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Session Briefing Note**Eagle Gold Mine**

Energy, Mines and
Resources / Finance

Recommended response:

- There is no new funding required for the Eagle remediation.
- Our priorities are to ensure fiscal responsibility, site stability and safety, and protecting Yukoners and the environment.
- We are committed to implementing changes to the inspections and compliance regime to ensure that mines are operating safely, so future generations are left with strong economic legacies versus environmental liabilities.

Additional response:

- Actions taken on site have resulted in improved conditions in the downstream environment. We are confident that the ongoing work will further improve physical and environmental stability.
- The sales process is an important step in the response to the failure event. We are committed to ensure a responsible bidder is chosen for the site and that Yukoners' interests are addressed in a sales decision (see BN #2).

Context—this may be an issue because:

- There is significant interest in the Government of Yukon's response to the Eagle Gold heap leach failure and the sales process for the mine.
- Supports platform theme: Revitalizing the development of our natural resources.

Background:

Session Briefing Note**Eagle Gold Mine****Energy, Mines and
Resources / Finance**General:

- On June 24, 2024, the Eagle Gold Mine heap leach facility located in the First Nation of Nacho Nyäk Dun's Traditional Territory failed, resulting in ore and cyanide solution leaving containment and flowing into the Dublin Gulch Valley.
- On August 14, 2024, PricewaterhouseCoopers was appointed as Receiver over Victoria Gold Corp's assets.
- The Receiver is accountable to the Court and reports to the Court periodically. To date there have been seven court reports, the most recent of which is dated November 20, 2025.
- The Receiver posts regular site progress updates to provide information on the site and remediation efforts. All information is publicly available on the Receiver's website.

Financial:

- The Ontario Superior Court of Justice approved the Government of Yukon to loan up to \$220 million to the court-appointed Receiver for the Victoria Gold Corp.
- To date, the Government of Yukon has advanced \$175 million, of which \$104 million was sourced from surety bonds held under mining licenses.
- The Receiver is also enabled to use company resources and proceeds from asset monetization efforts to fund the Receivership. To date, more than \$69 million has been monetized and used to offset the costs to the Government of Yukon.
- The Government of Yukon and the Receiver have a financial agreement that outlines how money is advanced and which source of funds are used to support the receivership, and the conditions that must be met to receive advances.
- The funding agreement with the Receiver emphasizes the importance of providing local benefits to the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun, its development corporation, and Mayo and the Yukon's residents and businesses.

Session Briefing Note**Eagle Gold Mine****Energy, Mines and
Resources / Finance**

- The loan to the Receiver is secured by a court-ordered super-priority charge and is recorded as a loan receivable, offsetting the impact of the O&M appropriation and resulting in no impact on the surplus or net financial debt.
- Interest applies to all loan advances to the Receiver at a rate of 9 per cent per annum. Interest earned on the loan is recorded as revenue to the Government of Yukon, which has a positive impact on the budgetary surplus.

Sale and Assets:

- The Court approved a sales process for the mine. The Receiver began this process on June 30, 2025. The Sales Process timeline was recently amended to allow for refreshed non-binding proposals to be submitted on December 10, 2025. The publicly communicated closing date for a successful bid remains December 31, 2025, although it is expected that this date will be extended.
- The Government of Yukon provided criteria for interested parties within the Sales Process document; these criteria help inform the evaluation of qualified bidders.
- Economic Development is leading the sales process with support from Energy, Mines and Resources (see session note #2).

Remediation and environmental

- The Government of Yukon is the primary regulator and funder for the project and directs what work is required on site to achieve regulatory requirements and technical objectives.
- The Government of Yukon approves the Receiver's proposed budgets, reviews invoices, and ensures funds are used appropriately and that all activities on site do not limit future opportunities at the site.
- Work completed to date has improved the physical stability of the heap leach facility and improved conditions for workers' health and safety.
- Significant environmental management efforts have been successful in reducing environmental impacts and limiting further contamination.

Session Briefing Note**Eagle Gold Mine****Energy, Mines and
Resources / Finance**

- Environmental management systems put in place by the Receiver are anticipated to continue to limit additional contamination and improve conditions on site throughout winter.
- Work remains to be completed to meet regulatory requirements for physical and chemical stability at the mine site. This work includes repair of water storage ponds, and construction work on the heap leach facility.
- Construction work will be completed in the winter months. Ongoing monitoring and management will be required to maintain environmental and physical stability at the site.
- The Receiver continues to implement a comprehensive environmental monitoring program to identify effects on and off site.
- The Government of Yukon response team meets regularly with the technical staff of the FNNND and their technical consultants and with the Government of Canada to provide updates and coordinate responses.

Inspections and Compliance

- The Government of Yukon's role as regulator and enforcement body is to closely monitor the situation at the mine site and, when appropriate, issue directions to Victoria Gold Corp.
- The Receiver has implemented all the directed measures and continues to provide reports on the effectiveness of these measures.
- The Government of Yukon continues to inspect the Eagle Gold site on a weekly basis.
- FNNND regularly attends site with the Compliance Monitoring Inspections team.

Session Briefing Note
Eagle Gold Mine

FIN #07 / EMR #1
Fall 2025

Energy, Mines and
Resources / Finance

Approved by:

Sierra van der Meer

November 28, 2025

Deputy Minister, Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

Katherine White

November 28, 2025

Deputy Minister, Finance

Date approved

Eagle Gold Sales Process

Economic
Development

Recommended response:

- The sale of the Eagle Gold mine is being conducted by the Court-appointed Receiver, PricewaterhouseCoopers, with Bank of Montreal serving as the Financial Advisor.
- A successful sale is the only opportunity for the Government of Yukon to recover the significant amounts that have been loaned to the Receiver to support the remediation of the Eagle Gold Mine failure.
- The deadline for revised non-binding letters of interest is December 10, 2025.
- This process will help ensure that any restart of the mine occurs through a transparent process that meets regulatory and community expectations.

Additional response:

- Yukon government has been involved in this process as a regulator and as the Receivership Lender.
- The total authorized loan for 2024–25 and 2025–26 is \$220 million.
- Yukon government will be consulted on final bids, and the preferred bid must be approved by the Government of Yukon.
- The Receiver keeps First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun informed throughout the sale process, including sharing confidential documents.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- On June 25, 2025, the Court granted an Order approving the Sale Process for Eagle Gold Mine.
- On December 10, 2025, bidders will be required to submit updated letters of intent, setting out additional details about their bids.

Eagle Gold Sales Process

Economic
Development

Background:

- The Sale and Investment Solicitation Process is a Receiver-led process and is subject to court approval in all aspects, including approval of a final transaction. The process started in July 2025 and is expected to conclude in the coming months. Interested parties have been requested to submit undated letters of intent by December 10, 2025.
- The Government of Yukon has been consulted by the Receiver on every step of the process, including the development of Sale and Investment Solicitation Process materials, and reviewing letters of intent.
- In addition to price, bidders will also be assessed according to criteria related to operational experience, financial capacity; and Environmental, Social and Governance/reputational factors. These criteria are to help ensure that the mine can be returned to production safely by a responsible operator.
- A new operator will be subject to the Yukon's mining and environmental regulatory regime and required to maintain environmental compliance. A condition of closing the transaction will be that the purchaser posts reclamation security as required by the Government of Yukon.
- The winning bid is conditional upon Court approval and approval of the Government of Yukon.

Approved by:

Paul Moore

Deputy Minister, Economic Development

November 27, 2025

Date approved

ECO TAB #5

EMR TAB #3

JUS TAB #95

Session Briefing Note

**FNNND v. Yukon and
Canada**

Fall 2025

Executive Council Office,
Justice and Energy, Mines
and Resources

Recommended response:

- The Government of Yukon is aware that the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun filed a Statement of Claim in the Supreme Court of Yukon on December 9, 2025.
- We remain committed to working respectfully with the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun on priorities critical to our government-to-government relationship.
- We continue working with the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun, Yukon First Nations and the Government of Canada to advance the implementation Final and Self-Government Agreements.

Additional response:

- The Statement of Claim identifies the Government of Yukon and the Government of Canada as defendants.
- The Statement of Claim covers a range of issues including treaty interpretation, land use planning, mining authorizations and enforcement and fish and wildlife management.
- We are reviewing the Statement of Claim and have no further comments at this time.

ECO TAB #5

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Session Briefing Note
FNNND v. Yukon and
Canada

Fall 2025

Executive Council Office,
Justice and Energy, Mines
and Resources

Context — this may be an issue because:

- The First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun's Statement of Claim is likely to draw attention from industry as well as other Indigenous governments and groups.
- A Statement of Claim against YG on different matters was also filed by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in on December 4, 2025.

