

LEGISLATIVE RETURN



SUBMITTED BY: Hon. Mr. Pillai, Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources

1. On _____, (Member)

- asked the following question during the Oral Question Period at page(s) _____ of Hansard
- submitted the following written question – WQ No. _____
- gave notice of the following motion for the production of papers – MPP No. _____

RE: _____

OR

2. This legislative return relates to a matter outstanding from discussion with Mr. Kent, Member for Copperbelt South on December 3, 2020 related to:

Bill No. 205 Second Reading Third Reading
 Committee of the Whole: Vote 53
 Motion No. _____ RE: Beaver River regional Land Use Plan
 at page(s) 2204-2206 of Hansard.

The response is as follows:
Please see attachement for response.

Dec 16 / 2020
Date

TJ Pillai
Signature

The response is as follows:

- The Government of Yukon continues to work with the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun to develop a Land Use Plan and Fish and Wildlife Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan for the Beaver River area.
- The Fish and Harvest Wildlife Regime and Fish and Wildlife Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan associated with the Beaver River Regional Land Use Plan are scheduled to be completed in March 2021.
- The parties are currently working on drafting the Land Use Plan and have just concluded stakeholder engagement on the products to date, including principles and goals as well as a table of contents for the plan.
- The analysis and draft plan is expected to be concluded in January 2021, and the final draft plan is expected to be presented by the parties at the end of March 2021.
- The Government of Yukon made a funding commitment to the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun as part of the 2018 Agreement. Since the execution of the 2018 Agreement, the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun has received \$325,000 to date.
- An updated funding agreement for an additional \$200,000 with the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun has been signed, but not finalized.
- In addition to the funds that have been provided to the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun as described above, the Land Planning Branch has spent approximately \$320,000 on the development of the Beaver River Land Use Plan. This value includes salary dollars, travel and public consultation costs.

Planning Process

- In September 2020, the parties approved a revised work plan and timeline due to COVID-19 delays, which would see a plan completed by the two parties in March 2021.
- The website outlines expected dates of completion that the Planning Committee is working towards as far as the major deliverables of the planning process.
- Phase 2 of the Beaver River planning process, the background report is close to completion. The First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun is working to complete the Traditional Knowledge sections. The Government of Yukon portion is complete.
- Phase 3 and 4, Planning Framework and Analysis and Draft Plan are happening simultaneously. Analysis will continue until there is a draft plan in January 2021.
- From now until February 2021, the specific tasks of the Planning Committee will include:
 - negotiation and agreement on land use designations;
 - drafting the first version of the plan; and
 - public and citizen consultation on the first version of the plan.
- Phase 5, from February to March 2021:

- consolidate comments and edit document; and
 - provide to parties for final review and approvals.
- The Government of Yukon is committed to ensuring the Beaver River planning process encompasses the voices of all parties involved. Delays in the process prior to COVID-19 occurred because information about the area was limited when the planning process started. As a result, Yukon government and First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun had to conduct studies on:
 - water quality and quantity;
 - moose, bear and other wildlife;
 - salmon spawning habitat; and
 - Traditional Knowledge.
- The time spent at the beginning of the planning process to conduct these studies will help inform future planning decisions as well as implementation and provide a baseline data set for the area.