



Happy 2026! With the new year well underway, please expect a monthly update highlighting important federal announcements, new programs, and information with a focus on items that matter to the Yukon.

Please note:

Due to system limitations with our monthly e-blast, this newsletter is currently being sent in English only to ensure it is delivered in full and on time.

The French version remains available and will be happily shared upon request as a PDF.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

— Team Hanley



Dear Yukoners,

Frigid temperatures and chaotic geopolitics made December a difficult month for the Yukon, and indeed, for the world in general. I hope you and your loved ones were still able to find moments of rest, comfort, and celebration over the holiday season.

As we begin a new year, our focus remains on working toward a future that feels fair, safe, and sustainable. Whether it's easing everyday pressures, meeting the present and future challenges of a changing climate, or supporting families across the territory, my goal is always to ensure people feel supported and heard.

In that spirit, I was very excited to share welcome news of the new Canada Groceries and Essentials Benefit, which increases the former GST Credit by 25% for five years starting in July 2026 - and with a one time 50% boost this year. This means up to \$1,890 for a family of four and up to \$950 for a single person this year, with ongoing annual support afterward for more than 12 million people.

The North continues to play an important role in Canada's future, and so do the people who call it home. Your ideas, your determination, and your commitment to community shape this place every day. Every day that I'm in the Yukon, I realize how much we can offer, inspire, and contribute to the well-being and security of all Canadians.

Thank you for staying engaged. I look forward to keeping you informed in the months ahead.

Warm wishes,

Brendan Hanley



MP Hanley enjoyed a great visit to Watson Lake in January, connecting with students at Watson Lake Secondary, the Liard Aboriginal Women's Society, and Mayor and Council. Conversations covered energy, infrastructure, and all the exciting things happening in the community – plus a special hello to Eleanor the puppy!



Also, MP Hanley visited two local Whitehorse businesses that are doing exciting work.

At NGC Builders and Northern Pre-Built, he saw firsthand how they're adapting to meet Yukon's housing needs and creating more affordable options for people looking to own a home.

At Solvest, he learned about their solar energy projects and Battery Energy Storage Systems – made right here in the North – helping communities access clean, affordable energy.



Supporting Student Success Through the National School Food Program

Good news! With \$7.36 million in federal support through the National School Food Program, the Yukon government is launching a hot lunch pilot in seven Whitehorse and rural schools. This is a key step toward improving access to healthy meals for all Yukon students and learning what works. In partnership with the Yukon First Nations Education Directorate, the pilot will test different models, upgrade kitchens, support Healthy Food Guidelines, and strengthen programs in francophone and non-pilot schools. It's a strong start toward tackling food-security challenges for Yukon students and families.

[Read more](#)



We are increasing the Canada Groceries and Essentials Benefit by 25% for the next five years, plus a one-time top-up this year, up to \$1,890 for a family of four and \$950 for a single person. The government is also investing \$500 million to help businesses manage supply-chain costs, \$150 million to support small and medium-sized food producers, and \$20

million for food banks and local organizations. For Yukoners, these measures aim to ease costs now and make life more affordable where prices are highest.

[Read more](#)

Our government has announced renewed support for the 9-8-8: Suicide Crisis Helpline, investing up to \$120.2 million over the next two years to ensure Canadians can access life-saving support when they need it most.

Launched in 2023, 9-8-8 is Canada's national suicide crisis helpline, offering free, 24/7/365, bilingual, trauma-informed, and culturally appropriate support by call or text. Coordinated by CAMH and delivered with 37 partners nationwide, the service has already responded to more than 800,000 calls and texts.

If you or someone you know is in crisis, help is always available. Call or text 9-8-8.



9-8-8

**Suicide Crisis
Helpline**



We are supporting
**the 9-8-8 Suicide
Crisis Helpline**



The Buy Canadian Policy

The federal government is prioritizing Canadian suppliers, Canadian content, and Canadian-made materials in major federal procurements — including steel, aluminum, and wood used in large construction and defence projects.

For the Yukon, this means that federal investments in northern infrastructure, housing, and public works will more directly support local businesses and suppliers.

The policy will first apply to projects valued at \$25 million or more, with expansion to smaller procurements in 2026. New measures will also help small and medium-sized Yukon businesses access federal contracts, opening the door for local firms to grow and take part in national projects.

