



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE AGENDA

Monday, March 3, 2025 at 12:05 p.m.

Chair: Mayor R. Alty,
Councillor S. Arden-Smith,
Councillor G. Cochrane,
Councillor R. Fequet,
Councillor B. Hendriksen,
Councillor C. McGurk,
Councillor T. McLennan,
Councillor S. Payne, and
Councillor R. Warburton.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>
1.	Opening Statement: The City of Yellowknife acknowledges that we are located in Chief Drygeese territory. From time immemorial, it has been the traditional land of the Yellowknives Dene First Nation. We respect the histories, languages, and cultures of all other Indigenous Peoples including the North Slave Métis, and all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.
2.	Approval of the agenda.
3.	Disclosure of conflict of interest and the general nature thereof.
ANNEX A	
4.	A memorandum regarding whether to terminate the Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Northwest Territories and Aurora College regarding the location of the Polytechnic University Yellowknife Campus.
ANNEX B	
5.	A memorandum regarding whether to present By-law No. XXXX, a by-law to declare a one-half (1/2) day civic holiday on Friday, April 4, 2025, to enjoy the Yellowknives Dene First Nation Spring Carnival, for adoption.



<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
6.	A presentation regarding the 2025 Workplan Update.
ANNEX C	(For Information Only)
7.	A memorandum regarding Project Initiation and Work Plan for Community Plan Comprehensive Update.



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

MEMORANDUM TO COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE: Governance and Priorities

DATE: March 3, 2025

DEPARTMENT: Governance and Legal Services

ISSUE: Whether to terminate the Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Northwest Territories and Aurora College regarding the location of the Polytechnic University Yellowknife Campus.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council direct Administration to terminate the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) and Aurora College regarding the location of the Polytechnic University Yellowknife Campus at Tin Can Hill.

BACKGROUND:

In 2022, the City, GNWT, and Aurora College (collectively, the Parties) entered into an MOU regarding the location of a polytechnic university Yellowknife campus at Tin Can Hill. The two-fold purpose of the MOU was to confirm the potential location of the future campus, and serve as the basis for the Parties to work cooperatively to transfer the Tin Can Hill Site from the City of Yellowknife to the GNWT. Under the MOU, the Parties committed to working together to complete the transfer of land by March 31, 2023.

Since that time, discussions between the Parties regarding Tin Can Hill as a Yellowknife Polytechnic University Campus have declined while the City of Yellowknife’s need for developable land for future needs has become more acute.

COUNCIL STRATEGIC DIRECTION/RESOLUTION/POLICY:

Strategic Direction #1: People First

Focus Area 1.2 Housing for All
Doing our part to create the context for diverse housing and accommodation options.

Strategic Direction #3: Sustainable Future

Focus Area 3.1 Resilient Future
Enhancing Yellowknife as a great place to live, visit, work and play now and into the future.

Focus Area 3.2 Growth Readiness
Ensuring land development supports economic readiness and community priorities.

Motion #111-22 That Council direct Administration to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on behalf of the City of Yellowknife with the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) and Aurora College regarding the location of a Polytechnic University Yellowknife Campus at Tin Can Hill.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION, BY-LAWS, STUDIES, PLANS:

1. *Cities, Towns and Villages Act*, SNWT, 2003, c.22;
2. *Community Planning and Development Act*, SNWT, 2011, c.22;
3. Community Plan By-law No. 5007.
4. City of Yellowknife Economic Development Strategy 2020-2024;
5. City of Yellowknife/Yellowknives Dene First Nation Joint Economic Development Strategy; and

CONSIDERATIONS:

The City is facing considerable constraints in accessing developable land within the municipal boundaries.

The MOU states at Part 10:

- (a) the MOU comes into force when signed by all Parties and will terminate following the successful transfer of the Tin Can Hill site, unless terminated by either Party at an earlier date.
- (d) this MOU may be terminated for any reason by any one of the Parties upon sixty (60) days notice of termination having been made in writing to the other parties, or at a time otherwise agreed upon by the Parties. Such termination will take effect on the expiry of the notice period.

Therefore, Administration recommends providing immediate notice of termination, which will be effective 60 days after providing such notice.

ALTERNATIVE TO RECOMMENDATION:

That Council direct Administration not to terminate the MOU.

