

FOR RELEASE
January 27, 2016

Premier wraps up successful community conversations initiative as budget tour begins

WHITEHORSE—At community conversations across the territory more than 100 Yukoners shared their ideas with Premier Darrell Pasloski about what their government can do to make Yukon the best place to live, work, play and raise a family.

"At these lively and engaging discussions Yukoners spoke, and I listened," Pasloski said. "The conversations were a great success thanks to the time and energy people put into the discussions and the positive ideas they brought to the table. I was overwhelmed, but not surprised, at the passion these Yukoners all showed about making their communities better."

The 17 community conversations took place over the last three months and focused on the themes of economy, education and improving Yukoners' quality of life. Topics of discussion included entrepreneurship, innovation, retail, arts and culture, community safety and supporting vulnerable Yukoners.

During the conversations, Yukoners from diverse backgrounds and with different areas of interest were invited to sit down with the premier in an intimate setting. The participants included community volunteers, small business owners, innovators, high school students, entrepreneurs, artists and groups that deliver social programs.

"We are eager to continue hearing from Yukoners through our community budget tour," Pasloski added. "Public meetings are being held across the territory until the end of February and all Yukoners are invited to take part."

Recommendations from the community conversations, along with those heard through the community budget tour, will be considered by government as part of the 2016/17 budget and in other planning processes.

To learn more about the Government of Yukon budget tour meetings visit <http://www.gov.yk.ca/consultations.html>

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News Release #16-032



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