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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MP

It's hard to believe it has been one year since the election! It continues to be a true honour serving as your Member of Parliament, and I can report it was a year full of learning, advocating, and delivering for Yukoners. As a country, we've faced some profound challenges in the past twelve months: Russia's invasion of Ukraine; labour shortages; rising inflation; immigration and passport backlogs; and ongoing adaptations to the pandemic. As I reflect on our position today compared to September 2021, I am reminded of our government's continued progress on many issues. We're making a difference in the lives of Canadians by providing thousands of homes to those who need them most, addressing surgery and medical procedure backlogs amplified by the pandemic; advancing our ambitious climate goals to be 40 percent below 2005 emissions levels by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2050; improving access to dental care; establishing Canada-wide affordable childcare deals; banning conversion therapy; and tabling both a forward-thinking federal budget and an affordability plan. Thank you Yukon, for entrusting me with the privilege to act as your federal voice. I'm looking forward to continuing this progress in our year ahead!

ONE YEAR IN REVIEW

During my campaign and up to today, my priorities have been informed by the many conversations and meetings I have with Yukoners. I am continually inspired by your stories and driven by your concerns heard right across the territory. It is with these sentiments and anecdotes that I proudly represent you in Ottawa. Four main themes materialized early on as paramount priorities—climate change action, addiction and mental health, housing, and reconciliation—areas in which I'd like to provide some updates. Throughout the year, we've made many announcements to advance these areas, as highlighted in this mailer.

My time in Ottawa this past year was focused on building relationships, discussing and advocating for change in policy, while highlighting Yukon issues with my MP colleagues and cabinet members. And they are taking notice: no less than nine ministers prioritized a visit to our territory this spring and summer (more on these visits on Page 4). With each vote or statement in the House of Commons or during a committee meeting, I aim to advance the Yukon's interests.



Meeting with seniors at a tea we hosted at the Golden Age Society in Whitehorse to discuss programs and support for seniors, September 2022



Meeting with Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation at their Sree Vyaa Solar Project site in Old Crow during Minister Vandal's visit to the Yukon, August 2022 [L to R: William Josie, Councillor Bingham, Chief Tizya-Tramm, Minister Dan Vandal, Regional Chief Kluane Adamek, Minister Pillai and MP Brendan Hanley]

CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION

With our northern climate and growing population, the Yukon requires diversified energy sources and projects that set us on the path toward a sustainable future.

We are adding wind energy to the Yukon grid by installing four wind turbines on Haeckel Hill in Whitehorse, powering up to 650 homes, replacing 40 million litres of diesel fuel, and offsetting 115,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions over their 20+ year lifespan.

Plus, we are expanding the Indigenous owned and operated Atlin hydropower facility by an additional 8.5 megawatts of winter energy to help reduce Yukon's reliance on diesel generators.

Our government is supporting Champagne and Aishihik First Nations and researchers at Yukon University in their project to assess the vulnerability of their traditional territory to climate change and permafrost thaw.

We have invested nearly \$1.6 million in 214 electric vehicle charging stations across the Yukon as we work to reach Canada's climate targets and reduce pollution from the transportation sector. By 2027, we'll be able to travel by electric vehicle to all road-accessible communities in the Yukon.

HOUSING

Our government's focus is on more than just four walls and a roof; we are focused on safe and affordable places to call home in the Yukon. Through the Rapid Housing Initiative (RHI) and National Housing Co-Investment Fund (NHCF) programs, we're making meaningful and ongoing investments to meet immediate and long-term needs in the housing sector.

In January, we invested \$10 million through the NHCF and \$5 million through the RHI toward the renovation of the former High Country Inn to add 55 supportive housing units for women, youth, and Indigenous Yukoners in the community.

This July, we celebrated the opening of the Cornerstone Building on Main Street in Whitehorse, supplying 45 affordable rental units for those living with disabilities, at risk of homelessness, or in need of safe housing. This six-storey mixed-use building includes integrated supports for employment and training, a medical room to address the health needs of residents, eight market-rate condos, a café, retail space, office space, and a lounge for people to gather and hold workshops. The Government of Canada contributed over \$15.1 million to this project through our NHCF program, with additional contributions from the Government of Yukon and the City of Whitehorse.



