



2025 RESOLUTIONS PACKAGE



WHEREAS:

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities needs a resolution passed by the Association of Yukon Communities board for the appointment of the Association of Yukon Communities President Lauren Hanchar onto the Federation of Canadian Municipalities board.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Association of Yukon Communities appoint President Lauren Hanchar as our representative on the FCM board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Association of Yukon Communities will cover costs associated with President Hanchar participating on FCM's board.

Motion: It was duly moved by Councillor Justine Hobbs and seconded by Councillor Kevin Kennedy THAT Resolution regarding the appointment to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities be accepted as presented.

Carried unanimously



Subject:

Modernizing Workforce & Immigration Policies to Support Municipalities

Issue:

Yukon municipalities are facing increasing challenges in attracting and retaining skilled workers essential to the effective delivery of municipal services. Existing employment laws and immigration policies do not adequately support municipal workforce needs, creating barriers to long-term staffing stability.

Background:

Municipal governments across Yukon rely on skilled professionals in enforcement, engineering, finance, IT, emergency response, and other technical fields. However, recruitment and retention are ongoing challenges, partly due to gaps in current employment standards and limitations of the Yukon Nominee Program. Addressing these systemic issues is critical to ensuring municipalities can maintain infrastructure, meet service demands, and plan for sustainable growth.

Analysis/Discussion:

Modernizing the Employment Standards Act to reflect municipal workforce realities would help address challenges related to recruiting and retaining skilled staff. Similarly, enhancing the Yukon Nominee Program could provide municipalities with more effective tools to bring in and support new workers from outside the territory. Territorial-municipal collaboration on recruitment initiatives and targeted funding for training and professional development would strengthen capacity across all communities. These updates would support consistent service delivery, long-term planning, and local economic stability.

Recommendation:

That the Association of Yukon Communities urge the Government of Yukon to:

- Review and modernize the Employment Standards Act to better support municipal workforce needs;
- Enhance the Yukon Nominee Program in collaboration with municipalities;
- Provide dedicated funding or direct training programs to support municipal skill development and recruitment efforts.

Municipal Sponsor:

City of Whitehorse

Date & Version:

March 26, 2025- Version 1



WHEREAS:

Municipalities across Yukon face increasing challenges in attracting and retaining skilled workers in municipal enforcement, engineering, finance, information technology, emergency response, and a variety of other technical fields which are essential to the overall health, functionality, and sustainability of municipal operations; and

WHEREAS:

Current employment laws and immigration policies do not fully support municipal workforce needs, creating barriers to long-term staffing and service delivery stability; and

WHEREAS:

Improvements to the Yukon Nominee Program and updates to employment standards would enhance municipalities' ability to recruit and retain workers essential to maintaining public infrastructure and services; and

WHEREAS:

Additional training and professional development opportunities, funded by the Government of Yukon, would help bolster the municipal workforce by ensuring workers have the necessary skills to meet evolving service demands.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Association of Yukon Communities work with the Government of Yukon to review and update the Employment Standards Act to better support municipal workforce needs, including mechanisms that facilitate recruitment and retention of skilled workers in municipal government.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Government of Yukon make enhancements to the Yukon Nominee Program, collaborate with municipalities to develop territorial-municipal partnerships for workforce recruitment and retention, and provide dedicated funding or direct training opportunities to support skill development for municipal employees.



Resolution
Modernizing Workforce & immigration
Policies to Support Municipalities

Motion: It was duly moved by Mayor Kirk Cameron and seconded by Councillor Gary Jones THAT Resolution regarding modernizing workforce & immigration policies to support municipalities be accepted as amended.

Carried



Subject:

On-Demand Energy Charges for Yukon Municipalities

Issue:

1. **Rising Utility Costs:** Yukon municipalities are facing ever-increasing energy costs, which have become a substantial part of their operational budgets. Over the past year, many municipalities have experienced drastic spikes in their electrical expenses.

2. **Demand Charges:** Currently, all municipal buildings, regardless of seasonal use, are billed on a demand meter basis. This means that if a municipality's energy consumption peaks on a single day within a billing cycle, they are charged at the higher demand rate for the entire month. This pricing structure is detrimental to municipalities, which do not have profit margins and are primarily focused on maintaining balanced budgets.

3. **Dependence on Government Support:** Municipalities rely heavily on the Government of Yukon and the Comprehensive Municipal Grant for their operational expenses. Given their limited authority to increase fees or revenues, municipalities find themselves in a precarious financial position, exacerbated by rising operational costs.

