



# **Energy, Mines and Resources 2026 Spring Sitting**

# Hot Topic Session Note

## Yukon-Ontario Energy and Nuclear Partnership Agreement

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**Spring 2026**  
Energy, Mines and  
Resources

**Topic:** Yukon-Ontario Energy and Nuclear Partnership Agreement

**Key messages:**

- The governments of Yukon and Ontario have agreed to share information about energy technologies, policies and regulatory best practices.
- The Yukon can leverage Ontario's expertise and experience as we take action to ensure reliable and affordable energy for Yukoners.
- Ontario is a national and international leader in nuclear energy and at the forefront of the development of small modular reactor technology.
- Energy demand in the Yukon is growing rapidly. Nuclear energy technologies are rapidly evolving and advanced nuclear technologies could help meet the territory's future energy needs.
- By capitalizing on Ontario's expertise and experience, we will be better prepared to act if and when nuclear energy is determined a good solution for Yukon's energy demand.

**Approved by:**

Jeff O'Farrell

April 26, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Minister, Department

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date approved

# Hot Topic Note

## Dependable Grid Program

**Spring 2026**  
Energy, Mines and  
Resources

**Topic:** The Dependable Grid Program applications open April 15.

### Key messages

- Starting today, Yukoners can apply for a host of rebates under the new Dependable Grid Program to help make energy costs more affordable.
- The program helps Yukoners diversify their home heating systems, taking pressure off our isolated electrical grid.
- The Dependable Grid program also prepares Yukon homes for a potential winter power outage by supporting multiple heating systems in Yukon homes.
- We have reallocated \$946,000 from the existing budget towards this program. Most of this funding came from the former electric transportation rebates.
- We are prioritizing practical measures that deliver the biggest impact on peak winter demand and household resilience.
- Additional info, see [TAB 7 – Winter Reliable Energy Plan](#)
- Additional info, see [TAB 63 – Mitigating Demand Growth](#)

#### Approved by:

Jeff O'Farrell

April 14, 2026

Deputy Minister, Department

Date approved

**Topic:** Electric transportation rebates cancellation

**Key messages:**

- To reduce pressure on the electricity grid, we are pausing the suite of electric transportation rebates under the Good Energy program on March 31, 2026.
- For eligible products purchased before the end of the program – on or before March 31, 2026 – Yukoners will have one year from their date of purchase to submit their rebate application to Energy Branch.
- We are reallocating the funding to the new Dependable Grid Program that will help Yukoners reduce electricity demand during winter peaks and make their homes more resilient to power outages.
- The Dependable Grid Program forms part of the government's commitment to develop a Winter Reliable Energy Plan that will guide further investments, programs and policies to keep the lights on and power affordable for Yukoners.

**Background:**

- \$946,000 has been reallocated to the Dependable Grid Program.
- The specific rebates being retired were for:
  - new electric vehicles;
  - electric vehicle chargers;
  - shipping costs for used electric vehicles;
  - electric bicycles and electric cargo bicycles; and
  - other electric transportation devices.

- Over the lifetime of the electric transportation program:
  - 587 rebates provided for electric vehicles;
  - 223 rebates provided for electric vehicle chargers; and
  - 1,856 rebates provided for electric bicycles (including cargo bikes).
- About 70 per cent of annual funding under the former program supported electric vehicles and chargers, with the remaining 30 per cent supporting electric bicycles.
- The federal government has introduced decreasing electric vehicle rebates that Yukoners can access until 2030. The rebates are:
  - \$5,000 for battery electric vehicles, decreasing to \$2,000 by 2030; and
  - \$2,500 for plug-in hybrid electric vehicles, decreasing to \$1,000 by 2030.
- For additional information on Winter Reliable Energy Plan, see [BN #7](#)

**Approved by:**

Jeff O'Farrell

March 31, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Minister, Department

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date approved

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**Topic:** The Government of Yukon is releasing developed lots to create opportunities for commercial and residential development throughout the territory.

**Key messages:**

- This year, lots in Haines Junction and in Whitehorse's Whistle Bend neighbourhood will be offered for sale.
- Developed lots that do not sell through lottery are available for sale over the counter throughout the territory including Watson Lake, Teslin, Mayo, Faro, Haines Junction and Whitehorse.
- We are exploring ways to provide land to the private sector for development and to support our First Nation partners in developing lots on their lands.
- 8 to 12 lots that were returned from previous lotteries will be offered in a 'builders only' pilot lottery. This will occur early this summer and will get lots into the hands of private industry for development.

**Key facts and stats:**

- Lots in Haines Junction's Willow Acres will be offered for sale by lottery this year.
- Whistle Bend Phases 12 and 13 will be released this year providing for large multi-family, public service and commercial lots.
- Copper Ridge lot 520/1126 is being considered for development involving the private sector.
- Energy, Mines and Resources is working with the Council of Yukon First Nations to identify land for a healing centre near Whitehorse.

### Land Sales

Energy, Mines and  
Resources

- Energy, Mines and Resources is working with the Nelson Project to identify land options for a healing centre near Whitehorse.

#### Status:

- Haines Junction and Whistle Bend lotteries will be launched this year once development on those lots is completed.
- Lot 520/1126 in the Copper Ridge subdivision of Whitehorse is being redesigned to better align with the surrounding neighbourhood.
- Energy, Mines and Resources is working with clients on options for Council of Yukon First Nations and Nelson project healing centres.

#### If asked about Little Blue Daycare in Dawson City:

- Energy, Mines and Resources is working with the Little Blue Daycare Society to allow for development of Parcel K in Dawson City.
- There is a Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB) submission in progress to build a new daycare building on its land parcel.

#### Approved by:

Jeff O'Farrell

May 11, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date approved



**Topic:** The Government of Yukon is working with Yukon First Nations and industry to complete new minerals legislation.

**Key messages:**

- The work advanced in the past five years serves as a foundation to move forward with the process.
- Moving forward, the approach will likely look different as we recognize the need to advance new legislation efficiently.

**Key facts and stats:**

- The Government of Yukon has spent \$6 million on the development of new legislation in the past five years.
- Of this, \$5.2 million went to funding First Nations government participation.

**Status:**

- The Government of Yukon is working on a new approach to First Nations and industry collaboration.

**If asked about Statements of Claim from FNNND and TH:**

- The modernization of minerals legislation has been a longstanding interest of the Yukon and First Nation governments and is referenced in recent Statements of Claim from Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun.
- We will not speak more about matters before the court, but this does not change the commitment from our government to complete this legislation.

# Session Briefing Note

#2

**Spring 2026**

## New Minerals Legislation

Energy, Mines  
and Resources

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**Approved by:**

Jeff O'Farrell

February 3, 2026

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Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

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Date approved

**Topic:** The Government of Yukon remains the primary regulator to ensure necessary remediation work achieves regulatory compliance at the Eagle Gold Mine.

**Key messages:**

- We are implementing all the recommendations of the Independent Review Board and working with industry to incorporate the recommendations into current and future operations (See BN #9 for more information on Implementing Independent Review Board Recommendations).
- The court-appointed Receiver is overseeing remediation at the mine site. The Government of Yukon response team meets regularly with the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun and their technical consultants, as well as with the Government of Canada to provide updates and coordinate responses.
- The Receiver is seeking a suitable buyer for the Eagle Gold Mine and has recently entered into an exclusivity agreement with Boroo Pte. Ltd. as the next step in the sales process. The Government of Yukon provides input to this process to ensure a potential buyer is responsible, experienced, and well-resourced.
- For key messages on spills, see [Hot Topic – Eagle Gold Mine Spills](#)

**Key facts and stats:**

- The Ontario Superior Court of Justice approved the Government of Yukon to loan up to \$220 million to the court-appointed Receiver for Victoria Gold Corp.
- To date, the Government of Yukon has advanced \$185 million, of which \$104 million was sourced from surety bonds held under mining licenses. Budget 2026 includes the remaining loan balance of \$35 million.
- The Receiver is able to use company resources and proceeds from asset monetization efforts to fund the Receivership. As of April 17, 2026, the Receiver reports that more than \$151 million has been monetized and is being used to offset the costs to government.
- The Government of Yukon is the primary regulator and funder for the project and directs what work is required on site to achieve regulatory requirements and technical objectives.
- The Government of Yukon approves the Receiver's proposed budgets, reviews invoices, and ensures funds are used appropriately and that activities on site do not limit future opportunities at the site.

#### Status:

- The Receiver has implemented all directed measures and continues to provide reports on the effectiveness of these measures.
- Work remains to be completed to meet regulatory requirements for physical and chemical stability at the mine site. This work includes the

completion of construction activities on the heap leach facility and preparation for the spring melt.

#### **If asked about the sale of the Eagle Gold mine:**

- Refer to [EcDev BN, EMR #8 'Eagle Gold Sales Process'](#)

#### **If asked about freshet:**

- The Receiver has prepared for spring melt; activities on site include the commissioning of the water treatment plant, clearing of ditches and re-establishment of water pumping and piping infrastructure.
- [All infrastructure is in place to manage freshet flows, including the separation of unimpacted waters.](#)
- [Water discharge is necessary to ensure that](#) there is sufficient storage space on site to contain anticipated spring melt.

#### **If asked about water treatment on site:**

- Refer to [EMR Hot Topic – Eagle Gold Mine Spills.](#)
- [Water treatment at the site is currently meeting licence standards.](#)
- [Water discharge resumed on May 3, 2026 following investigations on previous non-compliant water. The water being discharged is compliant with requirements of the site's water licence and federal mining regulations.](#)
- Water treatment commenced on site on April 14 with compliant water being discharged to the environment.

#### **[If asked about environmental conditions around site:](#)**

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# Session Briefing Note

EMR #3 / FIN #8

Spring 2026

## Eagle Gold Mine

Energy, Mines and  
Resources, Department of  
Finance

- The Receiver continues to implement a robust environmental monitoring program.
- Conditions in Haggart Creek have improved since 2025. With the discharge of compliant treated water and the continued interception of groundwater, it is anticipated that the Receiver will meet water quality objectives in Haggart Creek.
- Water quality results are received on a daily basis and posted to Waterline. As well, the Government of Yukon interprets and posts these results on Yukon.ca.

### Approved by:

Jeff O'Farrell

May 5, 2026

Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

Jason Bilsky

May 5, 2026

Deputy Minister, Department of  
Finance

Date approved

**Topic:** Energy, Mines and Resources is working to increase transparency and address permitting backlogs for the mining sector.

**Key messages:**

- We are committed to streamlining assessments and licensing and establishing predictable and clear timelines.
- We are also committed to more transparent regulatory processes for mining land use approvals and quartz mine licences.
- As a part of this work, we are refreshing our website to make mining in the Yukon more user-friendly. This will include an online calculator for security and bonding, and a live dashboard for applicants in the permitting process.

**Key facts and stats:**

- Permitting timelines for Class 1 exploration applications increased in 2020 when consultation with Yukon First Nations was added as a required step for applications in their Traditional Territory.
- There is a backlog in Class 3 and 4 projects, due in part to the 10-year authorization cycle – where a disproportionate number of applications end and need to be renewed.
- The 10-year authorization cycle is linked to the implementation of the *Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act*.
- Through temporary, time-limited amendments to the Placer Mining Land Use Regulations and the Quartz Mining Land Use Regulations, the Yukon government extended eligible Class 3 and Class 4 projects that are within the temporal scope of their decision documents.

- Decision documents are consulted on with impacted First Nations.

#### Status:

- As of March 2026, there are:
  - 74 quartz and placer projects in assessment at YESAB, 8 of which are awaiting final evaluation reports from YESAB.
    - It is currently taking an average of 93 days for a project to be assigned to an assessor at YESAB. In 2025, once assigned, placer mining assessments took an average of 237 days to complete, while quartz mining assessments took an average of 351 days.
  - At EMR there are 45 Class 3 and 4 quartz and placer projects awaiting decision documents and approximately 104 Class 1 Notifications in review and consultation with affected First Nations.
  - There are 17 quartz and placer projects awaiting licences (aka mining land use approvals) from Government of Yukon.
  - Approximately 125 placer and quartz applications for new or renewed water licences and new mining land use approvals are at the Yukon Water Board in the adequacy review or licencing stage. These include applications waiting for pending decision documents, waiting for responses from applicants, in public comment, or in Board review.
- In 2026, EMR has issued 33 decision documents on Class 3 and 4 placer and quartz projects and issued 76 Class 1 authorizations and 3 quartz exploration approvals.



- The average time in 2025 to issue a Class 3 or 4 placer and quartz decision document was 157 and 70 days, respectively.
- In 2025, Mineral Resources Branch processed and consulted on 70 Class 3 and 4 decision documents and 466 Class 1 notifications.

