



Legislative Assembly
Briefing Binder
Spring 2023

**French Language
Services Directorate**



FRENCH LANGUAGE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Legislative assembly briefing notes

SPRING 2023

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Session Briefing Note**Spring 2023****Increased offer of services and communications in French**

FLSD

Key Messages:

- We are committed to increasing access to services and communications in French.
- We significantly increased our bilingual emergency communications responsiveness by sharing information in French, including floods and wildfire information, in near real-time, even on weekends and evenings.
- We transitioned the Mental Wellness and Substance Use services into a designated point of service to support our efforts in providing consistent services in French.

Additional response:

- We deployed a new live video interpretation service to support immediate and seamless French-language services when bilingual employees are unavailable.
- A dozen easy-to-use devices are available across the Yukon, particularly in the health sector.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- Expectations from the Francophone community have increased with the signature of a \$28M agreement with the Government of Canada to fund French-language services in Yukon from 2020-21 to 2024-25.

Background:

- In the last two years, FLSD focused on streamlining its processes with departments and redesigning its programs and services to better fulfill its mandate as a central agency and support departments in complying with the Yukon Languages Act:

Session Briefing Note**Spring 2023****Increased offer of services and communications in French**

FLSD

- We started piloting designated points of service (DPS) in 2021 to provide consistent services in French (e.g., reception desks and transactional services).
- DPSs complement the designated bilingual positions (DBP), which are essential for delivering in-depth services (e.g., counselling services).
- A total of 58 DPBs strategically located across departments* provide a wide range of services in French to the public.
- FLSD commits \$350,000 annually to the Yukon Hospital Corporation to support French-language services. The Whitehorse General Hospital team counts a dozen designated bilingual staff.
- We refocused our French language training and linguistic support offer exclusively on the Government of Yukon employees to better empower them in providing service and information in French to the public.
- We started testing a revised French-language proficiency assessment to better support departments' staffing efforts. The new language skills assessment model is more flexible and based on the duties and needs of designated bilingual positions.
- We are getting ready to launch a new remote live interpretation service for targeted public events by downloading an app.

*Excluding FLSD and Whitehorse General Hospital

Approved by:

Manon Moreau, FLSD

[Date approved]

2023-03-02

Session Briefing Note**Spring 2023****Strategic framework on
French-language services and
communications 2022-25**

FLSD

Key Messages:

- The new strategic framework will build on the successes of the previous one and guide our investments to best serve the Yukon Francophone community.
- We gathered valuable input during our public engagement in December, which will help us prioritize our actions for the next two years.

Additional responses:

- We've heard that the community wants us to keep working on:
 - increasing access to healthcare services;
 - increasing our bilingual emergency communications responsiveness; and
 - improving the promotion of readily available services in French.
- We should have a new Strategic framework in place in April 2023.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- One of the mandates of Minister Streicker is to develop a new strategic framework to guide investments in services for the community in the coming years (2022-2025).
- The previous strategic framework ended on March 31, 2022, and guided our actions and decisions in 2022-23.

Background:

- In 2013, the Government of Yukon developed its first strategic framework in collaboration with the Association franco-yukonnaise (l'AFY) to clarify where we needed to focus our efforts.
- The first framework helped us set the direction and strategically work toward providing more services in French.

CONFIDENTIAL

TAB 02

Session Briefing Note

Spring 2023

**Strategic framework on
French-language services and
communications 2022-25**

FLSD

- In May 2018, the Government of Yukon expanded the consultation process and launched a public engagement to inform its second strategic framework.
- The four objectives of the 2018-2022 strategic framework are:
 - Improve access to French-language services
 - Enhance French-language communications
 - Strengthen internal capacity
 - Foster a vibrant Francophonie
- We delivered on our objectives set out in the previous strategic framework, such as:
 - We improved our bilingual emergency communications responsiveness.
 - We revamped our policy and guidelines on French-language services and communications.
 - We significantly improved the delivery of online and in-person services.
- The new strategic framework should help us map the needs of the Francophone community with the government's priorities and the funding allocated by the Government of Canada.
- We engaged in a meaningful conversation with the Francophone community in December to identify what is working well and what could be improved.
- We will publish a What we Heard report in February.

Approved by:


Manon Moreau, FLSD

2023-01-31
[Date approved]

Session Briefing Note**Spring 2023****Modernization of Canada's *Official Languages Act* and Action Plan for Official Languages 2023-2028**

FLSD

Key Messages:

- Canada's previous Action Plan for Official Languages 2018–2023 was essential to help us increase access to services and information in French.
- We are discussing the next Action Plan for Official Languages with Canada and our provincial and territorial counterparts.
- We will continue to work with the Government of Canada to map our investments on our Francophone community's priorities.

Additional responses:

- I am grateful to the Government of Canada for its support in the provision of services in French in the Yukon.
- I am pleased that Bill C-13 recognizes the importance of cooperation between the federal, provincial and territorial governments.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- The Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada (FCFA) and its members, including AFY, have high expectations for the new *Official Languages Act* and Action Plan for Official Languages 2023-2028.

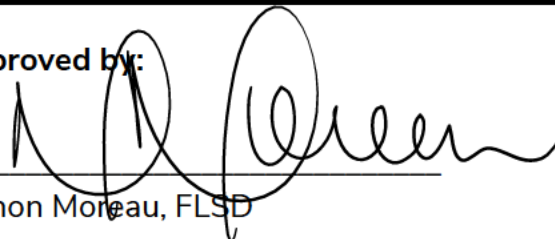
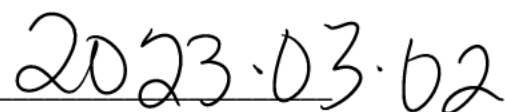
Background:

- The *Official Languages Act* (1969) is the federal statute making English and French the official languages of Canada.
- On March 1, 2022, the Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Official Languages, tabled an enhanced version of the bill to modernize the *Official Language Act*, Bill C-13, *An Act for the Substantive Equality of Canada's Official Languages*.

Session Briefing Note**Spring 2023****Modernization of Canada's *Official Languages Act* and Action Plan for Official Languages 2023-2028**

FLSD

- On May 24, 2022, the Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor launched national consultations for the next Action Plan for Official Languages. She invited her provincial and territorial counterparts to send proposals on actions to be prioritized to support the following sectors: health, justice, employment, immigration, education (the education continuum, from early childhood to post-secondary, including the recognition of teaching credentials), culture and strong institution.
- Introduced in March 2022, C-13 now sits with the House of Commons Standing Committee on Official Languages.
- We are looking forward to developing a collaborative framework to coordinate specific agreements between the governments of Canada and Yukon to improve the effectiveness of our services and programs and their impact on the Yukon Francophone community.
- We will most likely have other opportunities to work collaboratively with the Government of Canada regarding:
 - The introduction of legislation to strengthen the *Official Languages Act* (OLA), which may influence the content of the next Plan.
 - The development of the next Plan.
 - The possible development of regulations to better define the positive measures and public consultation requirements as set out in Part 7 – Advancement of English and French of the OLA.

Approved by:
Manon Morneau, FLSD
[Date approved]

Key Messages:

- We are pleased to see new investments in official languages.
- The increase for official languages in the federal budget provides a good foundation to negotiate our next Canada-Yukon agreement for French-language services.
- While we significantly increase access to French-language services through our partnership with Canada, we know there is more to do to address the many priorities of the Francophone community, particularly in health and justice.

Additional responses:

- We look forward to the new Action Plan for Official Languages 2023-2028.
- We are in the fourth year of our five-year agreement on French-language services with Canada.
- Our partnership with Canada is instrumental in delivering on our commitment to continually improve how we serve and inform the public in French.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- On March 28, the 2023 federal budget announced over \$1 billion in new investments to support official languages.
- The local and national Francophonie highly anticipates the new 2023-2028 Action Plan for Official Languages.

Session Briefing Note**Spring 2023****Federal budget and official languages****FLSD****Background:**

- Considering the existing \$2.7 billion investment in the 2018-2023 Action Plan for Official Languages, which is now ongoing and permanent, and the amounts announced in the 2023 Budget, the overall funding for official languages amounts to more than \$4 billion over five years.
- The 2023-2028 Action Plan for Official Languages will be unveiled in the coming weeks. It will present the government of Canada's priorities and approach to official languages.
- The new investments in the 2023-2028 Action Plan for Official Languages will be guided by four pillars:
 - francophone immigration (\$123.2 million)
 - official languages as a tool for economic development (\$117 million)
 - official languages at the heart of Canadian identity (\$111.4 million); and
 - Government of Canada leadership (\$22.1 million).
- In addition, funding of \$679.2 million over five years, starting in 2023-24, to Canadian Heritage is provided to support equal access to quality education services by working with provincial and territorial governments to facilitate access to quality minority-language education, second-language learning opportunities, and bilingual government services across Canada.
- An amount of \$24.5 million is provided to double the funding of the Court Challenges Program.
- The Budget also proposes to provide \$208 million over five years, starting in 2023-24, to Employment and Social Development Canada to expand employment assistance for official language minority communities.

Approved by

Manon Moreau, FLSD

2023-04-12

[Date approved]

Session Briefing Note**Spring 2023****Bilingual Health Centre (Centre de santé
Constellation Health Centre)**Health and Social
Services**Government priority:**

- We are committed to improving care for the Yukon's francophone population and expanding access to primary health care services for all Yukoners through the Constellation Health Centre.

Key messages:

- The new bilingual health centre opened its doors to Yukoners on November 7, at 102 – 4149 4th Avenue in Whitehorse (Nuvo Building).
- Constellation Health Centre (Centre de santé Constellation) is the first primary health care clinic of its kind in the Yukon and serves as a model of care to build upon in the future.
- In addition to delivering high quality health and wellness services in both French and English, the Centre provides an additional access point for primary health care services.
- The new collaborative care clinic is a recommendation of the *Putting People First* report and will be fully integrated into the broader health care system.
- This is a new access point for primary health care services for Yukoners, including the growing Francophone population, which will reduce some of the current pressures on our health care system.
- We have been working with our partners, including the Francophone community and other health system partners, to ensure this clinic responds to the needs of the community.

Session Briefing Note**Spring 2023****Bilingual Health Centre (Centre de santé
Constellation Health Centre)****Health and Social
Services**

Key facts:

- In 2023-24, we budgeted **\$2.34M** (\$2,341,913) for the Constellation Health Centre.
- As of February 15, 2023, the Centre had received 1,358 applications.
 - 491 people have been accepted as clients and are able to accessing primary health care at Constellation.
 - 860 individuals are on the waitlist. Applications continue to be assessed and triaged with intake appointments available most days.
- Once fully staffed, the clinic's staff compliment will include 1 Clinic Manager, **5** Nurse Practitioners, 1 Registered Nurse, 1 Licensed Practical Nurse, 2 Medical Office Assistants, and 1 Social Worker, and **1** full time physician.
- The clinic is currently staffed by two Nurse Practitioners, with a third starting in the coming weeks, as well as a registered nurse, and a medical office assistant who continue to deliver exceptional primary health care services to Yukoners.
- A local bilingual physician is also providing consultative support to the clinic.
- Recruitment for a full-time physician, and other vacancies are still underway.

Client Applications:

- Yukoners can now apply to become a client at the Centre de Santé Constellation Health Centre.

Session Briefing Note**Spring 2023****Bilingual Health Centre (Centre de santé
Constellation Health Centre)****Health and Social
Services**

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- We are aiming to connect as many Yukoners with primary health care services as possible through equitable and balanced client onboarding.
 - We are taking a thoughtful approach to the launch and onboarding to ensure that all clients accepted will receive high-quality care.
 - A new, separate application process was set up for Constellation Health Centre to ensure that all Yukoners wanting the opportunity to obtain primary health care services have the chance to provide relevant information and give their informed consent.
 - There continues to be an ongoing rolling intake as we work to recruit additional primary care providers and eventually move into the permanent space at 9010 Quartz Road.
 - Applications are being reviewed and prioritized by a team of professionals at the clinic.
 - Acceptance or waitlist status are informed by the capacity of the clinic's primary care providers, as well as pre-established determinants.
 - The population health determinants include a number of considerations such as current attachment to a primary care provider, complexity of care needs, and French as their primary language, amongst others.
 - If someone is not initially accepted, they will be added to the waitlist and notified when space becomes available.
 - Any openings created as a result of patient movement can be filled through the Find a Family Doctor Program or other normal avenues.
 - Yukoners can complete the online application form or access a printable version of the form on Yukon.ca.

