



What We Heard
Phase two
LGBTQ2S+ inclusion
prioritization survey
September 2019



Introduction

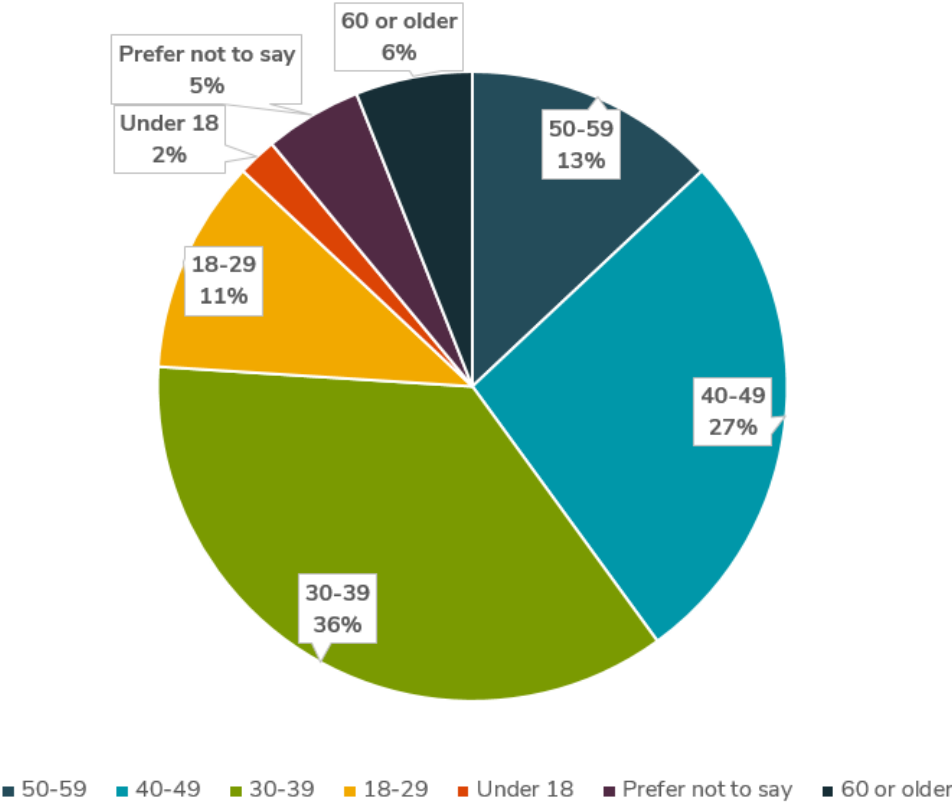
The Government of Yukon conducted an online public survey based on what was heard from Yukoners during the winter [2018/19 public engagement](#) on LGBTQ2S+ inclusion in government services. The survey was used to prioritize what programs and services were needed most. The survey was open to public participation from May 16 to June 30, 2019.

The survey consisted of six optional sections. Key themes included health, trans health care, education and youth, and culture and community. There were 233 total responses, and all 6 sections had between 193 and 213 responses. Respondents were asked the importance of each topic and personal impact of topics raised during the public engagement. There were 315 additional comments.

