



October 20, 2025

Teresa Acheson  
President  
Yukon Federation of Labour  
315 2237 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 0K7

Dear Teresa,

Thank you for your letter of October 14 and providing us with the opportunity to provide responses to your questions.

1. **Housing and affordability** - How will your government ensure that housing in Yukon becomes more affordable for residents while avoiding speculative development and inflated land and housing prices that disadvantage local families?

*The Yukon Party has released several platform commitments around housing and land development to help address housing affordability issues, including:*

- *modernizing the National Building Code Adoption Process*
- *removing all fees associated with land transfers to reduce the cost of homes*
- *working with the City of Whitehorse to waive all development cost charges and permit fees for four years*
- *collaborating with the City of Whitehorse to cut the average housing construction application timeline by 50%*
- *updating the Municipal Act*
- *reforming the land lottery system*
- *creating a rural land development strategy*
- *cutting red tape in the lot sale process*

2. **Environmental accountability** - What specific measures will you put in place to guarantee environmental accountability in mining exploration and development, ensuring that projects meet strong sustainability and reclamation standards?

*The Yukon Party commits to complete the Modernization of Mining Legislation by working with First Nations governments and the mining industry to create a legislative framework for our largest private sector industry to explore for, develop, and operate mines while respecting and engaging First Nations.*

*We will establish policies to ensure that government departments meet legislated timelines, restore confidence with predictable, fair processes in collaboration with Canada, First Nations, and industry.*



*Finally, we will implement changes to the Inspections and Compliance Regime to ensure that mines are operating safely and in a way that ensures that future generations are left with strong economic legacies, not environmental liabilities.*

**3. Healthcare and community access** - What actions will you take to strengthen healthcare across Yukon communities, including keeping local healthcare centres open and increasing local capacity for healthcare treatments?

*The Yukon Party has made a number of commitments that will help to stabilize primary health care by:*

- *continuing to build team-based care models in collaboration with front-line health care professionals, recognizing this model offers Yukoners the right care at the right time;*
- *working with the Yukon Medical Association to ensure family practice clinics are viable by providing support for administration and clinic space, and by cutting red tape;*
- *ensuring that clinics owned by health care professionals are a viable option and encouraging multidisciplinary groups to open clinics together;*
- *cutting red tape from the current physician payment model to ensure doctors are paid promptly and accurately;*
- *increasing support for recruiting health professionals, including a marketing campaign encouraging U.S. health professionals to move to the Yukon;*
- *working with the Yukon Medical Association and the Yukon Medical Council to streamline the process of recognizing foreign-trained doctors with similar standards, including the U.S., U.K., and New Zealand;*
- *working with Nurses to create a new regulatory model for nursing, including an arms-length nursing regulatory body;*
- *adopt a competitive pay scale for Nurse Practitioners;*
- *developing more opportunities for pathways to health education, including a family medicine residency program, expanding nursing education, and making new training options available for EMS staff and volunteers;*
- *work with health professionals to develop a Surgery Wait Time Action Plan that includes wait-time standards for surgeries*

**4. Healthcare Workforce Wellbeing** - What specific actions will your government take to improve morale and workplace culture within Yukon's healthcare system, and how will you ensure that healthcare workers retain their pension and employment stability during the transition to the Shāw Kwā'ą health authority?

*The Yukon Party commits to reassessing the transition to the Health Authority. We will work with unions representing health care workers, the Hospital Corporation, First Nations governments and health care professionals to reassess the work done to date on the Health Authority, and consider whether resources would be better spent on front-line health care and improving health outcomes.*



**5. Wildland Firefighter Protections** - How will your government support presumptive cancer coverage and occupational protections for Yukon's wildland firefighters, ensuring parity with municipal firefighters and alignment with national and international best practices?

***The Yukon Party commits to expand Presumptive Cancer coverage to Wildland Fire and work with affected unions including the Whitehorse Firefighters Association to review the listed cancers and the parameters of coverage.***

**6. Worker Safety and Compensation Reform** - How will you strengthen the integrity and transparency of Yukon's Workers' Safety and Compensation Board to ensure it operates in the best interest of injured workers—particularly by improving claim approval processes, accountability mechanisms, and worker-centered outcomes?

***The Yukon Party commits to working with affected stakeholders to ensure the Yukon's Workers' Safety and Compensation Board is operating in the best interest of injured workers and to consider improving claim approval processes, accountability mechanisms, and worker-centered outcomes.***

**7. Protection for Immigrant Workers** - What commitments will you make to safeguard the rights of immigrant workers in Yukon, including enforcing employer compliance with Yukon Nominee Program agreements, preventing exploitative practices, and ensuring pathways to permanent residency are supported rather than obstructed?

***Immigration is largely managed by the federal government, however the territorial government does have responsibility to manage the Yukon Nominee Program. It has fallen under scrutiny after it was raided by the RCMP twice in the past 2 years and faced significant criticism for how it has been run by businesses, Yukoners, and nominees.***

***The Public Accounts Committee, chaired by Currie Dixon, wrote a joint letter requesting that the Auditor General of Canada look into the program to audit its operations and outcomes. That audit was halted after the Auditor General (AG) checked with the RCMP. You can find media coverage of that occurrence here: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/auditor-general-nominee-program-1.7389816>***

***The program is considered an important program by Yukon businesses, and community groups but it is important that we reinstate trust that the program is being delivered fairly, appropriately, and in a way that benefits the Yukon overall.***

***Although the AG halted their audit, they issued a management letter to the Department of Economic Development. The auditor general made four suggestions to the Department of Economic Development:***



*evaluate whether the immigration branch has enough resources, consider mechanisms that would restore confidence in the programs, establish ways to improve the balance of power between employers and employees and determine if the nominee program addresses the Yukon's labour market needs.*

*Those suggestions can serve as a starting point to restoring trust in the operations of the program.*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Currie Dixon", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Currie Dixon  
Leader of the Yukon Party