Session Briefing Note**Spring 2023****Bilingual Health Centre (Centre de santé
Constellation Health Centre)****Health and Social
Services**

- For additional assistance, Yukoners can phone the Centre de Santé Constellation Health Centre at (867) 393-7119

Model of Care:

- The Constellation Health Centre is supported by an interdisciplinary team-based model of collaborative care, allowing clients to access a range of different care providers depending on their needs.
- This means Yukoners will be able to receive the right care by the right provider at the right time.
- Registered clients can access primary health care services by booking an appointment in advance, or by accessing same-day appointments that will be set aside for urgent or emerging primary health care needs.
- Constellation Health Centre will not provide walk-in services for un-registered clients.

Program Launch and Space:

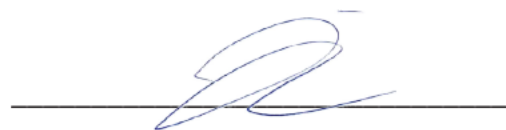
- Health and Social Services continues to work with Highways and Public Works to renovate the clinic space at 9010 Quartz Road.
- In the meantime, Constellation is open in an interim space at 102 – 4149 4th Avenue in Whitehorse.

Staffing and Recruitment:

- Recruitment is underway for positions including additional nurse practitioners, a registered nurse, a licensed practical nurse, a medical office assistant, a social worker, and a contracted physician.

Session Briefing Note**Spring 2023****Bilingual Health Centre (Centre de santé
Constellation Health Centre)**Health and Social
Services

- We continue to explore ways to strategically resource care providers to ensure as many Yukoners as possible can access the services available through the clinic.
- All vacant positions are currently being advertised via an extensive recruitment campaign both locally and nationally and the department has retained a recruitment firm that specializes in hiring hard-to-fill positions.
- Most permanent positions for the Centre require bilingual proficiency in both French and English, however not all staff will be bilingual given the challenge to recruit health care providers in midst of a health human resource crisis.
- Contracted physicians will also be expected to have proficiency in both French and English.

Approved by:

Deputy Minister, Health and Social Services

March 16, 2023

[Date approved]

Session Briefing Note**Spring 2023****Francophone Immigration**Economic
Development

Recommended response:

- Francophone immigration is a priority for the Yukon and we recognize the economic, social, cultural and demographic opportunities that French-speaking immigrants represent for the territory.
- The department is completing work on a new immigration strategy and continues to recognize and prioritize francophone immigration as a valued and important contributor to supporting the needs of Yukon employers and communities.
- The Yukon is the third most bilingual jurisdiction in Canada, making us an attractive settlement destination for francophone immigrants.
- The Government of Yukon continues to work in partnership with the Government of Canada and L'Association franco-yukonnaise (AFY) to recruit bilingual immigrants and help them integrate into Yukon communities.
- AFY was an active participant in our stakeholder engagement for the new Immigration Strategy, providing meaningful feedback that has been thoroughly considered.

Additional response:

- In 2022, 20 francophones (and their households), were approved under the Yukon Nominee Program (YNP).
- Between 2016 and 2021, the Yukon was the only Canadian jurisdiction to increase the number and proportion of those who speak predominantly French at home (up from 2.4% to 2.6%).
 - The number of Yukon residents who identified French as their exclusive first official language grew by more than 200.

Session Briefing Note

Francophone Immigration

Spring 2023

Economic
Development

- In 2021, French was the first official language spoken by 4.5% of the Yukon's population.
 - In 2021, the rate of English-French bilingualism in the Yukon was 14.2%.
 - Since 2007 when the YNP was established, 126 nominees (including their households) from French-speaking countries have been approved through the program.
 - This accounts for approximately 5.8% of the total number of Yukon nominees and exceeds the Government of Canada's goal of having francophone newcomers make up at least 4.4% of all economic immigrants settling outside Quebec.
-

Context—this may be an issue because:

- There may be a spike in interest as the Government of Canada is preparing the next *Action Plan for Official Languages 2023-28*.
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Background:

- Provinces and Territories met with IRCC on August 22, 2022, for consultations on the Action Plan for Official Languages 2023-28. Themes included:
 - A new policy on francophone immigration and the demographic weight of francophone minority communities;
 - Promotion and recruitment support in Canada and overseas;
 - Francophone and French-language teacher shortages;
 - The francophone integration pathway; and
 - The Welcoming Francophone Communities initiative.
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Session Briefing Note

Francophone Immigration

Spring 2023

Economic
Development

- Increasing francophone immigration is a high priority of the Federal-Provincial-Territorial (FPT) Vision Action Plan (VAP). The VAP outlines shared goals for immigration based on FPT collaboration, consultation, and cooperation.
- Whitehorse was selected as 1 of 14 communities across Canada under the three-year Welcoming Francophone Communities initiative. Under the initiative, AFY receives \$102,079/year (2020-24) to create programs and activities to help French-speaking newcomers feel welcomed and integrate into the community.
- The Immigration Unit has attended Destination Canada, an annual francophone recruitment fair in Paris and Brussels, since 2017, to fill labour market needs in the Yukon. Program staff participated in a virtual booth in partnership with AFY in 2020, 2021 and 2022.
- The Immigration Unit offers bilingual services for clients and is represented on the "Réseau d'immigration francophone au Yukon".
- AFY receives federal funding to provide settlement services including language instruction, orientation to healthcare, education and information on the employment sector.
- The Yukon's top source francophone countries are France, Belgium, Switzerland and Morocco.
- In addition to the YNP, some skilled francophone workers arrive through the federally administered Mobilité Francophone stream, while young francophones may arrive with federal, temporary working holiday permits.

Approved by:



Deputy Minister, Economic Development

February 3, 2023

Date approved

Session Briefing Note**Spring Session 2023****French Immersion – Programming, Enrollment and Staffing**Education

Value:

- The Department of Education offers excellent French second language programs to students, and we are working with our partners and school communities to address the long-term needs of these programs.

Recommended response:**Programming**

- Currently, the overall student demand for French Immersion programming is being met.
- The Government of Yukon plans to continue École Selkirk Elementary School as a 'dual track' English program/French Immersion school.
- We have committed to long-term planning for French as a second language programs and to create a vision statement in collaboration with the French Second Language Advisory Committee, which I understand is currently being worked on.
- This advisory body includes representation from the Department of Education, School Councils, Canadian Parents for French, school administrators and teachers.

Early French Immersion (Kindergarten):

- Early French Immersion is a popular program in Whitehorse, offered at École Whitehorse Elementary and École Selkirk Elementary.

Session Briefing Note**Spring Session 2023****French Immersion – Programming, Enrollment and Staffing**

Education

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- In response to family admission requests, two kindergarten classes, totaling 36 students, are enrolled at École Selkirk Elementary for the 2022-23 school year.
 - In the 2022-23 school year we offered 36 Kindergarten seats at Selkirk and 66 seats at École Whitehorse Elementary for a total of 102 seats.
 - Pre-registration for the 2023-24 school year closed on February 22, 2023. We are pleased to be filling three Kindergarten classes at École Whitehorse Elementary and one class of French Immersion at École Selkirk Elementary.
 - We also have capacity to accept additional applications if needed.

French Immersion teacher recruitment:

- We continue to monitor and plan for enrolment in French Immersion including the recruitment of qualified French language teachers. French language teachers are in high demand all across Canada. Recruiting for these positions remains a challenge.
- We have attended and continue to attend job fairs both in person and virtually at post-secondary institutes where we know there are qualified French language teachers, to help with targeting our recruitment efforts.
- We have also increased advertising on job boards in post-secondary institutions that offer French language education programming.
- We have continued with pooled competitions and early posting for teaching positions in French Immersion Elementary schools for the

Session Briefing Note**Spring Session 2023****French Immersion – Programming, Enrollment and Staffing**

Education

2023-24 school year, thanks to the dedication of our school administrators and superintendents.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- There have been requests to expand French Immersion programming.
- École Whitehorse Elementary facility replacement project was announced June 2022.
- F.H. Collins is the in-catchment area school for all Yukon Education French Immersion Students.

Background:Programming

- French Immersion is a popular program in Whitehorse, and is offered at École Whitehorse Elementary, École Selkirk Elementary and F. H. Collins Secondary School.
- École Whitehorse Elementary is a 'single track' school offering only French Immersion programs. Selkirk Elementary and F. H. Collins are 'dual track' schools meaning that both French Immersion and English language programs are available.
- The balance of instructional time between the two languages may differ at Selkirk vs Whitehorse Elementary, but the long-term outcomes are the same.

Early French Immersion (Kindergarten)

- The Kindergarten registration information night was held virtually on January 25, 2023
- Kindergarten French Immersion Pre-registration was open from February 1st to February 22nd, 2023.
- As of February 28, 2023, Selkirk Elementary school has 13 Kindergarten registrations and Whitehorse Elementary school has 53 Kindergarten registrations, for a total of 66 Kindergarten registrations.

Session Briefing Note**Spring Session 2023****French Immersion – Programming, Enrollment and Staffing**

Education

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- For the 2023-24 school year, we had committed to 84 spaces (18 at Selkirk Elementary school and 66 at Whitehorse Elementary school.)
 - A lottery system won't be necessary this year because the demand for Early French Immersion registration did not exceed capacity.
 - As of February 28, 2023, Selkirk Elementary has 35 Kindergarten students (1 seat available) and École Whitehorse Elementary School has 65 Kindergarten students (1 seat available).
 - We anticipate French Immersion seats available to families wishing to enroll their child at the Grade 1 level.
 - For the 2022-23 school year, we committed 102 spaces (36 at Selkirk Elementary school and 66 at Whitehorse Elementary school) in French Immersion Kindergarten classes.
 - Since 2015/16, when the demand for Early French Immersion registration exceeded capacity, the department has used a lottery system for admission to these programs, run with Canadian Parents for French.
 - Every year since the lottery process has been in place, all students have been able to enroll in French Immersion in Kindergarten or Grade 1.

French Immersion teacher recruitment

- Part of the hiring process includes language testing by the French Language Services Directorate. They work closely with the Department of Education to ensure this testing is prioritized.
- As of February 28, 2023, we have 1 French Immersion teacher vacancy at Selkirk and 1 French Immersion teacher vacancy at ÉWES. These teaching assignments are being covered by other staff on a temporary basis.
- Enrolment in F.H. Collins Secondary School's FI program is expected to increase when Selkirk's French Immersion students reach Grade 8 (2023-2024).
- Retention in French Immersion drops in high school, so the demand for French Immersion is currently forecasted to be met by the program at F.H. Collins Secondary.
- CSSC Mercier has increased enrolment, which results in lower enrolment of EET students in French Immersion at FH Collins.

Session Briefing Note**Spring Session 2023****French Immersion – Programming, Enrollment and Staffing**

Education

- A commitment has been made between the Department of Education (French Programs Unit) to work with Canadian Parents for French in Yukon to jointly support an initiative focused on recruitment of French Second Language teachers.

French Second Language Advisory Committee:

- The French Second Language Advisor Committee was formed in 2010 to strengthen FSL education in Yukon.
- This advisory body includes representation from the Department of Education, School Councils, Canadian Parents for French, school administrators and teachers.
- Education has committed to long-term planning for French as a second language programs and to create a vision statement in collaboration with the French Second Language Advisory Committee.
- A draft Vision, Mission and Principles statement was created last March but was paused as one member required additional time to finalize. The Department of Education is prioritizing finalizing the document with the committee at their upcoming May meeting.

Approved by:**Mary Cameron****4/5/2023**_____
Deputy Minister, Department of Education_____
Date approved

Session Briefing Note**Spring Session 2023****CSFY Request for School in Dawson****Education**

Value:

- We work collaboratively with the Commission scolaire francophone du Yukon – CSFY – to support the learning needs of French First Language students and the path for the administration of French First Language education in the territory.

Recommended response:

- Work continues in respect to CSFY's request for the establishment of a French First language school in Dawson City.
- This is a priority for the Francophone school board and Francophone parents in Dawson, and our government recognizes their interest in expanding French First language schooling in the Yukon.
- We are working with the CSFY, as well as Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in under section 17.7 of its Self-Government Agreement, on French First language programming in Dawson.