Background:

- According to the Statement of Claim, the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun (FNNND) claims that the Crown has breached the FNNND Final Agreement (the "Treaty"), unjustifiably infringed upon FNNND's rights under the Treaty, and failed to fulfil constitutional duties flowing from the honour of the Crown.
- The Statement of Claim also alleges that the Government of Yukon has breached the *Environment Act* as well as other legislative requirements, and it is seeking damages as well as declaratory and injunctive relief.
- YG and FNNND have been engaged in challenging discussions on several matters, including:
 - The appropriateness of approving development in FNNND's Traditional Territory while land use planning is outstanding;
 - The policies underlying the draft framework for new minerals legislation;
 - The June 2024 Eagle Gold heap leach failure;
 - The resumption of consultations in the wake of the Eagle Gold heap leach failure;
 - The temporary regulations extending expired placer and quartz authorizations;
 - Withdrawing land from staking while land use planning and minerals legislation are under development; and
 - The implementation of the Peel Watershed Land Use Plan.

ECO TAB #5

EMR TAB #3

JUS TAB #95

Session Briefing Note
FNNND v. Yukon and
Canada

Fall 2025

Executive Council Office,
Justice and Energy, Mines
and Resources

- Reference session briefing notes:
 - EMR #1 – Eagle Gold Mine (joint with Finance)
 - EMR #4 – Independent Review Board Response
 - EMR #5 – Permitting and Regulatory amendments
 - EMR #20 – Regional Land Use Planning

Approved by:

KL

December 10, 2025

Deputy Minister, Executive Council Office

Date approved

Approved by:

Sierra van der Meer

December 10, 2025

Deputy Minister, Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

Approved by:

MR

December 10, 2025

Deputy Minister, Justice

Date approved

Recommended response:

- We have begun to implement the recommendations of the Independent Review Board in our regulatory and compliance, inspections and enforcement processes.
- This includes implementing the Independent Review Board recommendations for existing and upcoming projects in collaboration with key stakeholders.
- The Independent Review Board included subject matter experts with extensive experience in heap leach mining. We are confident that their report is accurate and will lead to positive improvements in the mining industry.

Additional response:

- The board's role was to investigate the technical cause of the failure, not determine who was at fault. The board's report clearly outlines how the failure happened and provided strong recommendations to address these issues and improve mining practices in Yukon.
- The Independent Review Board has indicated that, with the implementation of its recommendations, heap leaching can be done safely in the Yukon.
- Beginning to implement these recommendations is the first step in rebuilding trust.

- We have taken immediate steps towards implementing the recommendations, including improving access to subject matter experts and training opportunities for enforcement and regulatory officers. Work is underway to scope for required changes to existing guidelines and establishment of a technical review committee.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- Platform Commitment: Implementing changes to the Inspections and Compliance regime to ensure that mines are operating safely and in a manner that ensures future generations are left with strong economic legacies versus environmental liabilities.

Background:

- On June 24, 2024, a failure occurred at the heap leach facility of the Eagle Gold Mine operated by Victoria Gold Corporation.
- An Independent Review Board has investigated the underlying causes of the failure.
- The board was funded through receivership, with contracts managed by the Receiver. It operated with autonomy in accordance with its terms of reference, budget and timeline.
- To support their review process, the board could interview and gather information from past and current employees of Victoria Gold Corporation, employees and contractors supporting PricewaterhouseCoopers on the response efforts, Government of Yukon, and the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun.
- On June 30, 2025, the board issued a report outlining the technical cause of the failure event. This report included recommendations for industry and government on how to improve mining practices in Yukon.

#4

Session Briefing Note
Independent Review Board
Response

Fall 2025
Energy, Mines and
Resources

Approved by:

Sierra van der Meer

November 28, 2025

Deputy Minister,
Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

Date Approved

Recommended response:

- We are committed to streamlining assessments and licensing.
- We plan to do this by establishing policies to ensure that we meet legislated timelines and restore confidence with predictable, fair process.
- We will do this work in collaboration with Canada, Yukon First Nations and industry.

Additional response:

- First Nations support is key to a thriving resource industry. We will work with First Nations governments and industry to modernize mining legislation.
- The Yukon government has an obligation to fair process and to consult with First Nations on applications in their traditional territory.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- Both the placer and quartz mining sectors have voiced frustration over the length and complexity of permitting processes. A large number of projects require renewals and approvals in 2025 and 2026.
- Platform commitment: Streamlining Assessments and Licensing by establishing policies to ensure that territorial government departments meet legislated timelines and restore confidence with predictable, fair processes in collaboration with Canada, Yukon First Nations, and industry.

Background:Permitting Backlog

Session Briefing Note**Permitting and Regulatory Amendments**

Energy, Mines and Resources

- Class 1 consultation requirements increased after the outcome of the Ross River Dena Council (RRDC) vs. Yukon court decision in 2012. In the spring 2020, the Yukon government began to consult all Yukon First Nations on Class 1 applications located in their Traditional Territory. This has been a key factor in the increasing Class 1 permitting timelines.
- For Class 3 and 4 projects, the backlog in permits is due in part to the 10-year authorization cycle – which creates a disproportionate number of applications every decade. There are a larger number of placer mining operations that have permit renewals at the same time and this time coincides with the implementation of the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act.

Permitting Timelines

- As of November 2025, there are approximately 84 Class 1 Notifications currently in consultation with affected First Nations. The average time in 2025 to issue a Class 1 notification is 44 days once consultation has begun.
- As of November 2025, there are 76 Class 3 and 4 quartz and placer projects that are awaiting decision documents. The average time in 2025 to issue a Class 3 or 4 placer and quartz decision document is 141 and 67 days, respectively.

Regulatory Amendments

- Through temporary, time-limited amendments to the *Placer Mining Land Use Regulation* and the *Quartz Mining Land Use Regulations*, the Yukon government has allowed extensions of eligible Class 3 and Class 4 operating plans.
- Section 83 of the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act prohibits the Government of Yukon from authorizing activities without a decision document. As a result, the projects being extended must either have scope remaining on an old decision document or have had a more recent decision document issued. All decision documents are consulted upon with First Nations prior to issuance.
- Every project is being individually reviewed by the Government of Yukon to ensure that operations only occur within the scope of the applicable decision document.

Session Briefing Note

Permitting and Regulatory Amendments

#5

Fall 2025

**Energy, Mines and
Resources**

Some operations where the temporal scope has passed will not be eligible for the extensions, as they do not have an applicable decision document.

- This temporary extensions will end on December 31, 2028.

Approved by:

Sierra van der Meer

Deputy Minister,
Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

November 28, 2025

Date approved

Recommended response:

- The independent Dawson Regional Planning Commission is developing the Final Recommended Dawson Regional Land Use Plan.
- After receiving the Commission's Final Recommended Plan the Government of Yukon and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in will conduct public engagement and consultation to determine whether to accept, reject or modify the plan, as required under our Chapter 11 treaty obligations.
- We support a regional plan that balances the growth of industry, such as forestry, agriculture, mining, tourism, outfitting and other activities, along with community development, while respecting ecologically sensitive and culturally important areas.
- We will work together with Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and the Commission to finalize the Dawson Regional Land Use Plan.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- The Dawson Regional Land Use Plan is of interest to Yukoners.

Background:

- Chapter 11 of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Final Agreement provides the Commission with the autonomy to develop and recommend a plan for the Parties' consideration.
- The Commission completed the Recommended Plan on June 10, 2022.
- Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in submitted their proposed modifications to the Recommended Plan to the Commission pursuant to 11.6.4 of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Final Agreement on April 30, 2024.

- The Government of Yukon commenced consultation with the White River First Nation, pursuant to a bilateral Consultation Agreement and legal duty to consult, in May 2024. On August 21, 2024, White River First Nation submitted a written consultation response to the Government of Yukon.
- The Government of Yukon submitted their proposed modifications to the Recommended Plan to the Commission pursuant to 11.6.2 of the Tr'ondëk Hwéch'in Final Agreement on November 25, 2024.
- The Commission has been working to develop the Final Recommended Plan since the Parties submitted their proposed modifications.
- Interim withdrawal of land from staking proposed by the Commission was approved by Order In-Council on June 15, 2021. This Order was amended on September 7, 2022, to reflect the Recommended Plan. The interim withdrawal is in effect until April 1, 2026, and is anticipated to be extended to allow time to complete the process towards a final plan for the region.

Approved by:**Sierra van der Meer****November 27, 2025**

Deputy Minister,
Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

Recommended response:

- We are committed to working respectfully with First Nation governments and the mining industry to create new minerals legislation that addresses the entire regime – from exploration to operations to reclamation.
- Goals for modern legislation include addressing industry priorities where the regime could offer more certainty and better support a viable and responsible industry in the territory.

Additional response:

- We are reviewing what is included in the draft Framework for New Minerals Legislation, as well as the findings from the Eagle Independent Review Board report, to inform next steps.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- Platform commitment: Completing the Modernization of Mining Legislation by working with First Nation governments and the mining industry to create a legislative framework for our largest private sector industry to explore for, develop and operate mines responsibly while respecting and engaging Yukon First Nations.

Background:

- Modern resource legislation is a long-standing interest of First Nation governments, stemming from the Devolution Transfer Agreement in 2003.

Development of New Minerals Legislation

- A Steering Committee for new minerals legislation was created in September 2021, which includes representatives of the Government of Yukon, Council of

Yukon First Nations, Yukon First Nations governments and transboundary Indigenous groups.