RATIONALE:

The intent of the MOU was for the Parties to collaborate to advance shared interests related to having a polytechnic university campus in Yellowknife. It remains in the interests of Yellowknifers and Northerners to have a university campus in Yellowknife, and the City continues to support such an initiative. However, the City has a greater and immediate need for land within the municipal boundary and can no longer hold Tin Can Hill as strictly reserved for post-secondary use(s).

ATTACHMENTS:

Memorandum of Understanding DM#702144.

Letter to Angela James, dated February 19, 2025 DM#789246

Prepared: February 25, 2025; CC

Revised: February 26, 2025; CC

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING THE
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY YELLOWKNIFE CAMPUS**

BETWEEN:

Government of the Northwest Territories

AND:

Aurora College

AND:

City of Yellowknife

Each a "Party", and collectively referred to as the "Parties"

1. BACKGROUND

WHEREAS Aurora College is recognized as a public college in the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) has committed to transforming Aurora College into a polytechnic university;

AND WHEREAS the GNWT has committed to exploring options for development of a new campus for the future polytechnic university in Yellowknife;

AND WHEREAS the GNWT and Aurora College are developing a Polytechnic University Facilities Master Plan that will outline a 20-year plan for the potential construction, enhancement and expansion of all polytechnic university facilities throughout the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS the City of Yellowknife's University Feasibility and Benefits Study recognizes the economic and social benefits of a new polytechnic university campus in Yellowknife;

AND WHEREAS the City of Yellowknife is committed to collaborating with the GNWT and Aurora College to support the enhancement and expansion of polytechnic university facilities in Yellowknife by working together to transfer land to accommodate the expansion;

NOW THEREFOR the Parties agree to begin a process of establishing a polytechnic university campus in the City of Yellowknife.

2. GUIDING DOCUMENTS AND REPORTS

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been created within the framework and understanding of the following guiding documents and reports:

- Government Response to Findings and Recommendations of the Aurora College Foundational Review (October 2018).
- City of Yellowknife University Feasibility and Benefits Study (2019).
- Aurora College Transformation Implementation Plan (October 2020).
- Aurora College 3-Year Strategic Plan 2020-2023.
- City of Yellowknife Community Plan 2020 (By-law No. 5007).
- City of Yellowknife Zoning By-law No. 5045.
- City of Yellowknife Economic Development Strategy (2020-2024) and Implementation Plan.

