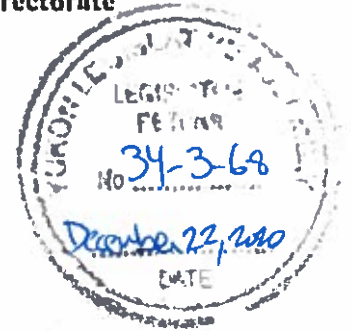


## LEGISLATIVE RETURN

SUBMITTED BY: Hon. Ms. McLean, Minister responsible for the Women's Directorate

- X. On December 3, 2020, Ms. McLeod, Member for Watson Lake  
*Discussion on Bill 205, Vote 11*  
 ~~asked the following oral questions at page 2197 of Hansard~~



RE: COVID-19 Cell Phone Program

**Ms. McLeod:** *What was the cost per month for the [cell phone] service?*

**Ms. McLeod (follow-up question):** *While the minister is speaking with the Yukon Status of Women Council, perhaps we can find out what the outreach is going to look like and how this program might be expanded. One of my questions in all of this is: How many rural women have been serviced by this program? What kind of continuing outreach goes on to attract them to apply for this program?*

The response is as follows:

Women's Directorate had budgeted \$52,000 to July 31st for the cost of the phone program. Actual costs from April 1 – July 31 were \$113,202.67.

The standard cost per phone was \$40/month. All program operations and expenses after July 31st represented the Yukon Status of Women Council's program.

The Yukon Status of Women Council (YSWC) received funding from Red Cross Canada to administer a "Phase 2" of the program. YSWC has approval to purchase pre-paid phone cards to provide data/minutes and are currently distributing them. They are in the process of acquiring permission from the current funders (Red Cross Canada) to see if they are able purchase more phones.

YSWC is doing outreach by actively promoting the cell phone program through their website and Facebook page to attract people to the program as well as communicating with the agencies below.

Pre-paid phone cards are being distributed to the frontline service agencies who assisted with distribution for the summer initiative. See below for a list of organizations that received and distributed phones. Below is the breakdown of how the phones were distributed.

See Attached page:

December 22, 2020  
Date

  
Signature

<b>Summary of phones distributed</b>	
Blood ties	10
champagne & Aishihik First Nation	14
Dawson Women's Shelter	18
Dream Catcher Yukon	13
Fassy Whitehorse	3
FASSY Watson Lake	6
First Nation Health at WGH	4
Housing and Community Outreach Services	12
Help and Hope Watson Lake	8
Housing First	1
Crown Indigenous Relations Northern Affairs Canada	1
KDFN Community Safety Officers	9
KDFN Health	33
Liard Aboriginal Women's Society	6
Les EssentiElles	10
Mary House	5
Mental Wellness Substance Use	15
Sexualized Assault Response Team	7
Skookum Jim Friendship Centre	6
Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre	20
Whitehorse Emergency Shelter	50
Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition	35
Yukon Women's Transition Home	25
Yukon Status of Women Council	30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>325</b>