

November 21, 2021

Gord Curran, President
Association of Yukon Communities
#140-2237 2nd Avenue
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 0K7

Dear President Curran:

Re: Formation of a Working Group on the Better Building Program

Thank you inviting me and my officials for a discussion of the enabling legislation for the Better Buildings program on your November 21st agenda. I really appreciated the opportunity to hear from the members of the Association of Yukon Communities on this important topic.

As I indicated during today's meeting, we are committed to working with Yukon municipalities and the Association on regulations and implementation details for a Better Buildings program in Yukon.

The Yukon government brought forward Bill 3 an Act to Amend the Assessment and Taxation Act, to the House this fall. We have all heard the demands for action on climate change. This bill enables action by the Spring of 2022. If the legislation is delayed, there will be no action until 2023, which is unacceptable in our current emergency.

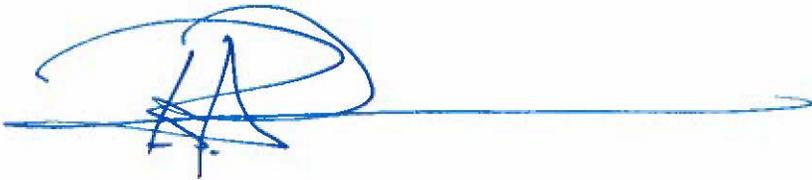
Should Bill 3, and the Municipal Act pass in the Yukon Legislative Assembly, we will have the certainty we need to dedicate time and resources on development of regulations, program details, and agreements that will allow us to create, in partnership, a program that aims to offer a deep energy retrofit program to Yukon citizens.

I am committed to forming a joint working group with municipal governments and the Association of Yukon Communities. We proposed that the working group be formed at the officials' level, but are open to other models that you may prefer. If the legislation is confirmed by the Yukon Legislative Assembly before the end of this sitting, this work can begin immediately. Ben Yu Schott, Director of Community Affairs will contact your Executive Director and municipal Chief Administrative Officers, once the Yukon Legislative Assembly concludes debated on the Bill, to ask that you please confirm working group representatives by the end of the first week of December, 2021, with aim to convene a meeting of the working group as soon as December 3rd or a date that is reasonable for your members.

The first task of the working group will be to develop a joint Terms of Reference. This will include an agreed upon process to guide its work to: develop regulations; determine program details; identify opportunities to reduce and offset the administrative concerns; determine resource requirements for municipal participation; identify ways to highlight the partnership through marketing and communications materials; and other related issues that arise. I am confident that a working group with our officials will find innovative ways to overcome many of the issues and concerns that have been raised by your membership.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me, or have your officials reach out to their counterparts in Community Services. I look forward to working together on our shared commitments under the Our Clean Future plan.

Sincerely,



Richard Mostyn
Minister, Community Services

CC. Laura Eby, Executive Director Association of Yukon Communities