#### If asked about temporary amendments to quartz, placer, and waters legislation:

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

#### If asked about Placer Mining Bubble:

- **EMR BN #10**, ECO's 'Managing the Placer Mining Bubble' note.

#### Approved by:

Jeff O'Farrell

March 30, 2026

Deputy Minister

Date approved

**Topic:** Status of the Dawson Regional Land Use Plan

**Key messages:**

- The independent Dawson Regional Planning Commission [has released](#) the Final Recommended Dawson Regional Land Use Plan [to the Parties and the public on March 31, 2026](#).
- The Government of Yukon and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in will conduct joint public consultation on the final recommended plan [and then work together through a Senior Liaison Committee to accept, reject or modify the plan](#).
- Separately, the Government of Yukon will consult with White River First Nation, Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation and First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun on potential impacts the plan and any proposed [modifications based on their Indigenous and treaty rights](#).

**Key facts and stats:**

- Chapter 11 of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Final Agreement provides the Commission with the autonomy to develop and recommend a plan for the Parties' consideration. The Commission completed the Recommended Plan on June 10, 2022.
- Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in submitted their proposed modifications to the Recommended Plan to the Commission pursuant to 11.6.4 of the Tr'ondek Hwëch'in Final Agreement on April 30, 2024.
- The Government of Yukon commenced consultation with the White River First Nation, pursuant to a bilateral Consultation Agreement and legal duty to consult, in May 2024.

- On August 21, 2024, White River First Nation submitted a written consultation response to the Government of Yukon.
- The Government of Yukon submitted their proposed modifications to the Recommended Plan to the Commission pursuant to 11.6.2 of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Final Agreement on November 25, 2024.

#### Status:

- The Commission has provided the Final Recommended Plan to the Parties and has released it to the public on March 31, 2026, in Dawson.
- As part of the planning process, [interim protections from mineral staking and oil and gas disposition are in place in](#) areas proposed by the Commission. The current prohibition order reflects the Final Recommended Plan. The intention is for these interim prohibitions to remain in place while the Parties determine their response to the Final Recommended Plan.
- The Government of Yukon continues to support a regional land use plan that ensures sustainable development and balances the needs of industry while protecting land, water and resources in ecologically sensitive and culturally important areas.

#### Approved by:

Jeff O'Farrell

March 31, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date approved

### Access to Timber and Forest Resources

Energy, Mines and Resources

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**Topic:** The Government of Yukon supports the forest sector's growth and stability by providing access to timber.

**Key messages:**

- We are working with First Nations, industry and the Yukon Wood Products Association to develop new timber harvesting projects and support existing operations throughout the territory.
- We are working to improve our approach to regulation and processes to increase timber harvesting in the Yukon.
- The Departments of Energy, Mines and Resources and Community Services are creating wood harvesting opportunities through wildfire fuel abatement projects around the Yukon.

**Key facts and stats:**

- The *Forest Resources Act and Regulation* guides timber harvest planning in the Yukon. These plans are subject to assessment under the *Yukon Environmental and Socio-Economic Act and Regulations*.
- The Government of Yukon is legally required to consult with affected First Nations and the public on timber harvesting projects.
- The Forest Management Branch successfully assessed eight timber harvesting projects in the last two years. These projects provide approximately 130,000 cubic metres of wood for commercial operators.
- Approved projects are located throughout the Yukon with a focus on salvaging dead timber or providing a supply of high-quality green timber for use as fuel wood and sawlogs to make lumber.

### Access to Timber and Forest Resources

Energy, Mines and Resources

- Timber cleared for fuel abatement purposes provides a substantial amount of wood supply. In 2024-25, the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources tendered contracts for approximately 17,000 cubic metres of fuel abatement timber harvesting.
- The Department of Energy Mines and Resources maintains more than 40 km of Forest Resources Roads throughout the Yukon to provide access for commercial and fuel abatement operations.

#### Status:

- Heavy snow and cold weather in November and December 2025 led to challenges for harvesters. The Forest Management Branch plowed roads, in some cases free of charge, to promote access for all types of commercial operations.

#### Approved by:

Jeff O'Farrell

March 16, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

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Date approved

### Winter Reliable Energy Plan

Energy, Mines and  
Resources and  
Yukon Development  
Corporation

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**Topic:** The Winter Reliable Energy Plan will strengthen and protect the integrity of Yukon's electrical system.

**Key messages:**

- The Government of Yukon is developing a Winter Reliable Energy Plan that will enhance the strength, reliability and resilience of the territory's electricity system.
- This plan will outline how we will increase electricity supply, improve grid infrastructure, manage and reduce demand, and bolster resiliency.
- Energy, Mines and Resources is developing the plan in collaboration with the Yukon Development Corporation, Yukon Energy and ATCO Electric Yukon. We aim to finalize the plan by summer 2027.

**Key facts and stats:**

- The Yukon's electrical grid is facing challenges meeting winter peak demand, especially during periods of extremely cold temperatures, raising the risk of outages when residents are most vulnerable to weather conditions.
- On December 23, 2025, the Yukon's electricity demand peaked at almost 127 megawatts, the highest level on record.
- By 2035, non-industrial peak demand is expected to rise by around 60% compared to 2025 if action isn't taken to moderate demand growth.

**Status:**

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Prepared for Minister Laking  
Energy, Mines and Resources and Yukon Development  
Corporation

Date prepared: March 17, 2026  
Date Updated: May 7, 2026  
Page 1 of 3

### Winter Reliable Energy Plan

Energy, Mines and  
Resources and  
Yukon Development  
Corporation

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- The Department of Energy, Mines and Resources [has been allocated budget within the](#) 2026-27 fiscal year (Mains) to develop the plan.
- Energy, Mines and Resources has established a Project Charter and a collaborative governance structure and is developing the plan.

#### **If asked about not including emission reductions in this plan:**

- Our electrical system continues to be predominantly supplied by renewable generation for much of the year.
- We are prioritizing reinvestment in our three hydro facilities, which supply dependable, renewable power to Yukoners year-round.
- It is essential that we ensure the grid remains reliable during periods of extreme cold when it is crucial for public safety.

#### **If asked about how this plan intersects with planning by the Yukon Development Corporation or Yukon Energy:**

- The organizations are working closely to ensure planning processes of each organization are well aligned and complementary, including public communications and external engagement.
- Resource planning by Yukon Energy and the Yukon Development Corporation will inform the Winter Reliable Energy Plan, actions will include enabling recommended generation and capacity resources.
- Actions in the Winter Reliable Energy Plan to reduce or optimize electricity demand will also inform resource planning processes by affecting the level of demand that future resources need to meet.

Session Briefing Note

EMR #7 / YDC #8  
Spring 2026

Winter Reliable Energy Plan

Energy, Mines and  
Resources and  
Yukon Development  
Corporation

Approved by:

Jeff O’Farrell

May 11, 2026

Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

Gary Gazankas

May 11, 2026

President and CEO of Yukon Development  
Corporation



**Topic:** Eagle Gold mine sales process.

**Key messages:**

- The sale of the Eagle Gold mine is being conducted by the Court-appointed Receiver, PricewaterhouseCoopers, with Bank of Montreal serving as the Financial Advisor.
- On April 23, 2026, the court-appointed Receiver, with the consent of the Government of Yukon, entered into an exclusivity agreement with Boroo Pte Ltd. for the sale of Eagle Gold Mine and certain related assets.
- The exclusivity agreement is an important next step of the sales process and is part of the due diligence process for the potential sale of the mine.
- The Government of Yukon provided input into the sale process to help ensure that the interests of Yukoners are protected. This includes setting out criteria to ensure that any potential buyer is responsible, experienced and well-resourced.
- A successful sale of the Eagle Gold Mine would create an opportunity for the Yukon government to recover funding advanced through the receivership loan, as the government has a super-priority charge over Victoria Gold Corp's assets to secure these advances.

**Key facts and stats:**

- An exclusivity agreement in the context of this sale process means that, for a defined period of time, (in this case, 90 days, which can be extended for a further 90 days if the agreement conditions are met, including Yukon government's consent), the Receiver is negotiating

the potential sale of the Eagle Gold Mine with a single interested party.

- The exclusivity agreement provides the interested party with limited, temporary rights to advance due diligence. This is expected to include access to further information and the mine site.
- The **Sale Process**, which started in July 2025, is a Receiver-led process and is subject to court approval in all aspects, including approval of a final transaction.
- The Government of Yukon has been consulted by the Receiver on every step of the process, including the development of **the Sale Process materials**, and reviewing letters of intent.
- A new operator will be subject to the Yukon's mining and environmental regulatory regime and required to maintain environmental compliance. A condition of closing the transaction will be that the purchaser posts reclamation security as required by the Government of Yukon.
- The winning bid is conditional upon Court approval and approval of the Government of Yukon.

**Status:**

- The total authorized loan for 2024–25 and 2025–26 is \$220 million.
- Yukon government will be consulted on final bids, and the preferred bid must be approved by the Government of Yukon.

**If asked about Engagement with the First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun:**

- As the party leading the sale process by court Order, the Receiver has engaged with affected First Nations as part of the **Sale Process**, including as it relates to this exclusivity agreement.
- The potential purchaser has met with non-technical representatives of the First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun. The purpose of those meetings was to present preliminary plans for acquiring the mine and restarting the operations.
- The exclusivity period will give the purchaser and the First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun an opportunity to discuss the **types of agreements** that **the First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun would like to see** in place for the transaction to proceed and for mining operations to restart. This may include a new benefits agreement.
- **An ideal final bid would demonstrate support from the First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun and include any negotiated agreements or arrangements.**
- As stated in the Receiver's update, there are no agreements that have been reached with the Yukon Government or the First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun. The exclusivity period is intended to advance those conversations.

**If asked about Boroo Pte Ltd.:**

- The sales process focused on ensuring that any potential buyer is responsible, experienced, and well-resourced, and does not restrict bidders based on nationality. These criteria help protect the interests of Yukoners, workers, and the environment.

- The interested party is Borro Pte Ltd. as noted by the court-appointed Receiver on their website.
- Borro Pte Ltd. has expressed serious interest in acquiring the Eagle Gold Mine and has entered into an exclusivity agreement as part of the **Sale Process**.
- Any buyer will still need to obtain all applicable required federal and Territorial regulatory approvals before re-starting operations. These processes include environmental oversight and engagement with affected First Nations and stakeholders.
- Foreign investment has long played an important role in Canada's and Yukon's resource sector, particularly as Canada works towards diversifying its trading partners.
- Foreign investments in Canada are regulated under the federal *Investment Canada Act*.

### **Should Yukoners be concerned about a foreign company purchasing Eagle Gold Mine:**

- The sales process focused on ensuring that any potential buyer is responsible, experienced, and well-resourced, and does not restrict bidders based on nationality. These criteria help protect the interests of Yukoners, workers, and the environment.
- The buyer will still need to obtain all applicable required federal and Territorial regulatory approvals before re-starting operations. These processes include environmental oversight and engagement with affected First Nations and stakeholders.

- Foreign investment has long played an important role in Canada's and Yukon's resource sector, particularly as Canada works towards diversifying its trading partners.
- Foreign investments in Canada are regulated under the federal *Investment Canada Act*.

#### **If asked about when activities might re-start at mine:**

- Regulatory authorizations will be required prior to re-starting operations or undertaking any development work on site.
- The First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun and relevant stakeholders will be engaged during the regulatory processes.
- Any re-start decisions will be informed by the Independent Review Board's investigations and recommendations and will be subject to current regulatory and policy requirements.

#### **If asked about a timeline for the potential sale:**

- There is no confirmed timeline for finalizing the sale and it is subject to a variety of factors.
- Any final decision on a buyer will still require review and approval by the Court, based on the Receiver's recommendation at the end of the process.
- Yukon government's consent as regulator and receivership lender to the Receiver is required for any sale transaction to be completed.

#### **Approved by:**

Sierra van der Meer  
Deputy Minister, Economic Development

May 4, 2026  
Date approved

### Implementing Independent Review Board Recommendations

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Energy, Mines and  
Resources

**Topic:** Energy, Mines and Resources is implementing recommendations from the Independent Review Board for the Eagle Gold Mine failure.

#### Key messages:

- We are implementing [all](#) the recommendations of the Independent Review Board and are confident that these changes will strengthen the Government of Yukon's approach as a mining regulator and help prevent similar failures from occurring.
- We are working with industry to ensure the recommendations are incorporated into ongoing operations.
- The Independent Review Board included subject matter experts with extensive experience in heap leach mining. We are confident that their report is accurate and will lead to positive improvements in the mining industry.

