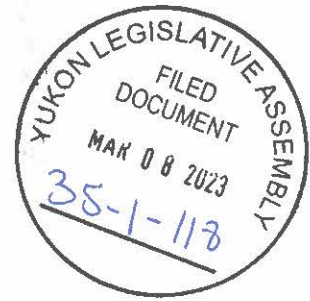


The Honourable Jeanie McLean
Minister responsible for the Women and Gender Equity Directorate
Jeanie.McLean@yukon.ca



February 28, 2023

Dear Minister McLean,

The Yukon Women's Coalition today is writing you to follow up on our meeting together January 19, 2023, about our engagement in the Yukon implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP) on Gender Based Violence (GBV).

As we expressed in the meeting, we are requesting:

- A formal working relationship with Yukon Government on the roll out of National Action Plan funding in the Yukon in the form of an MOU that would demonstrate our inclusion as decision makers on prioritization of how this funding should roll out.
- Clarity on which funding pots will support the implementation of both the National Action Plan on Gender Based Violence and the National Action Plan on MMIWG2s+
- Core funding for Yukon Equity seeking groups to reflect the core pillar of the NAP – sustainability of the Sector.

The NAP recognizes that this sector is chronically underfunded and that progress towards goals can only be realized if front line and advocacy organizations are sustainably funded to perform this work. The organizations that form the Yukon Women's Coalition currently receive core funding from either Women and Gender Equity Directorate or from Health and Social Services.

Many of the organizations listed below are operating entire organizations on core funding budgets that equate to less than half the cost of a single full-time Yukon Government employee. Our inability to equitably remunerate our staff results in significant retention and recruitment issues, further disrupting our capacity to realize our mandates. The Shelters represented here are required to operate at a deficit, and therefore do not have the funding necessary to safely operate their 24/7, essential service. What is more, many organizations listed below bring in an additional \$10 of federal funding for every \$1 they receive in core funding from Yukon Government. We struggle with squaring Yukon Government's declarations to address and mitigate gender-based violence in our territory while your funding decisions reflect the opposite.

As a coalition we have witnessed an exponential increase in the severity and demand for services for women and families since the pandemic and an increasing strain on our staff and infrastructure. Many organizations received Covid-19 recovery and capacity funding that supported increased wages and staff capacity, showing us all what could be possible with adequate funding to support our basic operations.

We have identified each organization below and the amount of core funding requested in addition to current core funding agreements with Yukon Government. As you can see it would take an additional investment of less than \$1.3 million per year to support the sector to thrive.

These amounts represent, in general, less than a quarter of each organizations' annual budgets.

Organization	Current Core Funding	Funding Requirement	YG Department Source
Yukon Status of Women Council	\$49,000/year	\$101,000 in addition	Current core funding through WAGED Women's Equality Fund
Les Essentielles	\$49,000/year	\$106,000 in addition	Current core funding through WAGED Women's Equality Fund
Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre	\$55,000/year	\$195,000 in addition	Current core funding through WAGED Women's Equality Fund
Whitehorse Aboriginal Women's Circle	\$88,000/year	\$195,000 in addition	Current core funding through WAGED Indigenous Women's Equality Fund
Yukon Women in Trades and Technology	\$49,000/year	\$51,000 in addition	Current core funding through WAGED Women's Equality Fund
Yukon Women's Transition Home Society	1,7 Million/ year	\$250,000 in addition	Current core Funding from Health and Social Services
Dawson Shelter Society	\$405,000/year	\$150,000 in addition	Current core Funding from Health and Social Services
Help and Hope for Families Society	\$604,000/ year	\$250,000 in addition	Current Core Funding from Health and Social Services and Social Services

*****At this time, we were not able to receive a financial request from Liard Aboriginal Women's Society or Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council. Core funding should also be considered for Queer Yukon Society.***

Ending gender-based violence in the Yukon will take a coordinated approach from a rich net of services and supports across Government and the non-profit sector, especially in the wake of the pandemic. As the NAP identifies, a coordinated and sustainable approach is needed. Core funding for women's sector non-profit organizations is at the heart of achieving the goals of the NAP and Yukon's MMIWG2s+ Strategy.

We look forward to discussing the implementation of the National Action Plan with you further.

Sincerely,

The Yukon Women's Coalition



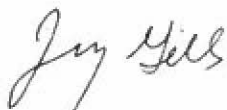
Aja Mason
Executive Director
Yukon Status of Women Council



Sofia Ashley
Executive Director
Victoria Faulkner Women's
Centre



Natalie Taylor
Executive Director
Whitehorse Aboriginal Women's
Centre



Jen Gibbs
Executive Director
Dawson Shelter Society/
Dawson Women's Shelter



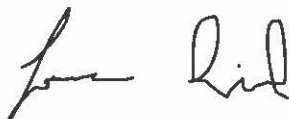
Rose Rowland
Executive Director
Help and Hope for Families
Society



Michele Parsons
Executive Director
Yukon Women's Transition
Home Society



Liz Peredun
Executive Director
Yukon Women' in Trades and
Technology



Laurence Rivard
Executive Director
Les Essentielles

CC: Tracy Anne Mcphee, Kate White, Emily Tredger, Currie Dixon, Yvonne Clarke, Claire Daitch, Kaila de Boer, Mary Cameron