

Lotteries Yukon – Spring Sitting Briefing Notes 2026

BRIEFING NOTES	LAST UPDATE	TAB #
Lotteries Yukon –notes		
Reduced Lotteries Funding	March 16, 2026	1
CORPORATE ISSUES		
2026-27 Budget Highlights		

Topic: Less Lotteries funding will be available for sport, arts and recreation for the 2026-27 fiscal year.

Key messages:

- Lotteries Yukon will continue to distribute profits from interjurisdictional lottery sales to arts, sport, and recreational activities and projects throughout the Yukon.
- Lotteries Yukon has made impactful contributions in arts, sport and recreation projects throughout the Yukon for not only large projects like the 2026 Arctic Winter Games, but also many other projects like festivals and events that support the life of our communities across the Yukon.
- As a reflection of the government's commitment to fiscal restraint, we are taking measures to ensure the long-term sustainability of Lotteries funded projects in arts, sport and recreation in Yukon communities.

Key facts and stats:

- The Yukon Lottery Commission invested over \$4.6 million in the 2024-2025 fiscal year in community-based initiatives related to arts, sport and recreation.
- Lottery ticket revenue is decreasing in the Yukon and across Western Canada Lottery Corporation partners (Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba).
- From 2022-2023 to 2025-2026, revenue from Western Canada Lottery Corporation partners decreased by 25%.
- The Yukon Lottery Commission Trust reserve balance has been drawn down by large legacy projects over past fiscal years. Contributing projects include:
 - Lotteries Yukon's 50th anniversary celebrations (e.g. summer concert series)
 - Polarettes equipment purchase for new facility
 - Climb Yukon equipment purchases for new facility
 - 2026 Arctic Winter Games
 - Yukon Arts Centre mobile stage purchase

Status:

- Lotteries Yukon presented the 2026-2027 draft budget to the Yukon Lottery Commission on February 17, 2026. It contains tighter budget line items that support a healthy Trust reserve balance and ensure future funding remains available to the arts, sports and recreation sectors in the Yukon. The Yukon Lottery Commission will approve the budget at a later date.
- The proposed budget includes a reduction to operating expenses by 21% and funding program expenses by 39%, compared to the 2025-2026 budget.
- As a result of the Commission's adjusted budget position, the Travel Assistance Program has been reduced from \$400 to \$200 per applicant for 2026-2027. This is an example of a funding program offered through Lotteries Yukon that will be impacted.
- Lotteries Yukon and Government of Yukon have an MOU from which a portion of revenue subsidizes programming for arts, sports, and recreation. This is a formula-driven MOU arrangement and fluctuates based on Lotteries earned revenue.
- The 2025-2026 final amount of the Trust reserve balance will not be known until the financial statements are audited this summer.
- The reduced revenue may have an impact on some government programs.

If asked about three-year agreements:

- Recipients of 3-year funding agreements have been transitioned to 1-year renewable agreements. This change reflects the Yukon Lottery Commission's current financial position and gives the Commission flexibility to adjust their funding budget based on shifting lottery revenues.

Approved by:	
Philippe Mollet	March 13, 2026
_____ Secretary, Yukon Lottery Commission	_____ Date approved