Additional response:

- This school year, French First language students in Dawson have access to enhanced activities through the École Nomade home schooling program.
- The CSFY and the Department of Education have established an effective working relationship and officials will continue to navigate and approach the work ahead in a good way.
- There are many steps involved and we are committed to working collaboratively with our partners.

Session Briefing Note**Spring Session 2023****CSFY Request for School in Dawson****Education**

Context—this may be an issue because:

- CSFY has requested that a French first language school be established in Dawson City.

Background:

- The feasibility study submitted on February 28, 2022, to the Minister of Education, remains under review, as the Department of Education continues to assess the feasibility of the proposed program.
- Under s.23 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, French and English linguistic minorities in Canada have a constitutional right to publicly funded primary and secondary school education in their own language, where the number of rights holders warrant.
- The government is legally obliged to both address CSFY's request under O.I.C. 2016/156 and address Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in's concerns through negotiations under section 17.7 of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Self-Government Agreement.
- In response to CSFY's request for an update on this initiative, Minister McLean and the DM met with CSFY's officials and trustees on December 9, 2022.
- In December 2022, a permanent teacher was hired for the École Nomade home schooling program. This teacher began on February 6, 2023. The main duties are to provide support and services to families in Dawson enrolled in école Nomade. This will include support to parents for home schooling and after school activities.
- On September 27, 2022, CSFY submitted an update to the section of the Feasibility Study concerning the potential number of students for a French First Language school in Dawson.
- At that time, CSFY communicated a preference to pause the Dawson Francophone School Committee meetings until the Government approves the updated Feasibility Study report.
- 15 right-holder students (Category 1 and 2) from Kindergarten to Grade 4 are pre-registered for the 2023-2024 school year.
- On December 16, 2022, Statistics Canada released the regional, 2021 Census results, which for the first time identified minority French language rights holders. This shows a total of 40 school-aged children (0-19) in Dawson, and 20 in the

Session Briefing Note**Spring Session 2023****CSFY Request for School in Dawson****Education**

grades CSFY seeks to establish. This provides baseline data for identifying future population trends.

- CSFY originally requested that the school be established by August 2022. They publicly announced on March 24th (blog) and April 4th (CBC) that the project was proceeding for the start of the 2022-23 school year.
- On July 5th, CSFY sent a letter to Dawson parents to inform them of CSFY's decision to delay the opening of the Francophone school.
- CSFY has rented a space that will allow them to offer resources in French for families through the home education program as well as to continue offering organized activities for families and their children.
- On May 25, 2022, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in expressed concerns about the potential impact to its citizens on the establishment of a French First Language program in Dawson.
- Department officials continue to meet with Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in officials to address their concerns.

Approved by:**Mary Cameron****3/1/2023**_____
Deputy Minister, Department of Education_____
Date approved

Honourable Speaker,

I am pleased to present the French Language Services Directorate Budget for 2023-24.

We are entering the fourth year of our five-year agreement with the Government of Canada for French-language services. This \$28M agreement allows us to deliver on our commitment and build on our successes to keep improving how we serve, inform and engage with the public in French. I want to thank the Government of Canada for its ongoing financial support.

The following estimates include Canada's contribution of \$5.75M for 2023-24 and our investment of just over \$1M.

The French Language Services Directorate forecasts Operation and Maintenance spending of \$6.805M, which is a \$50K decrease from last year.

Both expenditures and recoveries have decreased by \$50K due to the successful completion of a two-year agreement with Société santé en français to support the Yukon Francophone community in carrying out health-related projects.

Of the \$6.805M:

- 45% of the budget is allocated to support the Directorate's operations
- 45% is invested in supporting the government-wide delivery of French-language services and information to the public; and
- 10% will support public bodies and Yukon Francophone community organizations through government transfers.

Of the total \$3.071M budget for the Directorate's operations, we allocated \$2.462M to the Directorate's own personnel. The Directorate's team is dedicated to supporting, empowering and collaborating with departments and public bodies to serve and inform the public in French. They do so by providing a full breath of centralized services which include:

- language policy and planning advice to help departments provide services in French;
- translation of documents impacting the daily life of Yukoners;
- managing the government's web and social media presence in French; and
- conducting tailored French-language training and assessments.

We also budgeted \$609K for the Other allotment for FLSD's Operation and Maintenance expenses.

As for the financial support provided to departments, the Directorate allocated \$2.386M to fund designated bilingual positions and designated points of service and \$730K for operational costs to support initiatives that include advertising and design of communications products.

We will invest a total of \$618K to support public bodies and Yukon Francophone community organizations through government transfers. We will transfer \$434K to public bodies such as the Yukon Hospital Corporation to support their efforts in increasing access to services in French and \$184K to directly support the vitality of the Yukon Francophone community. This includes the \$50K investment in the Quebec-Yukon Intergovernmental Cooperation Program to support local community projects.

Honourable Speaker, these brief comments highlight the key components of the Directorate's budget and its planned activities for 2023-24

I look forward to answering any questions the members may have on the 2023-24 budget for the French Language Services Directorate.

FRENCH LANGUAGE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

VOTE 27
FRENCH LANGUAGE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

MINISTER

Hon. J. Streicker

DEPUTY MINISTER

M. Moreau

- Support, empower and collaborate with departments and other public bodies to provide services and information to the public in French.

SUMMARY (\$000s)	2023-24 ESTIMATE	Comparable		
		2022-23 FORECAST	2022-23 ESTIMATE	2021-22 ACTUAL
Amounts to be Appropriated				
Operation and Maintenance (Vote 27-1)	6,805	6,855	6,855	6,493
Capital (Vote 27-2)	0	0	0	0
Total Appropriations	6,805	6,855	6,855	6,493

CORE SERVICES OF THE DIRECTORATE

The French Language Services Directorate (FLSD) supports, empowers and collaborates with departments and other public bodies to provide services and information to the public in French. This is done by:

- Providing analysis of French-language services to ensure the support provided fits the goals and operations of departments.
- Providing French-language training to empower employees in delivering services.
 - Includes language assessments and customized language training.
- Providing translation services reflecting a single voice of the Government of Yukon in French and advise on communicating with the public in French.

ALIGNMENT WITH ENDURING PRIORITIES/MANDATE LETTER

Enduring priorities:

- **Yukoners live healthier, happy lives.**
 - Supporting departments in offering services and information in French, with a priority on health-related programs and services.
- **Yukoners are supported by an accountable government.**
 - Enabling YG to be citizen-centred.

Mandate letter:

- Open a bilingual health centre to improve care for the Yukon's francophone population.
 - FLSD continues to support the Department of Health and Social Services with the Centre de santé Constellation Health Centre which opened in November 2022.
- Develop a new strategic framework to guide investments in services for the community in the coming years.
 - FLSD is working to map the needs of the francophone community with the government's priorities and the funding allocated by the Government of Canada.

KEY BUDGET CHANGES FROM 2022-2023

\$(50,000) O&M decrease:

- \$(50,000) decrease due to the completion of a two-year agreement of the same amount with Société Santé en français for Francophone health projects.

FRENCH LANGUAGE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

FRENCH LANGUAGE SERVICES

- To provide analysis of French-language services to ensure the support provided fits the goals and operations of departments.
- To provide French-language training to empower employees in delivering services, which includes language assessments and customized language training.
- To provide translation services reflecting a single voice of the Government of Yukon in French and advise on communicating with the public in French.

PROGRAM SUMMARY (\$000s)	2023-24 ESTIMATE	Comparable		
		2022-23 FORECAST	2022-23 ESTIMATE	2021-22 ACTUAL
Amounts included in the Appropriation				
Operation and Maintenance (Vote 27-1)				
Administration	6,805	6,855	6,855	6,493
Total included in the Appropriation	6,805	6,855	6,855	6,493
Summary of Appropriation by Allotment				
Personnel	4,848	5,058	5,058	4,149
Other	1,339	1,134	1,134	1,784
Government Transfers	618	663	663	560
Total included in the Appropriation	6,805	6,855	6,855	6,493

SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATION BY ALLOTMENT

Personnel	\$4,848,000
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FUNDING DISTRIBUTION & DESCRIPTION

\$4,848,000 - Personnel Costs

\$2,462,000 FLSD Personnel Costs

- There are 25.0 FTEs in the Directorate

\$2,386,000 Salary support to other departments (18.2 FTE)

- FLSD supports designated bilingual positions and designated points of service in other departments

KEY BUDGET CHANGES FROM 2022-2023

\$210,000 increase:

- \$(278,000) decrease in FLSD personnel costs; and
 - \$68,000 increase in salary support to other departments
- due to reallocation of amounts based on historical and projected actuals.

FRENCH LANGUAGE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

FRENCH LANGUAGE SERVICES

- To provide analysis of French-language services to ensure the support provided fits the goals and operations of departments.
- To provide French-language training to empower employees in delivering services, which includes language assessments and customized language training.
- To provide translation services reflecting a single voice of the Government of Yukon in French and advise on communicating with the public in French.

PROGRAM SUMMARY (\$000s)	2023-24 ESTIMATE	Comparable		
		2022-23 FORECAST	2022-23 ESTIMATE	2021-22 ACTUAL
Amounts included in the Appropriation				
Operation and Maintenance (Vote 27-1)				
Administration	6,805	6,855	6,855	6,493
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Government Transfers	618	663	663	560
Total included in the Appropriation	6,805	6,855	6,855	6,493

SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATION BY ALLOTMENT

Other	\$1,339,000
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FUNDING DISTRIBUTION & DESCRIPTION

\$1,339,000 - Operating and Support Costs

- \$609,000 O&M for FLSD including:
 - \$240,000 for office lease
 - The remainder of O&M includes costs related to professional contracts, travel, supplies, communication initiatives, as well as sundry expenses.
- \$730,000 support to other Government of Yukon departments including:
 - \$350,000 for translation contracts
 - The remainder includes costs related to print material, advertising, documents, updated technology, program delivery and other products and services in French.

KEY BUDGET CHANGES FROM 2022-2023

\$205,000 increase:

- \$(5,000) decrease in FLSD operating costs; and
- \$210,000 increase in support to other departments bilingual projects due to reallocation of amounts based on historical and projected actuals.

FRENCH LANGUAGE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

FRENCH LANGUAGE SERVICES

- To provide analysis of French-language services to ensure the support provided fits the goals and operations of departments.
- To provide French-language training to empower employees in delivering services, which includes language assessments and customized language training.
- To provide translation services reflecting a single voice of the Government of Yukon in French and advise on communicating with the public in French.

PROGRAM SUMMARY (\$000s)	2023-24 ESTIMATE	Comparable		
		2022-23 FORECAST	2022-23 ESTIMATE	2021-22 ACTUAL
Amounts included in the Appropriation				
Operation and Maintenance (Vote 27-1)				
Administration	6,805	6,855	6,855	6,493
Total included in the Appropriation	6,805	6,855	6,855	6,493
Summary of Appropriation by Allotment				
Personnel	4,848	5,058	5,058	4,149
Other	1,339	1,134	1,134	1,784
Government Transfers	618	663	663	560
Total included in the Appropriation	6,805	6,855	6,855	6,493

SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATION BY ALLOTMENT

Government Transfers	\$618,000
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FUNDING DISTRIBUTION & DESCRIPTION

\$184,000 - FLSD Administration - Transfer Payments Costs

- \$125,000 Association franco-yukonnaise - French language training
- \$50,000 Quebec-Yukon Intergovernmental Cooperation Program
- \$5,000 Association franco-yukonnaise - Yukon Francophonie Day
- \$4,000 Ministers' Council on the Canadian Francophonie

\$434,000 - French-Language Community Support

- \$350,000 Yukon Hospital Corporation
- \$84,000 Other unallocated

KEY BUDGET CHANGES FROM 2022-2023

\$(45,000) decrease:

- \$(50,000) decrease for Francophone health projects due to the completion of a two-year agreement of the same amount as a recovery from Société Santé en français.
- \$5,000 increase for French-language training agreement with Association franco-yukonnaise.

