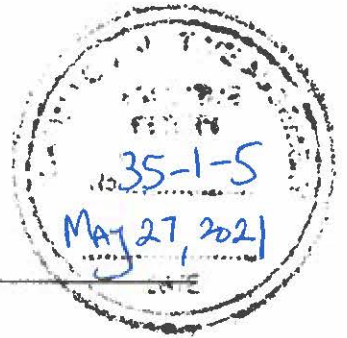


LEGISLATIVE RETURN



SUBMITTED BY: Hon. Mr. Clarke, Minister of Environment

1. On May 20, 2021 Ms. McLeod, Member for Watson Lake

- asked the following oral question at page(s) 174-175 of *Hansard*
- submitted the following written question – WQ No. _____
- gave notice of the following motion for the production of papers – MPP No. _____

RE: Campground Fee Increases Camping Fees

OR

2. This legislative return relates to a matter outstanding from discussion related to:

_____ on _____ at page(s) _____ of *Hansard*.

The response is as follows:

- In order to sustain service levels in our parks, we will be increasing camping fees starting January 1, 2022 when online backcountry reservations open to the public.
- The fee changes include:
 - increasing a night of front country, or road-accessible, camping from \$12 to \$20 – \$18 if paid in advance through the online system;
 - increasing a night of backcountry camping from \$12 to \$20, in addition to a \$10 non-refundable reservation fee;
 - increasing the annual Yukon resident camping permit from \$50 to \$100 in 2022; and to \$200 in 2023 and;
 - moving to a 50 per cent Yukon seniors’ discount on all camping fees instead of the current 100 per cent discount.
- While the draft strategy proposed increasing fees in 2021, fee increases will be delayed until 2022 in consideration of the impact of COVID-19 on tourism and individuals.
- The decision to raise fees is consistent with the report delivered in 2017 by the Yukon Financial Advisory Panel to recover costs for providing services.
- Currently, camping fees only cover about 10 per cent of the costs of services provided; the new fees will cover approximately 22 per cent. For comparison, cost recovery in Alberta in 2018 was 39 per cent.
- Government of Yukon campground fees have not increased in 19 years. Even with the new increases, they will remain some of the lowest in Canada.
- Yukon is the only jurisdiction in Canada that currently provides free camping for seniors, and many parks systems in Canada, including Parks Canada, Manitoba and Northwest Territories, do not offer any seniors’ discount on camping.

26/5/21
Date

[Signature]
Signature