4. **Previous Resolutions:** In 2022, the AYC passed a resolution urging the Yukon Government to mandate Yukon Energy Corporation to change their rate policy to eliminate demand charges for municipalities. However, the Yukon Government responded by stating it has no authority over energy rates, leaving municipalities with unresolved concerns.

Background:

The Association of Yukon Communities (AYC) has expressed significant concern regarding the escalating costs associated with operating municipalities in Yukon, particularly emphasizing the rising costs of utilities. There is a pressing need to address the financial burden posed by utility charges, which directly impact the ability of municipalities to provide essential services to their communities.

Analysis/Discussion:

This resolution is critical for several reasons:

- It aims to alleviate the financial strain on municipalities, allowing them to continue providing essential services to their communities without the disproportionate burden of rising utility costs.
- It recognizes that municipalities operate under limited revenue-generating capabilities and are already managing fiscal constraints as they strive to serve their residents effectively.
- By ensuring that municipalities pay only for the energy they consume, this resolution aligns with the principles of fair and equitable billing practices that reflect the non-profit nature of municipal operations.



The passage of this resolution is essential for fostering sustainability and financial health within Yukon municipalities. By advocating for changes in the utility rate structure, the AYC is taking proactive steps to ensure that municipalities can continue to serve their communities effectively without the overwhelming burden of excessive energy costs.

Recommendation:

- Support the resolution presented by the AYC to urge the Yukon Utilities Board to implement a fourth-rate group for municipalities.
- Engage with stakeholders to advocate for changes to the current utility rate policies.
- Monitor and assess the impact of any changes on municipal operations and financial health moving forward.

Municipal Sponsor:

Town of Watson Lake

Date & Version:

March 27, 2025- Version 2



WHEREAS:

Yukon Municipalities are very concerned with the ever-rising costs of operating a municipality in the Yukon, and especially the increasing cost of utilities, and

WHEREAS:

All municipal buildings, including seasonally used buildings, are on demand meters, and if the electrical use is higher for one day of the month, the utility charges for the entire month will be calculated at the peak rate, and

WHEREAS:

Yukon municipalities are service delivery organizations who maintain a balanced budget and do not exist to make a profit like a business, and

WHEREAS:

Government of Yukon promotes the use of electricity for heating buildings and,

WHEREAS:

Yukon municipalities are dependent on Government of Yukon and the Comprehensive Municipal Grant for their ongoing operational expenses, and

WHEREAS:

The Association of Yukon Communities passed a resolution in 2022 urging YG to mandate that Yukon Energy Corp change their rate policy to only charge municipalities an actual utility rate and discontinue demand charges, and

WHEREAS:

the Yukon Government responded to AYC resolution stating that they have no authority over energy rates.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

that the Association of Yukon Communities urge the Yukon Utilities Board to implement a fourth rate group in their regulated rate design model, to cover Yukon municipalities and designated local authorities under the Recreation Act, exclusively so that municipalities pay for actual energy consumption without demand charges or energy riders.

Motion: It was duly moved by Councillor Gary Jones and seconded by Mayor Stephen Johnson THAT Resolution regarding on-demand energy charges be accepted as amended.

Carried unanimously



Subject:

RCMP Staffing in Rural Yukon Communities

Issue:

Community policing in Yukon rural communities requires relationship-building and stability, and the RCMP's staffing and turnover, as well as extended leaves in rural communities, make this challenging.

1. Limited Duration Posts: RCMP members in rural Yukon are often assigned to limited duration posts, which restricts their ability to remain in the community for extended periods. This creates instability in law enforcement and impacts community relationships.

2. Staffing Challenges: The recruitment and retention of RCMP officers in rural areas have been a longstanding challenge. Several communities have had members take extended leaves for various reasons. While relief officers provide coverage, the lack of consistency impacts crucial relationship-building and understanding of community dynamics. High rates of turnover and extended leaves have a negative impact on community safety, service continuity, and the overall morale of both officers and the citizens they serve.

3. Community Integration: Local RCMP members who choose to remain in their communities beyond their initial posting often build strong connections with residents. They participate in community activities, such as coaching youth sports and attending local events, which fosters trust and promotes a positive community-police relationship. This leads to true community policing. Their departure leaves a gap that can be challenging to fill.

