

What do you want the future to look like when it comes to mineral development ?

I want free entry mining to STOP. This antiquated policy is a death sentence for healthy ecosystems and wildlife populations, as well as intact wilderness. We need certain minerals but they should not be extracted and developed unless they can be done so without damaging the environment. There are way too many examples of poor mining practices in the Territory that have left messes behind - physical eyesores, pollution (some cases will persist for centuries!), and resource roads that have opened up intact landscapes and wildlife populations to hunting pressure and increased mineral exploration.

Environmental assessment needs to include adequate monitoring, compliance and enforcement. There needs to be more rigorous measures to ensure protection of the environment and fish and wildlife populations during exploration and mining by both the exploration and mining activities, as well as by the employees (ie not to engage in recreational activities that damage the land or harass animals (eg. using ATV's, hunting, fishing)

Yukon's mining acts (Quartz Mining Act and Placer Mining Act need to be updated and brought into the 21st century! Ensure that mining interests align with Yukon's commitment to climate action and biodiversity conservation.

Land Use planning needs to be completed before and transformative mining projects can begin. There should be a staking ban in place while land use planning is underway.

Do a proper evaluation of the economic costs and benefits of mining to the Yukon. In my opinion there is too much focus placed on mining. We do need certain minerals but what we need most of is clean air and water and intact ecosystems. Without this we have no future! neither us nor other species. We have a responsibility to ensure that our actions do no harm! Enforcement agencies need to be funded well enough to have the manpower and the monies to properly monitor for impacts and enforce compliance to regulations, and to shut down operations that are causing harm.

We need to use and re-use raw materials and resources rather than constantly exploring for and developing new reserves.

What specifically should be done to make sure Yukon communities and people see positive benefits from all stages of mineral development

Increase the royalties, drastically! Stand up to the placer miners in particular. 40 cents per ounce in royalties for a metal that is currently worth about \$2000 an ounce? The Yukon makes more in campground fees per year!! Many of the placer and hard rock miners aren't even Yukon citizens yet the government is supporting their operations in a number of ways with very little benefit to Territorial coffers and Yukon public. Keep jobs in the Yukon, not flying people into the Territory to work in the mines. I understand there may not be enough qualified people in the Territory but there can be training initiatives. Flying people in and out has a high carbon footprint plus brings little benefit to Yukoners. and since this is not their home there will be tendency to not look after it with the respect and care this land deserves! Also First Nation communities need to benefit monetarily from operations happening on their settlement lands.

what's the ONE thing you would never want to lose in the Yukon?

Intact wilderness and wildlife habitat!! This includes clean water and air. All of this can be impaired and even destroyed by mineral exploration and mining activities that are not heavily regulated and monitored.