- A 90-day public engagement on key policy issues concluded in May 2023. A What We Heard report was released on August 27, 2024.
- Most recently, the Steering Committee focused on developing a “framework agreement”. The development of a framework agreement was a request from First Nations and was intended to demonstrate government-to-government alignment on key policy areas within a mining regime.
- An agreement was not reached. The document now referred to as the draft framework is an important tool in determining the next steps for the process.
- An Industry-Environmental Non-Government Organization (ENGO) Table has been active to varying degrees since the beginning of the process. The Table has been engaged in all phases of the process to date.
- Some First Nations are advocating for earlier First Nation involvement in decision-making. Some First Nations are looking for consent for all mineral resource decisions.
- Some industry representatives have expressed concern that the proposed disposition and decision-making models will not allow for a viable and competitive industry in the Yukon.

Development of New Public Lands Legislation

- Work on new public lands legislation has been ongoing since 2019, and in 2022 the process adopted the same Steering Committee format as was being used for new minerals legislation.
- Indigenous consultation and public engagement on key policy issues and options were conducted from May through August 2024 and a What We Heard report was published in May 2025.

Approved by:

Sierra van der Meer

November 27, 2025

Deputy Minister,
Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

Recommended response:

- We are committed to reforming the land lottery system to ensure that builders have access to lots.
- We are committed to releasing residential lots to the private sector with conditions that ensure timely development.
- The Department of Energy, Mines and Resources continues to offer lots for sale as they become available through lottery, tender, and over-the-counter sales.

Additional response:

- We plan to release new residential development opportunities this winter in Whitehorse and Haines Junction and look forward to collaborating with builders on upcoming residential housing initiatives.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- There continues to be high demand for building lots within Whitehorse and across the territory for residential, commercial, and industrial developments.
- Platform commitments:
 - Reforming the Land Lottery System to recognize that homebuilders provide the vast majority of housing and to ensure they have access to lots (without using proxies).
 - Releasing Prepared Lots to the Private Sector with conditions for timely development, while recovering costs.
 - Releasing Commercial, Industrial and Agricultural Land to facilitate economic development and business opportunities for the private sector.

Session Briefing Note

Fall 2025

Lot Sales, Lotteries, and Support for Housing and Development

Energy, Mines and Resources

- Releasing Cottage Lots and Other Recreational Land for sale or lease with a particular focus on waterfront access.

Background:

- Several options have been identified to change the land lottery system.
- A public engagement on reform to the land lottery was completed in August 2024 as part of engagement on new lands legislation.
- The Land Management Branch has been working with builders to develop a residential lottery process that balances the needs of industry.
- The sale of titled public land is administered through the Lands Act, via the Financial Administration Act.
- Under the Lands Act, the Lands Regulations outline how residential land lotteries are implemented and how lots are priced (i.e., market value or development cost).
- While the Lands Regulation prioritizes the sale of residential lots to individuals building their own homes, Management Board directives can increase flexibility or adjust these priorities. Recent trends show builders applying for multiple lots through proxies.
- In recent years, the costs to develop subdivisions have been very high, making it difficult for YG to recover its costs when selling developed lots.
- Future land development across Yukon is expected to include First Nation Settlement Land and private sector land. Selling land at less than the cost of development may make it difficult for others to develop and sell land profitably.

Approved by:

Sierra van der Meer

November 28, 2025

Deputy Minister,
Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

Recommended response:

- Yukon's agriculture sector is facing challenges with increasing costs, supply chain issues, labour shortages, and impacts of climate change.
- Under the five-year, \$9.25 million Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership program, we will ensure funding is provided to projects that support farm resiliency, from farm business plans and research initiatives to emergency infrastructure development and equipment purchases.
- We are committed to supporting local farms and other Yukon food producers by increasing the purchase of locally produced foods for government-run facilities.

Additional response:

- Since the launch of the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership program in 2023, it has provided over \$4 million in funding for over 240 local agriculture projects.
- Other programs that support the Yukon agriculture sector include the Department of Economic Development's Economic Development Fund and the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- In recent years, the agriculture industry has been facing financial challenges and may be looking to the Government of Yukon to provide additional support.

- Platform commitment: Using government procurement to support agriculture, agri-food businesses and the local food sector to grow, thrive and increase opportunities for export while helping to address food costs in the territory.

Background:**Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership Program**

- Since 2003, federal-provincial-territorial cost-shared agricultural funding programs have been implemented in the Yukon. The funding is cost-shared on a 60:40 ratio between the governments of Canada and Yukon, respectively.
- The Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership is the most recent installment and provides support over five-years (2023-2028).
- Projects can range from farm business plans, research initiatives, development of infrastructure, purchasing equipment, improvement to on-farm energy efficiency and practices to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Government of Yukon Locally Produced Food Purchases

- The Government of Yukon spends approximately \$3 million per year on food of which \$3,000 to \$5,000 per month is from local producers.
- An online platform called the Online Marketplace allows Government of Yukon departments to purchase local food products and other products from participating producers.
- The Online Marketplace allows producers to list their products in an online catalogue and to interact directly with purchasers.
- There are six businesses that are participating in the Online Marketplace

Agriculture Land

Session Briefing Note
Agriculture Sector Supports

#9
Fall 2025
Energy, Mines and
Resources

Approved by:

Sierra van der Meer

November 28, 2025

Deputy Minister,
Department of Energy, Mines and Resource

Date approved

Recommended response:

- We are working with Canada and affected First Nations to advance the transition of the Ketza River Mine liabilities back to Canada.
- We look forward to continued discussions with Selkirk First Nation and Selkirk Copper Mines regarding the feasibility of their restarting the former Minto Mine.
- We continue to protect the environment, human health, and safety at the Wolverine Mine. This work includes water management and treatment, environmental monitoring, and urgent work as required.
- We are working with the Government of Canada and Ross River Dena Council to address the historic liabilities at the Vangorda Plateau portion of the Faro Mine site.

Additional response:

- The Government of Canada is leading all aspects of the Faro Mine Remediation Project, including urgent remedial works.
- We are working to advance reclamation of an abandoned hydrocarbon contaminated placer claim block on Discovery Creek. The claim is located on Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation Category A Settlement Land.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- Supports platform theme: Revitalizing the development of our natural resources.

Background:

- Energy, Mines and Resources provides oversight and manages what are commonly referred to as Type II abandoned mine sites, as well as sites that the Government of Yukon has responsibility for that were licensed and abandoned post-devolution.
- Under the Devolution Transfer Agreement, the Government of Canada holds financial responsibility for pre-devolution liabilities on former mine sites. At the time of devolution, there were seven Type II mines: Keno Hill, Clinton Creek, Ketza River, Faro, Minto, Brewery Creek and Mt. Nansen.
- A two-year water treatment plan is underway at Wolverine Mine site, with project completion in the 2026-27 fiscal year. The 2025-26 Supplemental budget No. 1 includes a budget reduction of \$968 thousand. Of this, there is a \$470 thousand reduction for water treatment costs at Wolverine resulting from lower than expected volume of water treated in 2025-26. It is anticipated that the full contracted volume of water will be treated the 2026-27 fiscal year.

Roles and Responsibilities for abandoned sites

Site	Remediation	Funding
Mount Nansen	Remediation planning is complete; remediation will be executed by the Mount Nansen Remediation Limited Partnership.	Government of Canada
Clinton Creek	Remediation planning. Site was fully transitioned back to Canada in June 2025	Government of Canada
Ketza River	Remediation planning. Negotiations continue with Canada and affected First Nations on the transition of this site's historical liabilities back to Canada	YG; a large part of the costs will be recovered from Canada. To date, YG has recovered \$6.4M
Keno	Remediation planning is complete; remediation will be by Elsa Reclamation and Development Company.	Government of Canada

Faro	Remediation planning is complete; the remediation project is undergoing environmental assessment with the Yukon Environmental and Socio-Economic Assessment Board.	Government of Canada
Wolverine	Assessment and Abandoned Mines branch will be seeking direction early in 2026 to determine how far to advance remediation of the site	Yukon government
Minto Mine	As of April 1, 2026, Selkirk Copper Mines will take over site. They continue to determine the feasibility of a restart. YG will be responsible for environmental and geotechnical monitoring.	YG holds \$75.2 million in security through a combination of cash and a surety bond for the mine.
Discovery Creek	Seeking funds to remediate the site in 2026/27.	Yukon government

Approved by:**Sierra van der Meer****November 28, 2025**

Deputy Minister,

Date approved

Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

Recommended response:

- We will ensure that we work efficiently with industry, the Yukon Wood Products Association, and First Nations to develop new timber harvesting projects and support existing operations throughout the territory.
- We consult with affected First Nations on timber harvest plans and Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board decision documents prior to issuing a decision.
- The Departments of Energy, Mines and Resources and Community Services are advancing wildfire fuel abatement projects around the Yukon, making significant harvesting opportunities available.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- Although fuel wood availability has significantly improved, there is a shortage of building-grade sawlogs as the sawlog dimensions required for manufacturing log homes and buildings are rare in the Yukon.
- Platform commitment: Ensuring the forest resources sector and Log Home Builders have sufficient access to timber and forest resources by creating a Yukon Forestry Strategy

Background:

- Yukon businesses can apply to the Forest Management Branch to harvest fuel wood or sawlogs commercially.
- There are five timber harvesting projects currently under review by the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board, including projects in Haines Junction, Whitehorse, and Mayo.

