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March 3, 2023

RE: Yukon Medical Association's statement on the 2023-24 Budget address

Dear Elected Representatives:

The YMA was honoured to be invited to hear the 2023-24 Budget address yesterday. We see the genuine efforts that the Government of Yukon is putting into improving the health and wellness of Yukoners during these challenging times.

Yukon doctors are optimistic that the recently signed Memorandum of Understanding will support robust primary care. It has the potential to make the Yukon one of the most competitive and desirable places to practice medicine in Canada.

However, potential can only be realized if the new agreement is accessible. To this day, many parts of the new agreement, including administrative details of the Attachment and Attraction fund, remain inaccessible to Yukon doctors.

At a time when burnout amongst physicians is increasing across the country, uncertain access to large parts of the new agreement is only adding fuel to the burnout fire. The YMA is deeply concerned about the wellness and sustainability of Yukon's physician workforce when they are burdened with additional stress caused by uncertainty.

The YMA remains optimistic that the new agreement will be supportive of Yukon doctors once it is fully in place. With the new agreement totally realized and with doctors supported and focused wholly on caring for Yukoners, the YMA looks forward to the collaborative road ahead in working with the Government of Yukon on *Putting People First*.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alex".

Dr. Alex Kmet
President, Yukon Medical Association

CC:

Katrina Fillmore, Chief Executive Officer, YMA