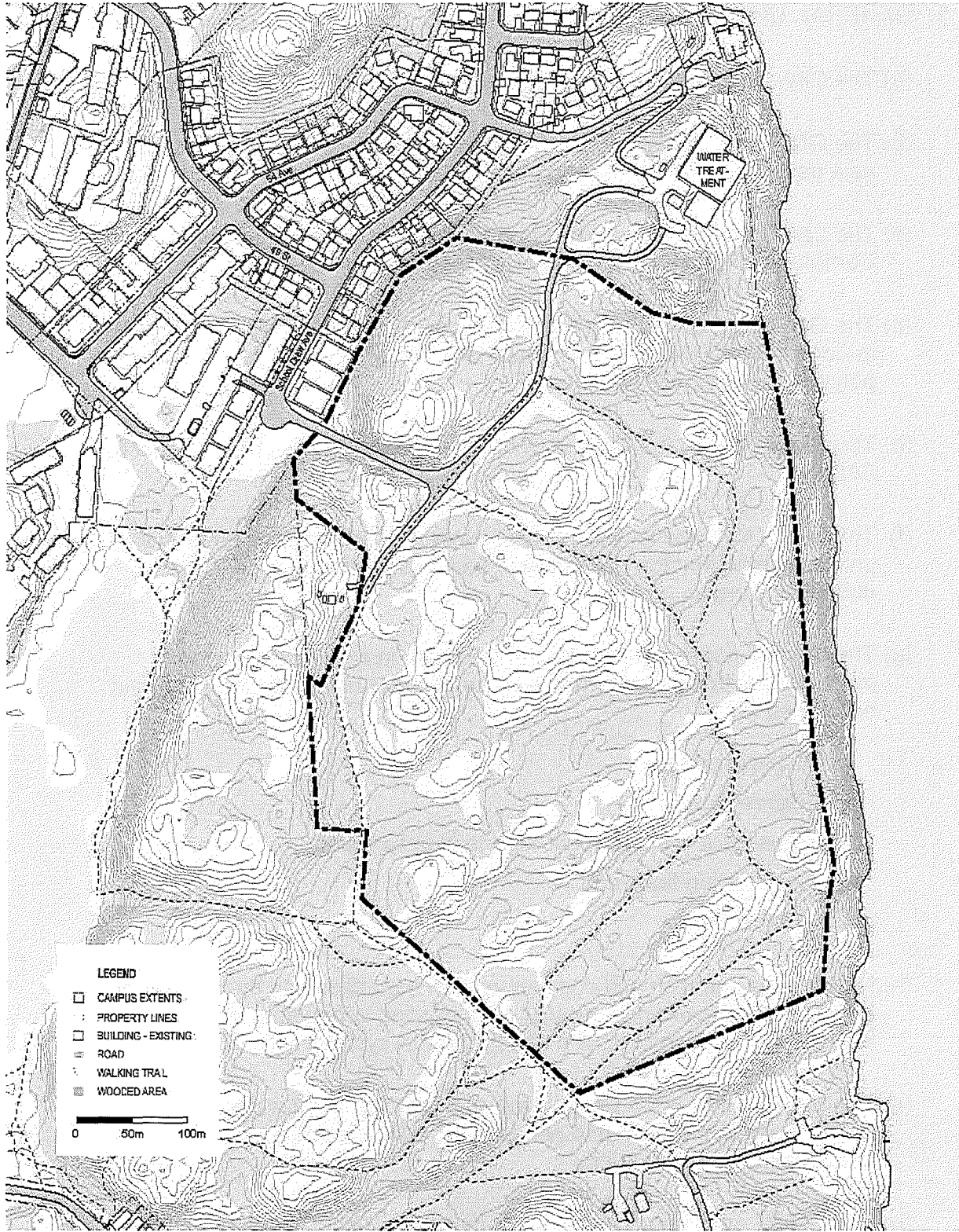
3. PURPOSE

The purpose of this MOU is to confirm the intended site of a polytechnic university campus in Yellowknife. This MOU will establish the respective roles of the GNWT, Aurora College and City of Yellowknife, and serve as the basis for the Parties to work cooperatively to transfer the site from the City of Yellowknife to the GNWT.

This MOU is not meant to imply the pre-approval by the City of Yellowknife, or any other approval authority, of any planning, environmental and development applications that may be required, or to fetter Council's decision-making role.

4. LOCATION

The Parties agree on their intention to take steps toward the Tin Can Hill site (the "Lands") becoming the future campus of a polytechnic university. The following is an approximate boundary for demonstration purposes and may not reflect the final boundary of the Lands.



5. GENERAL UNDERSTANDINGS

- (a) The City of Yellowknife is the registered owner of the Lands.
- (b) The GNWT wishes to acquire the Lands as described in Section 4 for use as a polytechnic university campus.
- (c) The Lands are currently designated “Downtown Central Residential” in the Community Plan and “Parks and Recreation” in the Zoning By-law.
- (d) The GNWT will be required to make application, in the manner prescribed in Zoning By-law No. 5045, to amend the zone of the Lands to facilitate a polytechnic university campus.
- (e) The City will begin the process of transferring the Lands upon request by GNWT.
- (f) The City of Yellowknife will not seek payment for the Lands under the understanding that the Lands are to be developed as a polytechnic university campus.
- (g) The City will not be responsible for the costs to acquire the Lands associated with a future polytechnic university, such costs including, but not limited to:
 - i. Land title fees;
 - ii. Survey costs;
 - iii. Peer review of technical reports (if necessary);
 - iv. Application fees; and
 - v. Permit Fees.
- (h) New development should complement the natural setting through the careful siting of buildings, protection of existing vegetation, provision of landscaping, and connections to a public trail system.
- (i) The GNWT and Aurora College will, through ongoing development of the Lands, seek to preserve and enhance the natural setting and support a safe and healthy community.
- (j) The GNWT and Aurora College will, through ongoing development of the Lands, strive to create opportunities for the surrounding community to access the Lands in a manner consistent with historic uses.