- The framework for forestry harvesting authorizations comes from the Forest Resources Act and its regulation.
- A timber harvest plan, licence and cutting permit are required for commercial timber harvesting. Timber harvest plans describe where and how timber can be harvested. In some areas, forest resources management plans also provide strategic guidance on timber harvesting.
- Most forestry projects require assessment under the Yukon Environmental and Socio-Economic Assessment Act.
- We consult with affected First Nations on timber harvest plans and Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board decision documents prior to issuing a decision.
- The Haines Junction district is the most active forestry area in the Yukon, supplying a significant portion of the wood supply with a total average annual harvest of 15,000 cubic metres. Most of this harvest comes from Quill Creek.
- The Watson Lake district plays a key role in Yukon's wood supply, with high-quality timber and an active local industry. Timber harvesting is increasing and the 2024 harvest was 8,375 cubic metres.
- In Watson Lake, there are permits available in two timber harvest plans. Planning is underway with Liard First Nation to advance projects in the Poison Lake burn. It is a priority for Liard First Nation that large sawlogs are directed to Heartland Timber Homes.
- Significant efforts have been focused on developing new projects in the Southern Lakes, including Marsh Lake, Lubbock Valley, Copper Haul Road and Teslin.

Session Briefing Note
Wood Supply and Planning

11
Fall 2025
Energy, Mines and
Resources

Approved by:

Sierra van der Meer

November 28, 2025

Deputy Minister,

Date approved

Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

Session Briefing Note**Forestry Sector Status
and Supports**Energy, Mines and
Resources**Recommended response:**

- We are committed to ensuring that the forest resources sector and log home builders have enough timber and forest resources.
- We will work closely with industry and the Yukon Wood Products Association to support the forestry sector.

Additional response:

- We are developing log storage and processing sites in and around the City of Whitehorse.
- Log storage and processing sites help build a secure supply chain of fuel wood, building logs, sawlogs and other specialty wood products.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- The industry would like to see more areas be made available for log processing and storage.
- Supports platform commitment: Ensuring the forest resources sector and Log Home Builders have sufficient access to timber and forest resources by creating a Yukon Forestry Strategy.

Background:

- Log yards help businesses build log inventories, reduce delivery time, reduce costs, provide a greater selection of high quality and specialty products, and provide a place to dry green timber.
- A lease has been issued to Creekside Wood Supply for the 15 Boulder Road site in the McRae Industrial area. The lease is for 10 years with an option for renewal in 2035.

Session Briefing Note**Forestry Sector Status
and Supports**Energy, Mines and
Resources

- Bear Creek Logging from Haines Junction has applied for a lease for the Ibex Valley Biomass Hub, located approximately 23 kilometers west of Whitehorse. We are reviewing the application and working on the next steps.
- The Forest Management Branch is exploring different options for leasing the Kookatsoon Log Processing and Storage Site.
- The Forest Management Branch has identified several other options within the City of Whitehorse that could accommodate additional log processing and storage sites to support other interested larger scale wood harvesters.

Approved by:**Sierra van der Meer****November 28, 2025**

Deputy Minister,
Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

Recommended response:

- Exploration is a key driver of the Yukon's economy. The Yukon Mineral Exploration Program (YMEP) supports our commitment to revitalize the development of our natural resources and ensure viable mineral exploration and mining.
- This program attracts external investment and encourages on-the-ground advanced exploration activity. It is a vital component in building a strong private sector, essential for the territory's financial future.
- This year's YMEP funding is projected to leverage \$2.4M in private investment.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- Supports platform theme: Revitalizing the Development of Our Natural Resources; Diversifying and Growing the Private Sector

Background:**Yukon Mineral Exploration Program**

- The Yukon Mineral Exploration Program (YMEP) provides partial risk capital to locate, explore, and develop mineral projects to an advanced exploration stage.
- To stimulate investment in critical minerals in the Yukon, the evaluation criteria for the Yukon Mineral Exploration Program was recently updated to include extra weighting for projects that primarily target critical minerals.
- For the 2025 exploration season, the program received 67 applications for funding (40 hard rock and 27 placer applications). 39 projects have been approved for funding (20 hard rock and 19 placer projects).

- In 2025/26, Energy, Mines and Resources will spend \$1.4 million on the Yukon Mineral Exploration Program. In return, the program is expected to leverage \$2.4M in private investment.

Mineral Exploration and Deposit Appraisal Expenditure Statistics

- Junior exploration companies conduct most of the mineral exploration in the Yukon. Exploration activities contribute significantly to the Yukon's annual economic activity.
- For 2025, the Yukon Geological Survey estimates total hard rock exploration expenditures of \$199M by 51 explorers across 77 projects.
- Half of the money spent in 2025 was for gold exploration. Copper projects saw 21 per cent of spending, followed by lead-zinc (12 per cent), tungsten (10 per cent) and silver (7 per cent).
- The largest number of exploration projects occurred on the Traditional Territory of the First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun (26), followed by Kaska Nation's asserted traditional territory (16), Selkirk First Nation (13) and the Traditional Territories of Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in (12). All other Yukon First Nations saw fewer than 10 projects.

Approved by:**Sierra van der Meer**

Deputy Minister,
Department of Energy, Mines and Resources**November 28, 2025**

Date approved

Recommended response:

- Yukon hosts deposits of 12 of Canada's 34 critical minerals, and occurrences of an additional 13.
- In 2025, the Yukon saw exploration activity for the following critical minerals: copper, zinc, tungsten, nickel, cobalt and platinum group metals.

Recommended response:

- Yukon Geological Survey received \$250,000 from Natural Resources Canada's Critical Minerals Geoscience and Data Program to digitize critical mineral exploration data from assessment files.
- This will facilitate access to critical mineral data and help assess mineral potential for land use planning. The funding is in place until 2027.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- Geopolitical tensions have increased the focus on securing domestic supply chains for critical minerals.
- Supports platform theme: Revitalizing the development of our natural resources.

Background:

- As defined by Canada, critical minerals must meet the following two criteria:
 1. The supply chain is threatened, and
 2. There is a reasonable chance that Canada can produce the mineral.
- Critical minerals must also meet one of the following criteria:

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Critical Minerals

Fall 2025
Energy, Mines and
Resources

- 1. It must be essential to Canada's economic or national security;
- 2. It is required to transition to a sustainable low-carbon and digital economy; or
- 3. It will position Canada as a strategic partner in the global supply chain.

- Canada's Budget 2025 proposes \$3.5 billion over 5 years to Natural Resources Canada for various funds to support critical minerals projects. This includes:
 1. \$2 billion over five years, starting in 2026-27 to create the Critical Minerals Sovereign Fund, for strategic investments supporting the development of critical minerals projects and companies;
 2. \$371.8 million over four years, starting in 2026-27 for Natural Resources Canada to create the First and Last Mile Fund to support the development of critical minerals projects and supply chains;
 3. Prime Minister Carney's announcement on November 13, 2025, that the Northwest Critical Conservation Corridor was referred to the Major Projects Office to realise its extraordinary potential for critical minerals development and clean power transmission in the Yukon and British Columbia; and
 4. Eligibility expansion for the Critical Mineral Exploration Tax Credit to include bismuth, chromium, fluorspar, germanium, indium, manganese, molybdenum, niobium, tantalum, tin, and tungsten, all of which are present in the Yukon.

Approved by:

Sierra van der Meer

November 28, 2025

Deputy Minister,
Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

Recommended response:

- The Department of Energy, Mines and Resources is aware of cabins, docks and other structures built without authorization in the territory.
- Illegal occupancies can negatively impact Yukon First Nations rights, alienate other public land users, and they are often associated with other unauthorized activities such as cutting trees or creating roads and trails.
- Unauthorized occupancies impact the Yukon's wilderness and create liabilities for Yukon citizens and governments.

Additional response:

- EMR continues to address unauthorized structures on public land through regulatory and preventive measures such as education.
- Regulation of unauthorized occupancy is important for Yukoners' safety, environmental health and to preserve the respectful use of the land.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- There is often media attention when the Land Management Branch applies to the Supreme Court of Yukon for a court order for the removal of an unauthorized occupant when voluntary compliance is not achieved.
- Yukon First Nations often express concerns related to unauthorized structures built in their Traditional Territories.

Session Briefing Note
Unauthorized Occupancies

#15
Fall 2025
Energy, Mines and
Resources

Background:

- Energy, Mines and Resources' Land Management Branch is aware of nearly 500 unauthorized occupancies across the Yukon that have infrastructure including cabins, fuel storage and other structures. There are likely additional sites.
- Addressing unauthorized occupancies is prioritized based on risk and available resources.
- Education and seeking voluntary compliance are the first approaches when dealing with unauthorized occupancies.
- Enforcement is a necessary response when there is no voluntary compliance. Enforcement measures protect public land, maintain the public's ability to access land, and address risks to human safety and environmental damage.
- The Government of Yukon works with Yukon First Nations and municipalities regarding structures built on public land.