#### Key facts and stats:

- On June 24, 2024, a failure occurred at the heap leach facility of the Eagle Gold Mine operated by Victoria Gold Corp.
- An Independent Review Board has investigated the underlying causes of the failure. The Board was funded through receivership, with contracts managed by the Receiver. It operated with autonomy in accordance with its terms of reference, budget, and timeline.
- To support their review process, the Board interviewed and gathered information from past and current employees of Victoria Gold Corp., employees and contractors supporting PricewaterhouseCoopers on

### Implementing Independent Review Board Recommendations

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Energy, Mines and  
Resources

the response efforts, the Government of Yukon, and the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun.

#### Status:

- Of the 56 recommendations, 23 are implemented, 6 are in progress, and 27 are expected to be completed by spring 2027.
- Many of the recommendations will be captured in the Yukon's Guidelines for Mine Waste Management Facilities. Some of these recommendations are currently being put into practice but will not be viewed as complete until the guidelines are updated.
- Review of the Yukon's Mine Waste Management Facilities Guide is underway. This will be supported by an independent working group of experts who specialize in mine waste facilities.

#### If asked about determining fault for the heap leach slide at Eagle Gold mine:

- The Board's role was to investigate the technical causes of the failure.
- It concluded that the cause of failure was the accumulation of a series of adverse conditions and events, starting with a local failure in the over steepened area of the heap leach pad.

#### If asked about Les Sawatsky report and concerns raised:

- We would like to thank Les Sawatsky for his contributions as a member of the Independent Review Board.
- We are aware that he resigned from the board while their work was underway. We respect the board's autonomy and independence, and it would not be appropriate for us to comment further in this regard.

### Implementing Independent Review Board Recommendations

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Energy, Mines and  
Resources

- The board's review was completed by its two remaining board members, who are highly qualified technical experts, and supported by its three highly qualified technical advisors.
- The board was made up of a group of experts to ensure a wide scope of expertise to determine the cause of the heap leach failure. This approach allowed for peer review to ensure robust outcomes.
- The recommendations included in the board's report and those suggested by Mr. Sawatsky are closely aligned, and we are confident that our implementation approach will adequately address the concerns raised by Mr. Sawatsky.

#### If asked about why technical advisors didn't sign report:

- Independent Review Board members received support from technical advisors throughout their work. Technical advisors approved the IRB's final report.
- The terms of reference for the Independent Review Board allowed IRB members to sign the report. Technical advisors did not sign it due to their advisory role.
- Technical advisors were invited to provide an opinion on the dissenting opinion of Mr. Sawatsky. The technical advisors continue to support the final IRB report.



# Session Briefing Note

#9

**Spring 2026**

## **Implementing Independent Review Board Recommendations**

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Energy, Mines and  
Resources

**Approved by:**

Jeff O'Farrell

April 28, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date approved

## Managing the Placer Mining Bubble

Executive Council  
Office

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**Topic:** Placer mining licences are approved in 10-year cycles. There is currently a “bubble” of many placer mining licences up for renewal.

### Key messages:

- We have heard the frustrations from placer miners about delays in approving the renewal of their licences.
- We have provided the Yukon Water Board Secretariat with additional resources so that they can meet the administrative demand and support the Board in its decision-making.
- We know how important mining is to the Yukon. We are working to ensure that processes are streamlined and communication is clear.

### Key facts and stats:

- Amendments to the Placer Mining Land Use Regulation and the Quartz Mining Land Use Regulation were passed in May 2025 to address the permitting backlog and assist operators whose permits were expiring but had not been issued new permits.
- The Secretariat maintains a tracking tool, updated monthly, and shared with Energy, Mines and Resources, Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB), and Klondike Placer Miners’ Association (KPMA). The tool provides the following information:
  - 159 placer applications expire in 2024, 2025, and 2026.
    - 47 have been fully renewed (30%)
  - As of March 10th, 2026, the following applications are in process:

## Managing the Placer Mining Bubble

Executive Council  
Office

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- 19 are currently with the Secretariat and Board in varying stages of adequacy or Board review (17%).
- 24 are with EMR (21%).
- 12 are with YESAB (11%).
- Four were withdrawn or cancelled (4%)

### Status

- The Yukon Water Board is an independent body established under the Waters Act and the Umbrella Final Agreement. The Water Board is responsible for issuing licences for the use of water and/or the deposit of waste into water.
- The Waters Act requires that the Minister of the Executive Council Office provide the Water Board with sufficient staff and contractors to meet its mandate. The branch providing these services is the Water Board Secretariat. Secretariat staff are YG employees and subject to the *Public Service Act*.
- In 2003, YG transferred to the Board certain functions of the Chief of Placer Land Use respecting Class 4 placer land use operations. Under the Placer Mining Act, approval of Class 4 placer land use operations require a water licence or application for a water licence. The intent of the transfer is to create administrative efficiency for Class 4 placer mining (i.e. the same body approves both the placer mining licence and the associated water licence).

**Managing the Placer Mining  
Bubble**

Executive Council  
Office

**If asked about what else is being done about the placer mining bubble:**

- We are committed to making regulatory processes more streamlined and transparent and to establishing predictable and clear timelines.

**Approved by:**

Kelvin Leary

March 17, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Minister, Executive Council Office

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Date approved]

## Yukon Minerals Advisory Board Recommendations

Energy, Mines and  
Resources

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**Topic:** 2025 Yukon Mineral Advisory Board Annual Report

**Key messages:**

- The recommendations in the 2025 Yukon Minerals Advisory Board Annual Report are closely aligned with this government's commitment to improve the regulation of mineral resources.
- This includes implementing the Independent Review Board's recommendations, our commitment to complete new minerals legislation by 2028, and advancing land use planning.
- We are aligned with the report's recommendations to improve public transparency, address infrastructure constraints, and clarify decision-making roles and responsibilities.
- We are committed to reducing red tape, creating regulatory efficiencies, and allowing the private sector to lead economic growth.

**Key facts and stats:**

- The 2025 YMAB report makes recommendations in six categories:
  - **Strengthening Yukon government capacity:** investing in internal training and institutional continuity, strategic use of technical expertise, and increasing support for Yukon Geological Survey.
  - **Completing new minerals legislation:** advance work through a structured review of progress and objectives.
  - **Clarifying consultation processes and decision-making roles:** create clear policies for assessment and regulatory processes.
  - **Advancing regional land use planning:** prioritize completion.

### Yukon Minerals Advisory Board Recommendations

Energy, Mines and  
Resources

- Addressing infrastructure constraints: develop strategic infrastructure initiatives to address power and access.
- Improving public understanding and economic transparency of the mineral industry: improving how we collect data on the mining sector's role in economy and how we communicate about it.

#### Status:

- To address **Strengthening Yukon government capacity**, we are:
  - Implementing all recommendations from the IRB report.
  - Creating a new branch dedicated to major mines.
  - Increasing the access to subject matter experts to support technical reviews.
  - Enhancing training of regulators and inspectors of major mines.
- Committed to **completing new minerals legislation** by 2028 and are working closely with First Nations on this work.
- Consultation with First Nation partners is a key element of mineral resource management. We will seek to **clarify consultation processes and decision-making roles** while respecting our obligations to full and fair consultation.
- **Advancement of regional land use plans** continues with the release of the final draft of the Dawson Regional Land Use Plan and ongoing conversations with First Nations on priority land use planning areas.
- **Addressing infrastructure constraints** is advanced through the Yukon Resource Gateway funding, signing of memorandums of understanding with British Columbia for the Yukon-BC grid connect

### Yukon Minerals Advisory Board Recommendations

Energy, Mines and  
Resources

and Ontario for small modular reactor policy support, and an increased focus of improving Yukon's aging power infrastructure.

- Our role in **improving public understanding and economic transparency of the mineral industry** will include coordinating across government to improve how we are collecting data and reporting to the public. Our aim is to proactively communicate about mining sector employment, economic contribution and indigenous participation.
- One step we are taking now is developing an online dashboard that tracks the life cycle of mining authorization applications and we are publishing our security calculator for mining and exploration projects online.

**Approved by:**

**Jeff O'Farrell**

**May 4, 2026**

Deputy Minister, Department

Date approved

**Topic:** The Yukon government provides a variety of financial supports to the Yukon's agricultural sector.

#### Key messages:

- Financial support from the Yukon government is helping agriculture producers adapt to challenges and grow sector resilience.
- Under the five-year, \$9.25 million Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership program, we are providing funding to projects that support farm adaptation to climate change.
- We are committed to supporting local farms and other Yukon food producers by increasing the purchase of locally produced foods for government-run facilities.

#### Key facts and stats:

- Federal-provincial-territorial cost-shared agricultural funding programs have been implemented in the Yukon since 2003.
- The funding is cost-shared on a 60:40 ratio between the governments of Canada and Yukon, respectively.
- The Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership is the most recent installment and provides support over five-years (2023-28).
- Projects can range from farm business plans, development of infrastructure, purchasing equipment, improvements to on-farm production and energy efficiency, research initiatives, and practices to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change.



- Other programs that support the Yukon agriculture sector include the Department of Economic Development's Economic Development Fund and the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency's programs.

**Status:**

- The Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership program has approved over \$4 million in funding for over 240 local agriculture projects since 2023.
- The Next Policy Framework (2028-33) is expected to replace the current Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership and is in early stages of development.

**Approved by:**

Jeff O'Farrell

January 30, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date approved

**Topic:** Supporting local agriculture and agri-food businesses through government procurement.

**Key messages:**

- The Yukon government is supporting agriculture, agri-food businesses and the local food sector by prioritizing purchases of locally produced foods for government-run facilities.

**Key facts and stats:**

- In 2024, the Government of Yukon launched Online Marketplace, a digital platform for government employees to purchase a variety of supplies from local vendors online.
- The Online Marketplace allows producers to list their products in an online catalogue and to interact directly with purchasers.
- In 2025, Online Marketplace processed approximately \$32,000 in local food purchases from 6 local suppliers.
- The Government of Yukon spends approximately \$3 million per year on food. Based on the current local suppliers, there is an opportunity to increase the amount spent on locally produced food in the coming year.
- Online Marketplace currently lists four local food producers, with three more expected soon. Cross-department work is ongoing to expand local food purchasing.

**Status:**

- Highways and Public Works track local food purchases by departments and provides data in monthly updates to Directors and ADMs for food purchasing departments.
- Energy, Mines and Resources and Highways and Public Works staff and senior management continue to work with local food producers and senior management from food-purchasing departments to increase local food purchases.
- Strong communication between purchasers and producers is vital to clarify which local food products are the most likely to increase the government's purchasing from local producers.

**Approved by:**

Jeff O'Farrell

February 13, 2026

Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

T. Allen

February 6, 2026

Deputy Minister, Department of Highways  
and Public Works

Date approved

**Topic:** Access to affordable agricultural land.

**Key messages:**

- We are expanding opportunities for Yukoners to access agricultural land by zoning new land for agricultural use and offering lots through lease or sale.
- Yukon government supports the use of agricultural land through programs and incentives for Yukon farmers (See BN #15, Agriculture and Farm Supports).

**Key facts and stats:**

- The Yukon has 30,000 hectares of land dedicated to agriculture with nearly 16,000 hectares of titled agricultural land, 9,000 hectares in grazing agreements, and nearly 6,000 hectares in agricultural land reserves.
- Agriculture leases can support various agriculture activities, including livestock lease areas and market garden leases.
- Grazing Agreements allow the holder to use natural forage for either horses or cattle. Land used under a Grazing Agreement must be fenced with wildlife friendly fencing and allow the public and wildlife to use or travel through those areas.
- Agriculture Agreements for Sale are seven-year terms during which holders complete their farm development project for eventual title. The farm development agreement details the land development items that must be completed in the seven-year term. 100 percent of the value of the development can be applied to the cost of the land.

- Energy, Mines and Resources conduct ongoing inspections to ensure requirements under Agreements for Sale, agricultural leases and grazing agreements are met.

**Status:**

- We plan to release land in Golden Horn, Ibex Valley, and Mayo for food production and livestock pasture.
- We are currently reviewing an area in Mount Lorne for leases for seasonal agricultural production. The aim is to reduce wildfire fuel and to maintain farmland biodiversity.
- We are looking into expanding areas near Haines Junction and Dawson for future agriculture land opportunities.

**Approved by:**

Jeff O'Farrell

January 30, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date approved

### Elk – Agriculture Conflict

Energy, Mines and  
Resources and  
Environment

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**Topic:** Reducing damage from the Takhini elk population on agricultural properties.

**Key messages:**

- The Government of Yukon recognizes that elk are causing negative impacts on crop production and farm infrastructure, and we have taken steps to mitigate these impacts.
- Farmers can apply for funding to install game fencing and compensation for elk-related damage to crops and property through the Sustainable Canadian Agriculture Partnership funding program.
- Any Yukoner experiencing a conflict with elk or other wildlife on their property can call the TIPP line at 1-800-661-0525 to report the issue to Conservation Officers. Those experiencing elk damage may contact the Government of Yukon to explore other relief options.