Background:

Several communities have identified a persistent challenge regarding the staffing of RCMP members in rural Yukon, and how the constant turnover from short-term postings negatively impacts both RCMP members and the community. This is further exacerbated by extended leaves that leave detachments shorthanded or with a succession of short-term relief members. This resolution aims to address these staffing issues and improve the overall community safety and well-being, for both citizens and RCMP members serving in these areas.

Analysis/Discussion:

One option is for the RCMP to permit longer member postings in their communities, based on feedback from municipalities, First Nations, and RCMP supervisors, as well as increased flexibility in assigning relief officers for extended periods.

The rationale behind this resolution is multifaceted:



- **Community Stability:** Extending the terms for well-performing officers would contribute to greater stability within communities, allowing for consistent law enforcement presence and fostering deeper community ties.
- **Community Input:** By involving local feedback in the decision-making process, the resolution ensures that the needs and preferences of the communities are prioritized, allowing for a tailored approach to policing that better serves the unique dynamics of each area.
- **Enhanced Safety and Well-Being:** A stable and integrated policing presence improves safety outcomes and enhances the well-being of both citizens and the officers themselves, who are more likely to feel supported and connected to the community.

Supporting this resolution will enable rural Yukon communities to address ongoing staffing challenges with the RCMP by providing ongoing stability. By advocating for the extension of RCMP member terms, the AYC aims to improve community safety and strengthen the bonds between law enforcement and residents.

In the event of extended leave, a better solution is needed to provide stability and continuity while waiting for the member to return to active duty.

Recommendation:

To address these issues, the AYC resolves to request that the Minister of Justice collaborate with the Commanding Officer of the M Division RCMP to allow suitably posted members to extend their terms in rural communities indefinitely. The decision to extend their posting should be informed by feedback from local municipalities, First Nations, and RCMP supervisors.

Furthermore, AYC resolve that the Minister of Justice collaborate with the Commanding Officer of M Division RCMP to develop more stable and consistent relief staffing strategies for members on extended leave.

Municipal Sponsor:

Town of Watson Lake

Date & Version:

March 27, 2025- Version 2



WHEREAS:

RCMP members in the communities serve in limited-duration posts, and

WHEREAS:

Several communities have had members off on extended leave; and

WHEREAS:

Staffing continuity in RCMP community detachments is crucial for fostering relationships and ensuring the safety and well-being of both RCMP members and the communities they serve.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Association of Yukon Communities requests that the Minister of Justice collaborate with the Commanding Officer of M Division RCMP to allow members who are suitably posted to extend their postings in our communities based on feedback from the respective municipalities, First Nations, and RCMP supervisors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Association of Yukon Communities requests that the Minister of Justice collaborate with the Commanding Officer of M Division RCMP to develop more stable and consistent relief staffing strategies for members on extended leave.

Motion: It was duly moved by Councillor Justine Hobbs and seconded by Councillor Denina Paquette THAT Resolution regarding RCMP staffing rural Yukon communities be accepted as presented.

Carried unanimously



Subject:

Strengthening Emergency Management, Fire Service, and EMS Support

Issue:

Yukon municipalities face growing risks from climate-related disasters and require coordinated, well-funded emergency services. Current gaps in territorial evacuation planning, limited Fire Marshal resources, and unclear EMS cost recovery processes are hindering effective emergency response.

Background:

Municipalities are on the front lines of emergency response and disaster mitigation, yet many lack the resources, coordination, and funding required to manage emergencies effectively. The impacts of climate change—including increased wildfire risk—underscore the need for stable funding and stronger territorial-municipal collaboration. Existing limitations in Yukon’s emergency management system put public safety and infrastructure at risk.

Analysis/Discussion:

Enhancing territorial coordination for evacuation planning would help ensure municipalities are better prepared for emergencies. Increased investment in the Fire Marshal’s Office and clearly negotiated cost recovery agreements for EMS would support municipal capacity and clarify roles. Additionally, dedicated, long-term funding for wildfire prevention, disaster mitigation, and infrastructure resilience is needed to help communities prepare for and withstand emergencies. A proactive, coordinated approach would reduce future response costs and protect lives and assets.

Recommendation:

That the Association of Yukon Communities urge the Government of Yukon to:

- Strengthen territorial leadership in emergency management through enhanced evacuation planning and coordination;
- Increase funding for the Fire Marshal’s Office and establish cost recovery agreements for municipal EMS services;
- Provide stable and sufficient funding for wildfire prevention, disaster mitigation, and infrastructure resilience to support local emergency preparedness.