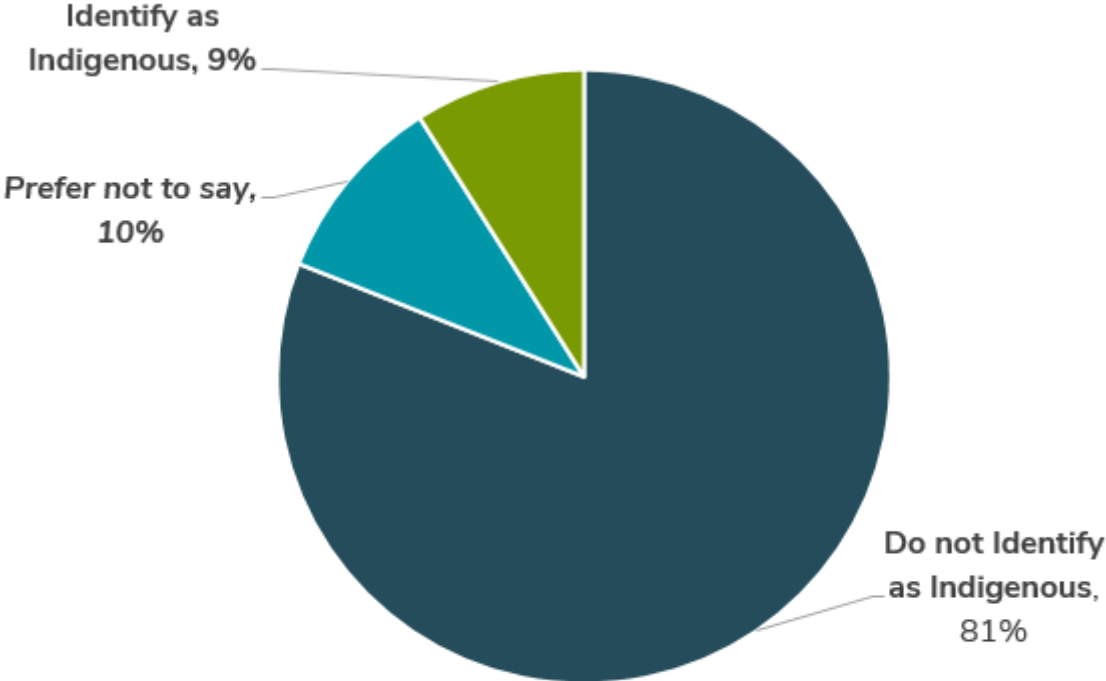
Survey results

The following summary provides a representative overview of the diverse range of comments we heard. It does not include all comments received during the consultation and public engagement.