**Key facts and stats:**

- Since 2014, the Government of Yukon has provided funding to compensate farmers for elk damage and to install exclusion fencing. [In 2025-26 this funded three compensation projects and five exclusion fencing projects.](#)
- A Limited Exclusion Zone applies localized and range-scaled herd management to deter elk from agricultural areas in Takhini Valley.
- Elk are monitored by the Department of Environment to collect herd location data.

### Elk – Agriculture Conflict

Energy, Mines and  
Resources and  
Environment

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#### Status:

- In 2023, the Government of Yukon implemented a two-year pilot project to minimize impacts of the Takhini elk herd on agricultural properties while maintaining the Takhini elk herd on the landscape.
- As part of this project, an Elk-Agriculture Coordinator was hired as a direct point of contact for affected landowners.
- A report is being prepared by the Elk-Agriculture Steering Committee, which will include program highlights and challenges, as well as key recommendations for future work. The Government of Yukon will review this report and prepare options for additional mitigations.
- In March 2026, the Department of Environment announced that it is taking steps to procure elk feed that could be deployed in strategic locations as an additional mitigation tool if needed this winter.

#### If asked about the government's procurement of feed to address elk conflict:

- The Government of Yukon appreciates the work of the Elk-Agriculture Steering Committee and Elk-Agricultural Coordinator to reduce elk conflict.
- Periods of extreme cold have intensified elk conflict with agriculture properties this winter.
- The Government of Yukon has taken steps to procure elk feed that could be deployed in strategic locations as an additional mitigation tool should additional conflicts arise this winter.

### Elk – Agriculture Conflict

Energy, Mines and  
Resources and  
Environment

- This type of management tool has been used in other jurisdictions throughout Canada and the United States when challenging climates and low food resources have caused conflict situations.
- Building on the work of the Elk-Agriculture Steering Committee and Coordinator, the Government of Yukon will continue to work with affected landowners to implement a range of management tools, when necessary, to reduce elk–agriculture conflicts.

**Approved by:**

Jeff O'Farrell

May 8, 2026

Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

**Approved by:**

Dennis Berry

May 8, 2026

Deputy Minister, Department of  
Environment

Date approved



### Animal Protection and Control Act Implementation

Department of  
Environment & Energy,  
Mines and Resources

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**Topic:** The Government of Yukon enforces requirements under the *Animal Protection and Control Act*.

**Key messages:**

- The *Animal Protection and Control Act* is a modern framework that guides domestic and livestock animal protection and control in the Yukon.
- The Act regulates animal-related businesses and rescues and ownership of exotic pets. It also provides tools to address feral and high-risk animals to protect animals, Yukoners, their property, and the environment.
- The Government of Yukon is working closely with Yukon First Nations, Yukon communities and animal-related businesses to keep them informed and implement the regulations under the Act.

**Key facts and stats:**

- Under the *Animal Protection and Control Act*, officers with the Agriculture Branch in the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources respond to livestock concerns, and officers with the Department of Environment respond to all other species.
- In 2025-26, 180 occurrence reports were documented, five investigations were launched, and two charges were laid under the *Animal Protection and Control Act*. In addition, one permit was issued for an animal rescue, two permits for animal boarding facilities, and one permit for a pet store.

**Status:**

### Animal Protection and Control Act Implementation

Department of Environment & Energy, Mines and Resources

- The *Animal Protection and Control Act* was brought into effect in April 2024.
- In July 2024, the Department of Environment hired a Program Manager who supports officers in both departments to implement the *Animal Protection and Control Act* and associated regulations.

#### If asked about measures taken to address unregulated animal rescues in the territory:

- Animal rescue organizations, boarding facilities and pet stores that do not currently hold a permit to operate are not in compliance and should contact the Animal Health and Protection Branch or the Agriculture Branch to get instructions on how to obtain a permit.
- Animal Protection and Control Officers work with unpermitted facilities to bring them into compliance with the Act. Officers use tools including education, warnings, and orders, and may also pursue charges in some cases.

#### Approved by:

Jeff O'Farrell

February 6, 2026

Deputy Minister, Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

Dennis Berry

February 9, 2026

Deputy Minister, Department of Environment

Date approved

### Beaufort Sea oil and gas basin

Energy, Mines and  
Resources

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**Topic:** The Government of Yukon supports a strong, sustainable and viable Arctic economy, as well as the protection of the Arctic's ecosystem.

#### Key messages:

- We work closely with our partners - the Governments of Canada, Northwest Territories and the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation - under the *Western Arctic-Tariuq (Offshore) Accord* to explore economic opportunities in the Yukon's north.
- As a co-signatory, we play a strong role in the management of offshore resource development and environmental protection in the Beaufort Sea.
- The Yukon is aligned with its northern partners to ensure that decisions made about the north reflect and respect northern perspectives.

#### Key facts and stats:

- The Beaufort Sea is a world-class oil and gas basin. Oil and gas exploration in the Beaufort area began in the 1960s.
- In 2016, the Government of Canada imposed a Moratorium on new offshore oil and gas rights in the Western Arctic. This Moratorium remains in place today.
- In 2019, the Government of Canada enacted a Prohibition Order on oil and gas activity in the Beaufort Sea. The current five-year Prohibition Order expires in 2028.
- The *Western Arctic-Tariuq (Offshore) Accord* was ratified in 2023.

### Beaufort Sea oil and gas basin

Energy, Mines and  
Resources

- The Accord enables co-management, revenue-sharing and joint decision-making on oil and gas and resources in the Beaufort Sea. It also provides a pathway for future discussions on co-management of renewable energy and other minerals offshore.

#### Status:

- We are providing input to the Government of Canada as they develop legislation to implement the Accord and provide certainty for the Yukon's role in oil and gas management decisions in the Beaufort Sea.
- The Government of Yukon and the Accord partners are advancing collaborative studies to inform us about ecological and socio-economic conditions in the Western Arctic. Discussions are ongoing at the Premier and Minister levels regarding policy decisions for the offshore.
- To fulfill provisions under the 1993 Oil and Gas Accord, the Yukon will be the beneficiary of revenues from Canada for historic oil and gas activities in the Beaufort Sea.

#### If asked about Canada-US border:

- There is an ongoing dispute between Canada and the U.S. over the maritime boundary in the Beaufort Sea.
- The Government of Canada has agreed to provide relevant updates to Yukon when they become available.

#### Approved by:

Jeff O'Farrell

February 5, 2026

Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

**Topic:** Regulating exploration and responsible development of Yukon's oil and gas resources, including liquid natural gas (LNG) facilities.

**Key messages:**

- Oil and gas resources and liquid natural gas facilities in Yukon are regulated under the *Oil and Gas Act* and regulations.
- Regarding the moratorium imposed by Canada on offshore oil and gas activities, the Yukon is in line with our northern partners that natural resource management decisions such as oil and gas activity in the Western Arctic offshore should be made at a local level by northern governments, as they have unique rights, needs and perspectives.
- Regarding the moratorium on hydraulic fracking in Yukon, we are committed to ensuring that economic development, climate change and environmental protection are balanced in the management of our oil and gas resources and have no plans to amend this moratorium.

**Key facts and stats:**

- Hydrocarbon resources in Yukon in onshore basins are estimated to be 17 trillion cubic feet natural gas and 770 million barrels of oil.
- The Yukon co-manages Beaufort Sea oil and gas resources through the Offshore (*Tariuq*) Oil and Gas Accord. [Refer to EMR tab #23 'Beaufort'](#)
- The Yukon has one licensed liquid natural gas facility at Yukon Energy Corporation's Whitehorse hydro facility; several mining companies have indicated interest in using small liquid natural gas facilities for power.

- Natural gas was produced in the territory between 1991 and 2012 from the Kotaneelee gas field.
- In 2016, Canada imposed an indefinite Moratorium in the arctic offshore suspending new oil and gas rights; the Moratorium is to be reviewed every 5 years through a science-based review.
- In 2019, Canada imposed a Prohibition Order suspending all oil and gas activities in Offshore Waters; it expires in 2028.
- The moratorium on hydraulic fracturing was set by policy by the Government of Yukon in 2015.

#### Status:

- There are currently no active oil and gas exploration or development projects in Yukon.
- A moratorium on hydraulic fracturing in Yukon and a moratorium on new offshore oil and gas rights are currently in place. A Prohibition Order on offshore development is currently in place.

#### If asked about Chance Oil and Gas:

- Chance has ten permits for oil and gas rights in Eagle Plains basin and licences for eight oil and gas wells.
- [The Yukon Government](#) holds \$2.3M in security for their eight oil and gas wells in Eagle Plains basin.
- In 2024, Chance Oil and Gas was issued an order to abandon (remediate) the wells or return them to operation by May 31, 2027. This order remains in place.

- Chance Oil and Gas submitted a project proposal to the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board Executive Committee for an oil and gas exploration project in Eagle Plains in March 2024; the project did not proceed to a screening of the Executive Committee as it did not meet consultation requirements.
- In 2017, Chance Oil and Gas sought legal action against the Yukon regarding its moratorium on hydraulic fracturing. This matter is currently before the Supreme Court of Yukon.

#### **If asked about Kotaneelee Well L-38 and Gas Plant:**

- L-38 is an orphaned gas well in southeast Yukon for which the Yukon holds \$650,455 in security.
- The well is inspected annually by the regulator; the Department of Environment will oversee future reclamation work.
- The Kotaneelee gas plant has been decommissioned by Paramount Resources. Yukon holds \$7.5 million in security for site remediation.

#### **If asked about geothermal resources:**

- Geothermal energy provides a constant, year-round source of energy that can be used for power and heat. It is used in some Yukon municipalities to keep drinking water from freezing and for bathing and heating at Takhini Hot Springs.
- The Yukon Geological Survey has conducted a number of geothermal technical studies in Yukon communities and continues to develop an understanding of geothermal resources in the territory.

# Session Briefing Note

**EMR #24**  
**Spring 2026**

## Oil and Gas

Energy, Mines and  
Resources

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- Geothermal exploration [may be](#) regulated under the Oil and Gas Geoscience and Exploration Regulations and some [geothermal development](#) applications [may be](#) regulated under the Waters Act.

### **If asked about impacts of oil and gas and the Porcupine Caribou herd:**

- We are committed to ensuring that any decisions in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge consider the ecological importance of the area, including its role as a critical caribou calving grounds, and the perspectives of Yukoners and communities in those areas.

#### **Approved by:**

Jeff O'Farrell

May 8, 2026

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Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

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Date approved



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**Topic:** Government of Yukon collaborates with First Nations on monitoring resource development projects.

**Key messages:**

- Department of Energy, Mines and Resources work with four Yukon First Nations on Collaborative Stewardship Initiatives.
- Collaborative Stewardship Initiatives aim to build strong working relationships between First Nation governments and officers and increase monitoring capacity across the Yukon.
- Initiative activities include joint training, environmental monitoring, and site visits to resource activities occurring on traditional territories.

**Key facts and stats:**

- The Collaborative Stewardship Initiative is a partnership with Kluane First Nation, Kwanlin Dün First Nation, Selkirk First Nation and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in.
- The initiative focuses on inspection processes and procedures, information-sharing, water quality monitoring, cross-training, and joint fieldwork.
- This work has helped with the development of Selkirk First Nation and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Land Guardian programs.
- The initiative does not include joint participation in investigations, enforcement or prosecution under either Yukon or Yukon First Nations laws, nor does it involve wildlife management or harvesting issues.

**Status:**

- The Collaborative Stewardship Initiative is considered a pilot program and is due for review.

# Session Briefing Note

#25

Spring 2026

## Collaborative Stewardship

Energy, Mines  
and Resources

- There is increasing interest from other First Nations in joining the Collaborative Stewardship Initiative.
- More work is required to determine how to grow the program under its current capacity.

### If asked about Land Guardian programs:

- Department officials worked with Yukon University's Land Guardian course, sharing expertise with students through hands-on learning opportunities and promoting positive relationships with future and current First Nations Land Guardians.

### If asked about working with First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun (FNNND):

- Natural Resource Officers and First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun staff conduct regular joint site inspections, mainly focused on the Eagle Gold site.
- We maintain a water monitoring station on Granite Creek in FNNND's traditional territory and we share water quality information as part of an annual review of the program.
- We worked with First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun and Fisheries and Oceans Canada to approve Roop Lakes as an Area of Special Consideration in 2025, providing an important cultural site of FNNND with the highest level of water quality standards under the placer mining regime.

#### Approved by:

Jeff O'Farrell

February 4, 2026

Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

## Mineral Staking Prohibitions in Response to Litigation

Executive Council  
Office

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**Topic:** Mineral staking prohibitions are in place in response to court declarations regarding the Yukon government's obligation to consult prior to registering mineral claims.

