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RESPONSE TO
'THE THINGS THAT
MATTER'

YUKON 2000
RECOMMENDATIONS

Yukon
Renewable Resources

RESPONSE TO
"THE THINGS THAT MATTER"
YUKON 2000 RECOMMENDATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF RENEWABLE RESOURCES
GOVERNMENT OF YUKON

November 1987

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

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The Department of Renewable Resources (DRR) is pleased to provide detailed responses to all the relevant Yukon 2000 recommendations. We have participated fully in the development of several background papers, and we are engaged in the preparation of a Yukon Conservation Strategy (CS), which forms the context of our Yukon 2000 response. The CS will be made operational for DRR through a Strategic Plan, detailing various commitments to specific actions in specific time periods.

The DRR has a complex job ahead to sort out the Yukon 2000 recommendations from previous government commitments made during other public review processes. In particular, the response to the recommendations of the Select Committee on Renewable Resources (1986) will be tabled during the next legislative session. This response sets some new directions for DRR. In addition, the government endorsed, in principle, the recommendations of the Northern Conservation Task Force (1984/85) and the Minister of Renewable Resources has signed the report of the National Task Force on Environment and Economy (1987) which makes complementary recommendation on the integration of environmental and development planning.

Fortunately all of these reports (and several others) are generally headed in the same philosophical and practical direction. In a few instances, there are divergent recommendations and these need to be reconciled.

The response which follows includes two basic components:

1. a discussion of the eight common concerns identified in "The Things that matter"; and
2. a point-by-point response to the recommendations.

These are followed by four proposals for possible inclusion in the Government's Yukon 2000 implementation package.

2.0 COMMON CONCERNS

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2.1 DIVERSITY AND FLEXIBILITY

The Yukon's renewable resources support a wide variety of occupations from the traditional, subsistence lifestyle of the Indian peoples through to agricultural pursuits. Although much of the attention paid to the renewable resource field in the past has been focussed on hunting, trapping and outfitting, there has been a greater appreciation more recently of the diverse occupations, both consumptive and nonconsumptive, that can be undertaken in this field.

The renewable resource sector appears economically tiny in comparison to the mining, tourism and government sectors, but the distribution of income from renewable resources is predominately focussed on rural communities and the contribution of the subsistence economy is largely unevaluated at this time. In addition most rural Yukoners identify the quality of their lifestyle as a significant contribution to their sense of wellbeing.

The DRR is working to both encourage a broader range of occupations and to preserve more traditional pursuits. It is, for example, working (with Community and Transportation Services) on an agricultural policy to promote the orderly development of this industry.

Other necessary regulatory and policy development projects are also underway.

Commitment

DRR is committed to the completion of the Yukon Conservation Strategy. This has three major components which will act to support and improve the diversity of the Yukon's economy.

1. The CS will contain a comprehensive assessment of all the legislation, regulations and policy gaps and overlaps which need to be filled before a truly efficient renewable resource management framework can be developed. In the abstract this will serve as a backdrop and support function for the settlement of land claims and the transfer of federal responsibilities. Specifically, policies will be developed to improve the management and development of agriculture, trapping, game ranching, fisheries and other economic sectors.
2. The CS will propose a series of territorial and local demonstration projects designed to show that conservation and development are essential partners. Most importantly, many of these projects will be designed to generate employment (public and private sector) in rural communities. In most cases the demonstration projects will be designed to be managed by private sector interests or non-government groups. As examples: cooperative arrangements to begin early wildlife mitigation projects with mining companies; and to promote small scale integrated forestry operations that provide a maximum value-added component to the timber that is cut (within a sustainable yield management context).
3. The CS will propose new public education initiatives, both with respect to traditional conservation values, and concerning the new, optimistic "environment and development" theme. For example, developing a static display and audio visual materials which can promote and demonstrate the theme in schools and at special events.

An initial proposal to promote the development and completion of the Yukon Conservation Strategy (Proposal 1) is included in the Summary.

2.2 SELF-RELIANCE

Within the renewable resource economic sectors, Yukoners already do "a lot with a little," and the desire for increased future self-reliance was demonstrated during both the Select Committee and Yukon 2000 public participation sessions. A consistent need was identified: to improve Yukon-based control over resource management and, as much as possible, to base decision-making in local communities. This long-term vision is supported by the department.

Commitment

DRR is committed to continuing the transfer of the management of fresh water fisheries and forests to the Yukon government, and eventually to pursue other management responsibilities. Such efforts are second only to land claims in the hierarchy of departmental priorities. Much of the work on the conservation strategy and other policies is already geared to providing a better integrated set of resource management policies that are the necessary backdrop to the settlement of lands claims and devolution.

DRR acknowledges, and the Select Committee recommended that regional services should be improved. The department's conservation officers' role in local conservation education could be expanded, greater opportunities for a local auxiliary conservation officer program could be provided and regional management biologists could be established. More local hiring could be undertaken. A proposal to expand regional services (Proposal 2) is included in the Summary.

2.3 A MIX OF ECONOMIES

Within the renewable resources field, there exists already a healthy mix of economies. The DRR recognizes the value to the Yukon of the subsistence use of fish and wildlife, the fur industry, the sports fishing and hunting for both residents and non-residents and the limited commercial fishery in the territory. Other opportunities also exist for expanded employment. Agriculture, for example, has had a much higher profile in recent years than in the past. There is also an increasing industry associated with the non-consumptive use of resources, tourism and adventure travel. These initiatives will further broaden the resource-based industry field.