Age of respondents



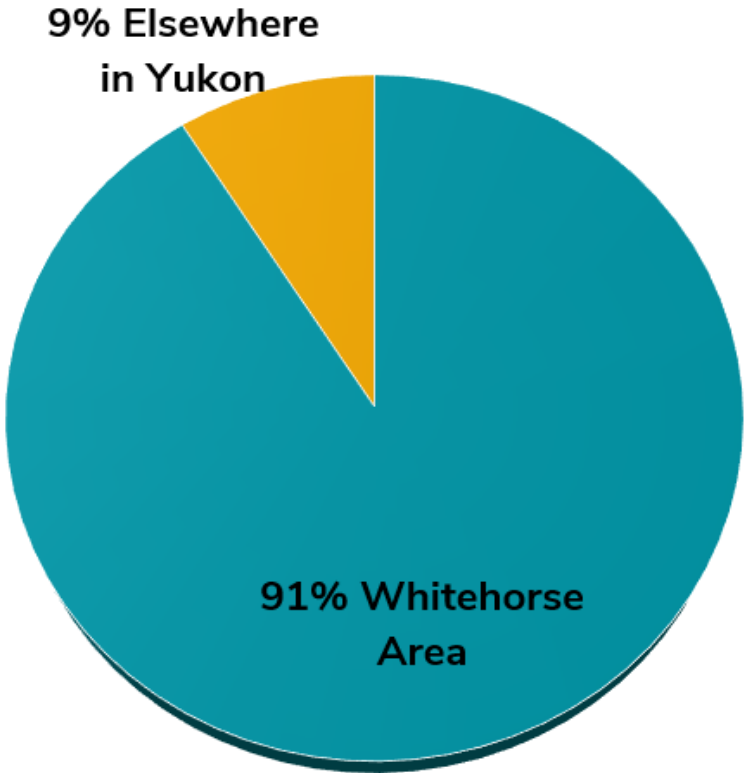
Self-Identification as Indigenous



■ Do not Identify as Indigenous ■ Prefer not to say ■ Identify as Indigenous



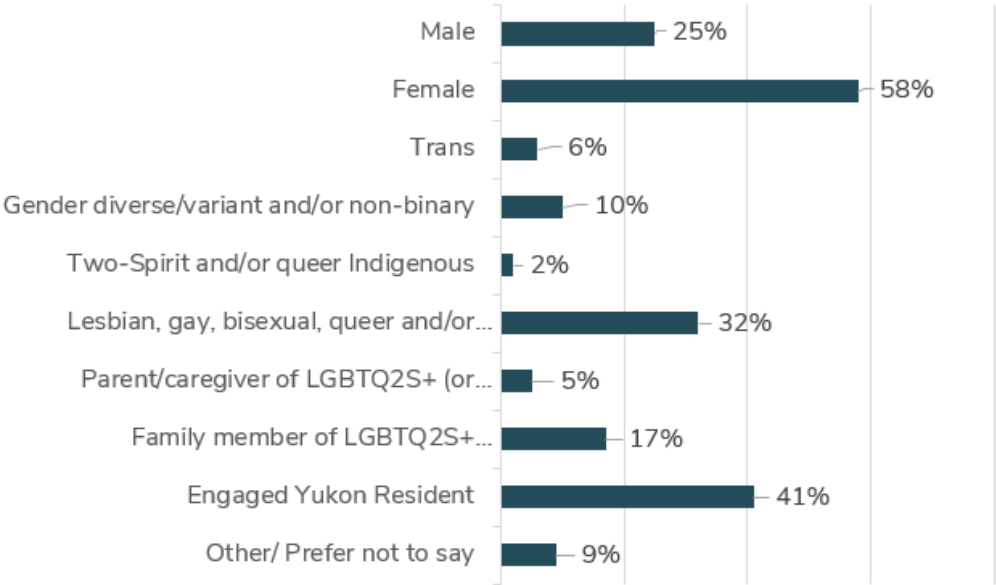
Location



■ Whitehorse area ■ Elsewhere in Yukon



How respondents identified



Respondents were given the option to self-identity with as many categories as they felt matched their identity.



Conversion therapy

We heard clearly from Yukoners that banning conversion therapy in Yukon is a priority.

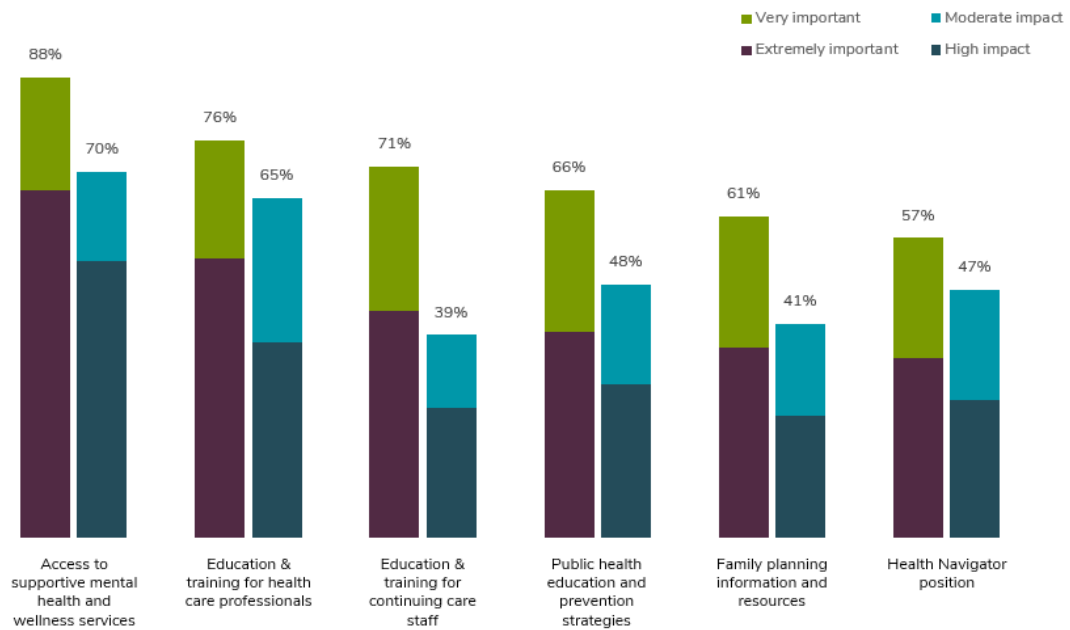
- 75% of respondents stated that creating legislation to ban conversion therapy in Yukon is extremely or very important.
- 55% of respondents noted a high or moderate personal impact from a ban.

