

Hello from Team Hanley!

As we welcome the longer, brighter days of spring, we hope you're enjoying the seasonal change in the territory.

MP Hanley began the month with a visit to Dawson City to attend the Dawson City International Short Film Festival, then spent much of April in Ottawa with the House sitting. He also took a short trip to Alaska with the Arctic Parliamentarians group. Here's a quick look at what's been happening both at home and in Ottawa over the past month:

Please note: Due to system word-count limitations, we must send the English and French versions separately. At the moment, everyone in our system receives the newsletter in English.

If you would prefer to change your subscription from English to French, please reply to this email and let us know. Or fill out the following survey: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1DZYvXvX-pAuYJsrJ8f2MTcplP0qSWbHM6HeBitFBreo/edit>

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Important: En raison des limites du système relativement au nombre de mots, nous devons envoyer les versions française et anglaise séparément. Actuellement, toutes les personnes abonnées à notre système reçoivent le bulletin d'information en anglais.

Si vous souhaitez changer votre abonnement anglais pour un abonnement français, veuillez nous en informer en répondant au présent courriel. Ou remplissez le questionnaire suivant : <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1DZYvXvX-pAuYJsrJ8f2MTcplP0qSWbHM6HeBitFBreo/edit>

Thank you, Merci!

– Team Hanley



Dear Yukoners,

Happy Spring! Spring may be coming slowly both in Ottawa and here at home in the Yukon, but parliamentary life continues apace. Following the transition to a majority government, our focus remains on maintaining stability through the severe economic challenges we are facing, while advancing the priorities that matter most to Canadians.

The 2026 Spring Economic Update that we tabled last week reflects this focus, setting a fiscally responsible and forward-looking approach to strengthening our economy while continuing our investments to support families and communities. We'll go into more details later on in this newsletter.

Last month, I travelled to Alaska for the semi-annual meeting of Arctic parliamentarians. In Anchorage, we attended the annual Arctic Encounter Summit before continuing our meetings in Fairbanks, where we discussed shared northern priorities, including economic development, energy security, environmental stewardship, and the importance of strong cooperation across borders. A highlight among many important side tours was a visit to Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER), a critical NORAD hub and a clear reminder of the depth of Canada–U.S. collaboration in defence of the Arctic—and indeed of the entire continent. We also visited the University of Alaska Fairbanks and embarked on a geothermal energy tour, highlighting innovative approaches to clean energy that are directly relevant to northern and remote communities like ours.

Closer to home, it was great to be in Dawson City over the Easter weekend, including attending the Dawson City International Short Film Festival—thank you for the warm welcome. It was a pleasure, as always, to connect with so many of you while I was in town.

As we move toward summer, I'm looking ahead to various events, graduations, and visits around the Yukon, while continuing to work for you in Ottawa. I look forward to seeing many of you in the weeks ahead.

Sincerely,
Brendan Hanley

Spring Economic Update: Key Highlights for the Yukoners



This Spring Economic Update provides a snapshot of Canada's fiscal position since Budget 2025. Below are key takeaways from our office:

Improving access to the Disability Tax Credit

The government is making it easier for Canadians with long-term medical conditions to access the Disability Tax Credit. Changes will streamline the application process and expand the range of medical professionals who can certify eligibility. These improvements are expected to deliver an additional \$345 million in benefits over six years.

Investing in skilled trades and youth opportunities

Through the Team Canada Strong initiative, significant new investments will support young Canadians entering the skilled trades. This includes paid pre-apprenticeship opportunities, expanded apprenticeship supports, and new training pathways through programs like the Junior Canadian Rangers. These measures aim to strengthen the workforce while creating practical, well-paying career paths for youth.

Launching the Canada Strong Fund

The creation of Canada's first national sovereign wealth fund will support major Canadian projects and businesses. The Canada Strong Fund is designed to give Canadians a direct stake in building a more resilient and competitive economy.

Supporting sport and community well-being

An investment of \$755 million will help Canadian athletes compete at the highest levels while expanding access to sport across the country. This funding will strengthen national sport organizations, promote physical activity, and support healthier, more connected communities.

A stronger fiscal position

The update shows an improved fiscal outlook compared to Budget 2025. The projected deficit for 2025–26 is now \$66.9 billion—more than \$11 billion lower than previously forecast. Canada continues to maintain the lowest net debt-to-GDP ratio in the G7 and remains on track to meet its fiscal targets, ensuring long-term stability.

Other Notables:

Energy in the North: The federal government will release a discussion paper on strengthening and modernizing Canada's electricity grid, alongside a forthcoming Nuclear Energy Strategy—an issue of growing interest in the Yukon.

Cracking down on financial crime: Work is underway to establish a new Financial Crimes Agency and implement a National Anti-Fraud Strategy to better protect Canadians.