FRENCH LANGUAGE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

REVENUES (\$000s)	2023-24 ESTIMATE	Comparable		
		2022-23 FORECAST	2022-23 ESTIMATE	2021-22 ACTUAL
THIRD-PARTY RECOVERIES				
Operation and Maintenance				
Prior Years' Recoveries	0	50	50	237
Total Third-Party Recoveries	0	50	50	237
RECOVERIES FROM CANADA				
Operation and Maintenance				
Canadian Heritage	5,750	5,750	5,750	5,500
Prior Years' Recoveries	0	0	0	212
Total Recoveries from Canada	5,750	5,750	5,750	5,712
TOTAL REVENUES	5,750	5,800	5,800	5,949

RECOVERIES FROM CANADA	\$5,750,000
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Canadian Heritage	\$5,750,000
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The Canada-Yukon Agreement on French-language services provides a collaboration framework between Canada and Yukon to support the planning and delivery of French-language territorial services and communications in French to better comply with the *Yukon Languages Act*.

The current Canada-Yukon agreement is for April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2025.

FRENCH LANGUAGE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

GOVERNMENT TRANSFERS (\$000s)	2023-24 ESTIMATE	Comparable		
		2022-23 FORECAST	2022-23 ESTIMATE	2021-22 ACTUAL
OTHER TRANSFER PAYMENTS				
Operation and Maintenance				
Quebec-Yukon Intergovernmental Cooperation Program	50	50	50	15
Ministers' Council on the Canadian Francophonie	4	4	4	4
Association Franco-yukonnaise	130	175	175	149
French Language Community Support - Various Recipients	434	434	434	392
	618	663	663	560
TOTAL GOVERNMENT TRANSFERS	618	663	663	560

OTHER TRANSFER PAYMENTS	\$618,000
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Quebec-Yukon Intergovernmental Cooperation Program	\$50,000
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- This program stems from the Agreement for Cooperation and Exchange between the Government of Yukon and the Government of Quebec with Respect to the Francophonie.
- The program supports projects that promote the vitality of the Yukon Francophone community.
- Objectives of the program:
 - Strengthen ties between Quebec and Yukon's French-speaking population.
 - Support the vitality of Yukon's French-speaking population across the territory.
 - Promote Canada's Francophonie nationally.
- No change from previous year's estimates.

Ministers' Council on the Canadian Francophonie	\$4,000
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- The Ministers' Council on the Canadian Francophonie is an intergovernmental organization made up of federal, provincial and territorial ministers responsible for the Canadian Francophonie.
- We contribute \$4,000 annually to the council
- No change from previous year's estimates.

Association franco-yukonnaise	\$130,000
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\$125,000 French language training
\$5,000 Yukon Francophonie Day

\$(45,000) decrease:

- \$5,000 increase in agreement for French language training
- \$(50,000) decrease for francophone health projects due to the completion of the two-year agreement.

French-Language Community Support	\$434,000
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\$350,000 Yukon Hospital Corporation
\$84,000 Other unallocated

- No change from previous year's estimates



FRENCH LANGUAGE SERVICES DIRECTORATE 2023-24 Main Estimates

BUDGET SUMMARY

(000s)	2023-24	2022-23	Change (\$)	Change (%)
Operations and Maintenance	\$6,805	\$6,855	\$(50)	(0.7)%
Capital	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
Total	\$6,805	\$6,855	\$(50)	(0.7)%

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE (O&M)

By Program

(000s)	2023-24	2022-23	Change (\$)	Change (%)
French Language Services	\$6,805	\$6,855	\$(50)	(0.7)%
Total	\$6,805	\$6,855	\$(50)	(0.7)%

By Allotment

2023-24 (000s)	Personnel	Other	Transfers	Total
French Language Services	\$4,848	\$1,339	\$618	\$6,805
Total	\$4,848	\$1,339	\$618	\$6,805
Full-time Equivalents (FTEs)	43.2	-	-	-

Highlights and Main Drivers of Changes

- Decrease of \$50,000 for Francophone Health Projects
 - Two-year agreement with Association franco-yukonnaise for Francophone health projects has been completed.

REVENUE AND RECOVERIES

(000s)	2023-24	2022-23	Change (\$)	Change (%)
Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
O&M Recoveries	\$5,750	\$5,800	\$(50)	(0.9)%
Capital Recoveries	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
Total	\$5,750	\$5,800	\$(50)	(0.9)%

Highlights and Main Drivers of Changes

- Decrease of \$50,000 in O&M recoveries
 - Decrease of \$50,000 from Société Santé en français due to completion of the agreement for Francophone health projects.

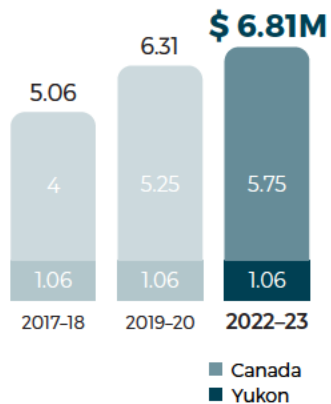
Increasing access to services in French

French-language service model



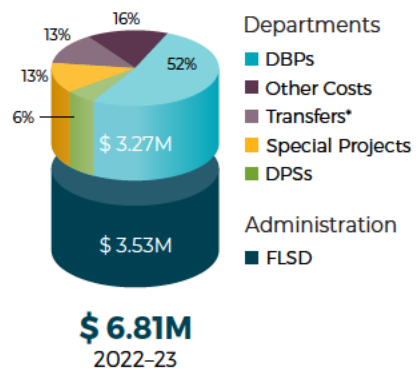
Funding

for French-language services



Allocation

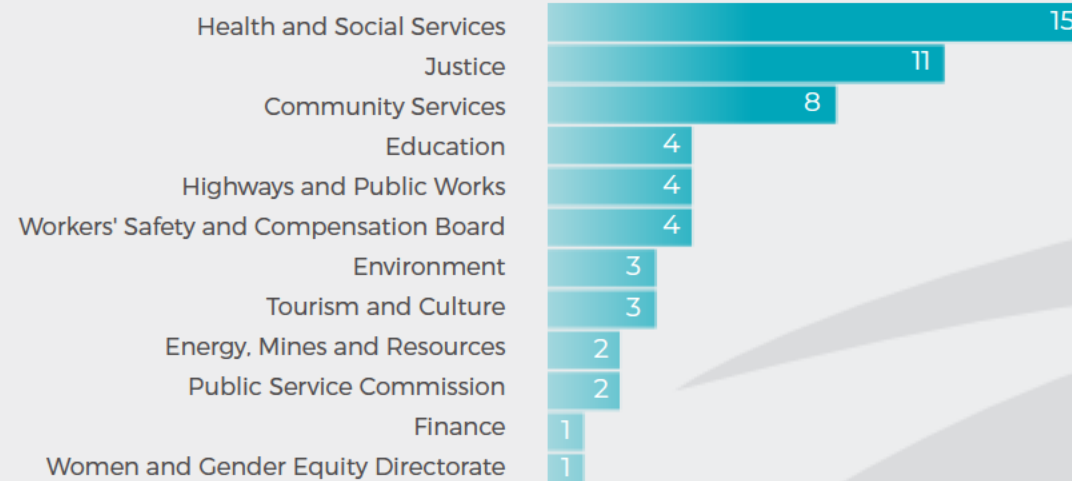
of funding



* Yukon Hospital Corporation and Yukon Human Rights Commission

DBP

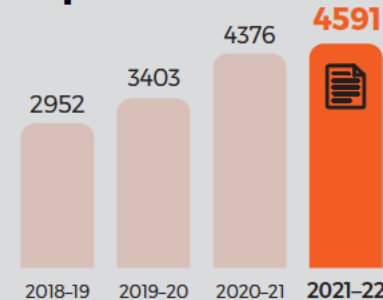
58



DPS

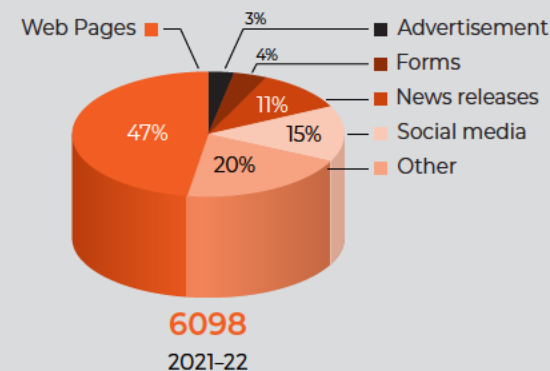
Mental Wellness
Substance Use
Whitehorse
Liquor Store

Translation requests*



* A request can include more than one document

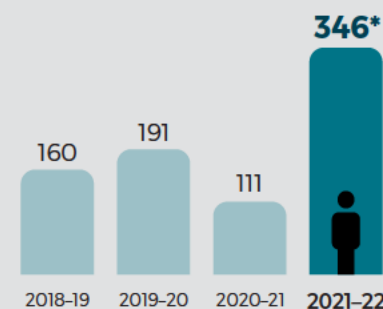
Document types



Special projects

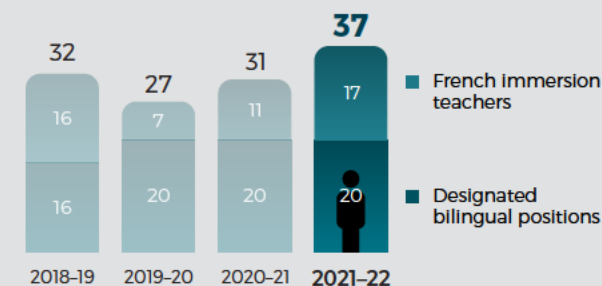
Increasing access to
bilingual e-Services
Supporting the Health
Promotion Unit
Implementing the
Bilingual Health Clinic

Learners taking French courses



*Result of the increased offer of online content

Proficiency assessments for French



DBP
(DESIGNATED BILINGUAL POSITIONS)

Essential for delivering in-depth services (e.g., counselling, planning and advising services)

DPS
(DESIGNATED BILINGUAL POINTS OF SERVICE)

A team that provides consistent services in French (e.g., public-facing units and transactional services)

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Tailored to support the operational requirements of departments and strengthen their bilingual capacity

TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION

Makes it possible for all employees to support and communicate with the public in French

TRAINING AND LINGUISTIC SUPPORT

A broad range of training to empower employees better serve the public in French

Information Note**Spring 2023****Interdepartmental MOUs****FLSD**

Current situation:

- Interdepartmental memoranda of understanding (MOUs) on French-Language services are used to plan expenditures and transfer funds from FLSD to departments. They include the identification of designated bilingual positions and designated points of service.
- FLSD worked with departments on renewed departmental MOUs for the 2021-22 to 2024-25 period. FLSD's financial contribution is confirmed and updated annually to support the strategic goals of departments.
- Most departments and corporations have signed MOUs for 2022-23.

Background:

- Interdepartmental MOUs were introduced after signing the 2017-2020 Canada-Yukon Agreement on French-language services.
- Since 2017, FLSD transferred between \$2M and \$2.8M annually to departments to support the provision of French-language services. Most of that amount covers salaries and benefits of designated bilingual positions (DBPs).
- In 2022-23, FLSD also committed to transferring \$434K to public bodies through transfer payment agreements.
- FLSD regularly meets with directors of Finance, HR and Communications from all departments to ensure strategic alignment in the MOUs.

Allocation of funding to departments 2022-23:

Department	Total MOU
Executive Council Office	27,000
Education	108,000
Energy, Mines and Resources	55,050
Justice	919,000
Community Services	241,000
Public Service Commission	118,000
Women Gender Equity Directorate	30,000
Tourism and Culture	152,500
Environment	131,000
Health and Social Services	872,000
Highways and Public Works	305,000
Workers' Safety and Compensation Board	108,000
Yukon Liquor Corporation	81,000
Total	3,147,550

Approved by: For

Manon Moreau, FLSD

2023-02-03

[Date approved]

CONFIDENTIAL

Information Note

Transfer agreements

TAB 13
Spring 2023
FLSD

Current situation:

- FLSD uses transfer payment agreements (TPAs) to:
 - supporting the vitality of Yukon Francophonie; and
 - plan expenditures and transfer funds from FLSD to public bodies.
- FLSD's current TPAs:

Beneficiary	Purpose	Amount	Period covered
AFY	Support the delivery of French language training programs and professional development opportunities.	\$125,000 annually	28-month TPA (2022-24)
AFY	Support for Yukon Francophonie Day's festivities	\$5,000	2022-23*
AFY/Partenariat communauté en santé	Second of a two-year project to support community-based interpretation-navigation services in the health sector and a therapeutic pathway for seniors. 100% recoverable from Société Santé en français.	\$50,000	2022-23
Recipients of the Quebec-Yukon Intergovernmental Cooperation Program	Support projects that promote the vitality of Yukon Francophonie by strengthening ties between Quebec and Yukon's Francophone communities.	\$50,000	2022-23
Ministerial Conference on the Canadian Francophonie	Annual membership to the Ministerial Conference	\$4,000	2022-23
Investments to support the Yukon Francophonie		\$234,000	
Yukon Hospital Corporation	Increase access to French-language services and communications	\$350,000	2022-23
Investments to support public bodies		\$350,000	

* FLSD is supporting the Office of the Commissioner of Yukon in developing and launching a \$15,000 annual funding program in February 2023 to create opportunities for all Yukoners to participate in the Yukon Francophonie Day's celebration. This program will replace the TPA with AFY.