Respondent feedback

“Creating legislation to ban conversion therapy is a powerful signal to members of the LGBTQ2S+ community that they are recognized as full and complete citizens of Yukon. Pre-emptively banning conversion therapy will help prevent it becoming established in the territory and minimize residents damaged by it.”

Health care

- 76% of respondents said that providing education and training for health care professionals and administrators in LGBTQ2S+ cultural competency is important. 65% of respondents noted a high or moderate personal impact.
- 88% of respondents said that improving timely access to supportive mental health and wellness services is extremely or very important. 70% of respondents noted a high or moderate personal impact.
- 57% of respondents stated that the creation of a Health Care Navigator position to facilitate access to health care for LGBTQ2S+ folk is extremely or very important. 47% noted a high or moderate personal impact.
- 66% of respondents said it is extremely or very important to enhance public health education and prevention strategies to address the sexual health needs of gay, bisexual, other men who have sex with men, lesbian, bisexual, and other women who have sex with women. 48% noted a high or moderate personal impact.
- 71% of respondents said providing education and training to continuing care staff and other services that serve LGBTQ2S+ senior and older adults is extremely or very important. 39% noted a high or moderate personal impact.
- 61% said improving access to information and resources to help queer families navigate family planning is extremely or very important. 41% of respondents noted a high or moderate personal impact.



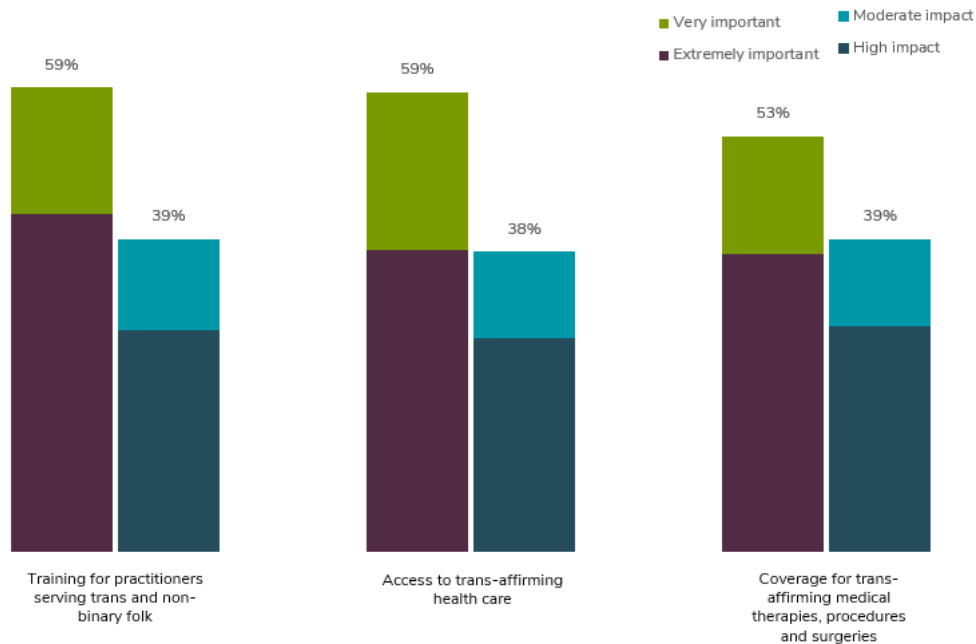
Respondent feedback

“Make it easier to understand what services are offered and how to access them. Don't leave LGBTQ+ people scrambling to figure it out themselves.”