[Read more](#)

Build Canada Homes Portal

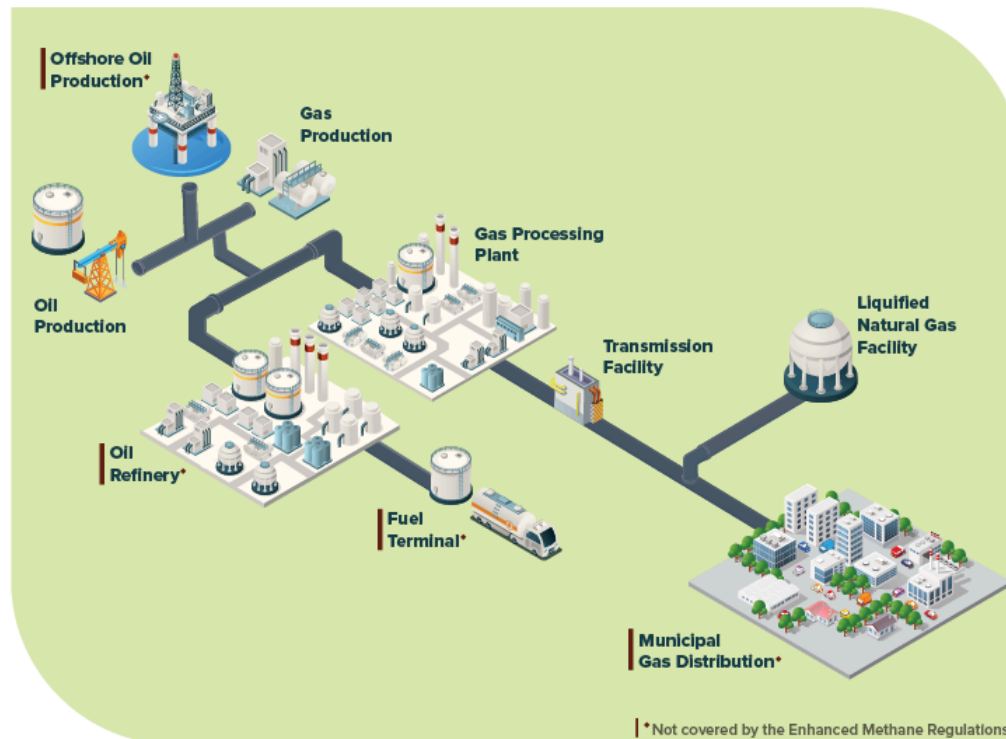
Build Canada Homes is partnering with communities and industry to expand long-term affordable housing by modernizing public-private collaboration and improving construction methods. The Government of Canada has added a \$1.5 billion top-up in repayable loans for new housing construction, and CMHC has now received enough applications to fully commit the remaining funding under its New Construction streams.



[Read more](#)

The Government of Canada is investing up to \$1.7 billion over 12 years to launch the Canada Global Impact+ Research Talent Initiative. This initiative will recruit and support more than 1,000 leading international and expatriate researchers, including Francophone talent, bringing world-class expertise to Canada and reinforcing our leadership in scientific innovation.

[Read More](#)



The Government of Canada has introduced Enhanced Methane Regulations for the oil and gas sector and for landfills. These measures are part of Budget 2025's Climate Competitiveness Strategy, aimed at reducing emissions, giving investors greater certainty, and accelerating clean energy and technology investment.

Together, these regulations strengthen Canada's commitment to tackling climate change while supporting economic growth and innovation.

[Read more](#)

The Flag That Unites Us

Every February 15, we celebrate [National Flag of Canada Day](#)! Since it was first raised in 1965, this national emblem has been the pride of Canadians and is a symbol that reflects the common values we take pride in: democracy, unity, and equity.

This year, we're celebrating with the spirit of sport. Our athletes, proud carriers of the Canadian flag, inspire us with their dedication and resilience.

We're inviting Yukoners to nominate their favourite athlete from Yukon — someone who has inspired their community, shown dedication, or represented the Canadian spirit with pride.

The process is simple: fill out a short online form to submit your nomination. **Your nominee could even win their own Flag of Canada!**



[Submit Your Nominee](#)

10 New Professions Added to Canada Student Loan Forgiveness

Canada is facing a shortage of health professionals, particularly in rural and remote communities that face unique challenges in attracting and retaining health care workers. The Government of Canada is taking steps to ensure Canadians have access to health care no matter where they live.

Effective December 31, 2025, the Government of Canada has expanded the list of occupations eligible for Canada Student Loan Forgiveness (CSLF). In addition to doctors and nurses, the following professions now qualify for loan forgiveness if you have provided in-person services in an eligible community: **dentists, dental hygienists, pharmacists, midwives, teachers, social workers, physiotherapists, psychologists, early childhood educators, and personal support workers.**

To read more about eligibility for Canada Student Loan Forgiveness, see [this link](#)

Our federal government is supporting women entrepreneurs with loans of up to \$50,000 through the Women Entrepreneurship Fund, helping women start, grow, and scale their businesses.

Follow the slides for step-by-step instructions on where to apply. Because when women succeed, our economy grows.

[Apply Now](#)

Census jobs Opening

Statistics Canada is recruiting about 32,000 workers nationwide for the upcoming census, offering flexible, community-based job opportunities.

