

December 13, 2019



Yukon Forum Newsletter

December 13, 2019 Yukon Forum

- Yukon's Premier, Cabinet members, Council of Yukon First Nation's Grand Chief and Yukon First Nations Chiefs met for the fourth Yukon Forum of 2019 at the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre in Whitehorse
- Key topics discussed included:
 - Education
 - Traditional Knowledge
 - Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
 - Yukon Days

Progress from the Yukon Forum Working Groups

*These are updates from Yukon Forum Working Groups and may not have been discussed at the December 2019 Yukon Forum.

Fiscal Relations

Trilateral Fiscal Matters

- At the Fiscal Relations Working Group, agreement has been reached with Yukon First Nations with Final and Self-Government Agreements and the Government of Yukon on the indeterminate renewal of Personal Income Tax Room Sharing Agreements.

Land Claims and Self-Government Agreement Implementation

Fish and Wildlife

- The Fish and Wildlife Working Group provided a letter to the Yukon Forum leadership December 2019, presenting an implementation plan for the recommendations that emerged from the independent review of the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board.

Economic Development – Chapter 22

- The new Representative Public Service Plan received endorsements from the Yukon government and six First Nations at the September 2019 Yukon Forum.



Previous Yukon Forum

- September 18, 2019 in Teslin
- [Key topics discussed:](#)
 - The final report of the independent review of the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board was presented, and the report's recommendations were accepted by Yukon Forum
 - Progress on child welfare and justice
 - The new Representative Public Service Plan
 - Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

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Develop Bilateral and Trilateral Processes for Engagement

Health and Social Services

- Eleven of fourteen Yukon First Nations have endorsed the “Honouring Connections” document. The purpose of the document is to provide a set of guiding principles for a collaborative reconnection process to improve outcomes of Yukon First Nation children and youth under Continuing Care Orders.
- The Government of Yukon has formally discontinued the practice of “birth alerts”, where newborns are separated from their mothers in child welfare cases, as recommended in the final report of the National Inquiry on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.
- The new program for youth at Wann Road is officially to be named Nts' äw Chua, from the Southern Tutchone language, which means “wild little rhubarb creek”. The naming of the facility was done through First Nations engagement.

Justice

- The Whitehorse Correctional Centre has hired a First Nation Liaison position to better support program delivery, services and community reintegration for Indigenous inmates at the Whitehorse Correctional Centre.
- A new permanent Director of Corrections has been hired through a joint process with the Government of Yukon and the Council of Yukon First Nations.
- A successful application led by CYFN has resulted in the creation and facilitation of a sweat lodge at the Whitehorse Correctional Centre.

Heritage

- A Heritage Memorandum of Understanding was signed at the May 2019 Yukon Forum formalizing the Heritage Working Group. The Working Group is currently working to map out a strategy forward, a draft Vision and finalize a Terms of Reference.

Contact:

Markie-May Bailie
Communications, Government of Yukon
867-456-6051

Markie-May.Bailie@gov.yk.ca

Juliann Fraser
Communications, Council of Yukon First Nations
867-393-9200 ext.: 9223

Juliann.Fraser@cyfn.net