“The health care industry in Yukon needs to adopt gender neutral language and gender affirming therapies and health care strategies. The health care industry needs to be leading the way in queer respect and understanding rather than relying on LGBTIQ2S+ community members to train the health care workers.”

Trans health

- 58% of respondents said improving timely access to trans-affirming health care is extremely or very important. 38% noted a personal impact.
- 53% said that providing extended coverage for trans-affirming medical therapies, procedures and surgeries is extremely or very important. 39% noted a high or moderate personal impact.
- 59% of respondents said it is extremely or very important to provide technical and advanced training for health care practitioners serving trans and non-binary folk. 39% noted a high or moderate personal impact.

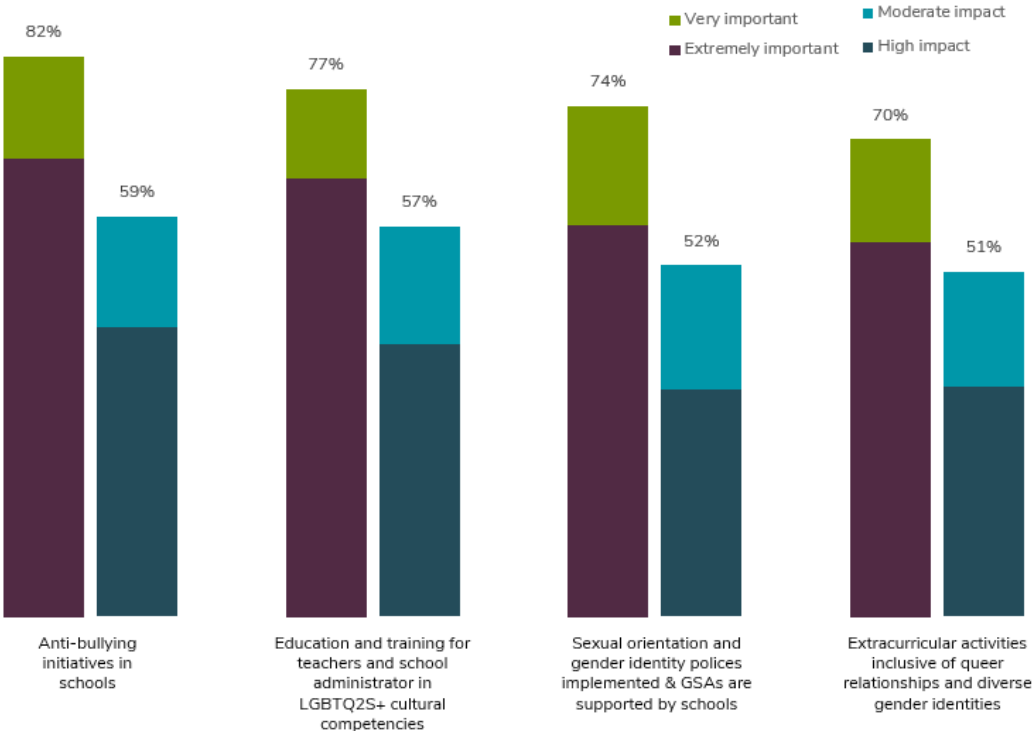


Respondent feedback

“Make it easier to understand what services are offered and how to access them. Don't leave LGBTQ2S+ people scrambling to figure it out themselves.”

Education and youth

- 74% of respondents said it is extremely or very important to ensure Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) policies are implemented and that Gender Sexuality alliances (GSAs) or similar clubs are supported by school leadership and educators. 52% noted a high or moderate personal impact.
- 77% said it is extremely or very important to provide education and training for teachers and school administrators in LGBTQ2S+ cultural competency. 57% noted a high or moderate personal impact.
- 81% of respondents said improving anti-bullying initiatives in Yukon schools, especially for LGBTQ2S+ youth is extremely or very important. 59% noted a high or moderate personal impact.
- 70% said that providing extra-curricular programming this is more inclusive of queer relationships and diverse gender identities is extremely or very important. 51% of respondents noted a high or moderate personal impact.



