

LEGISLATIVE RETURN

SUBMITTED BY: Hon. Mr. Pillai, Minister of Economic Development



1. On _____,
- 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. Istchenko, Member for Kluane on November 30, 2020 related to:
- Bill No. 205 Second Reading Third Reading
 Committee of the Whole: Vote 07
- Motion No. _____ RE: Cannabis Trade Regulations
 at page(s) 2112-2113 of *Hansard*.

The response is as follows:

Q: "What is Yukon's position with regard to reducing regulatory barriers to the trade in cannabis, and what is the latest with regard to trade in alcohol? Also, can the minister tell us about efforts to reduce barriers in trading alcohol?"

A: Parties are currently negotiating the inclusion of the financial services and cannabis for non-medical purposes industries under the CFTA as required by Articles 1205 and 1206, respectively. While details of current negotiations are confidential, Yukon balances reducing trade barriers nationally with supporting local business and economic priorities. Yukon's priorities for cannabis also include providing legal, controlled access to cannabis that displaces illegal activity and that prioritizes public health, safety and harm reduction.

Yukon has participated in developing and implementing recommendations to improve trade in alcohol through the CFTA Alcoholic Beverages Working Group. These relate to personal use exemption limits, new and improved sales channels, and transparency of information on pricing policies and distribution practices:

- Yukon is in the process of removing personal use exemption limits having passed a new Liquor Act in November 2019 with the change coming into effect when the new Act enters into force in spring 2021.
- Yukon supports transparency in pricing by displaying on the Yukon Liquor Corporation website its detailed pricing structure and cost of service figures.
- Yukon has also contributed to improving the transparency of pricing policies and distribution practices by providing our jurisdiction's information to alcoholllaws.ca, a new national website aimed at alcohol manufacturers and distributors.
- Yukon monitors the progress of a technical sub-group that is researching the feasibility of direct-to-consumer alcohol sales in Canada.

December 22, 2020
Date

Signature