Approved by:

Sierra van der Meer

December 17, 2025

Deputy Minister,
Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

Recommended response:

- Whitehorse is experiencing a period of significant growth. Its population has increased by 30 percent in the past decade. This trend is expected to continue.
- We will invest in land and infrastructure development to ensure that Yukoners have the services and the spaces to build their homes and futures.
- We will continue developing the Whistle Bend subdivision, and will work with the City of Whitehorse to address traffic congestion in the area.
- We will also look beyond Whistle Bend. Together with the City of Whitehorse, the Kwanlin Dün First Nation, the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, and residents of our capital city, we will plan the next major residential development.

Additional response:

- There is also a need to expand land development opportunities in the City of Whitehorse, and around the Yukon. We will explore ways for private developers to bring new housing projects to market, helping drive economic growth.
- We will work with Yukon First Nations to create partnerships that enable residential housing and commercial opportunities and consider ways to support First Nations that want to accelerate the development of their settlement lands.
- This government will also make sure additional land is available for development across the Yukon. This could include acquiring vacant or

Whitehorse Land Development

Community Services

abandoned lots, negotiating land transfers between governments, and collaboratively planning future development areas.

- We look forward to working with our partners in the private sector to create these economic opportunities, and with the City of Whitehorse on areas identified for development by their Official Community Planning process.

Context:

- Addressing housing affordability and increasing lot availability are high priorities for the public.

Background:

Copper Ridge Parcels 519/1126

- Land Development Branch, the City of Whitehorse, and Energy, Mines and Resources worked together to ready these lot parcels for private sector release.

Whistle Bend, Current Situation

- Phase 9 was completed this summer, and 98 lots were released in September 2025.
- Phases 12 and 13 – 15 large multi-family, public service and commercial lots - will be completed in summer 2026.
- Detailed design for Phases 10 and 11, the stormwater conveyance and outfall system, landscaping, and Mountainview traffic upgrades are advancing this winter.

Chasàn Tatäy (Range Point) Subdivision. Joint Government of Yukon - Kwanlin Dün First Nation project

- The Government of Yukon and the Kwanlin Dün First Nation have worked in partnership to complete the master plan and zoning and are constructing this neighbourhood.
- 67 lots and up to 420 units of housing on the two adjacent Government of Yukon and Kwanlin Dün First Nation-owned parcels.

November 28, 2025

Date approved

Recommended response:

- Yukon's vibrant and growing communities need a supply of land to support growth.
- By working hand in hand with municipalities, First Nations and the private sector, we will ensure families and businesses have the space they need to grow and thrive.
- We will work with our partners around the Yukon to develop a strategy for rural land development that meets the needs and the aspirations of their community and that identifies land for housing to facilitate growth and prosperity in rural Yukon.

Additional response:

- We look forward to exploring ways that we can incentivize and streamline housing construction and development.
- There is also a need to expand land development. We will explore ways for private developers to bring new housing projects to market, helping drive economic growth.
- We will work with Yukon First Nations to create partnerships that enable residential housing and commercial opportunities and consider ways to support First Nations that want to accelerate the development of their settlement lands.
- We will also make additional land available for development. This could include acquiring vacant or abandoned lots, negotiating land transfers between governments, and collaboratively planning future development areas.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- Increasing lot availability and addressing housing pressures in all Yukon communities is of high interest to the public.

Background:

- Land development is a complex process involving numerous regulatory requirements, stakeholders and decision-makers.
- The branch is the primary land developer on Yukon government-owned land for residential, commercial, industrial and recreational land. In recent years the focus has been on residential and industrial land to meet housing and economic pressures.
- The Land Development Branch works with municipal, First Nation and private sector partners to identify priority areas and conduct site assessment, planning, design, construction, and land titling, for new subdivisions. Energy, Mines and Resources' Land Management Branch manages the release of lots.

Projects are underway at different stages of development in most Yukon communities. Project highlights include:

Dawson

- Dredge Pond II – a 42-lot country residential subdivision – is in final design stage, moving to tender in early 2026.

Haines Junction

- Dhäl Ghāy/Mountain Ridge – a 44-lot Subdivision is complete (ATCO/Northwestel services underway) with lots ready for release this winter.

Watson Lake

- Recently released 24 new residential lots on Frances Avenue (summer 2025).

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EMR # 17 TAB#
CD-09

Winter 2025

Rural Land Development

Community Services

November 28, 2025

Date approved

Recommended response:

- We work with First Nations governments, Local Area Councils, and Yukoners to ensure that zoning reflects local contexts, is effective in resolving competing land uses, and supports the building of homes for Yukoners across the territory.
- We aim to streamline and improve how land is developed in rural areas by developing a new Rural Land Development Strategy. We will work with rural communities to identify land for housing to facilitate growth and prosperity.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- Housing needs in the territory can increase pressure on existing local area plans and related zoning regulations to accommodate growth.
- Supports platform themes: streamline land development; facilitate the development of underutilized land; address the demand for other uses of land, red tape reduction.

Background

- Local Area Plans are not required under territorial legislation and are implemented by zoning under the Area Development Act.
- Local Area Plans developed within the Traditional Territories of Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Carcross/Tagish First Nation are subject to local area planning processes described in their respective Self-Government Agreements.

Alaska Highway West:

Session Briefing Note Local Area Planning

Fall 2025
Energy, Mines and
Resources

- The Government of Yukon and Champagne and Aishihik First Nations have completed a background report, vision and values engagement, and are now moving forward with the development of a draft plan.

Other Local Area Planning Processes:

- Kwanlin Dün First Nation has reconsidered their involvement in the Memorandum of Understanding for the Łu Zil Män (Fish Lake) Local Area Plan and indicated their intention to continue an independent planning process without the Government of Yukon.
- In summer 2024, the Department of Environment released flood mapping for the Shallow Bay area, allowing a zoning exercise to be considered again. Next step is to re-engage with Ta'an Kwäch'än Council to inform next steps.
- The CTFN Accord signed in 2025 states that the Tagish proposed planning scheme, Tagish local area plan as well as the Marsh Lake local area plans are a priority for both CTFN and YG to complete, both plans are at draft plan stage.

Approved by:

Sierra van der Meer

November 28, 2023

Deputy Minister,

Date approved

Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

Session Briefing Note**Regional Land Use Planning**Energy, Mines and
Resources**Recommended response:**

- We will continue to work with First Nation partners to collaboratively implement the North Yukon and Peel Watershed Regional Land Use Plans.
- We will review the Final Recommended Dawson Regional Land Use Plan when it is finalized by the Planning Commission (See BN # 6).

Additional response:

- Together with the Government of Canada and the Council of Yukon First Nations, we will review the 2024 Umbrella Final Agreement funding to ensure there is enough for plan implementation and conformity checks for proposed projects.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- Yukon First Nations, the mining industry, and environmental stakeholders are interested in the status and progress of regional land use planning and the funding available for these processes.

Background:

- The process to complete regional land use planning on the Traditional Territories of Yukon First Nations is set out in Chapter 11 of the Final Agreements. These processes can involve the participation of multiple First Nation governments.
- The Beaver River land use planning process is not a Chapter 11 process and was established by an Intergovernmental Agreement between the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun and the Government of Yukon.

Session Briefing Note**Regional Land Use Planning**Energy, Mines and
Resources

- The Memorandum of Understanding with the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun incorporates the Tsé Tagé (Beaver River) land use planning process into the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun regional planning process.
- The next step for regional land use planning with the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun is to develop a Terms of Reference to establish a Planning Commission for the process.
- The following areas are in the pre-planning stage for land use plans: Carcross/Tagish First Nation, Champagne and Aishihik First Nations, Kluane First Nation, Kwanlin Dün First Nation, Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation, Selkirk First Nation, Ta'an Kwäch'än Council and the Teslin Tlingit Council.
- The Final Agreements and the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act outline the continued responsibility of Regional Land Use Planning Commissions to conduct conformity checks for proposed projects in areas with approved land use plans.
- During the development of regional land use plans, planning commissions are funded through the Umbrella Final Agreement federal implementation funding.

Approved by:**Sierra van der Meer****November 28, 2025**

Deputy Minister,

Date approved

Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

Recommended response:

- One of our priorities is to ensure that mines are operating safely and in a way that ensures future generations are left with strong economic legacies versus environmental liabilities.
- One way we can ensure that Yukoners are not footing the bill on environmental liabilities is through financial security.
- The Government of Yukon requires financial security for all quartz mines, most large quartz exploration projects, and certain placer projects.

Additional response:

- Financial security for mining projects will be considered during modernization of mining legislation through engagement with First Nations and industry.
- Security is calculated based on the anticipated cost for the government to reclaim and close the site should it be necessary. The Government of Yukon currently holds \$45.6 million in financial security for quartz mines and mineral exploration projects.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- Questions have been raised about the Yukon's financial security process due to the number of abandonments and failures of quartz mines.
- Supports platform commitment: Revitalizing the development of our natural resources

Background:

Security updates

- Energy, Mines and Resources published the updated financial guidelines for quartz mining licenses in May 2024. These updates clarify the forms of security and the circumstances under which they are permissible.
- The Government of Yukon and Yukon Water Board are coordinating the review of reclamation and closure guidance for major quartz mines in the Yukon. This will provide updated guidance and clarity on regulatory expectations for reclamation and closure planning and financial security estimates.

