

**Minister's Office**  
PO Box 2703 Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C6

April 3, 2023

Kate White  
MLA, Takhini-Kopper King  
Yukon Legislative Assembly  
P.O. Box 2703  
Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 2C6

Dear MLA White,

**Re: Contraceptives**

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Thank you for your letter of March 3, 2023, regarding access to prescription contraceptives. Our government is committed to supporting Yukoners to access sexual and reproductive health care services, and I am happy to provide you with some additional information on our existing programs and our ongoing work to expand these supports.


As you mentioned, the Government of British Columbia recently announced they will provide free prescription coverage for contraceptives, becoming the first jurisdiction in Canada to do so. We are excited to learn of this initiative in British Columbia. I assure you that we will be paying close attention to the rollout and delivery of this new initiative, as we work to implement our own advancements.

Across the Department of Health and Social Services, we currently have several programs that provide coverage or access to contraceptives. The Children's Drug and Optical Program offers coverage to youth enrolled in the program, which is available to lower-income families with children 18 years of age and younger. Income Support Services provides coverage for birth control for recipients of social assistance. Finally, the Yukon Sexual Health Clinic provides a variety of conception control products to clients of the clinic. I recognize that as the supports provided by these programs are only available to eligible clients, there remains gaps and barriers for many Yukoners to access the contraceptives they need.

Our government remains dedicated to our 2021 commitments and will continue to work towards further supporting Yukoners with accessing options for contraceptives. The development of these options will first require careful planning, research, and engagement with key partners from across the health system. Department of Health and Social Services officials are working diligently to conduct this work.

Thank you again for taking the time write me about this important topic. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tracy-Anne McPhee". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "T".

Tracy-Anne McPhee  
Minister of Health and Social Services