- (k) The City of Yellowknife will continue to have unfettered access through the Lands to ensure continued access to the City's Water Treatment Plant which is located adjacent to the Lands.
- (l) The parties will work together to complete the transfer of Lands by March 31, 2023.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

Communication protocols must ensure that any public communication/engagement and marketing initiatives adhere to the following general principles:

- i. The Parties shall work to ensure that residents of the City of Yellowknife:
 - a. are aware of the opportunity for educational advancement and economic benefits; and
 - b. understand how it will impact them and the community.
- ii. The Parties shall collaborate in the ongoing communication of updates regarding the future polytechnic university campus in Yellowknife.

7. CONFIDENTIALITY AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT

- (a) The Parties shall act in compliance with the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* in the Northwest Territories.
- (b) The Parties agree to respect the confidentiality of all information they may hear or receive.

8. OFFICIALS

- (a) Any notice to be given to the GNWT pursuant to this MOU will be addressed to:

Assistant Deputy Minister, Post-Secondary Education Renewal
Department of Education, Culture and employment
Government of the Northwest Territories
PO Box 1320, Yellowknife, NT, X1A 2L9

(b) Any notice to be given to Aurora College pursuant to this MOU will be addressed to:

President
Aurora College
PO Box 1290, 50 Conibear Crescent, Fort Smith, NT X0E 0P0

(c) Any notice to be given to the City of Yellowknife pursuant to this MOU will be addressed to:

City Manager
City of Yellowknife
PO Box 580, 4807 52 St, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N4

9. DISCLAIMER

(a) This MOU is intended solely to clarify the nature of the relationship between the Parties. It is intended to be undertaken in good faith by both Parties and it is not intended to be legally binding on either Party.

(b) Nothing in this MOU shall be interpreted as creating a financial obligation.

10. EFFECTIVE DATE, MODIFICATION AND TERMINATION

(a) This MOU comes into force when signed by all Parties and will terminate following the successful transfer of Lands as outlined in the MOU, unless terminated by either Party at an earlier date.

(b) Any Party may, by giving written notice to the other Parties, show its interest in seeking changes to this MOU.

(c) Any amendments to this MOU must be in writing and signed by the Parties.

(d) This MOU may be terminated for any reason by any one of the Parties upon sixty (60) day notice of termination having been made in writing to the other Parties, or at a time otherwise agreed upon by the Parties. Such termination will take effect on the expiry of the notice period.

The Parties hereto have executed this MOU as of the date and year last signed below.

Original Signed by

John MacDonald, Deputy Minister
Education, Culture and Employment
Government of the Northwest Territories

06-15-2022

Date

Original Signed by

Glenda Vardy Dell, President
Aurora College

Jun 27, 2022

Date

Original Signed by

Sheila Bassi-Kellett, City Manager
City of Yellowknife

Date

June 27, 2022



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

February 19, 2025

Angela James
Office of the President

via Email:

Dear Ms. James,

RE: Aurora College/Polytechnic University Yellowknife Campus Location

I write with respect to our ongoing discussions regarding a proposed Yellowknife campus location for Aurora College's transformation into a Polytechnic University.

To date, discussions between the City of Yellowknife (City) and Aurora College have centred around Tin Can Hill being the proposed Yellowknife campus location. As you know, in 2022, these discussions were formalized into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT), the City, and Aurora College. The purpose of the MOU was to confirm Tin Can Hill as the intended site of a polytechnic university campus in Yellowknife, and to serve as a basis for the parties to work cooperatively to transfer the site from the City to the GNWT. Under the MOU, the parties were to work together to transfer the Tin Can Hill site to the GNWT by March 31, 2023.

Since signing the MOU, the City has been working collaboratively with the GNWT and Aurora College to advance discussions regarding the campus location, including providing consent for the GNWT to conduct an environmental site assessment on the proposed Tin Can Hill site. Prior to the MOU, we also undertook a University Feasibility and Benefits Study¹, which identified new educational pathways and research, such as a polytechnic university, as important drivers to the economic growth and diversification of Yellowknife and the territory, generally. The conclusions of the feasibility study carry even more weight today.