### Key messages:

- Our government respects the court directions about meeting our consultation obligations prior to registering mineral claims. Staking prohibitions continue to allow us to meet those obligations.
- The staking prohibitions also give us time to advance discussions with First Nations with title claims about how best to address the court declarations in the future.
- The staking prohibitions are limited. They do not impact industry's ability to explore and develop claims registered before a prohibition came into effect.

### Key facts and stats:

- In 2012, the Yukon Court of Appeal made two declarations: (1) the Yukon government (YG) has a duty to consult with Ross River Dena Council (RRDC) in determining whether mineral rights on Crown lands within the Ross River Area are to be made available to third parties under the provisions of the Quartz Mining Act; and, (2) YG has a duty to notify and, where appropriate, consult with and accommodate RRDC before allowing any mineral exploration activities to take place within the Ross River Area.
- In 2014, both the Taku River Tlingit First Nation (TRTFN) and other Kaska representatives started court proceedings seeking the same declarations for their respective asserted traditional territories in the Yukon. The declarations were granted by consent.

## Mineral Staking Prohibitions in Response to Litigation

Executive Council  
Office

- Amendments to the quartz and placer mining regimes in relation to Class 1 mining activities address the second declaration.
- The three mineral staking prohibitions covering the Kaska and TRTFN asserted traditional territories cover approximately 23 per cent of the Yukon.
- Additional staking prohibitions are in place for reasons such as land use planning, to create parks and protected areas, or to disallow staking within municipal boundaries.
- About 53 per cent of the total area of the Yukon is currently under a prohibition.

### Status:

- The mineral staking prohibition in the Ross River Area was initiated in 2013 and expires on April 30, 2026.
- The mineral staking prohibition specifically for R-137B, the Liard First Nation Interim Protected Land parcel within the Ross River Area, expires on November 30, 2026.
- The mineral staking prohibition in the southern portion of the Kaska asserted traditional territory in the Yukon was initiated in 2017 and expires on April 30, 2026.
- The mineral staking prohibition associated with the former Áashú Village site within the TRTFN asserted traditional territory was initiated in 2019 and expires on April 30, 2026. A land disposition prohibition is also in place for the same area and duration.

### Approved by:

Kelvin Leary

February 12, 2026

Deputy Minister, Executive Council Office

[Date approved]

## TH and FNNND Litigation

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**Topic:** Statements of Claim were recently filed in the Supreme Court of Yukon, one by the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun and two by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in.

### Key messages:

- The Government of Yukon remains committed to working respectfully with Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun on priorities critical to our government-to-government relationships.
- This includes working with each First Nation and the Government of Canada to advance the implementation of the Final and Self-Government Agreements.

### Key facts and stats

#### First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun (FNNND) Statement of Claim

- FNNND is suing the governments of Yukon and Canada for declarations, injunctions, and damages arising out of breaches of constitutional and treaty obligations in relation to mining activity in FNNND's Traditional Territory.
- There is also a distinct claim for a declaration and damages against the Yukon government on the basis that it has failed to meet its responsibilities as the trustee of a public trust under section 8 of the *Environment Act*.

#### Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in (TH) Statements of Claim

- The first Statement of Claim covers matters related to successor legislation and encumbering rights.
- TH is suing the governments of Yukon and Canada for declarations and damages arising out of the Government of Yukon's failure to meet its obligations to:

# Session Briefing Note

**Tab# 13 (ECO)**  
**Tab# 27 (EMR)**  
**Tab# 105 (JUS)**  
**Spring 2026**  
ECO/EMR/JUS

## TH and FNNND Litigation

- enact successor legislation to various Yukon statutes that regulate mining activity; and
- administer and regulate the exercise of “Encumbering Rights” on TH Settlement Lands in accordance with the TH Final Agreement, the TH Self-Government Agreement, and the Devolution Transfer Agreement.
- In January 2026, TH filed a separate lawsuit against the Government of Yukon that seeks damages to address the alleged harm resulting from the regulatory amendments to the *Placer Mining Land Use Regulation*, the *Quartz Mining Land Use Regulation* and the *Waters Regulation* passed in May 2025.

### Status:

- ECO has issued interim corporate guidance to Yukon government departments that provides operational guidance when consulting, engaging and negotiating with TH or FNNND on the subject matters in the litigation.

#### Approved by:

Kelvin Leary	February 24, 2026
_____ Deputy Minister, Executive Council Office	_____ [Date approved]
Jeff O’Farrell	February 24, 2026
_____ Deputy Minister, Energy Mines and Resources	_____ [Date approved]
Jeff Simons	February 23, 2026
_____ a/Deputy Minister, Justice	_____ [Date approved]

## Yukon Resource Gateway Program

Highways and  
Public Works

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**Topic:** Update on the Yukon Resource Gateway Program.

### Key messages:

- The Yukon Resource Gateway Program is a major joint investment by the Government of Canada and the Government of Yukon to improve road access to mineral-rich regions and strengthen Arctic security in the region.
- Our government is focused on working with Canada to maximize the remaining Gateway funding before the program expires.
- The Department of Highways and Public Works is responsible for delivering Gateway road projects and ensuring they are planned and constructed in collaboration with affected Yukon First Nations and industry.

### Key facts and stats:

- The Yukon Resource Gateway Program is investing \$398.4 million in road infrastructure across the territory.
- Funding has been extended to March 31, 2031, with no further extensions confirmed by Canada.
- Every Gateway project requires a Project Agreement with affected First Nations, outlining how projects will be delivered and how benefits will flow to citizens.
- Discussions are underway with Canada to increase program flexibility in order to increase likelihood of delivering the program within its timeline.
- Eligible project components approved in the 2025 amendment of the agreement with Canada include:

## Yukon Resource Gateway Program

Highways and  
Public Works

- Nahanni Range Road – \$10 million
- Robert Campbell Highway (km 114–232) – \$60 million
- Robert Campbell Highway (km 354.9–414.4) – \$60 million
- Silver Trail – \$76 million
- Dempster Highway – \$45 million
- Casino Road – \$37 million
- Freegold Road Phase II – \$10 million
- North Canol Road – \$31 million

### Status:

- Project Agreements have been signed and are being implemented or completed with 4 First Nations.
- The department continues to engage with First Nations and industry proponents to align infrastructure investments with mine development timelines and regulatory requirements.
- As funding deadlines approach, the government is prioritizing projects that are ready to proceed and deliver the greatest benefit to Yukoners and the territorial economy.

### Approved by:

T. Allen

Deputy Minister, Highways and Public Works

February 16, 2026

Date Approved



**Topic:** Notable mining projects to support a sustainable minerals sector.

**Key messages:**

- Energy, Mines and Resources is committed to creating the conditions for a sustainable mining industry by improving regulatory requirements and government oversight.
- Several major mine projects are currently undergoing assessment and regulatory review. These include the proposed Coffee Gold mine, Kudz Ze Kayah mine, Casino mine, and the expansion of the Keno Hills Silver District.

**Key facts and stats:**

- Keno Hill Silver District, run by Hecla Mining, is the only active major mine in the Yukon, producing silver, lead and zinc.
- Coffee Gold is a proposed open pit and heap leach gold mine about 130km south of Dawson City, with a projected 10-year mine life.
- Kudz Ze Kayah is a proposed open pit and underground silver, zinc, lead, copper and gold mine located approximately 115km southeast of Ross River.
- Minto Mine is currently under receivership and managed by the Assessment and Abandoned Mines Branch. Selkirk Copper Mines, an exploration company partially owned by Selkirk First Nation, is assessing the feasibility of restarting the mine.
- Casino is a proposed large-scale copper, gold, molybdenum and silver mine located approximately 150km northwest of Carmacks. If approved, it will be one of the largest mines in Canada.

#### Status:

- Keno Hill Silver District Mining Operations Extension and Power Back-Up Project is undergoing a YESAB executive committee screening. This assessment would support increased power reliability, expansion of mine components, and extend the mine life.
- Coffee Gold is in the regulatory phase. The quartz mining licence application is undergoing detailed review and consultation.
- A Decision Document was issued for the Kudz Ze Kayah project on April 10, 2026. The project can now re-enter the regulatory phase.
- Selkirk Copper will decide in 2026 whether to pursue the “restart” of the Minto Mine.
- Casino Mining Corporation has submitted its Casino project for the first-ever YESAB panel review.

#### If asked about the Coffee Gold Mine Northern Access Route:

- We understand that Fuerte Metals has contracted a local company to construct the Northern Access Route, and equipment is currently being mobilized along a winter trail, which is authorized under a current Land Use Permit.
- Fuerte Metals does not have authorization to begin construction of the Northern Access Route at this time.
- The Land Management Branch is in the process of drafting a Resource Roads Regulation Primary Permit and other authorizations required for construction/operations of the Northern Access Route.

- Once drafting of the Primary Permit is complete, the Land Management Branch will be continuing consultation with affected First Nations prior to permit issuance.

#### **If asked about the Kudz Ze Kayah Project:**

- A decision document was issued by Yukon and federal decision bodies on April 10, 2026. This concludes court-directed consultation on economic feasibility with Ross River Dena Council and Liard First Nation.
- [The Decision Document includes new terms](#) in response to concerns raised by the Ross River Dena Council on economic feasibility and related to security and closure, mine infrastructure and monitoring, access, and heritage resources.
- [Energy, Mines and Resources has resumed its review of the quartz mining license application and has met with the company to discuss next steps. The application is undergoing a completeness review and is being reviewed against new decision document conditions and recommendations from the Independent Review Board. It is anticipated that additional information from the company will be required to respond to existing information requests](#)
- Government of Yukon regulatory agencies [will consult](#) with affected First Nations on all required regulatory instruments during the licensing phase.
- Ross River Dena Council recently issued a stop work notice on exploration work noting that the nation did not consent to the project. BMC has legal authority to continue exploration in the area under existing permits.

# Session Briefing Note

#31

Spring 2026

## Mining Projects of Note

Energy, Mines and  
Resources

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- [Reference: ECO BN #35 -Kudz Ze Kayah Mine Project \(BMC Minerals\)](#)

### Approved by:

Jeff O'Farrell

April 23, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date approved

**Topic:** The Yukon's placer mining industry plays a vital role in supporting the territory's economy.

**Key messages:**

- Placer mining is a key part of Yukon's economy and contributes to the well-being of people and businesses in many Yukon communities.
- This past 2025 season was one of the most productive placer mining seasons since the mid-1980s.
- We are committed to increasing resource royalty retention by working with Yukon First Nations and the Government of Canada to increase the benefits for Yukon communities and Yukoners.

**Key facts and stats**

- [As of March 26, 2026, there are 36 pending placer Decision Documents with Energy, Mines and Resources.](#)
- From April 1, 2025, to March 1, 2026, the Yukon's total reported placer gold production was 111,527 crude ounces, worth \$475.2 million. This is up from 2024, which saw production of 98,683 crude ounces worth \$284 million.
- As of March 2026, there are a total of 33,705 active placer claims and 226 active placer leases across the Yukon.
- Placer mines pay a royalty on all gold exported from the Yukon.
- The royalty is fixed at \$0.375 per ounce, based on 2.5% of a legislated gold value set at \$15 per ounce. The royalty amount has

remained unchanged since 1906 and has not kept up with current gold values.

- A Policy for the Stewardship of Yukon's Wetlands was released in January 2023. It contains 16 implementation actions with near-term, mid-term, and long-term implementation targets over the next 10 years.
- Work is underway to support placer miners by mapping wetlands in placer areas and releasing clear guidance materials to assist in wetland conservation planning during placer license applications.

#### Status:

- Energy, Mines and Resources is addressing the permitting backlog for placer and quartz projects, including by hiring temporary staff, clarifying timelines for consultation, and upgrading systems to support improved tracking and permitting of projects.
- Energy, Mines and Resources is exploring options with the Klondike Placer Miners' Association to streamline the process for clearing heritage polygons on placer sites.

#### Approved by:

Jeff O'Farrell

March 30, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date approved

**Topic:** Casino Mine Project - Panel Review**Key messages:**

- We recognize the significance of the proposed Casino Mine to the Yukon and to Canada, particularly for the development of critical minerals and supporting Canadian sovereignty.
- Our government is committed to supporting mineral development that is both environmentally and socially responsible, in a manner that meets the needs of industry.
- The Yukon government continues to review the Casino Mining Corporation's Environmental and Socio-Economic Effects Statement submitted to the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB) in October 2025, and to prepare for the next phases of the YESAB Panel of the Board Review ("panel review").
- Our government is committed to ensuring the outcomes and recommendations of the Eagle Gold Independent Review Board are considered in the panel review of the Casino Mine Project's heap leach facility, and more broadly, in the development and improvement of related licensing and enforcement policies and practices.

