Biannual Public Report

Our Clean Future Policy Implementation Committee

February 7, 2022

One of the stated commitments in the 2021 Confidence and Supply Agreement between the Yukon Liberal Caucus and the Yukon NDP Caucus is to establish joint policy implementation committees. The commitment states:

Section 3.2 Within one month of the swearing-in of a Yukon Liberal Government, two policy implementation committees shall launch. The committees will be comprised of the appropriate Cabinet Minister and a Yukon NDP MLA to work jointly with the civil service to finalize implementation of the Our Clean Future and Putting People First reports.

The Our Clean Future Implementation Committee (OCFIC) was established in June, 2021. Its members are Honourable Nils Clarke, Minister of Environment and Highways and Public Works and Emily Tredger, MLA for Whitehorse Centre. As the responsibility for the Our Clean Future plan is shared by multiple departments, Honourable John Streicker, Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources has been appointed as an observer on the Committee.

Initial Action

In June, the OCFIC also received an update on the 2020/2021 Our Clean Future actions. This was provided by the Climate Change Secretariat to familiarize the members of the committee on what was currently being accomplished under the Our Clean Future plan.

Members of the OCFIC also finalized a terms of reference for the Committee which guide its work.

Following the release of Ministerial mandate letters from Premier Silver, Minister John Streicker joined the committee as an observer. This is in recognition of the split responsibility for government led climate change action between the Departments of Environment and Energy, Mines and Resources.

Yukon Climate Leadership Council

The OCFIC has met six times since June. Its primary focus so far has been the establishment of the Yukon Climate Leadership Council. This Council is also a commitment of the 2021 Confidence and Supply Agreement. The commitment states:

Section 4.2 (a) Plans to reach the target will be developed by a newly-established Yukon Climate Leadership Council, modelled on the British Columbia Climate Solutions Council. The members will include representatives from environmental organizations and renewable energy sector, industry, Yukon First Nations, labour municipal governments, youth and Yukon University, to be selected though mutual agreement of the Yukon Liberal Government and the Yukon NDP Caucus.

To establish this council, members of the OCFIC, with support from the Climate Change Secretariat, issued a call for applications on July 30, 2021. Letters were sent to First Nation governments, Municipal governments, Non-Governmental Organizations, chambers of commerce and Yukon University. The Climate Change Secretariat also advertised this opportunity publicly online and in print media. As well, members of the OCFIC were encouraged to share the opportunity through their networks.

The application deadline was August 30, 2021 and 54 applications were received. From this list, 12 applicants were selected and offered seats on the council.

The Council, which was formally announced on November 3, 2021, held its first meeting on December 9, 2021. The Council will work with a facilitator through a collaborative process and is expected to have recommendations to share with the Government of Yukon by July 1, 2022. You can find more information here - Candidates selected for the Yukon Climate Leadership Council | Government of Yukon

As the Council conducts its work, the Chair of the Council will share minutes with the Ministers responsible. The two Ministers will share these with the OCFIC.

Next Steps

Over the next six months, the OCFIC will monitor the progress of the Our Clean Future commitments as well as the work of the Yukon Climate Leadership Council.

The OCFIC will provide another public update of its activities in June 2022.