

September 13, 2018

# Yukon Forum Newsletter



## September 13, 2018 Yukon Forum

- Yukon's Premier, Cabinet members and First Nations Chiefs met for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Yukon Forum of 2018 at the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Community Hall in Dawson City.
- Key topics discussed included:
  - Progress of joint working groups on child welfare, land use planning and fish and wildlife
  - The proposed Yukon Tourism Development Strategy
  - Presenting a unified Yukon voice to federal ministers

## Joint Priority Action Plan - Year in Review

In September 2017, the leaders approved a [Joint Priority Action Plan](#). Since that time 16 joint working groups have been created to advance these priorities.

### • Fiscal Relations

1. Resource Revenue
  - The Resource Royalty Sharing (Chapter 23) Implementation Agreement was signed in March 2018 that clarifies the interpretation of the Final Agreements and how resource royalties will be shared with First Nations.
2. Infrastructure funding
  - The Yukon-Canada Framework Agreement on Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program was signed. The community infrastructure priorities are informed by discussions with First Nations and municipalities.
3. Trilateral fiscal matters
  - Yukon government and First Nations provided input into the federal Fiscal Framework Policy that was approved by Canada in June 2018.



## Previous Yukon Forum

- Monday, June 18, 2018 in Carcross.
- [Key topics discussed](#):
  - Environment: added fish and wildlife to Joint Priority Action Plan and established a working group.
  - Education: conversation regarding advancement of education initiatives.

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- Land Claims & Self-Government Agreement Implementation

4. Economic Development (Chapter 22)
  - A work plan has been developed on the Representative Public Service Plan, Yukon Asset Construction Agreements, procurement and a review of Chapter 22.
5. Mining
  - An MOU on mining was signed in January 2017 and the working group is developing recommendations that will go to the leaders.
6. Yukon Environmental and Socio-Economic Assessment Act
  - An MOU was signed to reset the governments' relationships with regards to the assessment process. A joint oversight committee was established to recommend improvements to the assessment process.
7. Yukon government budget considers First Nation priorities
  - Conversations have taken place on how the Yukon government budgeting process works.
8. Ensure Government of Yukon takes a one-government approach to implementation of the Agreements
  - The working group has done a review of the federal cabinet directive on modern treaty implementation, including meetings with Canada and the Land Claims Agreement Coalition. Discussions continue on what the best approach is in Yukon.
9. Land use planning (Chapter 11)
  - A joint workshop was held in June 2018 to review how the land use planning process can be improved. Recommendations from the working group have been shared with the leaders for review.
10. Fish and Wildlife
  - This priority area was added to the Action Plan in June 2018. A working group has been established and they are discussing their areas of focus.

## Yukon Forum Potlatch Bowl

The potlatch bowl, made by Ken Anderson, displayed at the top of this newsletter was presented at the January 2017 Yukon Forum as a symbol of the new relationship that is being built between First Nations and the Government of Yukon through the Yukon Forum.

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- **Develop Bilateral and Trilateral Processes for Engagement**

## 11. Health and Social Services

- All 14 First Nations have been engaged in this priority through the First Nation Health Commission.
- Four priority areas have been identified: child welfare, mental wellness, income assistance and co-governance models for services delivery.
- An external advisory committee will review the Child and Family Services Act. Five of the six members of this committee are First Nations.
- A trilateral table on child welfare will allocate \$5.6 million in federal Human Rights Tribunal funding over the next two years to prevention-focused collaborative priorities.
- In June 2018 a joint workshop on land-based healing evaluation shared best practices on land-based healing in communities. This workshop will help communities to allocate \$600K in Government of Yukon funding for land-based healing.

## 12. Education

- A number of discussions have taken place on what the collective education issues and priorities are.
- A Chiefs Committee on Education was established in May 2018.

## 13. Justice

- A joint workshop in December 2017 established three priority areas of focus: community (safety and prevention), corrections (institutional and alternative), and reintegration and restorative justice.
- An implementation working group with First Nation representation was established to implement the 40 recommendations on the Whitehorse Correctional Centre.
- In June 2018 a workshop - *Collaborating in Crime Prevention – Creating Partnerships in Yukon Communities* – was held to discuss crime prevention and community safety planning.
- Council of Yukon First Nations also hosted the *Exploring Justice Our Way* conference in April 2018 with Yukon government participation.

## 14. Heritage

- An MOU has been drafted to guide the governments' collaboration on heritage management and is currently being reviewed by the governments.
- A joint visioning workshop is planned for this fall.

## What is the Yukon Forum?

- The Yukon Forum is a regular meeting of the political leaders of the Government of Yukon, Yukon First Nations and the Council of Yukon First Nations.
- The Yukon Forum was created in the spirit of reconciliation to develop strong government-to-government relations and collaborate on priorities shared by the Government of Yukon and Yukon First Nations.
- In 2017, the Yukon Forum was revitalized through the signing of the [Working Together Intergovernmental Declaration](#).

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## 15. Engagement protocol

- Research is being done on best practices for engagement between First Nations and Yukon government.

## 16. Yukon voice to federal government

- There was a joint Yukon government/First Nation delegation for Yukon Days in February 2018. The Yukon leaders advocated together to federal ministers on Yukon issues.

## For More Information Contact

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