Municipal Sponsor:

City of Whitehorse

Date & Version:

March 26, 2025- Version 1



WHEREAS:

Municipalities across Yukon require strong emergency management frameworks, including effective coordination, adequate funding, and well-resourced fire and EMS services, to ensure public safety and disaster resilience; and

WHEREAS:

Current emergency response efforts are hindered by gaps in territorial evacuation planning, limited Fire Marshal resources, uncertainty in municipal EMS cost recovery, and insufficient wildfire prevention funding; and

WHEREAS:

Stable funding for wildfire prevention, infrastructure resilience, and disaster mitigation is essential to safeguarding communities from increasing climate-related threats.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Association of Yukon Communities urge the Government of Yukon to take a leadership role in emergency management by enhancing territorial coordination for evacuation planning, increasing Fire Marshal funding, negotiating municipal EMS cost recovery agreements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Government of Yukon provide stable and sufficient funding for wildfire prevention, disaster mitigation, and infrastructure resilience to support municipal emergency preparedness and response efforts.

Motion was duly moved by Councillor Justine Hobbs and seconded by Councillor Gary Jones THAT Resolution regarding current emergency response efforts be accepted as amended.

Carried unanimously



Subject:

Strengthening Municipal Election Support & Standardization

Issue:

Yukon municipalities face increasing challenges in administering municipal elections due to inconsistent procedures, limited funding, and the absence of a centralized support system. These challenges risk undermining the accessibility, integrity, and fairness of local elections.

Background:

Fair, transparent, and well-managed elections are foundational to democratic governance and public trust in local government. However, across Yukon, election administrators often operate without standardized procedures, dedicated resources, or adequate training and support. This creates variation in the quality and accessibility of elections and places significant strain on municipal capacity.

Analysis/Discussion:

Establishing standardized election administration procedures would ensure consistency and fairness across Yukon municipalities. At present, local governments manage elections independently, often with limited resources and varying levels of expertise. Recognizing Elections Yukon as the territorial authority for municipal elections—and equipping it with the mandate, funding, and infrastructure to support municipalities—would greatly enhance the consistency, efficiency, and accessibility of local election processes.

While municipalities may retain some responsibilities, centralized coordination through Elections Yukon could offer a more streamlined and professionalized approach to election delivery. This could include shared tools, training, advisory support, and access to electoral expertise. Over time, a more integrated model would benefit municipalities of all sizes, reduce duplication of effort, and strengthen public trust in local democratic processes.

Recommendation:

That the Association of Yukon Communities urge the Government of Yukon to:

- Establish standardized procedures for municipal election administration across the territory;
- Recognize Elections Yukon as the central authority for municipal election administration;
- Provide Elections Yukon with appropriate funding and resources to develop a centralized support system for municipal election officials.

Municipal Sponsor:

City of Whitehorse

Date & Version:

March 26, 2025- Version 1



WHEREAS:

Fair, accessible, and well-administered elections under the Municipal Act are essential to democratic governance and public trust in local government; and

WHEREAS:

Municipalities across Yukon face challenges in election administration due to inconsistent procedures, limited funding, and a lack of centralized support for municipal election officials; and

WHEREAS:

Standardized election procedures, territorial funding, and a centralized support system would improve efficiency, consistency, and integrity in municipal elections.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Association of Yukon Communities urge the Government of Yukon to establish standardized municipal election administration procedures to ensure consistency and fairness across all municipalities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Government of Yukon recognize Elections Yukon as the authority on elections under the Municipal Act, provide them with the necessary funding and resources, and develop a centralized support system to assist municipal election officials in delivering well-administered and accessible elections.

Motion: It was duly moved by Councillor Paolo Gallina and seconded by Councillor Kevin Kennedy THAT Resolution regarding strengthening municipal election support standardization be accepted as amended.

Carried unanimously



Subject:

Urging the Yukon Government to Adequately Fund the Fire Marshal's Office to Support Municipal Fire Departments

Issue:

There is inconsistent funding and support from the Fire Marshal's Office. Municipalities are expected to provide emergency response services in the Government of Yukon's jurisdiction. However, the support received from the Fire Marshal's Office is inconsistent, causing increased financial burdens on Yukon municipalities. Due to a lack of consistent funding and equipment from the Fire Marshal's Office, municipalities are required to bear the financial responsibility of equipping their fire departments. The government of Yukon's most recent budget for the Fire Marshal's Office was lower than required.