**Key facts and stats:**

- The Casino Mine would be one of the largest mine projects in Canada and is the first YESAB panel review undertaken since the enactment of the *Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act*.
- The proposed Casino Mine Project is owned by Casino Mining Corporation, a subsidiary of Western Copper and Gold, and is a large-

### Casino Mine Project

Executive Council  
Office

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scale copper, gold, molybdenum and silver open pit mine  
approximately 150 kilometres northwest of Carmacks

- In addition to mining operations (mining, processing, tailings management, etc.), the project involves:
  - Upgrading the Freegold Road (~83 km), and development of the ~123 km Casino Trail into an all-season road; and,
  - Construction and operation of a 200 mega-watt liquefied natural gas facility.
- The Casino Mine project and its proposed access are located in the Traditional Territories of Selkirk First Nation, Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, and within an area in which White River First Nation asserts Aboriginal rights and title. .

#### Status:

- The Casino Mine Project remains in the YESAB sufficiency check period. Supplementary information is required before a technical analysis can be initiated by a Panel of YESAB.
- Casino Mining Corporation is expected to provide responses to YESAB's supplementary information request, along with an updated ESE Statement, at which time a new 60-day period for YESAB to determine sufficiency will commence.
- Yukon government will continue to review the current Environmental and Socio-Economic Effects Statement, and to prepare for engaging in the Panel Review process and for consulting with affected First Nations.



# Session Briefing Note

**EMR #33 TAB# 34**

**Spring 2026**

## Casino Mine Project

Executive Council  
Office

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### If asked about the Panel Review Process:

- Yukon government will be an “intervenor” in this process, whose interventions will be subject to examination and iterative reviews in a public hearing setting.
- The Minister of the Executive Council Office is the Government of Yukon decision body for the YESAB Panel Review.
- There will be several federal decision bodies.

<b>Approved by:</b>	
Kelvin Leary	February 12, 2026
_____	_____
Deputy Minister, Department	[Date approved]

**Topic:** Heap leaching is a method of extraction used for gold mining.

**Key messages:**

- Heap leaching is a commonly used technology to extract mineral resources. Heap leaching is a safe and reliable technology.
- The Independent Review Board has indicated that, with the implementation of its recommendations, heap leaching can be done safely in the Yukon.

**Key facts and stats:**

- At a cyanide heap leach operation, ore is extracted, crushed and placed into piles on top of a protective liner. The ore is then sprayed with a cyanide solution, which dissolves gold from the ore. The cyanide gold solution is collected at the bottom of the heap and sent to a facility, where the gold is separated and the cyanide is reused.
- Heap leach facilities typically operate as closed-loop systems where cyanide solutions are recycled and continually placed back on top of the heap.
- Water management is a key component to operations of heap leach facilities; excess water is typically managed in external ponds. Any excess waters or solutions require treatment prior to discharge to the environment.
- Failures of heap leach facilities are uncommon, and those failures that do occur are typically small in nature and remain within containment.
- In 2024, two large scale heap leach failures occurred where materials escaped containment and resulted in environmental damages. These

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**Spring 2026**

## Heap Leach

Energy, Mines and  
Resources

failures were the Eagle Gold failure and the Çöpler failure in Turkey; the Turkey failure resulted in 9 fatalities.

### Status:

- The Government of Yukon has begun implementation of the Independent Review Board recommendations, including updated licensing requirements for the Coffee Gold project which is proposing to use a heap leach facility.
- Improvements to regulatory and enforcement practices are underway to ensure all mining projects are responsibly managed in Yukon.

### If asked about the IRB implementation:

- Refer to [EMR BN #9](#) 'Implementing Independent Review Board Recommendations'

### If asked about the sale of the Eagle Gold mine:

- Refer to [EMR BN #8](#) 'Eagle Gold Sales Process'

### If asked about the Coffee Gold Mine:

- Refer to [EMR BN #31](#) 'Mining Projects of Note'

#### Approved by:

Jeff O'Farrell

March 30, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date approved

### Kudz Ze Kayah Mine Project (BMC Minerals)

Executive Council  
Office

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**Topic:** Court-directed consultation on BMC Minerals Ltd.'s Kudz Ze Kayah Mine Project.

#### Key messages:

- The Government of Yukon and the Government of Canada issued a joint Decision Document on April 10, 2026 allowing the Kudz Ze Kayah Project to proceed to regulatory review.
- The Decision Document has new measures in response to concerns raised by Ross River Dena Council and Liard First Nation during consultation.
- The Proponent, BMC Minerals Ltd., may now apply for the necessary permits and licenses for the mine.

#### Key facts and stats:

- The proposed Kudz Ze Kayah project is an open pit and underground zinc, silver, copper, gold and lead mine located approximately 115 km southeast of Ross River, Yukon within the traditional territories of the Ross River Dena Council (RRDC) and Liard First Nation (LFN).
- The Project entered the assessment process in 2017.
- June 15, 2022, the initial Decision Document was issued by the governments of Canada (Natural Resources Canada and Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada) and Yukon, the Decision Bodies for the Project.
- January 2, 2024, the Supreme Court of Yukon set aside the June 2022 Decision Document and directed the Decision Bodies to consult on additional issues raised by the RRDC and LFN.

## **Kudz Ze Kayah Mine Project (BMC Minerals)**

Executive Council  
Office

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- A new Decision Document was issued on March 8, 2024, following consultation with RRDC and LFN.
- December 6, 2024, the Court of Appeal of Yukon set aside the March 8, 2024, Decision Document and directed the Decision Bodies to consult with RRDC and LFN on the economic feasibility of the Project and the question of “is it worth it.”

### **Status:**

- Court-directed consultation with RRDC and LFN has come to an end.
- A Decision Document was issued under the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act on April 10 allowing the Project to proceed with additional terms and conditions.
- Decision Bodies heard that RRDC and LFN are opposed to the Project and consensus on the decision was not achieved during consultation.
- The regulatory process can now resume, and the proponent, BMC, may apply for the permits and licences required to access, construct, operate, and close the mine.

### **If asked about RRDC and LFN opposition to the Project:**

- Consultation with Ross River Dena Council and Liard First Nation has spanned more than six years and has addressed an unprecedented range of topics and considerations.
- We have pursued a transparent and fair decision-making process, consistent with the honour of the Crown.
- Measures have been developed to mitigate identified potential impacts of the proposed project to Ross River Dena Council, Liard

# Session Briefing Note

**TAB# 35**  
**Spring 2026**

## **Kudz Ze Kayah Mine Project (BMC Minerals)**

Executive Council  
Office

First Nation and Yukon's environment and communities. We have also considered the potential benefit to all Yukoners.

- Ross River Dena Council and Liard First Nation assert Aboriginal Rights and Title in the area overlapping the Project. The flexible, adaptive and deep level in our approach to consultation over the last year was necessary and appropriate to address First Nation concerns to the Project.

**Approved by:**

Kate Durand

April 13, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
a/ Deputy Minister, Executive Council Office

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Date approved]

**Topic:** Key highlights from the 2026–27 Main Estimates.

**Key messages:**

- The 2026–27 Main Estimates represent a balance of fiscal discipline in the face of our current financial situation and investment in key priorities to improve the lives of Yukoners.
- The Government of Yukon needs to focus investments on critical priorities and, in time, balance spending.
- Budget 2026 includes gross O&M expenditures of \$1.97 billion, addressing O&M pressures in health and energy affordability, as well as housing, education and public safety.
- The 2026–27 Main Estimates forecast a \$81.8 million deficit as we continue to prioritize service delivery for Yukoners while undertaking further planning for future capital investments.
- As we identify strategic capital investments in future years, these additions to publicly owned assets will have an upward effect on the surplus.

**Key facts and stats:**

- 2026–27 Operations and Maintenance Expenditures total \$1.97 billion, plus a \$100 million contingency vote, with recoveries totaling \$188 million.
- Capital expenditures are estimated at \$385 million, with \$105.8 million in recoveries.
- Revenue will increase by \$138 million, or 7.6 per cent, over the 2025–26 Main Estimates, which is driven mainly by increased federal transfers.

- Transfers from Canada are forecast to increase by \$130.8 million, due to an increase in the Territorial Formula Financing Grant.
- Tax and General Revenue are expected to increase by \$7.7 million compared to last year's Main Estimates.

**Ensuring Reliable Power for Yukoners and Protecting the Integrity of the Electricity Grid:**

- Budget 2026 reflects our commitment to make energy affordable through the \$13 million the Affordability Rate Relief program, for rebates on residential electricity bills.
- Major investment in our energy grid is required to ensure our grid is stable. We have earmarked up to \$100 million in additional debt space for Yukon Energy Corporation to undertake critical investments in its infrastructure this year, including upgrades to the Mayo site.

**Improve timely access to frontline health care services for Yukoners:**

- We have prioritized support to ensuring access to front-line health care, reflected through increased investment in the Yukon Hospital Corporation.
- The 2026–27 Main Estimates include an additional \$12.5 million in O&M funding. Including increases at the supplementary estimates, this is a \$15.8 million or 11.7% increase in O&M funding for the hospital corporation over the 2025–26 Main Estimates.
- We will also move ahead with planning for the Whitehorse General Hospital Expansion and have allocated \$4 million in capital for that planning work in 2026–27.



**Theme 3: Increase the affordability and availability of housing and land**

- Budget 2026 includes investments to expand the availability of housing stock and make homes more affordable.
- \$16.2 million has been allocated to complete the replacement of the Korbo apartments in Dawson and \$9.2 million for the replacement of the Ryder apartments in Whitehorse.
- The 2026-27 Main Estimates also include \$1.1 million for an anticipated lease agreement for 75 units at the new Winter Crossing development in Whistle Bend.
- \$22.2 million is allocated to advance land development in Whitehorse and rural Yukon.
  - In Whitehorse, work will continue on the Range Point Subdivision. Additionally, Whistle Bend Phases 12 and 13 will be completed, with design work completed for Phases 10 and 11.
  - In rural Yukon, work is planned on the Dredge Pond Phase II subdivision in Dawson and Mitchell Road lots in Faro.

**Theme 4: Put the needs of students at the centre of our education system**

- Budget 2026 provides additional funding totaling \$2.7 million for more teachers and learning assistants to support students.
- As we continue to assess improvements to how the Department of Education supports our education system, we are moving ahead with planning for a new school in Whitehorse, with \$400,000 for planning in 2026–27.

- Construction of the new school in Burwash will continue, with \$17.3 million in capital earmarked for that project in 2026–27.

**Theme 5: Restoring public safety and keeping communities safe**

- Budget 2026 includes a significant \$4.3 million increase in funding for the RCMP, which will allow for the hiring of 10 new officers and two support staff, as well as upgrading equipment.
- In addition, \$3.1 million in capital upgrades will be invested in RCMP detachments.
- We are investing an additional \$550,000 for gear, equipment and training for the Fire Marshal’s Office. With the \$812,000 provided at the 2025–26 Supplementary Estimates to address ongoing personnel pressures, this is a \$1.4 million year-over-year increase to the Fire Marshal, or a 62 per cent increase in that budget from the 2025–26 Main Estimates.

**Theme 6: Creating the conditions to allow the private sector to grow and lead economic growth**

- To streamline and refocus government’s investment in our tourism, cultural and economic sectors, we are merging the departments of Economic Development and Tourism and Culture.
- The capital budget includes up to \$7.5 million to complete delayed planning work on the proposed Convention Centre.

**Approved by:**

Katherine White

March 16, 2026

Deputy Minister, Finance

Date approved

**Topic:** Status of the Government of Yukon's forest sector supports.

**Key messages:**

- We are planning for additional log storage and processing yards near Whitehorse and in other Yukon communities for operators to sort, store and process timber.
- We are developing a biomass mapping project in partnership with the Government of Canada, which will use technology to find and assess high quality salvage timber in economically viable areas.

**Key facts and stats:**

- Two log yards are currently leased to commercial timber harvesters.
- The 15 Boulder Road Log Yard, located in the McRae industrial area, is leased to Creekside Wood Supply for a period of 10 years.
- The Ibex Valley Biomass Hub, located approximately 23 km west of Whitehorse, is leased to Bear Creek Logging for a period of 5 years.
- The [Forest Sector Fund](#) was fully subscribed in late March due to strong interest from applicants. [\\$79,350 of funding was used to build industry capacity; \\$20,000 was used to provide liquidity support, and \\$650 was used to incentivize the harvest of building logs.](#)
- The Canadian Biomass Mapping Initiative for Yukon is a three-year project with a total budget of \$847,500, fully funded by Natural Resources Canada.

**Status:**

- Partnerships are in place between the Yukon government, the University of British Columbia and CanmetENERGY for tasks related to the Canadian Biomass Mapping Initiative for Yukon Territory.