Mine Reclamation and Closure

- The Government of Yukon reviews and approves a mine operator's financial security and reclamation and closure plan before issuing a quartz mining license and on a regular basis afterwards.
- Every year, mine operators must report on progressive reclamation, the results of monitoring programs, and the effectiveness of mitigation measures.

Financial Security for Quartz Mines

- For quartz mining projects, the Government of Yukon holds approximately \$38.8 million in security. This includes \$1.7 million held for Brewery Creek, \$80,000 for Carmacks Copper, \$9.2 million held for Sä Dena Hes, \$14.2 million for Keno Hill Silver District, \$13.7 million for Minto Mine (amount held at the time of abandonment was \$75.2 million, currently being expended to support active closure and remediation).
- In consultation with Selkirk First Nation, we are implementing the reclamation and closure plan for the abandoned Minto Mine using the security we currently hold.
- Financial security for quartz mines is determined by both the Government of Yukon (under the Quartz Mining Act) and the Yukon Water Board (under the Yukon Waters Act).

- The Government of Yukon collects whichever security determination amount is higher between the Yukon Water Board and the Government of Yukon. The Government of Yukon is responsible for collecting and holding financial security.
- Security for quartz mines is reviewed at least once every two years, and applicable quartz exploration projects are reviewed yearly. A full review is also conducted during applicable quartz mining license amendments and application processes.

Financial Security for Quartz Exploration and Placer Projects

- The Government of Yukon currently holds \$6.8 million in financial security for quartz exploration and \$49,717 in financial security for placer projects.
- The Yukon Water Board can also require financial security for Class 4 placer mines, which is held by the Yukon government and included in security totals.

Approved by:

Sierra van der Meer

Deputy Minister,
Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

December 17, 2025

Date approved

Recommended response:

- Major mines are a key economic driver for the Yukon; we will work to responsibly advance mining projects in the Yukon, while engaging with Yukon First Nations.
- We are committed to creating certainty for industry and the public by improving regulatory processes and government oversight of the mining industry.
- We have begun to implement the recommendations of the Independent Review Board for existing and upcoming projects in collaboration with key stakeholders.

Additional response:

- Modernizing mining legislation will support the responsible development and operation of mines while respecting and engaging Yukon First Nations.
- The Keno Hill Silver District, run by Hecla Mining, is the only active operating and producing major mine in Yukon.
- Several major mine projects are currently undergoing assessment and regulatory review across the territory. These include the proposed Coffee Gold mine, Kudz Ze Kayah mine, Casino mine, and Keno Hills expansion project.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- The mining sector is the largest private sector employer in the territory.

- The Eagle Gold Mine Independent Review Board Report provided recommendations regarding the regulation and enforcement of major mines in the Yukon to support capacity growth and process improvements.
- Platform theme: Revitalizing the development of our natural resources.

Background:

Keno Hill Silver District

- The Keno Hill Silver District, run by Hecla Mining, is the only active operating and producing major mine in the Yukon.
- Hecla has been working closely with the major mines licensing group, in the Mineral Resource Branch, to update plans and expand operations under their Quartz Mining License after years of temporary closure under previous ownership.
- The Government of Yukon holds \$14.2 million in financial security for the project. A new security determination will be made in 2026.
- The Keno Hill Silver District Mining Operation Extension and Power Back-Up Project is undergoing a YESAB executive committee screening. This extension would increase production rates, extend the life of the mine, expand existing underground workings and construct a thermal power generating station. Amendments to existing authorizations will be required.

Coffee Gold Mine Project

- The Coffee Gold Project is a proposed open pit and heap leach gold mine about 130 km south of Dawson City with a projected 10-year mine life.
- The project is currently in the regulatory phase. There are numerous authorizations required for this project and its access road. The quartz mining license application is currently undergoing detailed review and consultation.

Kudz Ze Kayah Mine Project

- The Kudz Ze Kayah mine project is a proposed open pit and underground silver, zinc, lead, copper and gold mine located approximately 115 km southeast of Ross

River, within the asserted traditional territories of the Liard First Nation and Ross River Dena Council.

- Two decision documents have been issued for this project. Both were set aside by the courts based on inadequate consultation. The third decision document is currently in consultation, led by Major Projects Yukon, Executive Council Office.
- Yukon government regulatory reviews have progressed while valid decision documents were in place. Currently, regulatory processes are paused while consultation efforts are underway and will only resume if a valid decision document approving the project is issued.

Minto Mine

- The Minto Mine is currently under receivership and managed by the Assessment and Abandoned Mines Branch.
- Selkirk Copper, an exploration company partially owned by the Selkirk First Nation, has a framework agreement in place with the Yukon government regarding the transfer of assets and authorizations. Selkirk Copper will decide in 2026 whether to pursue the “restart” of the mine.

Casino

- Western Copper and Gold, through their 100% owned subsidiary Casino Mining Corp., is proposing the development of the Casino Project, a large-scale copper, gold, molybdenum and silver mine located approximately 150 km northwest of Carmacks in west-central Yukon. If approved, it will be one of the largest mines in Canada.
- Casino Mining Corp. have submitted their Casino Project for the first-ever YESAB Panel of the Board Review.
- Government of Yukon involvement in the assessment process is led by Major Projects Yukon, [Executive Council Office](#).

Session Briefing Note
Mining Projects of Note

#21
Fall 2025
Energy, Mines and
Resources

Approved by:

Sierra van der Meer

December 17, 2025

Deputy Minister,
Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

Recommended response:

- Placer mining is a key part of Yukon's economy and contributes to the well-being of people and businesses in many Yukon communities.
- As placer gold reporting continues throughout the winter, the 2025 season is situated to be one of the most productive seasons since the mid-1980s.
- We are committed to increasing Resource Royalty Retention by working with Yukon First Nations and the Government of Canada to retain more resource royalties for Yukoners and prioritizing benefits for communities most affected by projects.
- We are committed to working with industry and First Nations to protect heritage resources and conserve wetlands while supporting the placer mining sector.

Additional response:

- Implementing changes to the inspections and compliance regime will ensure placer mines are operated safely and in a manner that ensures future generations are left with strong economic legacies versus environmental liabilities.
- We are ensuring that the permitting backlog is being addressed as efficiently as possible and modernizing the workflow for placer permits to prevent future backlogs.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- The Yukon's placer industry is growing amid rising gold prices and favorable mining conditions. Class 3 and 4 placer projects are experiencing permitting delays due to the 10-year authorization cycle of project applications and increased consultation obligations.
- Platform commitment: Increasing Resource Royalty Retention by working with Yukon First Nations and the Government of Canada to retain more resource royalties for Yukoners and prioritizing benefits for communities most affected by projects.

Background:

- From April 1, 2025, to November 1, 2025, the Yukon's total reported placer gold production was 104,367 crude ounces, worth \$401.6 million. That is up from the Yukon's 2024 placer gold production, which was 98,683 crude ounces worth \$284 million.

Placer Permitting

- As of October 2025, there are a total of 33,254 active placer claims and 213 active placer leases across the Yukon.
- Mineral Resources Branch is taking steps to address the permitting backlog for placer and quartz projects. This has included hiring temporary staff, establishing clear due dates and timelines for consultation, and upgrading systems to support improved tracking and permitting of projects.

Placer Royalties

- Class 3 and 4 placer mines pay a royalty on all gold exported from the Yukon.
- The royalty is fixed at \$0.375 per ounce, based on 2.5% of a legislated gold value set at \$15 per ounce. Because this value is not tied to current market prices, the royalty amount has remained unchanged since 1906 and has not kept up with current gold values.

- From April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025, Yukon placer mining generated \$284 million in revenue from about 99,000 crude ounces of gold. Yukon Government collected \$36,000 in royalties.

Heritage

- Heritage potential polygons on placer claims are established to protect areas that have a high probability of heritage resources.
- For projects on a 10-year licence renewal cycle, like placer, it is not uncommon for polygons to be updated when reapplying for permits or amending authorizations.
- The KPMA stated in the 2025 spring meetings that the volume of heritage polygons has increased to the point of making projects economically unfeasible.

Wetlands

- A Policy for the Stewardship of Yukon's Wetlands was released in January 2023. It contains 16 implementation actions with near-term, mid-term, and long-term implementation targets over the next 10 years.
- Work is underway to support placer miners by mapping wetlands in placer areas and developing clear guidance materials to assist in wetland conservation planning during placer licence applications.
- Operators with a requirement for wetland reclamation plans cannot work in wetlands until a wetland reclamation plan has been approved.