Housing affordability: Measures include reducing development charges, targeted GST relief for homebuyers, and accelerating rental construction through federal financing.

Support for Indigenous housing: \$2.8 billion will be reallocated to support Indigenous housing initiatives, alongside expanded supports for survivors of gender-based violence.

More competition, lower costs: A new federal competition plan—including a telecom roadmap—aims to improve affordability and choice for services like internet and mobile plans.

Support for students: Increased Canada Student Grants and interest-free loans will continue for another year.

Modernizing charities and journalism supports: Consultations will update tax rules for charities, and the journalism labour tax credit will be expanded to include audio and audiovisual news.

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At the end of March in Ottawa, the first Food Sovereignty Summit concluded, bringing together leaders, partners, and Northerners to share knowledge, lived experience, and practical solutions to strengthen food systems across the North.

During the summit, Minister Chartrand and MP Hanley announced over \$2 million in funding for nine Indigenous-led projects through the Nutrition North Canada Food Security Research Grant. This investment will help improve food affordability and access, while also supporting traditional food systems such as hunting, fishing, and sharing. Food security is about more than cost, it is about sovereignty.

On March 31, in recognition of National Indigenous Languages Day, MP Brendan Hanley visited the Yukon Native Learning Centre to take part in activities marking the occasion.

The day was a meaningful opportunity to celebrate the rich linguistic and cultural strength of First Nations in the Yukon, including Gwich'in, Hän, Kaska, Northern Tutchone, Southern Tutchone, Tagish, Tlingit, and Upper Tanana.

The visit also offered a moment to acknowledge the ongoing leadership of Yukon First Nations in revitalizing and strengthening their languages across communities.

MP Hanley also met with students in Law 12 at F.H. Collins Secondary School to talk about how Parliament works, from how a bill becomes law to the role of committees and the difference between policy and legislation.

He also shared what it means to serve as an MP and the importance of bringing community voices into decision-making.

The discussion sparked thoughtful questions from students.



Back to Ottawa this month, MP Brendan Hanley participated in a roundtable alongside Natan Obed, President of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and Ambassador Nikolai Harris of Denmark.

The discussion was hosted by the Glendon School of Public and International Affairs, and students from the Master of Public and International Affairs program were able to participate in the panel. The focus of the discussion was on Arctic sovereignty and security, and I was delighted to be a participant.

Build Communities Strong Fund



In April, the Prime Minister announced details of the new Build Communities Strong Fund. MP Brendan Hanley was pleased to share this news with Yukoners, including support for the Whistle Bend Active Transportation Connector project.

This investment focuses on the kinds of infrastructure that matter in everyday life—safer walking and cycling routes, stronger connections between neighbourhoods, and support for growing communities and new housing.

With \$51 billion being invested across Canada, including dedicated funding for the Yukon, this program reflects a commitment to ensuring northern priorities are included in national infrastructure planning.

[Read More](#)

\$1.2M investment to boost local food in Yukon

Yukon communities are getting a boost as the federal government invests over \$1.2 million to strengthen local food systems.

Announced by Rebecca Chartrand and delivered through the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency, the investment will benefit First Nations governments, local businesses, and food producers, with projects ranging from new retail infrastructure in Ross River to food security planning in Old Crow and expanded agricultural and processing capacity in Whitehorse.

The goal is simple: make it easier for Yukoners to access fresh, local food while supporting jobs and community-led solutions.

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Prime Minister Mark Carney has announced a temporary fuel tax holiday until Labour Day

This measure is expected to reduce operating costs for truckers and businesses in key sectors such as food, agriculture, housing, construction, and delivery, while also reducing costs for Canadian families.

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Canada Strengthens Action to Protect Salmon, Land, and Water

The Government of Canada is advancing major investments to protect nature, restore ecosystems, and support long-term environmental sustainability across the country. Through the [Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative](#), Canada is investing **\$412.9 million** over five years to rebuild wild Pacific salmon populations, protect critical habitat, strengthen sustainable fisheries, and support Indigenous-led stewardship in the Yukon and B.C.

This announcement was part of the launch of: [A Force of Nature](#), our **\$3.8 billion** national strategy to conserve lands and waters, expand Indigenous-led conservation, improve environmental data for decision-making, and support investment in nature-based solutions. Together, these initiatives reflect a coordinated effort to safeguard biodiversity and ensure the health of Canada's ecosystems for future generations.

National School Food Program



With Bill C-15 receiving Royal Assent, the National School Food Program is now officially permanent law in Canada.

This legislation ensures long-term federal funding for school food programming and supports continued collaboration with provinces, territories, and Indigenous partners to expand and strengthen programs across the country.