Background:

The Yukon government (YG) and municipalities have Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) that allow municipal fire departments to respond to emergencies in the Government of Yukon's jurisdiction.

These emergencies include, but are not limited to, motor vehicle accidents (MVAs) on highways and fires. As part of this arrangement, the Fire Marshal's Office provides varying levels of support to municipalities in the form of fire apparatuses, equipment, funding, and training. However, the support is inconsistent and often insufficient. Some municipalities receive fire apparatus and equipment from the Fire Marshal's Office, while others receive little or no support, including financial assistance for the valuable service they provide to Yukon residents. This inconsistency places significant financial and operational pressure on municipal fire departments.

Most recently, the Yukon Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) Department inspected fire departments across the territory and imposed new orders. These orders vary from specialized training for fire chiefs to upgraded equipment. This comes at a time when many municipalities are struggling to meet these orders due to a lack of consistent support from the Fire Marshal's Office.

Analysis/Discussion:

Municipalities are at the forefront of emergency response in Yukon, often providing critical services in challenging conditions with limited resources.

The current system, which relies on MOUs between municipalities and the Fire Marshal's Office, is intended to support municipal fire departments in responding to emergencies within the Government of Yukon's jurisdiction while providing services in rural areas outside



Briefing Note
Urging the Yukon Government to Adequately
Fund the Fire Marshal's Office to Support
Municipal Fire Departments

municipal boundaries. However, the lack of consistent support and funding from the Fire Marshal's Office is placing an increasing burden on municipalities, The disparity in support—where some municipalities receive necessary apparatus and training while others receive little or no aid—creates inequities between communities, making it difficult for smaller or less-funded municipalities to maintain adequate fire services.

The recent OH&S orders for specialized training and updated equipment have added pressure on municipal fire departments, many of which are already struggling financially. Without adequate funding, municipalities are forced to either break OH&S regulations or fail to respond to emergencies promptly, both of which pose significant risks to the safety of firefighters and the public. As a result, municipalities are now forced to make difficult choices between responding to emergencies or complying with regulations designed to protect fire service personnel.

The funding gap issue for fire services in Yukon municipalities is well known. The 2021 Fire Service Review commissioned by the Government of Yukon highlighted the need for increased funding and staffing to address these challenges. Yet, little has been done to implement these recommendations, leaving municipalities without the resources needed to comply with OH&S standards and deliver emergency services effectively. The Government of Yukon must prioritize the adequate funding and support of the Fire Marshal's Office to ensure that municipalities can continue to provide essential emergency response services and safely protect its volunteers.

Recommendation:

The need for consistent and adequate funding for Yukon's municipal fire services is urgent. The Village of Teslin strongly believes that this resolution will help.

Municipal Sponsor:

Village of Teslin

Date & Version:

March 11, 2025- Version 1



Resolution
Urging the Yukon Government to Adequately
Fund the Fire Marshal's Office to Support
Municipal Fire Departments

WHEREAS:

Yukon municipalities have entered into Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with the Fire Marshal's Office to assist in responding to emergencies, including motor vehicle accidents (MVs) and fires, within the Government of Yukon's jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS:

The Fire Marshal's Office has historically provided varying levels of support to municipal fire departments, including equipment, training, and fire apparatus, but this support has been inconsistent and inadequate for many municipalities; and

WHEREAS:

The Fire Marshal's Office budget has been reduced in the most recent government budget despite clear and ongoing requests for increased funding the Association of Yukon Fire Chiefs (AYFC).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Association of Yukon Communities (AYC) calls on the Yukon Government to immediately increase funding to the Fire Marshals Office to ensure that fire departments across the territory receive consistent and sufficient support, including the provision of necessary funding, fire apparatus, equipment, and training; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Government of Yukon commits to long-term support for fire services by adhering to the recommendations from the 2021 Fire Service Review, which called for increased funding and staffing to ensure that Yukon fire departments can continue to provide effective emergency response services.

Motion: It was duly moved by Mayor Gord Curran and seconded by Councillor Luc Johnstone THAT Resolution regarding adequate funding for the Fire Marshal's Office to support municipal fire departments be accepted as presented.

Carried unanimously



Subject:

Vulnerable Offender Management in Yukon Communities

Issue:

1. Information Sharing: current Yukon legislation and various Government acts, information sharing is prohibited between government departments.
2. Holistic Management Approach: the health and wellness of our citizens at risk, and places an additional workload on law enforcement, the court system and health and social demands.
3. Community Integration: the sharing of all information between departments is required for the wholistic health and wellness of the offender.

