

**From:** Kristina Craig

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Since the OAG's report was released, and YG's action plan has been developed, YAPC has seen both departments undertake policy changes that appear to make it harder for vulnerable members of the community to access social housing and/or the supports they need to maintain it.

As far as we know, the expertise of people with lived experience was not sought nor used, and the feedback that some partners have tried to provide on YHC's new tenant allocation policy, for example, is also not being heeded. Work done in 2019 on Housing Transformation has been "dusted off" and does not reflect the new realities of the community.

As the administrator of Reaching Home funding, YAPC is in a position to not only hear recommendations from the Community Advisory Board and project proponents about this federal funding, it is a requirement in our contract to support the development and implementation of Coordinated Access. There is no mention of this work, nor of the importance of co-creating systems (including governance) in the OAG's report, or in YG's response. A coordinated access system has been the tool that communities have used to reduce or eliminate homelessness by truly placing people at the centre of the system. It is hard work, and demands buy-in from all levels of government, funders, service providers and community members.

We hear that governments are not wanting or able to do everything, yet when work is underway in the community (that they are a part of), it is somehow not reflected in their actions or being implemented.

It is clear that the Yukon does not currently have appropriate housing options for all people. We also know that affordability is a huge issue, and that every person has a different story. This makes it even more important to be co-creating, coordinating and collaborating on responses, and learning from one another. Trust both between government departments and in the community is lacking which makes transforming the system to ensure people are at the centre even more challenging.

There are many short term and actionable items in the OAGs report and ensuing action plan that are logical. Communication and work with partners and stakeholders on those items would help build trust.