[Learn More](#)

Canada Summer Jobs 2026 is now getting underway



Through this year's program, the federal government has provided over the Yukon businesses and non-profits to create paid summer job opportunities for youth aged 15 to 30.

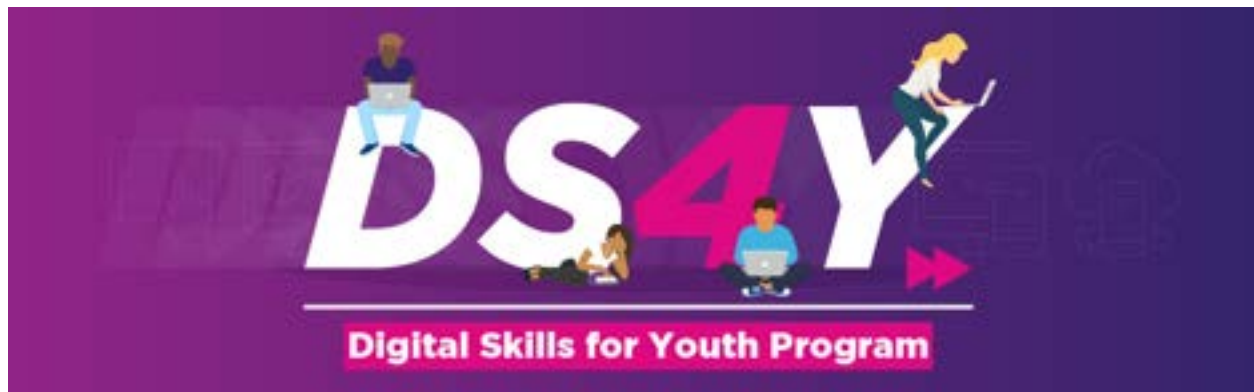
These positions help young people gain meaningful work experience, build skills, and earn income, while also supporting local organizations and employers across the territory.

Job postings are now appearing, with some positions already starting as early as April 20, 2026. Young people are encouraged to have their resumes ready and continue watching for opportunities in their communities.

Visit the Job Bank here:

[Find a job in Canada as a young Canadian - Job Bank](#)

\$23.8M to help Canadian youth build digital skills



The federal government is investing \$23.8 million to help young Canadians gain the skills needed for today's fast-changing digital economy.

Announced by Mélanie Joly, the funding will support the Digital Skills for Youth program, giving young people hands-on training and work experience in fields like tech, data, and AI.

The initiative aims to help youth transition into the workforce and prepare for the jobs of tomorrow, with a focus on making opportunities more accessible, including in our northern communities.

The Digital Skills for Youth program is now accepting proposals. Applications will be accepted until May 22, 2026, at 12 p.m. PST.

Read more: [Digital Skills for Youth](#)

Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP)



Updates to the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP) are now in effect for the upcoming benefit periods.

For existing members, renewals for the 2026–2027 benefit year open on April 15 and close on June 1, 2026.

For new applicants, applications for the current benefit year (June 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026) closed on April 14, 2026 at 8:00 p.m. (ET). Applications for the 2026–2027 benefit year (July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027) will open on June 2, 2026.

Eligibility is based on an adjusted family net income under \$90,000. Individuals with access to private dental insurance through employment, a pension, or a personal plan are not eligible, even if they choose not to use that coverage.

More information on renewal here: [Canadian Dental Care Plan - What is covered - Canada.ca](#)

Building Canada Strong for All Powered by Canada's Workers

**New
consultations
underway**



Canada 

Canada has launched public consultations to gather feedback on how to strengthen labour relations in federally regulated workplaces and better support workers. The goal is to modernize labour rules to reflect today's economic and workplace realities. Input from workers, unions, and employers will help shape potential future policy changes.

[Learn More](#)

Up to
\$12.6 million
in



**research funding
opportunities!**

Canada

Canada is launching the **FRESH Team Grant (Funding Research for Evidence in School Food and Health)** to support research that strengthens school food programs across the country.

Up to \$12.6M over 3 years is available through a partnership between ESDC, CIHR, and PHAC to fund evidence-based improvements in school food programs.


Register by June 25, 2026. Applications due October 7, 2026.