Approved by:**Sierra van der Meer****November 27, 2025**

Deputy Minister,
Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

Recommended response:

- The Collaborative Stewardship Initiative is a partnership with Kluane First Nation, Kwanlin Dün First Nation, Selkirk First Nation and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in.
- We value working together with Yukon First Nations to enhance environmental stewardship, information sharing and monitoring across the Yukon.

Additional response:

- Natural Resource Officers routinely conduct joint inspections with interested First Nations. For example, in the summer 2025, they conducted bi-weekly visits to the Eagle Gold Mine with members of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun plus some inspections of placer operations on Mayo Lake.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- Yukon First Nations have expressed interest in participating in joint compliance monitoring efforts under the Yukon's natural resource legislation.
- Platform commitment: Implementing Changes to the Inspections and Compliance Regime to ensure that mines are operating safely and in a manner that ensures future generations are left with strong economic legacies versus environmental liabilities.

Background:

- The Collaborative Stewardship Initiative is an effort to develop an approach to how First Nation governments and the Compliance Monitoring and Inspections (CMI) branch can work together, learn from one another, and increase compliance monitoring capacity across Yukon on both settlement lands and public land.

Session Briefing Note
Collaborative Stewardship

#23
Fall 2025
Energy, Mines and Resources

- This initiative in its current state is a partnership between CMI and four Yukon First Nations: Kluane First Nation, Kwanlin Dün First Nation, Selkirk First Nation and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in. Energy, Mines and Resources employs a similar approach to collaboration with First Nations throughout the territory.
- The Collaborative Stewardship Initiative is in its fifth year. Activities focus on inspection processes and procedures, information-sharing, water quality monitoring, cross-training and joint fieldwork.
- The success of the Collaborative Stewardship Initiative has resulted in additional interest in participation from other Yukon First Nations such as Champagne and Aishihik First Nations, and we are working with them in a similar capacity.
- The initiative does not cover investigations, enforcement or reciprocal legal action (i.e., prosecution) under either Yukon or Yukon First Nations laws, nor does it involve wildlife management or harvesting issues.
- Through the work with Yukon First Nations partners, the initiative could expand in four areas:
 - Additional participation on compliance inspections;
 - Knowledge and skill transfer related to compliance promotion;
 - Training opportunities for Yukon First Nations; and
 - Yukon First Nations-led, community-based water quality monitoring.

Approved by:

Sierra van der Meer

Deputy Minister,
Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

November 28, 2025

Date approved

**Mineral Staking Prohibitions
in Response to Litigation**

Executive Council Office

Recommended response:

- Mineral staking prohibitions are in place in the Kaska asserted traditional territory in the Yukon in response to the court declarations made in the Ross River Dena Council and Kaska Dena Council mining cases.
- These staking prohibitions are intended to allow time to advance discussions with the Kaska First Nations about how best to address the court declarations regarding mineral staking, exploration and development.
- A mineral staking prohibition is also in place for the Áashú [a-shoo] Lands and surrounding area in the southern Yukon to support our ongoing discussions with the Taku River Tlingit First Nation about the court declarations and their land interests in the Yukon.

Additional response:

- The Government of Yukon may choose to implement staking prohibitions in response to litigation or to allow time for discussions with Indigenous governments to address various matters, including land use planning.
- We will work with First Nations to develop new mineral legislation. These discussions will address many of the issues raised in the court cases.
(ECO #20)
- The mineral staking prohibition in place for land parcel R-137B was extended to uphold the court declarations to allow for related discussions with the Kaska First Nations.

Context — this may be an issue because:

- Mineral staking prohibitions remain a focus of discussions with affected First Nations and are of interest to other First Nations, industry and stakeholders.

Background:

- In 2012, the Yukon Court of Appeal made two declarations with respect to the Ross River Dena Council v. Yukon (2012 YKCA 14) mining case: (1) the Yukon government

**Mineral Staking Prohibitions
in Response to Litigation**

Executive Council Office

(YG) has a duty to consult with Ross River Dena Council (RRDC) in determining whether mineral rights on Crown lands within the Ross River Area are to be made available to third parties under the provisions of the Quartz Mining Act; and, (2) YG has a duty to notify and, where appropriate, consult with and accommodate RRDC before allowing any mineral exploration activities to take place within the Ross River Area.

- In 2013, YG took steps to comply with the second declaration by amending the Quartz Mining Act and Placer Mining Act to implement a new regime for Class 1 mining activities.
- In 2014, both the Taku River Tlingit First Nation (TRTFN) and Kaska Dena Council (KDC) started court proceedings seeking the same declarations for their respective asserted traditional territories in the Yukon. The declarations were granted by consent.
- The mineral staking prohibition in the Ross River Area was initiated in 2013 and expires on April 30, 2026.
- The mineral staking prohibition specifically for R-137B, the Liard First Nation Interim Protected Land parcel within the Ross River Area, expires on November 30, 2026.
- The mineral staking prohibition in the southern portion of the Kaska asserted traditional territory in the Yukon was initiated in 2017 and expires on April 30, 2026.
- The mineral staking prohibition associated with the former Áashú Village site was initiated in 2019 and expires on April 30, 2026. A land disposition prohibition is also in place for the same area and duration.
- The three mineral staking prohibitions in the Kaska and TRTFN asserted traditional territories cover approximately 23 per cent of the Yukon.
- Additional staking prohibitions are in place for reasons such as land use planning, to create parks and protected areas, or to disallow staking within municipal boundaries.
- About 53 per cent of the total area of the Yukon is currently under a prohibition.

Approved by:

KL

November 28, 2025

Deputy Minister, Executive Council Office

Date approved

Truth and Reconciliation Commission Executive Council
– Update on Calls to Action Office**Recommended response:**

- Reconciliation is an ongoing process and a shared responsibility of all governments and individuals in the Yukon.
- Advancing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action is central to our government's commitment to reconciliation.
- We will continue to collaborate and work in partnership with Indigenous governments and groups on advancing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action to create meaningful change and better programs and services for Yukon First Nations Peoples and all Yukoners.

Additional response:

- We are tracking our actions and initiatives in addressing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- It has been 10 years since the report and Calls to Action were published. The Official Opposition may ask for an update on the government's progress in addressing the Calls to Action.

Background:

- Released in 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC)'s report Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future contains 94 Calls to Action on redressing the harms resulting from residential schools and creating better relations between the federal, provincial and territorial governments and Indigenous Peoples. There are 32 Calls to Action that relate directly to YG.
- YG and YFNs collaborated on addressing the Calls to Action under the 2017 Yukon Forum Joint Priority Action Plan and through other reconciliation initiatives, such as supporting the important work of the YFN-led Yukon Residential Schools and Missing Children Project.
- YG has taken additional steps to address the Calls to Action, including:
 - establishing the position of Assistant Deputy Minister of First Nations Initiatives at the Department of Education, signing an agreement to establish a YFN School Board and entering into education agreements with all YFNs (speaks to Calls 7 and 10 directed to the federal government);
 - supporting Indigenous athletes and the North American Indigenous Games (Call 88);

Truth and Reconciliation Commission **Executive Council**
– Update on Calls to Action **Office**

- implementing the YFN Procurement Policy (relates to Call 92) and the Representative Public Service Plan: Breaking Trail Together (relates to Call 7);
- working with YFNs and Yukon Indigenous women's groups to implement the Yukon's Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2-Spirit+ People Strategy (MMIWG2S+ Strategy) (relates to Call 41);
- participating at the Trilateral Table on the Wellbeing of YFN Children and Families to address gaps for culturally appropriate parenting programs (Call 5); and
- receiving input from YFNs on Health and Social Services programming through the Mental Health Advisory Committee (relates to Call 19).

- YG last reported on its progress to implement the TRC Calls to Action in fall 2023 through a status report and Pathways magazine. The magazine and report provided an update on the actions being taken across YG and in collaboration with YFN governments in areas including child welfare, health, education and justice.

Approved by:

KL

November 28, 2025

Deputy Minister, Executive Council Office

Date Approved

2025-26 Supplementary Estimates No. 1 – CORPORATE

Finance

Recommended response:

- By bringing these Supplementary Estimates to the Legislative Assembly for debate, we are providing transparency to the public about how the government is allocating taxpayer dollars.
- These Supplementary Estimates serve as an update on spending from the previous government, to fulfill the obligations and contracts already committed to by departments for the current fiscal year.
- We want to increase transparency and accountability around spending, rather than relying on special warrants for the remainder of the year.
- We look forward to bringing forward a budget this spring that we have had the opportunity to shape, and that is reflective of our priorities and commitments to Yukoners.

Contingencies

- Our guiding principle has been that these Supplementary Estimates will provide the resources needed by departments to take them to the end of the fiscal year, without requiring further changes or dependence on additional spending.
- There is a provisional contingency for price and volumes pressures, including inflation, increased demand for public services, and potential wage increases resulting from ongoing collective bargaining.
- There is also a general contingency to ensure compliance with financial authorities. These contingencies are included to ensure all departments remain within their voted budgets for the fiscal year given the potential for unforeseen pressures.