CONFIDENTIAL
Information Note
Transfer agreements


TAB 13
Spring 2023
FLSD

- 2022-23 Quebec-Yukon Intergovernmental Cooperation Program projects (Yukon's financial contribution):
 - **An exploratory mission** to identify practitioners, trainers and speakers for the 4th edition of the Early Childhood Symposium. Commission scolaire francophone du Yukon, \$3,500.
 - **Workshop for young musicians** during the Solstice Saint-Jean to discover the culture of country and bluegrass music in French. Association franco-yukonnaise, \$2,500.
 - **Forum to engage Yukon youth** in thinking about the future and vision for AFY's youth services in the coming years. Association franco-yukonnaise, \$10,000.
 - **Literary workshops** in schools and at the francophone daycare and family activities in Whitehorse and Dawson. Commission scolaire francophone du Yukon, \$12,795.
 - **Theatrical workshops** for students of French First language and French language programs, including a creative residency with local artists. Association franco-yukonnaise, \$10,000.

Interdepartmental MOUs vs. transfer payment agreements

- FLSD has been signing memoranda of understanding (MOUs) to support government departments and public bodies in delivering French-language services and information following the signature of the 2017-2020 Canada-Yukon Agreement on French-language services.
- Effective in 2021-22, FLSD established a TPA with the Yukon Hospital Corporation instead of signing MOUs.
- FLSD reserves the use of MOUs for departments designated under GAM 1.1.

Approved by:



Manon Moreau, FLSD

2023.01.31

[Date approved]

Information Note**Spring 2023****Translation and interpretation services**

FLSD

Current situation:**Translation**

- The departments' demand for translation reached a record high in 2020-21 due to COVID-19. The non-COVID-related word count will rise again in 2022-23.

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 (Apr to Dec)
Total words translated	2.6M	2.8M	2.7M	2.2M
Non-COVID-related words translated	2.5M	2M	2.1M	2.1M
COVID-related words translated	0.09M	0.8M	0.6M	0.068M
Translation requests	3,403	4,376	4,591	2,441

- By improving our software and workflows and streamlining our processes with departments, we overcame some of our challenges in 2021 and have continued improving our centralized translation services. Key challenges included:
 - Adapt to the fast-paced reality of Yukon.ca and social media.
 - Share COVID-19-related and emergency communications in French, such as floods and wildfire information, quickly, even on weekends and evenings.
 - Meet operational requirements with a reduced translation team.
- The translation sector is drastically changing, and the following trends will impact our work in the coming years:
 - Growing number of open government initiatives is increasing the translation volume.
 - Artificial intelligence (e.g., neural machine translation technology and automated workflows).
 - Increased demand for self-service products and services.
 - Inclusive language.

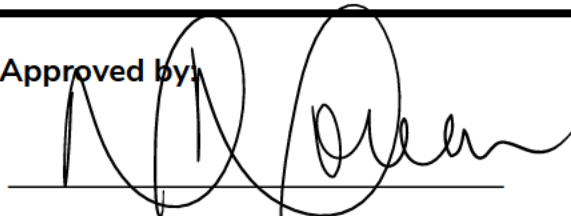
Information Note**Spring 2023****Translation and interpretation services**

FLSD

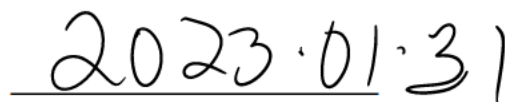
- Other jurisdictions are also facing these challenges. We actively participate in discussions with our federal, provincial and territorial counterparts and stakeholders to share best practices and find innovative solutions.
- We're collaborating with the Pan-Canadian Terminology Committee and its Interdepartmental Working Group on Inclusive Writing to develop guidelines and recommendations that will be used nationwide.
- We're part of several professional networks and professional associations, such as the Ordre des traducteurs, terminologies et interprètes du Québec (a member of the International Federation of Translators).

Interpretation

- In summer 2022, we deployed a new live video interpretation service. After a successful pilot at the Whitehorse General Hospital, a dozen easy-to-use devices support immediate and seamless French-language services when bilingual employees are unavailable. These devices are available across the Yukon, particularly in the health sector.
- We are getting ready to launch a new remote live interpretation service for targeted public events.
- The interpretation line remains a valuable option for transactional services and is available to all government employees 24/7.

Approved by:

Manon Moreau, FLSD



[Date approved]

Information Note**Spring 2023****French language training and assessments**

FLSD

Current situation:**French-language training**

- FLSD develops and delivers a broad range of training to empower Yukon government employees in providing service and information in French to the public. Learning options include:
 - Weekly courses.
 - Personalized instruction, tailored workshops and on-site workplace learning events.
 - Versatile online, in-class and blended learning environments.
 - Adaptable schedules for self-directed or instructor-led learning.

- Learners taking French courses:

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Total learners	228	243	283	192	346
YG + Hospital	142	143	191	111	346
Public	86	100	92	81	N/A

Note: A learner can be registered in more than one course.

- FLSD delivered courses to the public and government employees in partnership with the Association franco-yukonnaise (AFY) for many years. In the fall of 2021, we started providing training and linguistic support exclusively to government employees to better fulfill our mandate as a central agency.
- We continue to support the public by renewing a transfer payment agreement with AFY. The organization delivers French as a second language training to adults and offers general French-language professional development training to adults.
- In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, FLSD pivoted to delivering online courses in early 2020.
- FLSD collaborated with the Public Service Commission to make French courses available on YG Learn, the Government of Yukon's platform for online training.
- FLSD started offering its first blended learning course in the fall of 2020.

Information Note**Spring 2023****French language training and assessments**

FLSD

- As the demand for online training increases, FLSD is responding by developing more online content. This has resulted in a sharp rise in the number of learners.

French language assessments

- FLSD conducts proficiency assessments to evaluate the French-language skills of candidates applying to designated bilingual positions and French immersion teachers.
- Assessments are conducted by FLSD professional language experts with experience in linguistics and/or teaching French as a second language.
- French language assessments conducted:

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Total assessments	52	32	27	31	37
YG employees + Hospital	31	16	20	20	20
French immersion teachers	21	16	7	11	17

- The required proficiency levels are established jointly by FLSD, departments and PSC.
- In the fall of 2021, FLSD started testing a revised French-language proficiency assessment to better support departments' staffing efforts. The new language skills assessment model is more flexible and based on the duties and needs of designated bilingual positions.

Approved by:

Manon Moreau, FLSD

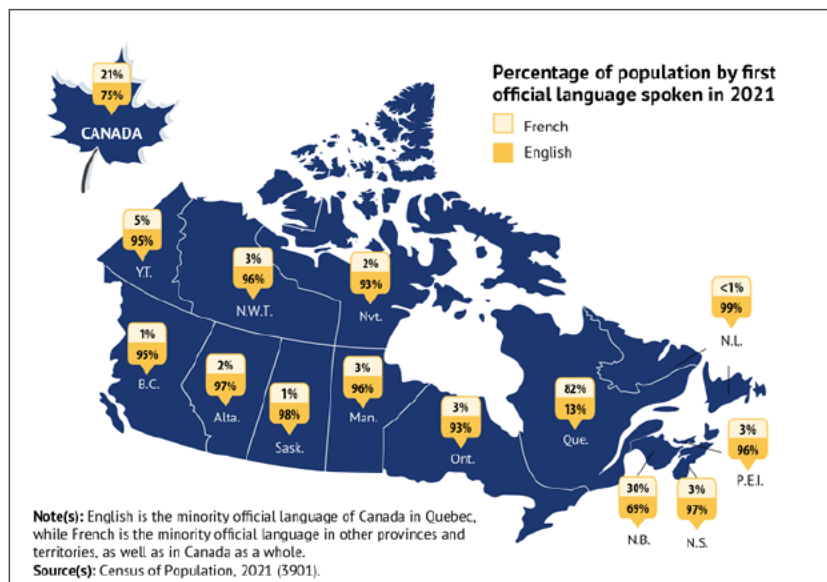
[Date approved]

Current situation:

- On August 17, 2022, Statistic Canada released a set of 2021 Census results on mother tongue, languages spoken at home and languages known by Canadians.
- On November 30, 2022, Statistic Canada released more results on education, the changing dynamics of the Canadian labour force and how people get to work, and for the first time, information on instruction in the minority official language.

Mother tongue

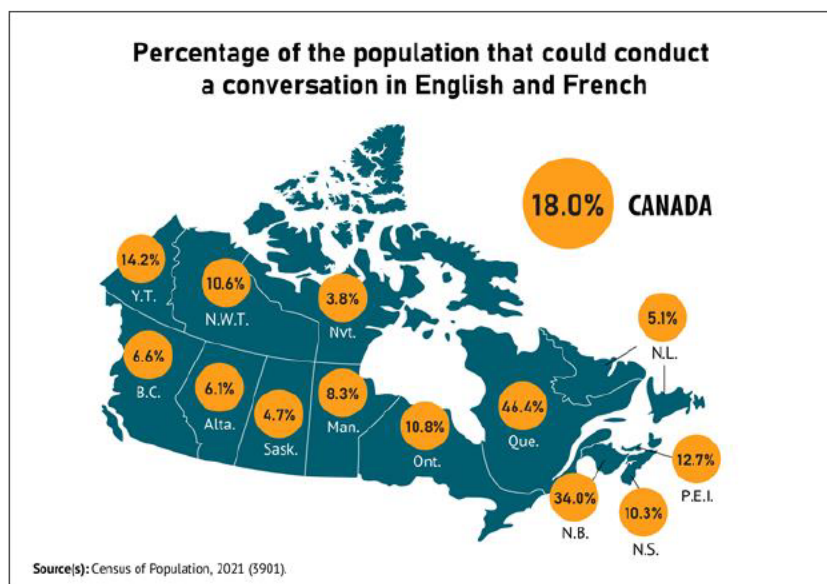
- French is the first official language spoken by an increasing number of Canadians (+100,000; from 7.6M in 2016 to 7.7M in 2021), but the proportion fell from 22.2% in 2016 to 21.4% in 2021.
- This decrease is attributable to a combination of factors, such as an older population on average (generally speaking, there are more deaths in an older population), incomplete transmission of French from one generation to the next, and linguistic transfers (when a person speaks a language at home that is different from their mother tongue).
- In 2021, French was the first official language spoken by 4.5% of Yukon's population.



- In the territories, the number of residents who had French as their first official language was fairly stable, except in the Yukon where it grew (+200).

Languages spoken at home

- From 2016 to 2021, the proportion of Canadians who spoke predominantly French at home decreased in all the provinces and territories except Yukon.
- The number of Canadians who spoke predominantly French at home rose in Quebec, British Columbia and Yukon, but decreased in the other provinces and territories.
- More than 14% of Yukoners speak French (from 13% in 2011), maintaining the territory's ranking as the third most bilingual jurisdiction in Canada, after Quebec and New Brunswick.



Instruction in the Minority Official Language

- In 2021, 897,000 children were eligible for instruction in the minority official language at the primary and secondary levels, namely in English in Quebec (304,000) and in French in Canada outside Quebec (593,000).
- Among the provinces and territories, New Brunswick (36.0%), Quebec (18.1%), Yukon (14.1%) and Ontario (12.6%) had the largest proportions of children eligible for

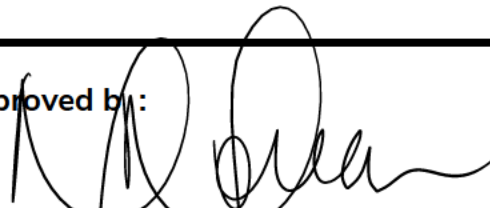
CONFIDENTIAL
Information Note
2021 Census data

TAB 16
Spring 2023
FLSD

instruction in the minority official language. About 1 in 10 children (10.5%) were eligible for instruction in French in Canada outside Quebec.