Celebrating the grand opening of the Cornerstone Building, July 2022



The opening of the Whitehorse Rapid Housing Initiative Triplex at 2 Sycamore Street alongside Minister Ranj Pillai and Whitehorse City Councillor Michelle Friesen, August 2022

We also saw the completion of three triplexes in Whitehorse, Watson Lake and Mayo this summer as part of our Rapid Housing Initiative, providing barrier-free one- and two-bedroom units. All nine units are designated for Indigenous people, people with disabilities, and other targeted populations, including women and children.

Also in July, we announced nearly \$5 million in funding toward a Men's Shelter and Transitional Housing known as Jëjë Zho for adult male residents of Dawson City and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in citizens, offering 10 residential units, 3 emergency shelter beds, on-site care for addictions, detox preparation or after care, harm reduction and mental health supports.

Other housing projects nearing completion include the Normandy Manor development providing 84 supportive housing units for seniors in Whitehorse, having received \$34.5 million through the NHCF in 2021, as well as the townhome development in the Whitehorse neighbourhood of Whistle Bend providing 20 new homes for Champagne and Aishihik First Nation citizens, recipients of over \$12 million in RHI funding in 2021.



At the Indigenous Guardians Initiative announcement with Climate Change and Environment Minister Guilbeault and Chief Maria Benoit of Carcross/Tagish First Nation in Whitehorse, August 2022

RECONCILIATION

We continue to listen to our First Nation partners, reflect on injustices and advance Truth and Reconciliation calls to action for a better future together.

We are advancing reconciliation through the Yukon Cultural Connections Project that connects Indigenous children in out-of-home care with their own culture and communities.

The Indigenous Guardians Initiative is supporting multiple Yukon First Nations as stewards of their traditional land with investments that enable further conservation and ecological monitoring efforts, ultimately addressing climate change and building our nation-to-nation relationship.

We are investing nearly \$3.9 million in two regional initiatives led by First Nation economic development organizations across the Yukon, to promote an inclusive recovery and economic growth out of the pandemic.

Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) is supporting a CYFN initiative to develop the first Yukon First Nations Birth Worker Program, bringing together Yukon First Nations to share and reclaim traditional birthing practices and develop culturally relevant prenatal resources. To improve access to training opportunities, Yukon University will now be delivering an IRC water and wastewater program that builds First Nations' capacity to manage water systems, and recruit and retain qualified water operators.

ADDICTION AND MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health supports and the opioid crisis are top of mind. I continue to advocate for a national mental health and addiction approach that considers opioid decriminalization as a key component. I am engaged in multiple roles as the co-chair of the All-Party Mental Health Caucus on a federal level, while participating on the Advisory Committee on the Substance Use Health Emergency on the territorial level.

Mental health is strongly linked to family violence and gender-based violence. That's why our government announced over \$1 million in funding this July to support a Council of Yukon First Nations initiative aimed at preventing family and gender-based violence and supporting the mental and physical well-being of survivors.

Looking ahead, our government has committed to ensuring that mental health care is treated as an equal part of Canada's universal public health care system through the Canada Mental Health Transfer and an initial investment of \$4.5 billion over 5 years.

Alongside Grand Chief Peter Johnston and Mental Health and Addictions Minister Carolyn Bennett supporting an initiative to prevent and address family violence in the Yukon, July 2022



TOURISM

Tourists returned to the Yukon in pre-pandemic numbers this summer. Yet, the pandemic changed the way we visit new places and enjoy local experiences. Through a variety of investments and programs, our government is supporting the Yukon tourism sector as it adapts and grows beyond the pandemic. Alongside the Government of Yukon, we're investing a combined \$1.95 million through the Yukon Elevate Program aimed at helping tourism operators recover quickly and focus on product and service innovation. The program is administered and managed by the Tourism Industry Association of Yukon (TIA Yukon) and is designed and delivered through a unique partnership with Yukon First Nations Culture and Tourism Association and the Wilderness Tourism Association of Yukon, to ensure that the entire sector has access to funds.

In June, we announced an investment through the Tourism Relief Fund to support four Yukon tourism proponents keep visitors safe and develop dynamic experiences that welcome back travellers. The proponents are Friends of the Klondike Corridor, Yukon Alpine Heliski, Soulfly Experiences / Inclusion Yukon and Overland Yukon Inc.

Also through the Tourism Relief Fund, we made a key investment of \$300,000 toward a French tourism marketing campaign aimed at attracting Francophone visitors to the territory.