Background:

Some communities have recognized a persistent challenge regarding the handling and case management of prolific/vulnerable offenders. This resolution aims to address the provisions of information sharing issues and improve the overall community safety and well-being, both for both offenders and our citizens.

Analysis/Discussion:

The rationale behind this resolution is multifaceted:

- Community Input: By involving all government and non-government departments in the decision-making process, the resolution ensures that the needs and preferences of the clients and society are prioritized, allowing for a tailored approach to policing that better serves the client.
- Enhanced Safety and Well-Being: A stable and integrated prolific offender case management improves safety outcomes and enhances the well-being of both the communities and the client themselves, who are more likely to feel supported and connected to the community.
- The various legislations like the Health Information Privacy and Management Act, the Access to Information and Protecting Privacy Act, Adult Protection and Decision-Making Act, Child and Family Services Act, Corrections Act, Mental Health Act, Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act, Young Persons Offences Act are not currently allowed to share information across government.



- Under the current legislation information on a client can only be shared between departments with their consent and they can limit the parties involved and withdraw at any time.

Supporting this resolution will urge the Yukon Government to address ongoing challenges with the outdated legislations. Allowing for an encompassing approach to community safety and the supports needed by closing the gaps in the system to support people, that place themselves and other at risk in the communities by their actions. By advocating for the legislative changes, AYC aims to improve community safety and strengthen the bonds between law enforcement, government agencies and our communities' residents.

Recommendation:

- Advocate for the resolution with the Yukon Government
- Monitor and evaluate the effects of this resolution on community safety relationships and overall safety in rural Yukon communities.

Municipal Sponsor:

Town of Watson Lake

Date & Version:

March 27, 2025- Version 2



WHEREAS:

Under current Yukon legislation, information sharing is prohibited between government departments, which is detrimental to supporting the health and wellness of vulnerable persons at risk and could impact the wellbeing and safety of the person and other community members.

WHEREAS:

The sharing of all information between departments is required for the holistic health and wellness of the offender, and

WHEREAS:

The failure to do this puts community safety, and the health and wellness of our citizens and vulnerable persons at risk, and places an additional workload on law enforcement, the court system and health and social services.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Association of Yukon Communities urge the Government of Yukon to amend relevant legislation to enable the sharing of pertinent information between government departments as needed, to provide access to all services which will allow for development of a comprehensive wellness or case management plan for the vulnerable offenders as their behavior may be related to health or social impacts and not based in criminality.

Motion: It was duly moved by Councillor Denina Paquette and seconded by Councillor Eillen Melnychuk THAT Resolution regarding vulnerable persons management in Yukon communities be accepted as amended.

Carried



Subject:

Made in Yukon Adoption of the National Building Code

Issue:

The automatic adoption of revisions to the National Building Code (NBC) under the Yukon Building Standards Act (BSA) may lead to increased building costs and complexity without accounting for Yukon's unique construction challenges and capacity limitations.

Background:

The Yukon Building Standards Act mandates the automatic implementation of amendments and updates to the NBC. Recent code changes—combined with shortages of architects and qualified construction professionals—have made it more difficult and expensive to undertake development in Yukon communities. Other provinces adopt and adapt the NBC with greater flexibility, allowing for regional considerations and stakeholder input.

Analysis/Discussion:

The Government of Yukon has the authority to revise, replace, or exempt specific provisions of the NBC to ensure more regionally appropriate standards. A Made in Yukon approach would allow for a more tailored, inclusive, and practical implementation of national code changes. Delaying automatic adoption until full reviews and consultations are completed would support better outcomes for builders, developers, municipalities, and First Nations. Enhanced communication and education around building standards would also improve compliance and reduce frustration within the industry.

Recommendation:

That the Association of Yukon Communities urge the Government of Yukon to:

- Delay the automatic adoption of NBC revisions until a full review and consultation process is completed with municipalities, First Nations, builders, and other stakeholders;
- Consider revising, replacing, or exempting specific NBC provisions as needed to reflect Yukon's construction environment;
- Improve consultation, communication, and education related to building code changes to support smooth implementation and stakeholder understanding.

