



July 5, 2021

Sandy Silver  
Premier  
Minister of the Executive Council Office  
Minister of Finance

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 honouring 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.

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.

I will 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.

Our government is committed to continuing to strengthen our relationships with Yukon First Nations. As part of our commitment to actively uphold and promote the spirit and intent of the Yukon First Nation Final and Self-Government Agreements, we will:

- Advance the work of the Yukon Forum, building on the strong foundation of trust that we have built over our previous mandate.
- Advance understanding and respectful use of traditional knowledge in government actions and decisions.

Yukoners want legislators to work together to improve the lives of citizens, their families and their communities. In the spirit of cooperation and collaboration, our government will work with other parties in the Yukon Legislative Assembly to:

- Consider the recommendations of the Special Committee of the Legislative Assembly on electoral reform and ensure Yukoners are heard on this important topic.

As Minister of the Executive Council Office, I will:

- Work with partners to refine internal processes to ensure participation in the assessment and regulatory regime is effectively managed. This will be led by the Executive Council Office with support from the Department of Energy Mines and Resources and the Department of Environment.
- Support the work of the Yukon *Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act* (YESAA) Oversight Group in proceeding with recommending amendments to YESAA that support a more streamlined assessment process.
- Continue to work with the Youth Panel on Climate Change to ensure their important voices are heard when it comes to making decisions about Yukon's climate future.
- Complete the Dawson Land Use Plan and advance the planning process for other regions to ensure proactive engagement. This will be led by the Department of Energy Mines and

Resources with support from the Department of Environment and the Executive Council Office.

- Work with the Yukon Water Board to ensure there is strong communication between itself and Energy Mines and Resources as the two key regulators, and work to reduce redundancy and duplication in the process while also respecting each other's jurisdictions. This will be led by the Department of Energy Mines and Resources with support from the Executive Council Office.
- Work with the federal government on matters of shared interest, and work collaboratively with departments to ensure the Yukon is strategic in its federal financial engagements. This will be led by the Executive Council Office with support from the Department of Finance.
- Incorporate a climate change lens into the decision-making process for major Government of Yukon policies, programs and projects. This will be led by the Executive Council Office with support from the Department of Finance and the Public Service Commission.
- Evaluate Yukon's COVID-19 pandemic response, once the state of emergency has been lifted. This will be led by the Executive Council Office with support from the Department of Finance and the Public Service Commission.
- Implement Gender Inclusive Diversity Analysis (GIDA) on key initiatives across government by providing training, research support and analysis. The Women and Gender Equity Directorate will lead this file with support from the Executive Council Office and the Public Service Commission.

As Minister of Finance, it is my duty to always consider the best interests of Yukoners when it comes to making careful, thoughtful financial decisions. I will:

- Establish a framework to support the effective evaluation of government programs and policies, with a particular focus on ensuring there are baseline evaluation strategies incorporated into new programs.
- Work with the federal government on matters of shared interest, and work collaboratively with departments to ensure the Yukon is strategic in its federal financial engagements. This will be led by the Executive Council Office with support from the Department of Finance.
- Incorporate a climate change lens into the decision-making process for major Government of Yukon policies, programs and projects. This will be led by the Executive Council Office with support from the Department of Finance and the Public Service Commission.
- Evaluate Yukon's COVID-19 pandemic response, once the state of emergency has been lifted. This will be led by the Executive Council Office with support from the Department of Finance and the Public Service Commission.

I recognize my responsibility to work with my colleagues to be open, transparent and accountable in making decisions. While each of us have individual departmental priorities, decisions must be made that prioritize the collective benefit for Yukoners. In my work as a member of Cabinet, I 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 my duties requires having an effective and respectful working relationship with 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, I will monitor implementation through reporting and tracking.

As the Premier and Minister, I will 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.

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

I will consistently meet my public responsibilities with personal and professional integrity. I will 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 am committed to the hard work ahead with a strong sense of purpose and a deep commitment to improving the lives of Yukoners. I will work closely with my colleagues 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