- In Canada outside Quebec, 292,000 school-aged children attended a regular French program at a primary or secondary French-language school in Canada, representing 64.7% of eligible children aged 5 to 17. This proportion was higher in New Brunswick (80.6%) and Yukon (71.0%), but lower in British Columbia (55.7%), Newfoundland and Labrador (54.2%) and Alberta (49.6%). In Quebec, 175,000 school-aged children attended an English primary or secondary school in Canada, representing 76.2% of eligible children aged 5 to 17 in this province.

Approved by:



Manon Moreau, FLSD

2023.01.31

[Date approved]

Information Note**Spring 2023****Potential demand for federal communications and services in the minority official language**

FLSD

Current situation:

- On August 17, 2022, Statistic Canada released the 2021 Census results on potential demand for federal communications and services in the minority official language.
- This new variable is part of a wealth of information on the languages of people living in Canada and is derived from the questions on all languages spoken at home (Question 9a) and mother tongue (Question 10).
- The derivation rules assign persons to the potential demand for federal communications and services in the French minority official language when the place of residence is a province or territory outside of Quebec and the mother tongue or home language (spoken most often or on a secondary basis) includes French as a single response or in combination with another language.
- This data demonstrates the potential demand for French-language services and information in and outside Whitehorse.

Information Note

Spring 2023

Potential demand for federal communications and services in the minority official language

FLSD

Potential demand for federal communications and services in the minority official language in the Yukon

Community	Total population	Potential demand number	Potential demand (%)*
Yukon	39,845	2,875	7.2
Beaver Creek	80	10	12.5
Burwash Landing	60	5	8.3
Carcross	315	20	6.3
Carmacks	590	10	1.7
Dawson	1,575	120	7.6
Destruction Bay	40	5	12.5
Faro	440	40	9.1
Haines Junction	690	30	4.3
Ibex Valley	525	60	11.4
Macpherson-Grizzly Valley	1,540	120	7.8
Marsh Lake	745	50	6.7
Mayo	190	15	7.9
Mt. Lorne	470	70	14.9
Old Crow	235	5	2.1
Pelly Crossing	315	5	1.6
Ross River	355	5	1.4
Tagish	315	10	3.2
Teslin	235	5	2.1
Watson Lake	1,135	20	1.8
Whitehorse	27,815	2,095	7.5
Whitehorse, Unorganized	410	60	14.6

* Potential demand number/Total population

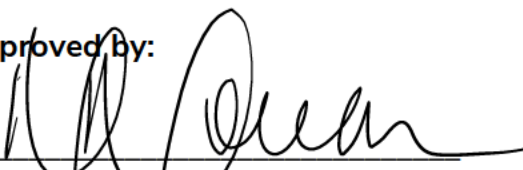
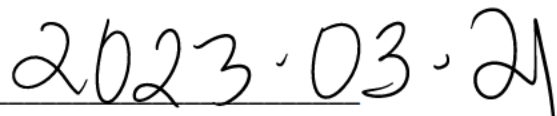
Information Note**Spring 2023****Potential demand for federal communications and services in the minority official language**

FLSD

Potential demand for federal communications and services in the minority official language in Canada

Province/Territory	Total population	Potential demand number	Potential demand (%)	First official language spoken (%)*
Alberta	4,221,830	119,690	2.8	2
British Columbia	4,951,655	118,570	2.4	1
Manitoba	1,326,815	58,630	4.4	3
New Brunswick	764,630	256,320	33.5	30
Newfoundland and Labrador	504,805	5,515	1.1	<1
Northwest Territories	40,545	1,950	4.8	3
Nova Scotia	958,990	43,700	4.6	3
Nunavut	36,640	880	2.4	2
Ontario	14,099,790	795,760	5.6	3
Prince Edward Island	152,460	7,180	4.7	3
Quebec	8,406,905	1,694,830	20.2	13
Saskatchewan	1,116,045	23,240	2.1	1
Yukon	39,845	2,875	7.2	5
Canada	36,620,955	3,129,140	8.5	21

* Percentage of population having the minority official language as first language spoken in 2021

Approved by:
Manon Moreau, FLSD

[Date approved]

Session Briefing Note

Spring 2023

Housing Issues

Yukon Housing Corporation

Recommended response:

- As we are aware, homelessness has far-reaching consequences that impact Yukoners. The substance use health emergency and the COVID-19 pandemic have only intensified these issues.
- Meanwhile, rental options are too few and often too expensive. Vacancy rates in the rental market have dropped to 0.8% - the lowest in years –a reality that influences the Yukon Housing growing waitlist.
- Down payment costs remain out of reach for many Yukoners, and homeownership may be less affordable as interest rates rise.
- Across government, we are working with stakeholders to develop new land parcels, increase housing stock, and rapidly increase housing supply while also responding to the findings of the 2022 Office of the Auditor General Report on Housing.

Additional response:

- We continue to enhance our Community Housing stock to support a full housing continuum - 47 new affordable units at 401 Jeckell, 10 units of affordable and supportive housing for seniors through Normandy Living and three new triplexes in Watson Lake, Mayo and Whitehorse demonstrate how we are responding to the 2022 Office of the Auditor General of Canada recommendations on housing.
- Partnership with Da Daghay Development Corporation for the construction of 98 new units is one of numerous housing examples that further support vulnerable Yukoners.
- Through our new approach to housing YG employees in communities, we aim to decrease the housing cost disparities in communities, further incentivize private sector investment in housing, and prioritize

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Housing Issues

Yukon Housing Corporation

allocations of the government's existing staff housing units to meet critical needs for community well-being.

- Finally, as part of the response to the 2022 Office of the Auditor General of Canada recommendations on housing, we have expanded capital incentive programs to include land development for residential housing, while also enhancing our Community Housing stock.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- Since COVID-19, Yukoners have faced additional housing challenges including increased housing prices and low vacancy rates.
- The recently declared substance use health emergency in the Yukon and closure of Chilkoot Trail Inn have added strain on the housing crisis.

Background:

Recent interest rate hikes

- The Bank of Canada raised interest rates for an eighth time in January, bringing the Bank rate to 4.50%. At the start of 2022, that rate was 0.25 %. Rising debt costs will make it more challenging for homeowners to qualify for a mortgage and will increase monthly debt costs for existing homeowners and developers.

Housing Action Plan and Safe at Home Plan

- The 10-year Housing Action Plan (HAP) for Yukon was launched in 2015 and provides guidance on housing priorities for the territory.
 - A Housing Action Plan Implementation Committee (HAP – IC) made up of key housing stakeholders and partners from across the territory oversees its implementation.
- The Safe at Home community-based Action Plan to End and Prevent Homelessness (Safe at Home) was launched in November 2017.
- The Safe at Home plan was developed by the Government of Yukon, the City of Whitehorse, Kwanlin Dün First Nation, the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council and a number of local NGOs.

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Housing Issues

Yukon Housing Corporation

- The Safe at Home Society was awarded \$10 million under the Northern Carve-Out of the National Housing Co-Investment Fund, \$5 million in funding under the federal Rapid Housing Initiative 2.0, and \$1.02 million in funding from YHC's Housing Initiatives Fund - for a supportive housing project proposal.

Land Development

- The Government of Yukon continues to support new land development to increase the supply of land available for housing development. This includes:
 - Government-led land initiatives in Whistle bend, as well initiatives to sell the 5th and Rogers site (See TAB #34) and old Macaulay Lodge site (See TAB #37);
 - First Nations land development projects – KDFN's Copper Ridge West (See TAB #35) and Range Point projects;
 - Private Sector land development project initiatives – the Tank Farm (See TAB #40).
- Community Services estimates an additional 1,476 new housing lots will come online by 2026, enough to accommodate 2,713 additional housing units.

New Housing Construction and partnerships with the Private Sector

- Yukon Housing Corporation offers several loans and grants programs (See TAB #4) to incentivize new housing construction – namely, the *Housing Initiative Fund* (See TAB #63), the *Developer Build Loan* (See TAB #59), and the *Municipal Matching Rental Construction Program* (MMRCP).
- These territorial-based programs complement new housing construction incentive programs under the National Housing Strategy, including the *National Housing Co-investment Fund* and the *Rapid Housing Initiative*.
- Finally, we provide subsidies to households living in private market housing through the *Canada Yukon Housing Benefit* (See TAB #57) and the *Rent Supplement* program.

Community Housing and the Most Vulnerable

- Yukon Housing Corporation and its partners continue to implement the new Community Housing Program, which aims to improve better client outcomes and fiscal resiliency (See TAB #58)
- Currently, YHC offers over 700 units through the Community Housing program in which eligible Yukoners pay 25% of their income for rent (rent-geared-to-income), we provide

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Yukon Housing Corporation

support to more than 80 households through our rent supplement program and more than 130 Yukoners through the Canada-Yukon Housing Benefit.

- Starting in early 2023, YHC is introducing a mixed-income and mixed-use tenant's allocation policy to its Whitehorse buildings while providing tenants with appropriate partner supports to help them maintain housing.
- Work continues with the Safe at Home Society with the intent of allocating a percentage of units to individuals on the By-Name List.
- YHC is working to implement the Aging in Place Action Plan, which includes broadening programming to include Senior Supportive Housing Program as an option for seniors who require additional supports.
- Finally, YHC and housing providers have recently completed or are currently making significant capital investments to expand the community housing stock, including:
 - The 401 Jeckell – 47-unit building (See TAB #19);
 - Three new triplexes in Mayo, Watson and Whitehorse (See TAB #21);
 - A new Housing First building in Watson Lake (See TAB #25);
 - A new 10-plex in Old Crow (See TAB #23);
 - Duplexes in Carmacks, Dawson, Faro and Mayo (See TAB #20); and
 - New emergency shelters in Dawson and Whitehorse (See TAB #42).

Major investments in housing include:

- The Canada Yukon Housing Benefit, an eight-year rent subsidy program to support low to moderate income Yukoners renting private market rental housing (See TAB #57).
- \$3.5M for Normandy Living, a private senior's residence with supports (See TAB #38)
- \$21.7M for the design and construction of the 4th and Jeckell, a 47-unit mixed-income housing development in Whitehorse (See TAB #19).
- \$2.4M over 2021-2022 for the construction of three triplexes in Mayo, Watson Lake, and Whitehorse in addition to \$3M in federal funding under the Rapid Housing Initiative - contributing nine units of housing options. (See TAB #21)
- \$400K in 2021-2022 for the design of the Watson Lake Housing First project which will be tendered in the Fall 2023 (See TAB #25).
- Design work to support the housing needs in the communities of Teslin, Carcross and Dawson in 2022-2023.
- \$5.7M annually under the Housing Initiatives Fund (See TAB #63).
- \$2.4M to Yukon through a Northern Housing Fund under the National Housing Strategy.

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Housing Issues

Yukon Housing Corporation

- \$6.9M for First Nation Energy Efficiency Program and \$8.4M for Community Housing retrofits under the Low Carbon Economy Fund (LCEF) provided on a 75% (Canada) - 25% (territory) cost-matching ratio between 2019 and 2024. (See TAB #60 & #61)
- \$4.1M for the construction of a Housing First residence for vulnerable individuals (5th and Wood St.) in Whitehorse
- Continued commitment by Government of Yukon toward the Municipal Matching Rental Construction program for new rental units.

Affordable rental housing incentives (in partnership with the private market):

- Since its inception in 2019, the Housing Initiatives Fund (HIF) intakes have brought on line 361 units and 159 are under construction. (See Tab #63).
 - The sixth intake of the Housing Initiative Fund was launched in November 2022. The deadline to submit an application February 3, 2023.
- The Municipal Matching Rental Construction Grant has supported the construction of over 126 new rental homes throughout the Yukon, ten of which are in progress.
- Since 2020, our homeownership loan program that focuses on providing financial support for the purchase and construction of building projects in rural Yukon, has helped 21 Yukoners to buy or build their first homes. 14 of these projects are completed.