[Apply Now](#)

National recruitment campaign for Parliamentary Guides – summer 2026

Experience a unique work opportunity to develop your professional skills, perfect your second official language, and make lasting friendships with people from coast to coast!

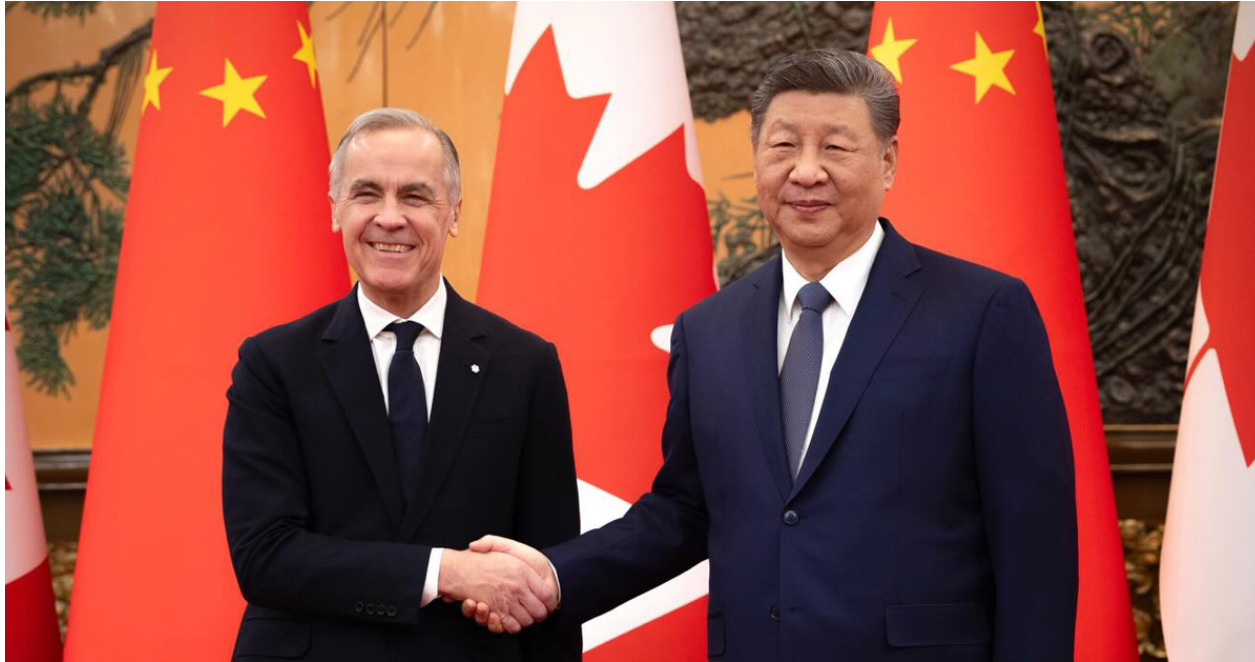


[Apply Now](#)

Canada-China Strategic Partnership

Prime Minister Mark Carney visited Beijing – the first Canadian PM visit in nearly a decade – and Canada and China issued a joint statement committing to a new strategic partnership based on mutual respect, equality and shared benefit. The statement focuses on strengthening cooperation in trade, investment, energy, agriculture, cultural exchange, and multilateral work (e.g., UN, global economic forums).

[Read more](#)



PM Carney said the partnership aims to diversify Canada's economic relations and expand export opportunities. As part of preliminary trade progress, Canada agreed to lower tariffs on Chinese electric vehicles (up to 49,000 imports at a preferential rate) and China committed to reducing punitive tariffs on Canadian canola and other agricultural goods — a major step toward resolving recent trade disputes.

[Read more](#)

Canada-Qatar Strategic Partnership

Prime Minister Mark Carney met with Qatar's Amir, His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, in Doha during the first official visit by a sitting Canadian Prime Minister to Qatar. They discussed strengthening the Canada-Qatar strategic partnership across diplomacy, security, trade, investment, technology, and cultural ties, and Carney invited the Amir to visit Canada next year.

[Read more](#)



PM and the Amir announced a new partnership to expand trade, commerce, and investment between Canada and Qatar. Qatar pledged significant strategic investments in Canada's major projects, which is expected to support growth in energy, health, AI, defence, and create jobs. Both countries committed to deeper collaboration on economic and technical cooperation, establishing a Joint Economic Commission and accelerating negotiations on a Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (FIPA) and a Double Taxation Agreement.

[Read more](#)



I strongly support Mark Carney's message that Canada must be honest about today's global realities, move beyond nostalgia, and lead confidently with cooperation, strength, and shared values.

Click the video to watch his full speech in Davos.



Brendan Hanley

Member of Parliament / Député de Yukon



This Message has been approved by MP Brendan Hanley
MP Brendan Hanley Office
204 Black Street Suite 204
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2M9
Canada

(Unsubscribing is not supported in previews)