[Learn More](#)



INTRODUCING
The Canadian
Space Launch Act





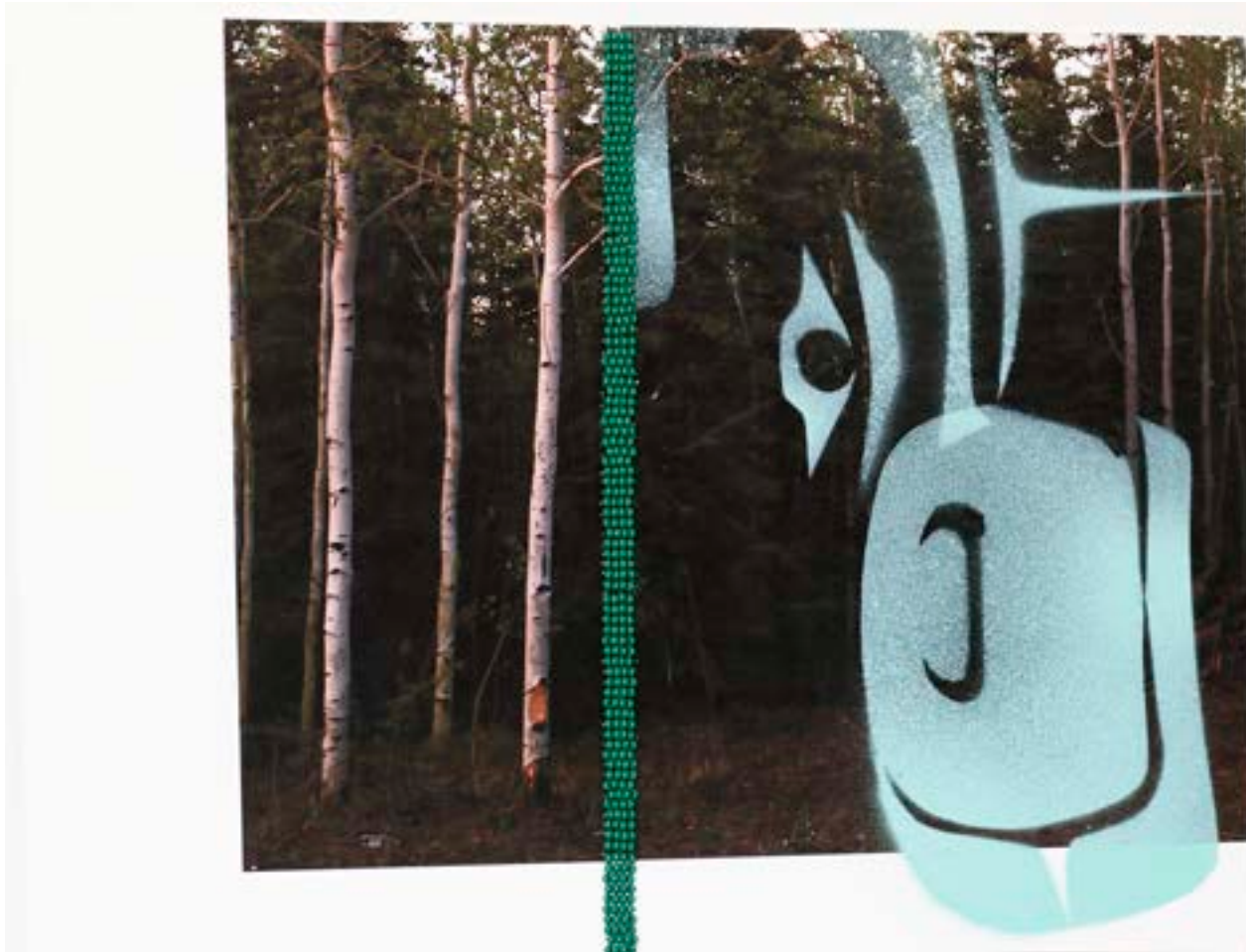
Canada is taking a big step toward controlling its future in space. The Canadian Space Launch Act, introduced by Minister Steven MacKinnon, aims to bring launch capabilities closer to home and give Canada a stronger foothold in the fast-growing global space economy. The move could attract billions in investment, create well-paying jobs, reduce reliance on the United States, and help build a commercial space industry worth up to \$40 billion.

[Learn More](#)

Our community is built on everyday moments and extraordinary achievements alike. Each month, our office would like to dedicate a small space in our communications to celebrating the people of our territory.

Whether it's a proud volunteer making a quiet difference, a project you are taking outside of the territory you are proud of, or someone achieving something extraordinary-big or small-Brendan wants to help recognize and celebrate these moments. Selected stories may be featured in our newsletter, on social media, or in other printed materials, with your permission.

If there's someone you'd like to celebrate, please share their story with us at brendan.hanley@parl.gc.ca.



Warmest congratulations to Krystle Silverfox

A proud member of Selkirk First Nation (Wolf Clan), Krystle's inspiring interdisciplinary practice continues to explore Indigenous feminism, decolonialism, futurism, and lived experience. We're thrilled to celebrate her selection to the long list for the Sobey Art Award (Circumpolar) at the [National Gallery of Canada](#) – a remarkable achievement!

Wishing you continued success and creativity in all that you do!



Brendan Hanley

Member of Parliament / Député de Yukon



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