Approved by:



Justin Ferbey
President, Yukon Housing Corporation

January 31, 2023

Date approved

Session Briefing Note**Our Clean Future Annual Report**Environment
Energy, Mines and Resources

Recommended response:

- We continue to make significant progress in the implementation of *Our Clean Future*.
- In September 2022, we released our second annual report. It outlines the progress we made in taking action on climate change in 2021.
 - Notably, in 2021, the Yukon Climate Risk Assessment was released and we saw a 12% decrease in our emissions when compared to 2020.
- Through this report we introduced five new actions and revised 13 existing actions to better meet our goals.
- *Our Clean Future* is an adaptive strategy, which means that we assess and adjust the actions we are taking year-over-year to stay on track to meet our long-term goals.
- We will continue to track and report our progress annually.

Additional response:

- Over the past year, we have advanced several key actions, such as:
 - Legislated greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets and associated reporting through the *Clean Energy Act*;
 - Received and analyzed the recommendations from the Yukon Climate Leadership Council ([Ref ENV #24 / EMR #34](#));
 - Established a standard method for determining the health of wetland ecosystems, and tracking baseline conditions to understand future changes;
 - Established a geohazard mapping program to understand risks to the Yukon's transportation corridors; and,
 - Enacted the single-use paper bag ban on January 1, 2023.

Session Briefing Note

Our Clean Future Annual Report

Environment
Energy, Mines and Resources

Third response:

- Although we have made progress on many of our commitments, there is still significant work required to meet our 45 per cent greenhouse gas emissions target reduction by 2030.
- We will continue to build on *Our Clean Future* as we learn more about climate change and introduce more actions. This will be reflected in future annual reports.
- We will also continue to work with experts, stakeholders and partner governments across the territory and beyond, to identify opportunities for new actions and to accelerate and intensify existing actions to reach our ambitious target.

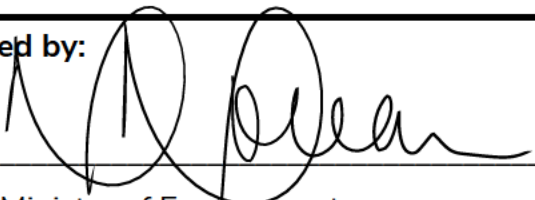
Context — this may be an issue because:

- Climate change is of high interest to Yukoners; they will want to know the government's progress in delivering on *Our Clean Future* commitments.

Background:

- *Our Clean Future* was released in September 2020 and is a 10-year strategy.
- *Our Clean Future* contains 136 actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and supports the Yukon to be highly resilient to the impacts of climate change.


Approved by:



Deputy Minister of Environment

2023-02-01

Date approved



Deputy Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources

Feb. 1, 2023

Date approved

Joint Corporate Note Inflation and affordability

Finance
Executive Council Office

Recommended:

- All Yukon households are seeing their budgets stretched by elevated levels of inflation, with lower-income households often feeling the effects more than others.
- The government continues to assess how inflation is impacting Yukoners and several measures included in the 2023-24 Budget will help make life more affordable for Yukoners.
- In 2023–24, the government is extending the Inflation Relief Rebate Program, which provides a \$50 per month rebate on ATCO Electric and Yukon Energy utility bills for the April and May billing periods, along with an additional three months later in the year.
- Other measures in the 2023-24 Budget to help make life more affordable to Yukoners include funding for food in Yukon schools, the timber harvesting incentive to boost fuelwood supply, a quarterly top-up of \$150 to eligible recipients of the Yukon Senior Income Supplement, and a \$100 monthly increase to eligible Social Assistance recipients.

Additional response:

- This government already established a strong record of making life more affordable for Yukoners with almost \$10 million-worth of inflation relief made available in last year's budget.

Joint Corporate Note Inflation and affordability

Finance
Executive Council Office

- This included more funding for Food Network Yukon, a 10 per cent top up to the Pioneer Utility Grant and rebates on the purchase of firewood.
- Yukoners are also receiving inflation relief from the federal government. This includes the accelerated Canada Workers' Benefit, the elimination of interest on student loans, a doubling of the GST tax credit, dental care and the Canada Housing Benefit for renters.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- Inflation has increased to decade highs in many countries, including Canada, which is experiencing the highest inflation in almost 40 years.
- Energy prices have been a significant driver and these prices are more obvious to consumers.
- Housing affordability has been a concern in the Yukon for several years.
- [March's rate of inflation in Yukon was the highest in Canada at 5.5 per cent vs 4.3 per cent nationally according to the Whitehorse Consumer Price Index.](#)

Background:

Key government initiatives addressing affordability in Yukon

Highlight of affordability spending in Budget 2023-24

- \$5.3 million to extend the Inflation Relief Rebate. Yukoners will receive a \$50 credit on their power bill in April and May and for an additional three months later in the year.

Joint Corporate Note Inflation and affordability

Finance
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- \$300,000 for the Timber Harvesting Incentive program.
- \$1.5 million to increase monthly social assistance payments by \$100.
- Over \$800,000 to recipients of the Yukon Seniors Income Supplement.
- \$500,000 for food in schools.

This builds on previous programs to protect the affordability of Yukoners including

- Last year, the Government of Yukon announced almost \$10 million in new inflation relief measures targeted at vulnerable groups.
- The inflation relief rebate covered seven months at a total cost to Government of \$7.6 million. The inflation relief rebate automatically applied a \$50 credit to all residential and commercial ATCO Electric Yukon and Yukon Energy electricity bills.
- Yukoners on social assistance received a one-time payment of \$150.
- Seniors were supported by a 10 per cent top up in the Pioneer Utility grant and a one-time payment of \$150 to recipients of the Yukon Seniors Income Supplement.
- Yukoners who heat their homes with wood are eligible for a \$50 rebate per cord of fuel wood, this program is retroactive to April 1, 2022. Yukon also introduced the Timber Harvesting Incentive that gives commercial timber harvesters \$10 per cubic metre.
- The pilot program giving an extra \$500 per month to Extended Family Caregiver agreement caregivers and foster caregivers was extended to the end of the fiscal year.
- In June 2022, the Yukon government extended the Tourism Accommodation Sector Supplement and Tourism Non-Accommodation Sector Supplement programs, administered through Economic Development.

Yukoners are also supported by Federal Government affordability programs

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-
- Accelerated Canada Workers Benefit payments and new minimum entitlement starting in July 2023 (\$4 billion over six years, starting in 2022-23).
 - Making all Canada Student Loans and Canada Apprentice Loans permanently interest-free, starting in April 2023 (\$2.7 billion over five years and \$556.3 million ongoing).
 - **GST Tax Credit:** The GST tax credit will be doubled for six months in current benefit year. Additional payment will be provided in one lump-sum, before the end of the benefit year. Targeted to individuals and families with low incomes (below \$39,826, and gradually phased out above that level). Single Canadians without children would receive up to an extra \$234 and couples with two children would receive up to an extra \$467 this year. Seniors would receive an extra \$225 on average.

Inflation outlook

- The inflation rate in Whitehorse was 5.5 per cent in March, down from 7.0 in February, but 1.2 percentage points higher than the national inflation rate of 4.3 per cent. Whitehorse's inflation rate was the highest in Canada for fourth consecutive month.
- This ranking is a reversal from earlier in 2022 when Whitehorse had the lowest inflation in Canada. For 2022 as a whole, the relatively lower inflation at the beginning of the year and higher inflation at the end of the year cancelled out, and so, the annual inflation rate in Whitehorse was the same as the national rate: 6.8 per cent.
- It is natural that relatively lower inflation in Whitehorse is eventually followed by relatively higher inflation as prices in Whitehorse follow the national trend over the long term.

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- The Bank of Canada has started to take a more aggressive approach to battling inflation by raising interest rates 4.25 percentage points since March 2022. The Bank's increase of 0.25 percentage point on January 25 brought the overnight rate to 4.5 per cent, the highest rate since early 2008. [This rate was maintained at the April rate announcement.](#)
- The housing market in the Yukon has stayed resilient the face of higher interest rates that have cooled markets in most other parts of Canada. Yukon was the only Canadian jurisdiction that saw residential sales in 2022 increase over 2021
- It wasn't until the fourth quarter until signs of cooling showed in the Yukon data, with average sales prices falling across all housing type. Compared with the end of 2021, prices were down by 1.2 per cent for single-detached, 3.9 per cent for duplexes, 11.4 per cent for condos, and 1.6 per cent for mobile homes.
- Most forecasters expect inflation in Canada will move towards historic norms over the next couple of years as supply chain problems subside and the effect of higher interest rates move through the economy. Canadian inflation is expected to decline from near 7 per cent in 2022, to between 3.5-4.0 per cent in 2023. Inflation in 2024 is expected to return to the midpoint of the Bank of Canada's target range of 1-3 per cent.
- Inflation in Whitehorse follows the national trend and therefore expected to fall to 3.8 per cent in 2023 and to 2.5 per cent in 2024.

INFLATION RELIEF ACROSS GOVERNMENT

Tourism and Culture:

COVID-19 Business Relief Programs

- In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of Yukon acted quickly and decisively by implementing one of the most robust business relief programs in the country, beginning with the Yukon Business Relief Program (YBRP) in

Joint Corporate Note Inflation and affordability

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2020, which was open to any business from any sector that experienced at least a 30% revenue loss due to the pandemic.

- In that same year, Tourism and Culture (T&C) also launched the Tourism Relief and Recovery Plan (TRRP), which was reviewed and endorsed by the Yukon Tourism Advisory Board (YTAB) and industry.
- The TRRP committed \$15 million over three years to support the tourism sector and was focused on four key themes:
 - Providing tourism sector leadership;
 - Rebuilding confidence and capabilities for tourism;
 - Supporting the recovery of tourism industry operators; and
 - Refining the brand and inspiring travelers to visit.
- Through the TRRP, various financial support programs were rolled out during the course of the pandemic to sustain the tourism industry and prepare it for the eventual reopening of borders, including:
 - Tourism Accommodation Sector Supplement (TASS);
 - Tourism Non-Accommodation Sector Supplement (TNASS);
 - Culture and Tourism Non-profit Sector Supplement;
 - Great Yukon Summer (GYS) program;
 - Great Yukon Summer Freeze program;
 - ELEVATE program; and
 - A top-up to the Tourism Cooperative Marketing Fund (TCMF).

Community Tourism Destination Development Fund

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- In October 2022, the Department of Tourism and Culture announced the creation of the new Community Tourism Destination Development Fund, which is slated to run for an initial three-year term.
- The new annual funding program is available to local businesses, First Nations governments, First Nation Development entities, municipalities and not-for-profit organizations for projects that will improve tourism-related services and infrastructure.
- Projects can focus on infrastructure like accommodations, attractions, activities and amenities, and special consideration will be given to umbrella projects, where multiple organizations are working together.

Creative and Cultural Industries

- In November 2021, the Department of Tourism and Culture released *Creative Potential; Advancing the Yukon's Creative and Cultural Industries*, a 10-year strategy to support the growth and development of the creative and cultural industries in the Yukon.
- The CCIS identifies 4 strategic objectives and 22 key actions, which reflect input gathered through extensive public and sector engagement.
- We have identified 10 actions in support of pandemic recovery to be completed over three years as Phase 1 implementation, which includes:
 - Modernizing existing funding;
 - Offering new funding streams;
 - Industry branding and promotion;
 - Marketing and export strategies;
 - Workshops; and

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- Labour market supports.

In 2023-24, three new funding programs will provide \$450,000 annually to the creative and cultural sectors, including:

- Express Micro-grant;
- Indigenous Artists and Cultural Carriers Micro-grant; and
- Creative and Cultural Career Advancement Fund.

Additional Funding Programs

- Tourism and Culture also provides annual supports to the tourism and culture sectors through Transfer Payment Agreements (TPAs) with many NGOs across the Yukon and through a number of regular funding programs, including:
 - Advanced Artist Award;
 - Arts Fund;
 - Arts Operating Funds;
 - Cultural Industries Training Funds;
 - Culture Quest;
 - New Canadian Events Fund;
 - Touring Artist Fund;
 - Historic Properties Assistance Program;
 - Historic Resources Fund;
 - Museums Contribution Program;
 - Special Projects Capital Assistance Program (SPCAP); and

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- Tourism Cooperative Marketing Fund;

Yukon Development Corporation:

Inflation Relief Rebate

- The Inflation Relief Rebate provides \$50 per month to all non-government residential and commercial electricity customers to help ease the impacts of rising inflation.
- The IRR initially covered June, July, and August 2022, and was extended to cover October, November, and December 2022. The budgets for these were included in 2022-23 Supplementary Estimates.
- The IRR was subsequently extended for March, April, and May 2023. The budget in 2023-24 is comprised of:
 - \$2,056,000 for program costs in April and May 2023 (costs for March 2023 are included in the 2022-23 Supplementary Estimates #2).
 - \$3,246,000 for a further three additional months. We will continue to monitor inflation and costs of living, and we anticipate this will show on electricity bills next winter when electricity bills are typically higher.