However, nearly two years have elapsed since the parties intended to transfer the site under the MOU and discussions regarding Tin Can Hill as a Yellowknife polytechnic university campus appear to have slowed significantly without a new timeline. Additionally, the City's need for more certainty over

¹ https://www.yellowknife.ca/en/city-government/resources/Current_Committees_of_Council/University-Post-Secondary-Advisory-Committee/DOCS-544362-v1-Yellowknife_University_Feasibility_and_Benefits_Study_January_2019.pdf

Ms. Angela James
February 19, 2025

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available land for future needs has increased since the MOU has been signed. As such, please be advised City administration is preparing a recommendation to Council to conclude the MOU.

The City remains committed to supporting Aurora College as an important and hopefully growing part of our community. We would be pleased to assist you in finding alternative sites, including in the downtown core area, to support your short-, medium- and long-term physical space needs.

Respectfully,

Original Signed By



City Manager

DM#788873





CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

MEMORANDUM TO COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE: Governance and Priorities

DATE: March 3, 2025

DEPARTMENT: Governance and Legal Services

ISSUE: Whether to present By-law No. XXXX, a by-law to declare a one-half (1/2) day civic holiday on Friday, April 4, 2025, to enjoy the Yellowknives Dene First Nation Spring Carnival, for adoption.

RECOMMENDATION:

That By-law No. XXXX, a by-law to declare a one-half (1/2) day civic holiday on Friday, April 4, 2025 to enjoy the Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN) Spring Carnival, be presented for adoption.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Yellowknife has received a request from the Yellowknives Dene First Nation leadership to declare a half-day civic holiday on Friday, April 4, 2025 when the YKDFN Spring Carnival is scheduled to begin. Yellowknife City Council has declared a half-day civic holiday in recognition of the YKDFN Spring Carnival since March 2023.

The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) supports one-half day holiday per year for community-declared events such as carnivals or jamborees and looks to each community to confirm if/when events are happening.

COUNCIL STRATEGIC DIRECTION/RESOLUTION/POLICY:

Strategic Direction #1: People First

Focus Area 1.1 Reconciliation
Continuing to nurture positive and respectful relations with Indigenous governments, organizations and peoples.

Key Initiative 1.1.1 Continuing to strengthen relations with Indigenous governments and peoples.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION, BY-LAWS, STUDIES, PLANS:

1. *Cities, Towns and Villages Act*;
2. By-law No. 5067 (declare a one-half (1/2) day civic holiday on Friday, March 31, 2023); and
3. By-law No. 5081 (declare a one-half (1/2) day civic holiday on Friday, April 5, 2024).

CONSIDERATIONS:Legislative

Pursuant to Section 4 of the *Cities, Towns and Villages Act*, the City has the general authority to declare a civic holiday. Section 70(1) outlines the general areas in which a municipality may make by-laws, and includes the authority to declare such a holiday.

Reconciliation

Declaring a civic holiday on the afternoon of Friday, April 4, 2025 when the YKDFN Spring Carnival is scheduled to begin, supports Yellowknifers to participate in YKDFN activities and enhance community relationships. YKDFN leadership supports this proposed action by the City and encourages Yellowknifers to attend the planned Carnival events.

Procedural

The City must declare a civic holiday by by-law. The City is required to advise the GNWT as soon as a decision is made if there will be a half-day civic holiday in 2025.

ALTERNATIVES TO RECOMMENDATION:

That By-law No. XXXX, a by-law to declare a one-half (1/2) day civic holiday on Friday, April 4, 2025 not be presented for adoption.

RATIONALE:

The City has, in the past, declared a one-half day civic holiday to encourage attendance and participation by residents at spring carnival events such as the Long John Jamboree and previously, Caribou Carnival. Since COVID, many community events have been challenged to continue, including Long John Jamboree, thus affecting community spirit and connection. Supporting a civic holiday in 2025 to encourage Yellowknifers to participate in the YKDFN Spring Carnival will endorse Yellowknifers' ability to actively engage in cultural activities and the northern tradition of spring carnivals.

ATTACHMENTS:

By-law No. XXXX, a by-law to declare a one-half (1/2) day civic holiday on Friday, April 4, 2025. (DM#789594).

Prepared: February 25, 2025 DMG



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

BY-LAW NO. XXXX

BG XX

A BY-LAW of the Council of the Municipal Corporation of the City of Yellowknife in the Northwest Territories, to declare a one-half (1/2) day civic holiday on Friday, April 4, 2025, to enjoy the Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN) Spring Carnival.