#### If asked about the Forest Sector Fund:

- The Forest Sector Fund was a low barrier program offered last winter [which provided support to over 20 commercial timber harvesting companies](#).
- The fund provided additional support to commercial timber harvesters to work safely, efficiently and sustainably and boost the territory's availability of firewood and building logs.
- [The program closed on March 20, 2026.](#)

#### Approved by:

Jeff O'Farrell

April 7, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date approved

**Topic:** Status of community planning processes.

**Key messages:**

- The Government of Yukon leads the creation of local area plans in unincorporated Yukon communities, which are implemented through zoning known as Development Area Regulations.
- Local area plans reflect local context, help to resolve competing land uses and support orderly development across the territory.
- The Government of Yukon develops local area plans in partnership with affected First Nation governments, and in consultation with local advisory councils, Yukoners and other related stakeholders.

**Key facts and stats:**

- Local Area Plans are not required under territorial legislation and are implemented by zoning under the *Area Development Act*.
- Local Area Plans developed within the Traditional Territories of Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Carcross/Tagish First Nation are subject to local area planning processes described in their respective Self-Government Agreements.
- Seven local area plans are in effect: Mount Lorne, Deep Creek, Ibex Valley, Hotsprings Road, Golden Horn, West Dawson and Sunnydale, and Carcross.
- Three local area plans are in development: Alaska Highway West, Marsh Lake and Tagish.

**Status:**

- The Government of Yukon and Champagne and Aishihik First Nations have completed a background report, vision and values engagement, and are now moving forward with the development of a draft plan for the Alaska Highway West boundary.
- The Carcross/Tagish Accord signed in 2025 states that the Tagish local area plan and the Marsh Lake local area plan are priorities for both Carcross/Tagish First Nation and Government of Yukon to complete. Both plans are at the draft plan stage.
- Kwanlin Dün First Nation has withdrawn from the Memorandum of Understanding for the Łu Zil Män (Fish Lake) local area plan and have indicated their intention to continue an independent planning process without the Government of Yukon.

**Approved by:**

Jeff O'Farrell

January 30, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date approved

**Topic:** Status and progress of regional land use planning processes.

**Key messages:**

- We will continue to work with First Nation partners to collaboratively implement the North Yukon and Peel Watershed Regional Land Use Plans.
- We will review and conduct a public engagement process with the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in on the Final Recommended Dawson Regional Land Use Plan when it is finalized by the Planning Commission (See BN #5 - Dawson Regional Land Use Plan).

**Key facts and stats:**

- The process to complete regional land use planning on the Traditional Territories of Yukon First Nations is set out in Chapter 11 of the Final Agreements. These processes can involve the participation of multiple governments of affected First Nations.
- The Final Agreements and the *Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act* outline the continued responsibility of Regional Land Use Planning Commissions to conduct conformity checks for proposed projects in areas with approved land use plans.
- During the development of regional land use plans, planning commissions are funded through the Umbrella Final Agreement federal implementation funding.
- The Tsé Tagé (Beaver River) land use planning process is not a Chapter 11 process and was established by an Intergovernmental

Agreement between the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun and the Government of Yukon.

- The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun incorporates the Tsé Tagé (Beaver River) land use planning process into the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun regional planning process.

#### Status:

- The First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun and the Government of Yukon signed an MOU in May 2025 to initiate the planning process.
- The next step for regional land use planning with the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun is to develop a Terms of Reference to establish a Planning Commission for the process.

#### Approved by:

Jeff O'Farrell

January 30, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date approved



**Topic:** Critical minerals are key to economic growth in the Yukon's mining sector and to Canada's place in the global supply chain.

**Key messages:**

- Yukon hosts deposits of 12 of Canada's 34 critical minerals, and occurrences of an additional 13.
- In 2025, the Yukon saw exploration activity for the following critical minerals: copper, zinc, tungsten, nickel, cobalt and platinum group metals.
- Yukon Mineral Exploration Program funding evaluation criteria includes additional weighing for critical mineral projects.

**Key facts and stats:**

- As defined by Canada, critical minerals must meet two criteria: the supply chain is threatened and there is a reasonable chance that Canada can produce the mineral.
- Critical minerals must also either be essential to Canada's economic or national security, be required to transition to a sustainable low-carbon and digital economy, or position Canada as a strategic partner in the global supply chain.
- Canada's Budget 2025 proposes \$3.5 billion over five years to Natural Resources Canada for various funds to support critical minerals projects. This includes:

- \$2 billion over five years, starting in 2026-27, for the Critical Minerals Sovereign Fund for strategic investments to develop critical minerals projects and companies; and
- \$371.8 million over four years, starting in 2026-27, for Natural Resources Canada to create the First and Last Mile Fund for the development of critical minerals projects and supply chains.

#### **Status:**

- In the Yukon, industry spent an estimated \$85 million on critical minerals exploration in 2025, accounting for 43% of all exploration expenditures.
- In January 2026, the Government of Yukon signed a Memorandum of Understanding with British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut to position Canada's west as the preferred global supplier of critical minerals.

#### **If asked about Natural Resource Canada's Critical Minerals**

##### **Infrastructure fund:**

- The Yukon-B.C. Grid Connect project is advancing with \$40 million from the federal Critical Mineral Infrastructure Fund for pre-construction planning.

#### **If asked about Natural Resource Canada's Critical Minerals and Geoscience Data program:**

- The British Columbia Geologic Survey and the Yukon Geological Survey jointly received \$500,000 from Natural Resources Canada's Critical Minerals Geoscience and Data Program to digitize historical

exploration data. The project is administered by British Columbia Geological Survey.

- The project will create an AI database to support critical mineral exploration. The funding is in place until 2027.

**Approved by:**

Jeff O'Farrell

March 16, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date approved

### Yukon Mineral Exploration Program

Energy, Mines and  
Resources

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**Topic:** Yukon Mineral Exploration Program supports the development of mineral resources in the Yukon.

**Key messages:**

- Mineral exploration is a key driver of the Yukon's economy. The Yukon Mineral Exploration Program supports our commitment to revitalize the development of our natural resources and ensure viable mineral exploration and mining.
- This program attracts external investment and encourages on-the-ground exploration activity that advances placer and hard rock exploration projects.
- This year's Yukon Mineral Exploration Program funding of \$1 million is projected to leverage \$1.7 million in private investment.

**Key facts and stats:**

- The Yukon Mineral Exploration Program provides partial risk capital to locate, explore and develop mineral projects to an advanced exploration stage.
- For the 2025 exploration season, the program received 67 applications for funding (40 hard rock and 27 placer applications). Thirty-nine projects have been approved for funding (20 hard rock and 19 placer projects).
- For 2025, the Yukon Geological Survey estimates total hard rock exploration expenditures of \$180 million by 52 explorers across 80 projects.

### Yukon Mineral Exploration Program

Energy, Mines and Resources

- Of the money spent in 2025, 52 per cent was for gold exploration. Copper projects saw 17 per cent of spending, followed by lead-zinc (12 per cent), tungsten (11 per cent) and silver (8 per cent).
- The largest number of exploration projects occurred on the Traditional Territory of the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun (26), followed by Kaska Nation's asserted traditional territory (16), Selkirk First Nation (13) and the Traditional Territories of Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in (12). Other First Nations saw fewer than 10 exploration projects in their traditional territories.

#### Status:

- To stimulate investment in critical minerals in the Yukon, the evaluation criteria for the Yukon Mineral Exploration Program was recently updated to include extra weighting for projects that primarily target critical minerals.
- For the 2025 season, the criteria were updated to disallow funding of off-claim work and claim staking. This was in response to concerns from the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun that the Government of Yukon was funding exploration work where no First Nation consultation had been conducted.

#### Approved by:

Jeff O'Farrell

March 16, 2026

Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

**Topic:** Demand for building lots remains high. Modernizing the land lottery system will improve access, enable housing development, and support economic development.

**Key messages:**

- We are committed to reforming the land lottery system to ensure that builders have access to lots.
- Energy Mines and Resources is currently working with Yukon Contractors Association to explore the development of a homebuilders' lottery.
- We plan to increase the number of residential lots available to the private sector with conditions that ensure timely development requirements and are working to release new commercial, industrial and agricultural land to drive economic development and business opportunities.

**Key facts and stats:**

- The *Lands Act* currently defines how lots are to be released through lottery and over the counter.
- The current residential lottery system does not allow builders to enter for multiple lots.
- Developed residential lots are first offered through a lottery and then can be offered over the counter.

**Status:**

- New residential development opportunities are planned for this coming year in Whitehorse and Haines Junction.

### Land Lottery Reform

Energy, Mines and  
Resources

- Energy, Mines and Resources is offering lots for sale as they become available through lottery, tender and over-the-counter sales.
- A homebuilders' lottery would define who is a homebuilder and how to apportion lots equitably.

#### If asked about cost and cost recovery:

- Under the *Lands Act*, the regulations outline how residential land lotteries are implemented and how lots are priced (market value or development costs).
- In recent years, subdivision development costs have risen significantly, making it difficult for the Yukon government to recover its costs when selling developed lots.
- Selling land below the cost of development could make it challenging for others to develop and market land profitably.

#### Approved by:

Jeff O'Farrell

February 4, 2026

Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

**Topic:** Addressing housing affordability and increasing lot availability are high priorities for the public.

**Key messages:**

- Whitehorse is experiencing a period of significant growth. Population forecasts suggest an average of 395 housing units will be needed annually to meet demand through 2040.
- We will continue developing the Whistle Bend subdivision, working on phases, landscaping and offsite infrastructure projects
- We will work with the City of Whitehorse to advance design options to remedy traffic issues between Whistle Bend and the City.
- We will also look beyond Whistle Bend to consider City-endorsed infill areas and release more land for private sector development.
- Together with the City of Whitehorse, the Kwanlin Dün First Nation, the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, and residents of our capital city, we will plan the next major residential development.

**Key facts and stats:**

- Community Services collaborates with communities and partners to identify and advance land development opportunities.
- This work will include taking a comprehensive approach to land development in Whitehorse, with the aim of diversifying the sector to support housing growth and enabling private sector land development.

**Status:**

*Copper Ridge Parcels 519/1126*



- Land Development Branch, the City of Whitehorse, and Energy, Mines and Resources worked together to prepare these lot parcels for private sector development. Work is underway to advance this parcel for sale to support near-term housing supply.

### *Whistle Bend*

- Phase 9 was completed this summer, and 98 lots were released in September 2025.
- Phases 12 and 13 – 15 large multi-family, public service and commercial lots - will be completed and for sale in summer 2026.
- Detailed design for Phases 10 and 11, the stormwater conveyance and outfall system, landscaping, and Mountainview-Quartz traffic upgrades is underway to be tender-ready in 2026 and 2027.

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

- The Chasàn Tatäy Subdivision project will result in a medium-high density neighbourhood providing up to 420 units of housing. It will include 67 lots, a central park, a sewage lift station and stormwater pond on two adjacent Government of Yukon and Kwanlin Dün First Nation-owned parcels.
- The Government of Yukon and the Kwanlin Dün First Nation have worked in partnership to complete the master plan and zoning and are currently constructing this subdivision. Each phase of work has been appropriately cost-shared to reflect the actual costs and benefits. The design and construction costs are shared on an approximately 75:25 basis between the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Government of Yukon. This reflects Kwanlin Dün First Nation's larger development footprint.

- The Kwanlin Dün First Nation successfully secured a loan from Canada Infrastructure Bank for their portion of the project.

### *City Infill, Industrial Areas and Whitehorse Periphery*

- We have identified several government-owned infill sites that could be explored with the City as potential future residential development opportunities.
- We are starting the design of Ice Lake Road South Industrial Park and assessing other developable areas in the Whitehorse periphery.

#### **Approved by:**

Damien Burns  
Deputy Minister, Community Services

February 18, 2026  
[Date approved]

**Topic:** Increasing lot availability and addressing housing pressures in Yukon communities is of high interest to the public.

### Key messages:

- Yukon's vibrant and growing communities need building lots to support growth.
- By working hand in hand with municipalities, First Nations and the private sector, we will look for ways to reduce costs and streamline processes to ensure families and businesses have the space they need to grow and thrive.
- To accommodate ongoing growth, Yukon communities require an increased supply of building lots, enabling residents and businesses to establish roots and thrive.

### Key facts and stats:

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

### Status:

#### Dawson

- Dredge Pond II – a 43-lot country residential subdivision; will be ready for tender this year.
- Trondek Hwech'in First Nation-Government of Yukon Planning MOU to commence joint commercial/residential planning incorporating traditional knowledge on adjacent Infill 2 (government) and C-13B (Trondek Hwech'in) parcels.
- Upper Dome Road Country Residential infill (~10 lots) and Callison East Industrial (15-20 lots) planning start.

#### Haines Junction

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

#### Watson Lake

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

#### Faro and Mayo

- Mitchell industrial subdivision and Rose & Ladue serviced residential infill in Faro - starting detailed design.
- 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Extension in Mayo - serviced residential infill.