Economic Development:

- Economic Development is in the process of developing a temporary paid sick leave program. Program criteria, including eligibility and duration, are currently being developed.

Energy, Mines and Resources:

Energy retrofits and funding to improve efficiency and offset costs

Joint Corporate Note Inflation and affordability

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- Our energy programs are successfully encouraging Yukon residents and local businesses to reduce their energy use, save money and choose low carbon options to live and move.
- Energy efficiency programs are available for the transportation sector, renewable heating sector, and the construction sector focusing on high efficiency buildings.
- For existing homes, the Energy Branch offers the Good Energy rebate program for high performance heating systems and upgrades to thermal enclosures including insulation and windows and high performance new homes. Taking these measures will save homeowners money on their energy costs.
- For commercial and institutional buildings, the Energy Branch offers rebates for greenhouse gas-reducing retrofits and renewable heating.
- For First Nation and municipal buildings, the Energy Branch offers retrofit and funding support through its Community Institutional Energy Efficiency Program.
- There are two current incentives for wood, one for harvesters and one to offset fuelwood costs:
 - In October 2022 we launched the timber harvesting incentive to provide registered Yukon timber harvesting businesses an incentive of \$10 per cubic metre of timber harvested or sold between April 1, 2022 and March 31, 2023. We have paid out \$163,000 to industry so far.
 - In September 2022, we launched a new firewood rebate to offset the increased costs of firewood for home heating. The rebate provides \$50 for each cord of firewood purchased, up to a maximum of 10 cords. As of February 14, 2023 we processed 586 applications, and paid out approximately \$69,850 in rebates for 1,389 cords of firewood.

Yukon Housing Corporation:

Projects under the Five-Year Capital Plan which support housing affordability and those in need include:

Joint Corporate Note Inflation and affordability

Finance
Executive Council Office

- The 47-unit housing complex at 401 Jeckell Street in Whitehorse opened in January 2023. The building provides new homes to Yukoners, including 5 three-bedroom, 12 two-bedroom, 16 one-bedroom and 14 bachelor units;
- The Opportunities Yukon 45-unit Cornerstone Development in Whitehorse opened in summer 2022 and is providing supportive living and accessible housing;
- Triplex housing units in Watson Lake, Mayo and Whitehorse were completed in spring 2022 and are providing affordable homes to families in each of these communities;
- In Old Crow, the 10-Plex Mixed-Use Housing complex is under construction with expected completion in summer 2023; and
- The 10-Plex Housing First Project in Watson Lake is included in the Northern Carve-Out. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2023-24.

Other highlights from the plan

- More homes will be created for Yukon families in rural communities through the construction of three duplexes in Dawson City, Mayo, and Carmacks. These homes are on track for completion in summer 2023.
- The demolition of Macaulay Lodge in Whitehorse was completed in October 2022. Planning for the redevelopment of the site to support mixed commercial and residential use is underway.

Health and Social Services:

For 2022-23:

Joint Corporate Note Inflation and affordability

Finance
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- a one-time \$150 payment to social assistance recipients;
- a one-time payment of \$150 to Yukon Seniors Income Supplement recipients;
- a one-time 10 per cent additional payment to Pioneer Utility Grant recipients;
- a six-month extension of \$500 per month to caregivers of children in out of home care; and
- Committed \$100,000 to Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition to continue to support food security across the territory.

For 2023-24:

- a quarterly top-up of \$150 to eligible Yukon Senior Income Supplement recipients; and
- a \$100 monthly increase to eligible Social Assistance recipients.

Public Service Commission: *(no change from Fall BN)*

Remote work policy in support of employees working in communities

- In fall 2021, the Yukon government introduced a new remote work policy to support employees to continue working remotely in the long term.
- Implementing the new remote work policy is an action in the Our Clean Future strategy, as people are supported to work from home and reduce their emissions by commuting less.
- The new remote work policy also enables employees to work remotely from Yukon communities outside of Whitehorse, in some circumstances.
- The Public Service Commission will strive to support more long-term remote work arrangements throughout the Yukon government where it makes sense, and will track data on long-term arrangements going forward.

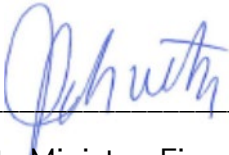
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FIN TAB #26
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Spring 2023

Joint Corporate Note Inflation and affordability

Finance
Executive Council Office

Approved by:



April 24, 2023

a/Deputy Minister, Finance

Approved

2023 04 21



Deputy Minister, Executive Council Office

Approved

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

Recommended response:

- Reconciliation is an ongoing process, and the Government of Yukon is continuing our work to respond to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action.
- We are working collaboratively with First Nations to advance progress in key areas including health and social services, education, justice and heritage, through the Yukon Forum Joint Priority Action Plan.
- We are also working with Yukon First Nations to implement Yukon's *Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2-Spirit+ People Strategy*, which will further advance reconciliation and address the Calls to Action.

Additional response:

- The Government of Yukon and Yukon First Nations governments are leaders in demonstrating a collaborative approach to reconciliation.
- At the Yukon Forum in November 2022, we discussed the approach to implementing and reporting on the Calls to Action with Yukon First Nations.
- We will continue our collaborative work to implement and report on the Calls to Action, including implementing the *Putting People First* recommendations for health and social services.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- The Yukon government (YG) previously made public its intention to fulfill its commitments to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) Calls to Action.
- The Calls to Action were a topic at the November 29, 2022 Yukon Forum.

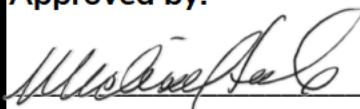
Background:

- The TRC report, *Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future*, was released in June 2015. It contains 94 Calls to Action focused on redressing the harms resulting

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

from Residential Schools and creating better relations between the federal, provincial and territorial governments and Indigenous Peoples. Thirty-two of the Calls to Action relate directly to YG.

- YG and Yukon First Nations (YFNs) collaborate on addressing the Calls to Action through the Yukon Forum Joint Priority Action Plan.
- YG has taken 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);
 - 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 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).

Approved by:

Deputy Minister, Executive Council Office

February 6, 2023

Date

Session Briefing Note**Spring 2023****Corporate Note – Budget Highlights**

Finance

Embargoed until day of budget tabling

Recommended response:

- In 2023-24, the Yukon continues to demonstrate its robust position nationally with population and economic growth among the strongest in the country.
- Budget 2023-24 delivers spending initiatives aimed at making life more affordable for Yukoners while also including several inflation relief measures to help combat the rising cost of goods.
- This budget continues to invest in the Yukon's health and social system and includes investments in new and expanded health services through the implementation of *Putting People First*. This includes addressing the substance-use health emergency and supporting the mental health of Yukoners.
- It delivers on our commitment to support a green economy with investments outlined in *Our Clean Future*.
- There are also strategic investments in infrastructure, particularly in housing for the most vulnerable. Other investments in housing include funds for land development, investments in housing projects in Dawson City, Watson Lake and Teslin, subsidies and supports for renters and funding for various affordable and community housing projects.
- Like in previous budgets, Budget 2023-24 continues to build relationships and further reconciliation with Yukon First Nations.

Session Briefing Note**Spring 2023****Corporate Note – Budget Highlights**

Finance

Embargoed until day of budget tabling

Additional response:

- The Yukon government is delivering on its commitment to grow a strong and resilient economy while ensuring robust, sustainable fiscal management.
- A surplus of 2.49 per cent of expenditures serves as a prudent fiscal management tool and demonstrates the ability of the government to address unforeseen events without going into a deficit.
- The fiscal summary includes a \$50 million contingency for presently undefined expected expenditures in 2023-24. This will not affect the Yukon's forecast fiscal position and allows the government to remain transparent about potential pressures.

Context—this may be an issue because:

- The 2023-24 Main Estimates will be debated during the March 2023 legislative session.
-

Background:

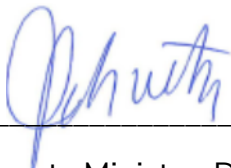
- The 2023-24 Main Estimates include a surplus of \$48.2 million and year-end debt of \$374.8 million.
- Total revenue is expected to be \$1.58 billion in 2023-24. This is an increase of \$115.2 million or 7.3 per cent from the 2022-23 Main Estimates.
- Forecast O&M expenditures total \$1.45 billion, with O&M recoveries offsetting this amount by \$130.9 million. This is an increase of 2.6 per cent in net O&M expenditures from the 2022-23 Main Estimates.

Session Briefing Note**Spring 2023****Corporate Note – Budget Highlights**

Finance

Embargoed until day of budget tabling

- Forecast capital expenditures total \$483.8 million with recoveries of \$164.5 million. This is a 9.9 per cent decrease in net capital expenditures from the 2022-23 Main Estimates. This represents a reduction of \$63 million from last year's capital budget. This reduction reflects a sustainable approach to budgeting in the territory following elevated capital spending over the last two years, which helped stimulate Yukon's economy during the pandemic.
- There are 5,332.0 FTEs in the 2023-24 budget, which is a decrease of 89.1 FTEs from 2022-23.

Approved by:

a/Deputy Minister, Department

February 23, 2023

Approved

Session Briefing Note

TAB#28

Corporate Note – Fin/HPW 2022-23

Spring 2023

Supplementary Overview

Embargoed until day of budget tabling

Recommended response:

- Overall, the changes outlined in the Supplementary Estimates #2 show a government that continues to make sure Yukoners and our economy remain healthy as we emerge from the pandemic while also responding to new and emerging challenges.
- Inflation continues to have an impact on Yukoners, as well as an impact on government projects. Several changes included as part of this Supplementary Estimates are in response to higher costs or work progressing faster than planned.
- The capital budget has no overall gross change in this Supplementary Estimates, but this is not because no adjustments were made. Major projects are still getting the resources they need to reach completion, but other projects were decreased to reflect timelines and funds were reallocated accordingly.
- The increase of \$37.5 million for the Department of Highways and Public Works is being offset by deferrals and offsets in other projects.

Session Briefing Note

TAB#28

Corporate Note – Fin/HPW 2022-23

Spring 2023

Supplementary Overview

Embargoed until day of budget tabling

Additional response:

- The largest expenditures are on three important capital projects, accounting for \$53.8 million altogether.
- The first is the replacement of the Nisutlin Bay Bridge. This increase covers higher costs and an accelerated schedule. The additional work on this project results in an increase of \$35.8 million as part of this Supplementary Estimate.
- We also provided additional funding for building the Carmacks Bypass, which is part of the Yukon Resource Gateway Program. Work in this area makes up \$11.8 million of the Capital increase.
- The third project is the construction of the Dempster Fibre Line, which will open a second fibre optic link instead of relying just on one, and so give Yukoners more reliable access to the internet as well as necessary redundancy. This project includes a proposed increase of \$5.7 million.

Session Briefing Note

TAB#28

Corporate Note – Fin/HPW 2022-23

Spring 2023

Supplementary Overview

Embargoed until day of budget tabling

- These increases are offset by decreases in capital. The most significant reductions can be seen in the Yukon Housing Corporation. This is largely the result of revised timelines for various projects and initiatives as well as lower uptake in application-based programs, but also accounts for the housing and building cycle as Normandy Living, Cornerstone and the 47-unit 4th and Jeckell facility are all ready and taking in clients and we are now shifting towards building new relationships for potential future projects.
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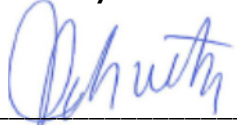
Context—this may be an issue because:

- The 2022-23 Supplementary Estimates #2 is tabled in the spring session and will be the subject of debate.
-

Background:

- Opposition may request an explanation for the changes included as part of the Supplementary Estimates #2.


Approved by:



a/Deputy Minister, Finance

March 02, 2023

Approved



Deputy Minister, HPW

March 02, 2023

Approved