PURSUANT TO sections 4 and 70(1) of the *Cities, Towns and Villages Act*, SNWT 2003, c.22.

WHEREAS the Council of the Municipal Corporation of the City of Yellowknife wishes to encourage the citizens of Yellowknife to enjoy and participate in the festivities of the YKDFN Spring Carnival on Friday, April 4, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE, in regular sessions duly assembled, enacts as follows:

APPLICATION

1. This by-law may be cited as the “Yellowknives Dene First Nation 2025 Spring Carnival By-law”.
2. That the period from 12:00 noon until 5:00 p.m. (Mountain Time) on Friday, April 4, 2025 is hereby declared to be a civic holiday.

EFFECT

3. That this by-law shall come into effect upon receiving Third Reading and otherwise meets the requirements of Section 75 of the *Cities, Towns and Villages Act*.

Read a First time this _____ day of _____, A.D. 2025.

Mayor

City Manager

Read a Second Time this _____ day of _____, A.D. 2025.

Mayor

City Manager

Read a Third Time and Finally Passed this _____ day of _____, A.D., 2025.

Mayor

City Manager

I hereby certify that this by-law has been made in accordance with the requirements of the *Cities, Towns and Villages Act* and the by-laws of the Municipal Corporation of the City of Yellowknife.

City Manager



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

MEMORANDUM TO COMMITTEE
(For Information Only)

COMMITTEE: Governance and Priorities

DATE: March 3, 2025

DEPARTMENT: Planning and Development

ISSUE: Project Initiation and Work Plan for Community Plan Comprehensive Update.

BACKGROUND:

The Planning and Development Department is set to initiate the Community Plan Comprehensive Update in early 2025. This update aims to ensure the City of Yellowknife’s Community Plan reflects current needs and long-range strategic priorities, while aligning with legislative requirements. The purpose of this comprehensive update is to establish a long-term strategic framework that guides sustainable growth and development, while ensuring environmental protection, social equity including housing affordability, economic sustainability, fostering a thriving Yellowknife community. The Community Plan Comprehensive Update initiative is funded through the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF), under an agreement between the City of Yellowknife and the Federal Government in 2024.

This memo provides Council with an overview of a proposed structure of the new Community Plan document, the Community Plan Update process and a high-level work plan for conducting the necessary preparatory activities to support the Community Plan Comprehensive Update.

COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE PROCESS

Considering the complexity of the initiative, the update to the Community Plan will involve a comprehensive and multi-phased process, which is expected to span approximately one and a half to two years. The key stages of this process are outlined below:

1. **Background Works:** A substantial portion of the overall update process will be dedicated to background research, data collection, community engagement, and technical workshops. These efforts will culminate in a series of roundtable discussions with stakeholders to establish the policy directions for the Community Plan. Extensive community engagement, including consultations with Indigenous governments and community members, the public, and other relevant stakeholders, will be integral to shaping the vision and goals for the city’s growth and development over the next 25 years. A significant amount of time will be devoted to conducting

background studies and compiling strategic policies that will guide future growth and development.

The major components of the background work will include the following:

- Demographic & Employment Projections
- Land Use Policies
- Intensification and Infill Policies
- Housing Policies
- Work Camps Policy
- Public Transportation & Active Transportation Policies
- Environmental & Natural Heritage Policies
- Public Health and Safety (Wildland Fire Policy, Human Made Hazards)
- Servicing and Infrastructure Policies
- Economic Development & Tourism
- Climate Adaptation & Mitigation
- Processes, Interpretation, Implementation
- Relevant Maps and Data

2. **Public Hearing & By-law adoption:** Public Hearing is a statutory requirement of the Community Plan Comprehensive Update in accordance with the *Community Planning and Development Act, SNWT 2011, c.22*, as amended. Depending on the extent of the revisions, there may be multiple Public Hearings.
3. **Department of Municipal and Community Affairs Approval:** Upon completion of the Public Hearing(s) and the Council's First and Second Readings of the By-law, Administration will notify the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA) that all required steps have been fulfilled, allowing for the Community Plan to be submitted for review and approval. At this stage, all stakeholder engagements will be concluded.