Our government is pleased to support the Yukon Motorcycle Park in its renovation and expansion designed for the long-distance motorcycle rider. Funding of \$87,000 will increase accommodation capacity and improve on-site infrastructure.



Roundtable discussion with Dawson small business and tourism operators with Minister Randy Boissonnault and Minister Pillai, August 2022



Though isolating at home with COVID, I attended meetings virtually during Fisheries and Oceans Minister Murray's visit to the Yukon, including a meeting with Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation on our territory's salmon stock decline, July 2022

MINISTERS' VISITS TO OUR TERRITORY

This spring and summer, we welcomed nine federal ministers to the territory. Having facilitated their meetings with Yukon constituents, organizations, municipal and territorial government, First Nations leaders and others, I'm grateful to all parties for making time to connect, share and hear Yukon perspectives. These meetings were not limited to Whitehorse, but branched off into communities including Old Crow, Dawson City, Haines Junction and Carcross, broadening our views on many issues.

These visits are well documented on my social media, but a brief recap of those who visited were Minister Bill Blair, Emergency Services; Minister Vandal, Northern Affairs; Minister Carolyn Bennett, Mental Health and Addictions; Minister Ahmed Hussen, Housing and Diversity and Inclusion; Minister Joyce Murray, Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coastguard; Minister Patty Hajdu, Indigenous Services Canada; Minister Randy Boissonnault, Tourism and Associate Minister of Finance; and Minister Steven Guilbeault, Environment and Climate Change.

Flipping burgers at my community BBQ in Mayo, August 2022

SUMMER EVENTS

It was great spending time around the territory this summer, with trips to Watson Lake, Ross River, Mayo, Old Crow, Mendenhall, Dawson City, Faro, Carmacks and more. We had an impressive turnout at my Senior's Tea at the Golden Age Society, which provided an opportunity to engage with seniors on the programs and supports available to them and to answer questions. We hosted two community barbeques, one in Mayo and one in Whistle Bend in Whitehorse. This was another valuable chance to connect with constituents and take their pulse on many current issues. I was honoured to attend a few First Nation gatherings, including the Little Salmon Carmacks Annual Salmon Gathering and Ceremony at Tatchun Creek, and Ta'an Kwach'an Council's 20th anniversary as a self-governing First Nation at Lake Laberge. Thank you to all of my constituents who attended BBQs, community events, the Fireweed Market, meetings, ceremonies, and announcements for taking the time to chat and share your



AFFORDABILITY

Many Canadians, including Yukoners, are struggling with the rising cost of living. Inflation is being felt globally, caused by a number of factors including Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Our government has introduced some affordability measures that will help Canadians who need it most, including:

- **Doubling the GST tax credit for six months**, putting up to an extra \$234 in the pockets of single Canadians without children and up to \$467 for couples with children, as well as an average extra \$255 for seniors this year. This will help up to 13,000 Yukoners.
- **\$500 top-up to the Canada Housing Benefit** to help low income renters who spend at least 30% of their income on rent. This will help up to 4,500 Yukoners or up to 500 households.
- **Introducing free dental care for children** for families earning less than \$90,000 per year. Families will receive direct payments of up to \$1,300 per child (\$650 per year) as we develop our national dental care plan.

Figures based on eligibility and 2021 Yukon Census data

CALL FOR TAX CLINIC VOLUNTEERS

Tax season is around the corner! My office is looking for volunteers to help complete free tax returns for eligible Yukoners, including seniors, newcomers, those living with disabilities, housing-insecure individuals, modest-income individuals, students and Indigenous peoples. This volunteer commitment is flexible and we can discuss the best arrangement for you! Training will be provided. Please contact my office by email at Brendan.Hanley@parl.gc.ca with any questions or if you'd like to register.

MP'S YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

In September, I partnered with local organization Communities Building Youth Futures Yukon (CBYF) to hold an info night for my inaugural Youth Advisory Council. Youth aged 15-21 across the territory are invited to register and attend monthly meetings—in person or virtually—to discuss matters important to them and engage on projects like setting up townhalls, researching and drafting letters to federal ministers, and more. Ultimately, this youth voice provides valuable input into how the federal government addresses issues. There's still time to register for this year's council: email me at Brendan.Hanley@parl.gc.ca!