**2025-26 Supplementary
Estimates No. 1 – CORPORATE**

Finance

Summary:

- The 2025-26 Supplementary Estimates No. 1 forecasts an overall gross increase of \$150.4 million in O&M spending, with an offsetting increase of \$8.3 million in recoveries. The net increase in O&M spending is forecast at \$142.0 million when accounting for recoveries.
- Capital adjustments in the Supplementary Estimates No. 1 reflect an overall increase of \$1.0 million in spending and a \$1.6 million increase in capital recoveries. This results in a net decrease in capital spending of \$594 thousand.
- Budgetary revenues are projected to increase by \$5.9 million, primarily due to a \$5.7 million increase in accrued interest on loans to the Receiver for Victoria Gold Corporation.
- The Government of Yukon continues to maintain a budgetary surplus forecast for 2025-26 of \$12.5 million, revised down from the \$82.0 million forecast in the Main Estimates.

FTEs:

- There is an increase of 71.2 FTEs or “Full-Time Equivalents” in the Supplementary Estimates. This is primarily for 57.3 FTEs in Education, including teachers, Educational Assistants, and other positions to provide enhanced support for students.
- This increase also includes 11.4 positions in Health and Social Services for both frontline and administrative positions, and small personnel additions to the Department of Justice (2 FTEs) and the Public Service Commission (0.5 FTEs).

2025–26 Supplementary Estimates No. 1 – CORPORATE

Finance

Borrowing:

- Total anticipated territorial borrowing was \$773.9 million in the 2025–26 Main Estimates, inclusive of \$400 million in long-term borrowing authorized in the First Appropriation Act 2025–26. We expect to proceed with the second tranche of this borrowing in the spring, using the remaining \$200 million authorized.
- Significant energy infrastructure pressures require an increase of \$100 million to the Yukon Development Corporation's short-term borrowing limit. This includes \$50 million authorized by the previous government, and an additional \$50 million being authorized by this government to address critical work in Mayo.
- Other factors include a decrease of \$966,000 in a loan payable by Yukon University and a \$3.15 million increase in accrued interest payable.
- Revised estimated total borrowing in 2025–26 is \$876.1 million. This leaves \$323.9 million available within the \$1.2 billion borrowing limit.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- The 2025-26 Second Appropriation Act will be tabled during the fall sitting.

Background:

- Supplementary estimates are introduced by the government to account for unforeseen spending at the time of tabling the annual Budget.

Approved by:

Katherine White

December 8, 2025

Deputy Minister, Finance

Date approved

Session Briefing Note
Energy ProgramsEnergy, Mines and
Resources**Recommended response:**

- We are committed to working with the territory's utilities to deliver energy programs that provide energy resiliency through a stable electrical grid, while lowering costs for Yukoners and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- This includes updating the Independent Power Producer Policy (IPP) to prioritize dependable generation while creating economic opportunities for Yukoners, and determining the conditions required to restart the Microgeneration Policy.
- We will consult on options to expand the Good Energy Program for energy infrastructure such as household backup batteries, heat pumps and other resilient infrastructure.

Additional response:

- Energy, Mines and Resources works closely with the Yukon Development Corporation and utilities to plan for current and future energy demand and to explore options for grid modernization.
- We will continue working with partners to advance the Yukon-B.C Grid Connect Project over the long term while addressing immediate pressures on our isolated grid.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- Yukoners have indicated concerns about grid power outages, concerns on energy supply, and increasing electricity prices.

Session Briefing Note

Energy Programs

Energy, Mines and
Resources

- Platform theme: Keeping the Lights On: Making Energy Reliable and Affordable.
Specific commitments:
 - Consulting to expand the Good Energy Program for energy infrastructure such as household backup batteries, heat pumps and other resilient infrastructure.
 - Launching Energy Efficiency Programs for Homes and Businesses, including rebates for retrofits and audits (...) to reduce overall energy demand without compromising affordability.
 - Reconsidering policies that strain and destabilize the Yukon's vulnerable energy grid, such as subsidies and an over-reliance on electrification, and replace them with Phased Incentives Tied to Grid Capacity Upgrades.

Background:

High-performance buildings (new and existing)

- Yukoners can access the Better Buildings Program and Good Energy rebates to assist with the cost of comprehensive energy retrofits.

Electric Vehicles

- The Yukon government currently offers incentives for the purchase of electric transportation devices including vehicles, bikes, and ATVs.

Renewable heating

- The department's energy programs support residential heat pump installations and heat pumps in commercial and institutional buildings.
- The department supports commercial and institutional biomass projects through its energy incentive programs.

Micro-Generation Program

Session Briefing Note

Energy Programs

Energy, Mines and
Resources

- While the micro-generation program has been paused since December 2023, Energy Branch continues to administer reimbursements to existing clients who export energy to Yukon's electrical grids.
- See micro-gen BN #28.

Approved by:

Sierra van der Meer

November 27, 2025

Deputy Minister,

Date approved

Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

Recommended response:

- We are committed to increasing the capacity of energy generation in the Yukon.
- One way we plan to make energy reliable and affordable is to determine and communicate the conditions required to restart the Microgeneration Policy.
- The micro-generation program is currently not accepting new applications.

Additional response:

- Since the micro-generation program was paused, inverter settings have been installed to approximately 90% of all micro-generation systems, to help address grid reliability challenges.
- We will work with the Utilities and use information from studies conducted to inform conditions necessary for restart.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- Grid power outages, energy supply, and increasing electricity prices have been reported by the Yukon's media.
- Platform commitment: Determining and communicating the conditions required to Restart the Microgeneration Policy and consulting to expand the Good Energy

Program for energy infrastructure such as household backup batteries, heat pumps and other resilient infrastructure.

Background:

- Energy, Mines and Resources' Energy Branch's paused Micro-generation program provides incentives for small-scale renewable energy projects, enabling grid-tied residential, business, and industrial clients to connect their systems to the public utility grid.
- As of September 30, 2025, there are 10.8 megawatts (MW) DC (or 7.5 MW AC) of renewable micro-generation capacity, provided by 911 systems currently installed in the territory.
- The Energy Branch reimburses participants for excess energy exported to the grid. The anticipated expenditure for 25-26 is \$1M.
- This program supports projects with up to 50 kW AC output to grid. In some cases, this leads to larger solar arrays of up to 99 kW DC in cases of east-west arrays; however, the average array size is 11.9 kW DC.
- Energy Branch worked with both electric utilities to adjust settings of inverters within micro-generation systems to allow them to better manage grid instability events and reduce challenges for grid operators. As of November 2025, 89.4% of all micro-generation systems have successfully adjusted their inverters to these new required settings.
- Due to ongoing utility concerns, intake is currently paused until January 2026.

Session Briefing Note

Micro-generation

YDC #9/EMR #28

Fall 2025

Energy, Mines and Resources,
Yukon Development
Corporation

Approved by:

Sierra van der Meer

November 28, 2025

Deputy Minister

Date approved

Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

Gary Gazankas

November 28, 2025

President & CEO

Date approved

Yukon Development Corporation

Session Briefing Note

Electricity Demand

Energy, Mines and Resources
Yukon Development
Corporation

Recommended response:

- Yukon Development Corporation, Energy, Mines and Resources and both electric utilities are working together to plan for current and future electricity demand and reduce strain on the Yukon's vulnerable energy grid.
- We are looking to expand programs that support Yukoners to adopt energy-efficient technologies suitable for northern conditions. These programs deliver electricity savings without significantly impacting local electrical infrastructure.
- We are also evaluating existing programs to better manage energy demand while keeping costs affordable. Options include phased incentives tied to grid capacity upgrades and expanded energy efficiency programs for homes and businesses.

Additional Response:

- Electricity demand has increased over the past decade due to significant population growth and a trend towards traditional electric resistance heating systems, primarily electric baseboards and electric furnaces.
- We are working to improve demand forecasts by incorporating stakeholder input.

Context—this may be an issue because:

Session Briefing Note

Electricity Demand

Energy, Mines and Resources
Yukon Development
Corporation

- Yukoners have indicated their concern about grid power outages, electrical supply and increasing electricity prices.
- Supports platform themes: Increasing generation capacity, Mitigating demand growth.

Background:

- From 2015 to 2025, there has been a trend in new buildings and renovations to switch from oil and propane to electric resistance heating systems. This trend is due to broad economic and logistical factors.
- This trend started in the commercial sector, particularly in new construction, but quickly extended to the residential sector for several reasons:
 - Insurance companies implemented rules requiring more frequent replacement of oil tanks, leading many homeowners to switch to traditional electric resistance heating systems, specifically electric baseboard and electric furnace heating systems, for cost savings and convenience;
 - Electric resistance heating systems offer reduced maintenance requirements, reduced carbon monoxide concerns, easier and cheaper installations, and increased safety to property owners due to not requiring fuel storage; and,
 - The increase of smaller super-insulated homes inherently require much less heat, making it difficult to find suitable oil or propane heating systems small enough to operate efficiently within them.

Session Briefing Note

Electricity Demand

Energy, Mines and Resources
Yukon Development
Corporation

Approved by:

Sierra van der Meer

November 28, 2025

Deputy Minister
Department of Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

Gary Gazankas

November 28, 2025

President & CEO
Yukon Development Corporation

Date approved