It is important to note that the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) has a constitutional obligation under the *Constitution Act, 1982*, to consult and accommodate Aboriginal Governments and organizations. This consultation may begin at the outset of the process and could extend through the MACA approval stage.

The updated Community Plan will not take effect until it has received formal approval from the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs of the GNWT.

4. **Implementation of Community Plan:** Once the Community Plan Comprehensive Update is approved by MACA, a Third Reading of the By-law will be required by the Council. This will complete the approval process. However, some segments of the updated Community Plan will not be in effect until earlier of:
 - i. The effective date of an amendment of the Zoning-By-law that conforms with the new Community Plan.
 - ii. The day that is six months after the day of the new Community Plan comes into effect.

A Zoning-By-law amendment to align with the new Community Plan is the last step to complete the comprehensive update.

AN OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED COMMUNITY PLAN STRUCTURE

1. **Vision Statement:** The foundational element of the Community Plan should articulate a clear, future-oriented vision for the city for a long-range planning horizon, reflecting how Yellowknife will evolve. This vision will integrate smart growth principles, prioritizing innovation, sustainability, affordability and livability while aligning with the aspirations of Yellowknife's residents and the City's strategic priorities. The vision statement provides an aspirational roadmap that captures a shared future, fostering a city that is prosperous, inclusive, and resilient.
2. **Thematic Goals:** Thematic goals provide a structured framework for achieving the vision. These high-level objectives guide the city's development over the next 25 years and facilitate strategic planning.

Examples of Thematic Goals:

- **A Growing City:** Promote balanced, sustainable population, housing and economic growth.
- **A Cultural City:** Provides a strong sense of identity and community through culture and heritage.
- **A Connected City:** Enhance transportation networks, and mobility.
- **A Healthy City:** Prioritize health and well-being through green spaces and active living.
- **An Inclusive City:** Ensure equity and accessibility for all residents. This may include affordability and housing for all, fostering social cohesion for all Yellowknifers.
- **A Safe City:** Advance community safety through infrastructure, design, and services.
- **A Resilient City:** Can effectively adapt to and recover from challenges such as natural disasters, economic shocks, and social disruptions.
- **A Beautiful City:** That captivates architectural charm, clean environment, and harmonious urban design.
- **A Safe City:** Where residents and visitors feel secure, with a strong sense of community safety.

Engagement with residents, stakeholders, and City Council will refine these goals, ensuring alignment with local priorities and strategic directions.

3. **Strategic Policies:** Strategic policies are designed to translate thematic goals into actionable guidelines. Each policy framework provides clear direction on land use, infrastructure, housing, economic development and environmental stewardship to manage future growth and development.

Examples of Strategic Policies:

- **Land Use Policy:** To define specific land-use designations, intensification targets, and urban form.

- **Intensification and Infill Policy:** To promote sustainable, efficient land use by in-fill development and increased density within existing urban areas, reducing sprawl, and optimizing infrastructure.
- **Housing Policy:** To promote a diverse housing mix, affordability strategies, and innovative housing solutions.
- **Work Camp Policy:** To regulate the development and operation of temporary accommodation for workers, ensuring they align with local land use, infrastructure capacity, health, safety, and community impact considerations.
- **Transportation Policy:** To develop multi-modal transportation networks and active transportation and transit-oriented development.
- **Servicing and Infrastructure Policy:** To ensure efficient use of existing infrastructure while planning for future growth and development.
- **Environmental and Natural Heritage Policy:** Advance sustainability, resource conservation, and public safety and controlled development.
- **Economic Development & Tourism Policy:** Strengthen economic diversification and tourism strategies.
- **Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Policy:** Integrate renewable energy and climate risk reduction measures.
- **Public Health and Safety (Wildland Fire Policy, Human Made Hazards):** To mitigate risks to communities, infrastructure, and ecosystems from wildfires while safeguarding public health through proactive planning and community resilience strategies integrating City's other strategic plans.

4. **Implementation Strategies:** This component outlines operational tools and processes to realize the vision, goals, and strategic policies.