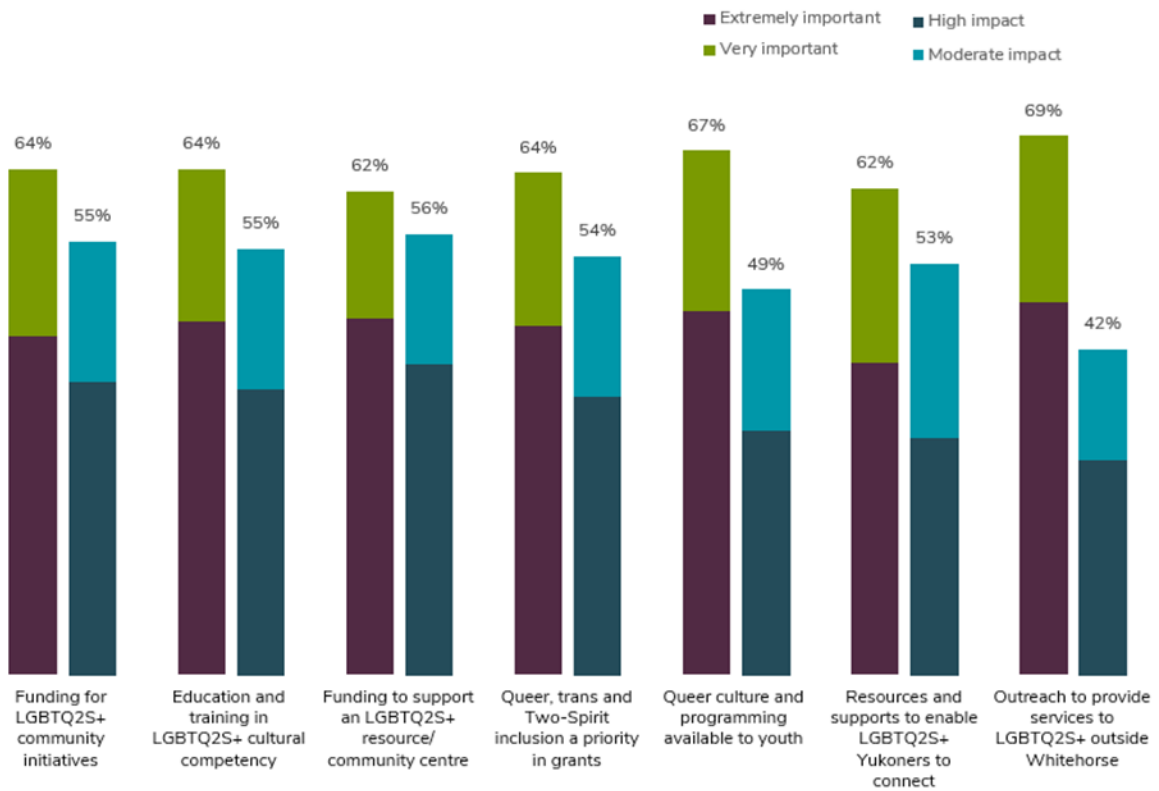
Respondent feedback

“In my work, we strive to use inclusive pronouns, receive training on how to best meet the needs of LGBTQ2S+ youth and to create inclusive environments in our extra-curricular activities. It would be great if youth also had this support consistently in the school. I know there are lots of great, inclusive teachers out there but everyone should have the same baseline.”

“I believe having these things would have made high school a significantly better experience for me and as a result I would have had a much more productive learning environment.”

