Yukon Advisory Council on Women's Issues

Annual Report 2020–2021

About the Council

The Yukon Advisory Council on Women's Issues (YACWI) was established by the *Yukon Advisory Council on Women's Issues Act* in May 1992. The Council can be comprised of up to eight members appointed by the Commissioner of Yukon. At least 50 per cent of members must be from rural areas and 25 per cent must be Yukon First Nations.

The Act mandates YACWI to:

- Develop public awareness issues affecting the status of women;
- Promote a change of attitudes within Yukon so that women may enjoy equality of opportunity;
- Encourage discussions and expressions of opinion by Yukon residents on issues affecting the status of women;
- Review policies, programs and legislation affecting women as directed by the Minister responsible for the Women's Directorate;
- Advise the Minister with respect to such issues as the Minister may refer to the council for its consideration; and
- Advise the Minister with respect to such issues as the council considers advisable; and encourage organizations and groups that promote the equality of Women.

Meetings

November 6th - 7th, 2020

YACWI met with the Director from the Women and Gender Equity Directorate and Colette Acheson, facilitator of the revisioning process to discuss the context, potential interview subjects, and the scope of the revisioning process. Jonna Reaume and Véronique Maggiore from the Yukon Women's Coalition attended the meeting on Saturday to share information about the Coalition, including current priorities: working with the Yukon RCMP 'M' Division on the sexual assault investigation policy, improving taxi safety in Whitehorse through a pilot project providing training to taxi drivers, the Yukon Advocate Case Review, and a fundraiser for the 16 Days to End Violence.

November 27th - 28th, 2020

YACWI met virtually over two sessions. On the first day, Colette Acheson presented the summary of findings from revisioning to date. On the second day of meetings, Chase Blodgett from All Genders Yukon gave a presentation on All Genders Yukon and the goals of the organization. Joe Wickenhauser from Queer Yukon Society also presented on the organization and LGBTQ2S+ inclusion in Yukon.

January 15th-16th, 2021

On the first day of meetings, The Director of the Women and Gender Equity Directorate delivered a presentation on the implementation of amendments to the *Employment Standards Act*. This Act provides a combination of paid and unpaid leave to employees in territorially regulated industries if the employee, a child of the employee, or a person to whom the employee provides care or support to, experiences domestic or sexualized violence. YACWI members provided recommendation on materials, content, and approaches to support implementation of the changes.

Colette Acheson presented the summary of findings from the final revisioning report, capturing the key themes heard from current and former YACWI members, staff, and equity-seeking organizations.

March 5th-6th, 2021

Jonna Reaume from the Yukon Women's Coalition presented on updates on Women Coalition priorities, including opposing the termination of the Yukon Advocate Case Review, as well as an update on actions to improve taxi safety. The Women and Gender Equity Directorate provided an update on the Sexualized Assault Response Team, then facilitated a discussion, on behalf of representatives of Health & Social Services, on the implementation of universal childcare. YACWI members also shared updates of emerging issues and priorities in their communities.

Members as of March 31st, 2021

- Yvonne Clarke, Whitehorse, YT
- Karen Keenan, Teslin, YT
- Michelle Carmichael, Dawson, YT
- Judy Hartling, Whitehorse, YT

Administration

2020/21 budget

- Travel: $4,116.52
- Honoraria: $4,500.00
- Contracts: $9,510.00
- Room Rental: $2,320.00
- Entertainment: $1,330.17

Total $21,776.69

Contact Us

For more information about YACWI, contact the Women and Gender Equity Directorate at (867) 667-3030 or toll free at 1-800-661-0408 ext. 3030.