Example of Implementation Tools:

- **Zoning By-law Amendment Process:** Streamline rezoning to support strategic objectives.
- **Strategic Area Development Planning:** Identify future growth and improvement areas with area specific policies, land use and urban design guidelines.
- **Streamlined Subdivision Process:** Opportunities to improve current subdivision process to streamline approval and implementation.
- **Modernization of Development Permit Process:** To streamline development approvals that aligns with strategic goals and priorities.
- **Development Incentives By-law:** Define procedures for regular update in alignment with strategic goals by encouraging investment through targeted incentives.
- **Public Consultation & Engagement:** Integrate enhanced engagement frameworks into development approval process.

WORK PLAN: COMMUNITY PLAN COMPREHENSIVE UPDATE

The proposed workplan outlines a structured, sequential approach to the comprehensive update of the Community Plan, divided into five phases. Each phase corresponds to a milestone and involves delivering one or more reports to the Governance and Priorities Committee (GPC) for the Council's direction. Below are the phases, their objectives, specific tasks and timelines.

Phase 1: Project Initiation and Visioning (Q1-Q2, 2025)

Objective: Establish the project's foundation and develop a Vision Statement through comprehensive public and stakeholder engagement.

Tasks:

- Create a unique branding for the Community Plan to enhance public recognition.
- Conduct public outreach initiatives to raise awareness and gather initial input.
- Organize extensive engagement sessions with key stakeholders.
- Meet statutory requirements through Indigenous Governments & community engagements.
- Define Vision Statement and Thematic Objectives through community feedback
- Complete a demographic and Employment projection to long-range planning horizon

Phase 2: Background Research and Working Reports (Q2-Q4, 2025)

Objective: Conduct in-depth research and produce working reports based on thematic objectives and associated policy directions.

Tasks:

- Perform background studies to inform each thematic objective.
- Collaborate with technical experts, external consultants, NWT staff, community organizations, and Indigenous Governments.
- Develop working reports for each thematic goal and policy direction.
- Present reports to the GPC to obtain Council's guidance and feedback.

Phase 3: Mapping, Policy Details, and Requirements (Q3-Q4, 2025)

Objective: Develop detailed policy requirements and mapping analyses aligned with established thematic goals and strategic policies.

Tasks:

- Conduct mapping analysis and produce a series of thematic maps.
- Draft detailed policy frameworks and associated requirements.
- Host technical workshops and continue stakeholder engagement to refine policies.
- Organize a public open house to showcase maps and related policy details.
- Submit a Phase-3 report to the GPC for Council direction.

Phase 4: First Draft of Community Plan Update (Q1-Q2, 2026)

Objective: Present the first draft of the updated Community Plan for public review and hearings.

Tasks:

- Prepare the initial draft of the Community Plan Update.
- Facilitate a public hearing in compliance with Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA) requirements.
- Continue engaging stakeholders to incorporate amendments and revisions.

Phase 5: Approval of the Community Plan, in-principle (Q2-Q3, 2026)

Objective: Finalize and approve the Community Plan through Council readings pending the approval of the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA).

Tasks:

- Update the draft by-law of the Community Plan based on Council and stakeholder feedbacks.
- Proceed with the First and Second Readings of the draft plan by Council.
- Conclude community engagement.

COUNCIL STRATEGIC DIRECTION/RESOLUTION/POLICY:

Strategic Direction #1: People First

Focus Area 1.1 Reconciliation
Continuing to nurture positive and respectful relations with Indigenous governments, organizations and peoples.

Focus Area 1.2 Housing for All
Doing our part to create the context for diverse housing and accommodation options.

Focus Area 1.3 Liveable Community
Supporting all residents to participate in the social fabric and physical space of our community.

Strategic Direction #3: Sustainable Future

Focus Area 3.1 Resilient Future
Enhancing Yellowknife as a great place to live, visit, work and play now and into the future.

Focus Area 3.2 Growth Readiness
Ensuring land development supports economic readiness and community priorities.

Focus Area 3.3 Robust Economy
Doing our part to stimulate and amplify economic development opportunities.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION, BY-LAWS, STUDIES, PLANS:

1. *Community Planning and Development Act, SNWT 2011, c.22, as amended;*
2. *Cities, Towns and Village Act SNWT 2023, c22;* and
3. Community Plan (2020), By-law No. 5007.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

Prepared: MA; January 10, 2025

Reviewed: CW; January 16, 2025