

September 8, 2020

Yukon Mineral Development Strategy Panel
P.O. Box 372 – 108 Elliott Street
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 6C4

Re: Written Submission from the Yukon Mineral Industry Collective (YMIC)

Panel Members,

On behalf of the **Yukon Mineral Industry Collective (YMIC)**, created in March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we appreciate this opportunity to engage with you regarding the Yukon Mineral Development Strategy (YMDS).

The Yukon mining industry organizations comprising YMIC came together to present one coordinated and cohesive “voice” to governments in their work to support certainty and permitting and licensing efficiency so that responsible mineral exploration and development in the territory may survive both during the pandemic and in its aftermath.

Our respective organizations are concerned about, and committed to, the mining industry’s economic survival through COVID-19 and to its recovery post-pandemic so that it may continue to benefit Yukon governments, businesses, residents and communities well into the future.

Submissions have been, or will be, provided by individual industry organizations; however, it is important that we also reach out to you and be recognized collectively to clearly impart how vital mining, exploration and industry service and supply is to our territory’s socio-economic sustainability.

The collapse of the Yukon’s tourism and hospitality sectors due to COVID-19 and the travel restrictions and mandatory isolation requirement placed on industry employees, clients and technical expertise from outside the territory is devastating the Yukon’s private sector and the avenues it provides for economic diversity and self-determination.

We well understand that a global pandemic was not in the original scope of the YMDS mandate and hope there is flexibility in the Panel’s work to recognize its impacts on all Yukoners. We urge you to consider recommendations, which provide regulatory efficiency and certainty so that investment in the industry can continue.

We will continue our work to provide information and proposed solutions to governments in the months ahead.

Thank you again for this opportunity.

Sincerely,



Loralee Johnstone
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On behalf of:

*Yukon Chamber of Mines | President, Ed Peart
Yukon Producers' Group | Chair, Brad Thrall
Yukon Women in Mining | President and Founder, Anne Turner
Klondike Placer Miners' Association | President, Will Fellers
Yukon Prospectors' Association | President, Grant Allan*