



July 5, 2021

Richard Mostyn
Minister of Community Services
Minister Responsible for the Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board

Dear Minister Mostyn,

As we enter our second mandate, we are building on a solid foundation to move the Yukon forward, working with the people of the territory to make their lives better.

As a government, we have a responsibility to provide strong, stable leadership as we continue to respond to the challenges posed by COVID-19. We have led the nation with our response and will continue to support families, individuals and businesses as we emerge from the pandemic. This past year has been incredibly challenging for the public service, and they have helped us deliver unprecedented outcomes that have kept Yukoners safe.

Maintaining strong working relationships with Yukon First Nations for the benefit of all Yukoners is a hallmark of our government. In keeping with our commitment to reconciliation and honoring the spirit and intent of the Final and Self-Government Agreements, we are fully committed to working with First Nation governments to create a brighter future for the territory. We will continue our government's work to fulfill the commitments to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action and to implement *Changing the Story to Upholding Dignity and Justice: Yukon's Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-spirit+ People Strategy*.

As a government, we will refine our approach to engaging with the Government of Canada. This will allow us to have consistent, coordinated messaging to maximize outcomes and deliver on our commitments.

During our previous mandate, two foundational strategies were developed that will guide the mandate of this government: *Our Clean Future* and *Putting People First*. These are the anchors of our government and will provide the basis for the direction of our decisions.

Our Clean Future is the Yukon's blueprint to address the climate crisis while building a resilient and sustainable future for our territory. Our government will lead by example as we implement this territory wide strategy together with our partners. We will reduce greenhouses gas emissions and our dependence on fossil fuels, while protecting the Yukon's environment and fostering the green economy. Addressing the climate crisis requires a culture shift – both for Yukon society and within

the Yukon Government. Decisions and actions flowing from *Our Clean Future* must be taken with urgency, to reflect the current climate emergency.

Putting People First is more than a title of the report on transforming the Yukon's healthcare system. It is a guiding principle as we overhaul policies, through a people-centered approach. Yukoners deserve a healthcare system that provides wraparound supports at all ages, for all needs, and this is what we will continue to work towards.

As you know, our Liberal government has entered into a Confidence and Supply Agreement. This agreement enables us to provide Yukoners with a strong, stable government working in their best interest.

You are expected to conduct meaningful consultation as defined in the agreement, and achieve the commitments we have made to Yukoners. This consultation and information sharing is to be coordinated through the Confidence and Supply Agreement Secretariat.

As the Minister of Community Services, you will:

- Continue to build infrastructure across the territory that aligns with municipal and First Nations priorities, and maximizes federal dollars.
- Have a leadership role in ensuring the commitments under *Our Clean Future* are realized, including supporting climate change resiliency plans in all communities and ensuring that infrastructure projects are considered through a climate lens.
- Work to keep Yukon communities safe from and prepared for wildland fires. This work will include developing a sustainable wildfire prevention strategy for each Yukon community, working with all Yukon First Nations to ensure their participation in preventing and fighting wildland fires, and working to create leadership opportunities and capacity development within those important programs for Yukon First Nations youth.
- Support the independent review of rural fire services to ensure our system is effective, balanced, and considers the challenges that rural communities face when it comes to delivering fire services.
- Partner with the City of Whitehorse on improvements to public transit and active transportation.
- In response to the challenges faced by the COVID-19 pandemic, review the *Civil Emergency Measures Act* and the *Public Health and Safety Act* to better equip the Yukon to address future emergencies. This will be jointly led by the Department of Community Services and the Department of Health and Social Services.
- Create the Better Buildings Loan Program to enable residential and commercial energy efficiency retrofits to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the territory.
- Work with the non-profit sector to ensure this important industry is able to recover from COVID-19 by enhancing opportunities for collaboration and shared services. This will be led by the Department of Economic Development with support from the Department of Community Services.

- Increase housing stock across the territory, develop new land parcels and lots, and enable innovative approaches to address the acute need for increased housing options in the territory. This will be led by the Yukon Housing Corporation with support from the departments of Community Services and Energy, Mines and Resources. This includes:
 - Releasing the 5th and Rogers land parcel to the private sector for future housing development.
 - Supporting the establishment of community land trusts in the Yukon.
- Invest additional resources in rural emergency medical services and increase training honoraria for volunteer EMS and firefighters.
- Begin work to revise the *Health Professions Act* to improve how we regulate healthcare service professionals. This will be led by the Department of Community Services with support from the Department of Health and Social Services.
- Advance the government's bid to host the 2027 Canada Winter Games in partnership with the City of Whitehorse.
- Investigate, in partnership with the private sector, the potential to develop a flexible fieldhouse complex for athletes and large public conferences and events. This will be led by the Department of Economic Development with support from the Department of Community Services
- Increase support for seniors' active living with community partners.

As Minister responsible for the Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board, you are to:

- Introduce modern, comprehensive legislation that provides for safe workplaces and a fair system of compensation for workplace injuries.

You have a responsibility as a Minister to work with your colleagues to be open, transparent and accountable in making decisions. While each of you have individual departmental priorities, decisions must be made that prioritize the collective benefit for Yukoners. In your work as a member of Cabinet, you have a responsibility for ensuring decisions are made in the best interest of all Yukoners. In making these decisions, care should be put into targeting spending to the highest priorities while ensuring value for taxpayers' dollars.

Fulfilling your duties requires you to have an effective and respectful working relationship with your Deputy Ministers and departments, recognizing the important role of the public service in informing effective decisions.

These letters lay out a vision for our new mandate. In order to achieve these goals, you are expected to monitor implementation through reporting and tracking.

As a Minister, you are expected to empower collaboration across government departments, supporting working together towards a common goal of improving Yukoners' lives. Our commitment to good governance also requires positive, productive working relationships with other governments, communities, stakeholders and citizens.

You are to work in a spirit of cooperation with all MLAs, upholding your responsibility to be accountable to the Legislative Assembly. This includes understanding that all MLAs have good ideas that deserve true consideration.

I expect you to consistently meet your public responsibilities with personal and professional integrity. You are to respect the letter and spirit of the conflict of interest rules for Ministers and to actively seek, and abide by, guidance from the Conflict of Interest Commissioner.

I appreciate your taking on new Ministerial responsibilities and committing to the hard work ahead with a strong sense of purpose and a deep commitment to improving the lives of Yukoners. I look forward to our work together to serve the people of the Yukon each and every day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Sandy Silver', written in a cursive style.

Sandy Silver
Premier