



March 18, 2024

Hon. Tracy McPhee, Minister  
Government of Yukon  
Department of Health & Social Services  
Box 2703  
Whitehorse, Yukon  
Y1A 2C6

**Re: Support for the establishment of Shāw Kwä'ą / Health and Wellness Yukon / Santé et mieux-être Yukon via the proposed Health Authority Act**

Dear Minister McPhee:

The Yukon Hospital Corporation is writing today to express its support for the proposed *Health Authority Act* to advance health system transformation guided by the Putting People First Report.

YHC believes the establishment of Shāw Kwä'ą / Health and Wellness Yukon / Santé et mieux-être Yukon is a necessary first (and foundational) step to address the fragmented nature of the Yukon's health and social services system. The current system is difficult for Yukoners, health and social service providers, and non-government organizations to navigate. Ensuring people receive safe and excellent care within our system is critically important. As such, this new law is the framework for meaningful transformation that will lead to a more seamless experience and better health outcomes.

The proposed law is framed around important internationally recognized concepts for health system performance: enhancing patient and staff experience, improving population health, achieving value for money, and importantly, advancing health equity. The legislation also builds Yukon First Nation governance into the structure of the health authority; in addition to, introducing new requirements for broad health system planning through the Yukon Health and Wellness plans, community wellness plans, and a cultural safety framework. All of these components are crucial to increase community-level involvement in our health system, and its overall performance and accountability.

YHC also supports proposed roles and accountabilities as defined in the new law for the Health Authority and the Ministry. This clarity will strengthen relationships, promote efficiency and responsiveness.

Together, it is essential to maintain the Yukon as an attractive place for healthcare professionals to live and practice. YHC believes a modern and culturally responsive health authority supports this goal.

We encourage the Yukon Legislative Assembly to pass this legislation in order to advance the transformation work necessary to improve the effectiveness and sustainability of our healthcare system to the benefit of all Yukoners. This new law is foundational to this work, and Yukon Hospitals is



whitehorse  
dawson city  
watson lake

committed to continue to partner on this important work, as the implementation of Shāw Kwä'ą / Health and Wellness Yukon / Santé et mieux-être Yukon progresses over the next several years.

Sincerely,

Allan Lucier, Board Chair  
Yukon Hospital Corporation

Jason Bilsky, CEO  
Yukon Hospital Corporation