LGBTQ2S+ culture and community

- 67% of respondents said making queer culture and programming available to youth is extremely or very important. 49% noted a high or moderate personal impact.
- 64% said it is extremely or very important to provide education and training in LGBTQ2S+ cultural competency for non-profits, private sector employers and businesses. 55% noted a high or moderate personal impact.
- 64% of respondents said improving access to funding for LGBTQ2S+ community initiatives is extremely or very important. 55% noted a high or moderate personal impact.
- 69% said it is extremely or very important to provide mobile and active outreach to provide services to LGBTQ2S+ folk across communities outside Whitehorse. 42% noted a high or moderate personal impact.
- 62% of respondents said that providing funding to support the development of an LGBTQ2S+ resource/community centre is extremely or very important. 56% noted a high or moderate personal impact.
- 64% said it is extremely or very important that queer, trans and Two-Spirit inclusion be made a priority in social service-related grants. 54% of respondents noted a high or moderate personal impact.
- 62% of respondents said it is extremely or very important to provide resources and supports to enable LGBTQ2S+ Yukoners throughout the territory to connect with larger LGBTQ2S+ communities. 53% noted a high or moderate personal impact.



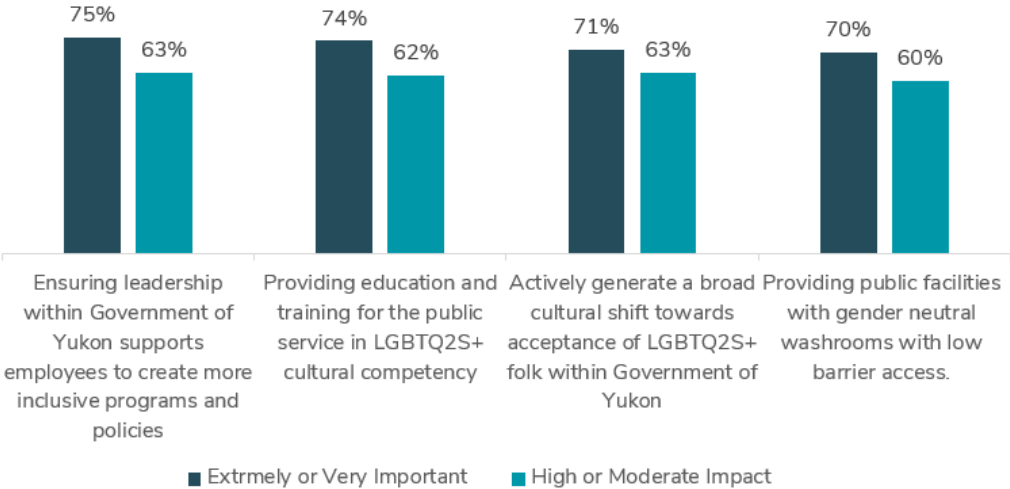
Respondent feedback

“Community is so important to this group - who normally feel isolated. LGBT rights are human rights. Support LGBT initiatives and the benefits bleed into the greater community.”

“I am out, proud and get lots of work as a self-employed person so personal life impacts - I am much beyond that currently. But the community at large has many challenges and rights have come and gone for our community throughout history. We need to create a society here where back sliding is harder than it has been.”

Public services and facilities

- 71% of respondents said it is extremely or very important to actively generate a broad cultural shift towards acceptance of LGBTQ2S+ folk within Government of Yukon. 63% noted a high or moderate personal impact.
- 75% said that ensuring leadership within Government of Yukon supports employees to create more inclusive programs and policies is extremely or very important. 63% noted a high or moderate personal impact.
- 74% of respondents said it is extremely or very important to provide education and training for the public service in LGBTQ2S+ cultural competency. 62% noted a high or moderate personal impact.
- 70% said that providing public facilities with gender neutral washrooms with low barrier access is extremely or very important. 60% noted a high or moderate personal impact.



Respondent feedback

“We know that bathrooms can be the scariest place for queer and trans community members. Let’s make some policy around safety and inclusivity. It’s not hard. Let’s change the narrative.”

Next steps

The public engagement results will help inform and set priorities for the Government of Yukon's action plan on strengthening LGBTQ2S+ inclusion in legislation, policies, programs, services and practices. This action plan will be drafted interdepartmentally and with guidance and input from local LGBTQ2S+ Yukoners and allies.