#### Yukon-wide

- Fifteen to twenty lots from across the Yukon will be ready for release this spring.

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**Approved by:**

Session Briefing Note

EMR #58 TAB#  
LD-02

Spring 2026

Rural Land Development

Community Services

Damien Burns  
Deputy Minister, Community Services

February 18, 2026  
[Date approved]

### Mitigating Demand Growth

Energy, Mines and Resources,  
Yukon Development  
Corporation

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**Topic:** The Government of Yukon is planning for current and future electricity demand and to reduce strain on the Yukon's electricity grid.

**Key messages:**

- Energy, Mines and Resources and Yukon Development Corporation are working with both electric utilities to reduce strain on the Yukon's electricity grid and to plan for future demand.
- We are reviewing our current support programs to create new options for Yukoners to reduce costs and electrical use during winter peak periods when the grid is most challenged.
- As part of our work to develop and implement a Winter Reliable Energy Plan, we have paused some programs like micro-generation and are examining others to ensure that we put resources where they are most needed.

**Key facts and stats:**

- While electricity demand is growing throughout the year, the pressures are most acute during winter peak periods when demand is highest and reliability is critical for public safety.
- Non-industrial winter peak electricity demand increased by approximately 25 per cent from 2019 to 2024, reaching 113 megawatts (MW).
- A new peak demand record of 127 MW was set in December 2025.
- [Yukon Energy Corporation supplied 516 gigawatt hours of electricity in 2025, a 17% increase compared to 2019.](#)

### Mitigating Demand Growth

Energy, Mines and Resources,  
Yukon Development  
Corporation

#### Status:

- The Yukon Winter Reliable Energy Plan is currently under development and will enhance the reliability, and resilience of the territory's electricity system ensuring reliable power for Yukoners.

#### If asked about mitigating demand growth:

- We are developing a clear plan for energy infrastructure that will meet the needs of Yukoners and our economy. Part of this plan will support Yukoners in reducing their electricity demand, especially during winter peak periods.

#### Approved by:

Gary Gazankas

March 26, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
President and CEO of Yukon Development  
Corporation

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date approved

Jeff O'Farrell

March 26, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date approved

# Session Briefing Note

## Increasing Generation Capacity

**EMR #64/YDC# 5**  
**Spring 2026**

Yukon Development  
Corporation

Yukon Energy Corporation  
Energy, Mines and Resources

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**Topic: The Yukon urgently needs more reliable winter generation capacity.**

### Key messages:

- The Yukon needs more power during the winter than our existing resources can supply.
- I have directed the Department of Energy Mines and Resources to develop the Winter Reliable Energy Plan to limit demand growth and enable development of new reliable energy projects [\[see EMR TAB # 7 for more information on Winter Reliable Energy plan\]](#).
- The plan will reflect the near-term actions already underway, like Yukon Energy's development of the Whitehorse Power Centres [\[see YDC/YEC Tab #9\]](#).
- The plan will also set out a longer-term path, incorporating work underway by Yukon Energy and the Yukon Development Corporation like energy resource planning [\[YDC/YEC Tab #20\]](#) and exploring the feasibility of Yukon-B.C. Grid Connect [\[YDC/YEC Tab # 11\]](#).
- We have heard clearly that Yukoners are struggling to afford electricity and are working to minimize the effects on rates.

### Key facts and stats:

- By 2035, non-industrial peak demand is expected to rise by around 60% compared to 2025.



# Session Briefing Note

## Increasing Generation Capacity

**EMR #64/YDC# 5**  
**Spring 2026**

Yukon Development  
Corporation

Yukon Energy Corporation  
Energy, Mines and Resources

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- Winter electricity demand is two to three times higher than summer demand.
- This year, Yukon Energy is renting 22 diesel units to close the capacity shortfall until we can build sufficient winter capacity through the Whitehorse Power Centres.
- The new Whitehorse Power Centres will be built in phases.
  - **Phase 1:** Construction of a new 15-megawatt power centre to be in service in 2028.
  - **Phase 2:** Construction of a new 30-megawatt power centre to be in service by winter 2030. More capacity will be added to the first power centre as needed while the second site is being built.
  - **Phase 3:** Replace rental generators with permanent generators and add incremental capacity to the Whitehorse Power Centres as needed by winter 2035.

### Status:

- Yukon Energy submitted the Whitehorse Power Centres project description to the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB) in summer 2025.
- Yukon Energy is currently assessing four site options for the power centres in the Whitehorse area. The two final sites will be announced later this spring.

# Session Briefing Note

## Increasing Generation Capacity

**EMR #64/YDC# 5**  
**Spring 2026**

Yukon Development  
Corporation

Yukon Energy Corporation

Energy, Mines and Resources

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- EMR, YEC and YDC are collaboratively advancing the Winter Reliable Energy Plan and integrated long-term planning alongside utilities.

### Approved by:

Gary Gazankas  
President, Yukon Development Corporation

March 19 2026  
Date approved

Jeff O'Farrell  
  
Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

March 19 2026  
  
Date approved

#### Clean Energy Act

Energy, Mines and  
Resources,  
Department of  
Environment

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**Topic:** The Clean Energy Act legislates greenhouse gas emissions, mining intensity and other climate targets as well as public reporting requirements.

**Key messages:**

- The Government of Yukon is developing a new Climate Change Action Plan that focuses on realistic and tangible actions that will help the Yukon adapt to the changing climate and support climate-resilient communities.
- We are prioritizing climate resiliency while also supporting emergency preparedness, ensuring dependable and reliable electricity, and protecting our critical infrastructure.
- Repealing the *Clean Energy Act* eliminates the legal obligation to report on emissions targets and actions, and removes the onerous reporting requirements on government.

**Key facts and stats:**

- The *Clean Energy Act* requires the Government of Yukon to report annually on greenhouse gas emissions, mining intensity targets, renewable heating, zero-emission vehicles, and other actions.
- The *Clean Energy Act* legislates a 45 per cent reduction in non-mining greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, compared to 2010 levels, and legislates net-zero emissions by 2050.
- The *Clean Energy Act* legislates a 45 per cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions for the mining sector on an intensity basis, by 2035.

### Clean Energy Act

Energy, Mines and  
Resources,  
Department of  
Environment

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#### Status:

- Emissions are reported on a two-year lag due to data availability. 2023 shows a 7 per cent increase in non-mining greenhouse gases and a 10 per cent increase in total emissions, compared to 2010 levels.
- Greenhouse gas emissions per unit of GDP and per capita both decreased compared to 2010.
- Industry stakeholders suggest that improved low-carbon electricity availability for mining operations, and improved energy efficient and low carbon fuel technology, would achieve comparable outcomes to the mining intensity target.

#### If asked if government will amend the *Clean Energy Act* targets:

- This government does not support the unrealistic targets imposed by the *Clean Energy Act* and is committed to focus on tangible actions to address the impacts of climate change.
- Repealing this legislation and its associated reporting requirements does not eliminate or end real action to address climate change.
- Repeal of the Act supports this government's commitment to focus on tangible actions, measurable actions to increase Yukon's resilience in the face of climate change.

#### If asked why government released a shorter *Clean Energy Act* report:

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Spring 2026

## Clean Energy Act

Energy, Mines and  
Resources,  
Department of  
Environment

- In December 2025, we released a concise summary of the Yukon's 2023 emissions and climate change actions to meet the legislated requirements under the *Clean Energy Act*.

### Approved by:

Dennis Berry

March 16, 2026

Deputy Minister of Environment

Date approved

Jeff O'Farrell

March 16, 2026

Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

## Spring 2026

## Yukon's Climate Change Action Plan

Departments of  
Environment and  
Energy, Mines and  
Resources

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**Topic:** The Government of Yukon is committed to developing a Climate Change Action Plan that focuses on achievable actions and community resiliency.

### Key messages:

- The Government of Yukon is committed to working collaboratively to develop a Climate Change Action Plan rooted in practical, achievable actions that will benefit our communities now and for generations to come.
- The plan will include [real](#) actions that will increase Yukon's climate resiliency, ensure communities are prepared for climate emergencies [and reduce emissions](#).
- [We will continue to report publicly on the Yukon's emissions through public reports such as the State of the Environment report.](#)
- The Government of Yukon will take steps to ensure that the climate change action plan reflects the needs and priorities of the territory.

### Key facts and stats:

- The Department of Environment's 2026-27 Main Estimates includes \$132,000 to support the development of a new Climate Change Action Plan.

### Status:

- In December 2025, the Government of Yukon released the 2024 *Clean Energy Act* report, which provided an update on the Act's

## Spring 2026

## Yukon's Climate Change Action Plan

Departments of  
Environment and  
Energy, Mines and  
Resources

legislated reporting requirements. This included the territory's most recent greenhouse gas emissions and methodology, renewable energy availability, registered zero-emission vehicles, mining intensity targets and associated methodology, and a short summary of climate-related actions.

### If asked how the Government of Yukon's approach to climate change will change:

- The Government of Yukon is committed to developing a Climate Change Action Plan that will focus on addressing the climate risks that Yukon communities face, while also looking at tangible actions that will [reduce our emissions](#) and improve our energy efficiency and security.

#### Approved by:

Dennis Berry

March 26, 2026

Deputy Minister of Environment

Date approved

Jeff O'Farrell

Pending

Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

### Abandoned Mines Overview

Energy, Mines and  
Resources

**Topic:** The Government of Yukon directly manages several abandoned sites, including, Ketza River (Type II), Wolverine, Minto, and Discovery Creek. The Government of Yukon also provides an oversight/governance role on Type II site abandoned sites including Faro, Mt. Nansen, United Keno Hill Mine and Clinton Creek

#### Key messages:

- We are working with Canada and affected First Nations to advance the transition of the Ketza River Mine liabilities back to Canada.
- We are supporting Selkirk First Nation and Selkirk Copper Mines as they work to assess the feasibility of restarting the former Minto Mine.
- We continue to protect the environment and human health and safety at Wolverine Mine. This work includes water management and treatment, environmental monitoring, and other work as required.

#### Key facts and Stats:

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



### Abandoned Mines Overview

Energy, Mines and  
Resources

Keno	Remediation planning is complete; remediation will be by Elsa Reclamation and Development Company.	Government of Canada
Faro	Remediation planning is complete; the remediation project is being undertaken by the Government of Canada.	Government of Canada
Wolverine	Assessment and Abandoned Mines branch will be seeking direction early in 2026 to determine how far to advance remediation of the site.	Government of Yukon.
Minto Mine	Selkirk Copper Mines will take over site April 1, 2026. They continue to assess the feasibility of a restart. The Government of Yukon will be responsible for environmental and geotechnical monitoring.	The Government of Yukon held \$75.2 million in security.
Discovery Creek	Remediation planning is underway.	Government of Yukon

#### Status:

- The Government of Yukon and Selkirk Copper Mines have agreed to an October 2026 review of responsibilities for site management.
- Ross River Dena Council has expressed support for the Ketzá River transition. Government of Yukon officials are working with Canada to seek support from Teslin Tlingit Council and Liard First Nation.

#### Approved by:

Jeff O'Farrell

February 11, 2026

Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

Date approved

### Inspections and Compliance Regime

Energy, Mines and  
Resources

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**Topic:** The Government of Yukon is improving its compliance regime and oversight of resource development.

**Key messages:**

- We are increasing the effectiveness, accountability, and transparency of compliance monitoring and inspections.
- We are improving environmental protection and inspection capacity by implementing the recommendations of the Independent Review Board.
- More effective oversight of resource development activities will ensure future generations are left with strong economic legacies and not environmental liabilities.

**Key facts and stats:**

- In 2025, the Compliance, Monitoring and Inspections Branch conducted 624 inspections across its portfolio of Placer, Quartz, Forestry, Public land, Waters, and Environment Act obligations.
- In 2025, Compliance, Monitoring and Inspections branch investigated 197 occurrences of potential violations or public complaints of suspected illegal activities.
- The Summary Convictions Regulation was updated in 2025 and Compliance, Monitoring and Inspections officers gained the ability to issue tickets, leading to 7 tickets being issued on 10 charges.

**Status:**

- Compliance, Monitoring and Inspections branch reviewed and improved its organizational structure to assist in its ability to conduct its business effectively and consistently.

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## Inspections and Compliance Regime

Energy, Mines and  
Resources

- Updates to policies, process improvements, investigation capacity, and analysis of potential gaps are already underway.

### If asked about Eagle Gold

- Natural Resource Officers conduct twice monthly inspections of Eagle Gold, at minimum, working closely with FNNND to provide oversight at the mine site.

#### Approved by:

Jeff O'Farrell

May 11, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Minister, Department of  
Energy, Mines and Resources

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date approved