Municipal Sponsor:

City of Whitehorse

Date & Version:

March 26, 2025- Version 1



WHEREAS:

The Yukon Building Standards Act (BSA) mandates the automatic adoption of amendments and replacements to the National Building Code (NBC), which can increase building costs and complexity without considering Yukon's unique construction challenges; and

WHEREAS:

Recent changes to the NBC, coupled with shortages of architects and construction professionals, have made building in Yukon more expensive and time-consuming; and

WHEREAS:

The Government of Yukon has the authority under the BSA to revise, replace, or deem certain provisions of the NBC inapplicable to Yukon, allowing for a more regionally appropriate approach.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Association of Yukon Communities urge the Government of Yukon to stop the automatic adoption of all future revisions to the National Building Code until a full review of the changes is conducted and consultations are held with municipal governments, First Nations, builders, and other stakeholders.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Government of Yukon consider revising, replacing, or exempting certain provisions of the National Building Code as needed to better reflect Yukon's unique construction conditions, bringing the adoption process in line with how other provinces implement the NBC, and improving consultation, communication, and education with stakeholders.

Motion: It was duly moved by Councillor Eillen Melnychuk and seconded by Councillor Luc Joonstone THAT Resolution regarding the Yukon Adoption of National Building Code be accepted as amended.

Carried unanimously



Subject:

Yukon Community Recreation Assistance Grant

Issue:

Local Advisory Councils (LACs) and unincorporated communities in the Yukon face ongoing financial challenges in providing recreation programs, maintaining facilities, and supporting recreation-based activities. Because the funding is not indexed to inflation, the current level of funding from the Community Recreation Assistance Grant (CRAG) is insufficient to meet the growing needs of these communities. Increased funding would increase recreational opportunities, improve community wellbeing, and promote equitable access to recreation services across the Territory.

Background:

- The CRAG is intended to support communities in providing recreational activities by covering expenses such as staffing, facility maintenance, and program development.
- LACs and unincorporated communities receive significantly less financial support compared to incorporated municipalities, limiting their ability to offer consistent and sustainable recreational services.
- In previous years the Yukon Government has not spent all the allocated funds on the CRAG, indicating that there is potential opportunity to redistribute or increase funding for underfunded areas.
- Many LACs rely on volunteers and limited operational budgets to manage community recreation programs, often struggling to secure additional funding from other sources.
- CRAG funding is not indexed to inflation

Analysis/Discussion:

- Population growth and increased interest in recreational activities have placed greater strain on existing resources in unincorporated areas
- Additional funding would enable LACs to maintain and enhance community spaces, upgrade facilities, and expand programming to benefit residents.
- Access to recreation plays a crucial role in mental and physical health, fostering social connections and overall community engagement.

Recommendation:

The Association of Yukon Communities should advocate for an increase in CRAG funding specifically allocated to LACs and unincorporated communities. AYC should:

- Engage with the Yukon Government to assess current funding gaps and propose a revised funding model that reflects community needs
- Promote equitable access to recreation funding by ensuring that smaller communities receive adequate financial support



- Increased CRAG funding for LACs and unincorporated communities is essential for enhancing recreation opportunities and ensuring sustainable community development.

Municipal Sponsor:

Association of Yukon Communities

Date & Version:

March 31, 2025- Version 2



WHEREAS:

The Local Advisory Councils of Marsh Lake, Mount Lorne, Tagish, and South Klondike have agreed to send a resolution to AYC. The Community Recreation Assistance Grant (CRAG) offers financial help to unincorporated communities to cover the basic expenses of providing recreational activities. Unincorporated communities rely on this funding to operate in lieu of a tax base; and

WHEREAS:

Yukon Government's 2024-25 budget estimate (2024-25) for the CRAG remains unchanged since the 2015 tax year while the CPI has increased 30% in that time and the CRAG has not been indexed for inflation.

WHEREAS:

Population growth, increased demand, cost increases, aging infrastructure, and the competitive job market are straining budgets in unincorporated areas, leading to reductions in recreational opportunities, risks to user safety, and poorer health outcomes for youth, seniors, and others who rely on local recreation programs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

The Association of Yukon Communities calls on the Yukon Government to increase funding for the Community Recreation Assistance Grant for unincorporated communities in the Yukon.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

In its future budgets, the Yukon Government at a minimum, keep the CRAG amount consistent with inflation.

Motion: It was duly moved by Councillor Kevin Kennedy and seconded by Mayor Justin Lachance THAT Resolution regarding Yukon Community Recreation Assistance Grant be accepted as amended.

Carried unanimously