967-7275**. This confidential line is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- For support as a victim of crime, or if you need help leaving an unsafe situation because of gender-based violence, travel assistance may be available through **Yukon Victim Services** at **867-667-8500** or toll free at **1-800-661-0408**.
- If you are searching for information on your loved one's case, contact the **Family Information Liaison Unit (FILU)** at **867-667-8500** or toll free **1-800-661-0408.**
- If you are experiencing violence or abuse, you can call or text the **Women's Transition Home / Kaushee's Place 24-hour support line** at **867-668-5733**. Collect calls are accepted.
- For counselling and mental wellness support in the Yukon, contact **Mental Wellness and Substance Use Services** at **867-456-3838** in Whitehorse or toll free in Yukon at **1-866-456-3838**.