Commitment

DRR is already involved, directly or indirectly, in a number of projects designed to expand or stabilize the renewable resources economy. New or continuing projects include: participation in the EDA/CYI study on subsistence; the EDA/CYI study on fur farming; co-sponsorship of the new Fur Industry Support Program; evaluation of the results of a recently completed study on the non-consumptive use of wildlife; examination of new methods to cooperatively regulate the outfitting industry; development of game farming/ranching policy; an effort to initiate a new fishing development program; initiation of discussions for a cooperative Forest Development Agreement; and seeking new methods to cooperate with NGO's. All of these efforts contribute to the long term diversification and stabilization of both subsistence and wage economics.

Almost all of these projects fall under the broad umbrella of the Yukon Conservation Strategy and DRR is committed to continuing these efforts.

2.4 INDIANS AND THE ECONOMY

The DRR recognizes the value of the subsistence lifestyle in the Yukon, and it realizes a need to promote greater understanding of traditional attitudes and knowledge regarding land and wildlife. The DRR also supports the settlement of the Yukon Indian land claim, in particular because it will ultimately lead to more effective management of all renewable resources.

Commitment

DRR is already committed to the fair settlement of Yukon Indian land claims and has already re-oriented departmental priorities to meet the needs of the various negotiations. Ultimately, almost all aspects of resource management will be improved and made more certain by a fair settlement.

DRR also acknowledges the need to improve the training and involvement of Yukon's aboriginal peoples in all areas of departmental activity. Improvements should include: programs to improve the department's use of traditional knowledge; provision for cross-cultural education for departmental staff; and provision of new job opportunities for aboriginal peoples.

An initial proposal to begin provision of these services is included in the Summary (Proposal 3).

2.5 WOMEN AND THE ECONOMY

Almost all renewable resource economic sectors have seen an increase in women's participation in recent years. In rural Yukon, in particular, there has been a tradition of participation through both the subsistence and wage activities of family units. This continues today.

In renewable resource professions there has not been a proportionate representation of women, particularly at senior levels. Although the renewable resource fields have seen an increase in the education and training of women during the last 15 years, major increases in representation have occurred only in technical positions. Many leave these positions to begin families and do not re-enter professional life until much later, if at all. Within DRR, recent improvements have occurred, including hiring a female conservation officer. The majority of biologist technical positions are held by women.

Commitment

DRR will support changes undertaken by the Yukon Government to increase the flexibility of work arrangements for women. Related positive employment programs also will be supported.

2.6 RESPONSIBLE USE OF RESOURCES

The DRR wholeheartedly supports this fundamental principle. It reflects the growing global awareness of the need for and the importance of environmentally sound, sustainable economic development, as well as initiatives now underway in the Yukon. The DRR is currently involved in bringing together a wide variety of interests in the Yukon to develop the Yukon Conservation Strategy. It is also providing assistance in the development of a conservation strategy for the Vantat Gwich'in people (which will be the first such local strategy for an indigenous community in the world) as well as an Arctic Marine Conservation Strategy and a regional circumpolar strategy. The DRR also will be following up on the National Task Force on Environment and Economy with the Department of Economic Development.

Commitment

DRR is committed to making the Yukon Conservation Strategy the principal tool to implement the resource management recommendations of Yukon 2000. Although the strategy is still under development, a number of actions can be taken now to begin preparation for implementing the strategy. These include a number of public education and public involvement initiatives that are outlined in the Summary (Proposals 1 and 4).

2.7 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Because access to the territory's renewable resources exists throughout the Yukon, employment opportunities related to renewable resources are more widespread than in other sectors. In the past, the trapping, outfitting and other renewable resource activities, particularly subsistence, have provided a stabilizing force when other sectors (mining, tourism or government) have gone through major fluctuations. Yukon 2000 has identified, based on extensive community input, a series of ideas to expand the package of benefits experienced by communities and bands.

Commitment

DRR is committed, through proposals for better resource management and expanded community service, to improve and foster opportunities for community development. A project to initiate improved community services is outlined in the Summary (Proposal 2).

2.8 PARTICIPATION

Even though the DRR is charged with the administration of the Yukon's renewable resources, it fully appreciates that these resources belong to Yukoners. Efforts have been made in the past to involve Yukoners in resource management and these are ongoing. In addition, new structures are being studied to enhance the role of Yukoners in the management of their resources; the structures under review include a Round Table on Environment and Economy as suggested by the National Task Force on Environment and Economy, a Wildlife Management Board as was suggested in the Select Committee Report on Renewable Resources, and community-level committees which are being negotiated at the land claims table.

Commitment

Initial projects to demonstrate DRR's commitment to improve citizen participation are outlined in the Summary (all 4 Proposals).

**3.0 RESPONSES TO THE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS
 IN "THE THINGS THAT MATTER"**

3.0 RESPONSES TO THE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS IN "THE THINGS THAT MATTER"

3.1 HUMAN RESOURCES

Objective

1. Increase the participation and opportunities for Yukoners in all aspects of the economy.

DRR supports.

Local Hire

Recommendations

1. Replace make-work projects with job creation, keeping the focus on long-term jobs that will sustain individual workers and their communities.

DRR supports.

2. Give priority in government contracts to Yukon contractors and suppliers who employ locally.

DRR will support government policy initiatives in this area.

3. Require the preparation of human resource plans when the Government gives financial assistance over a certain level to development projects. The greater the level of financial assistance, the more employment and training opportunities should be created for Yukoners. The length of time the project is in operation should also be considered to ensure that lengthy projects benefit the local workforce.

No comment.

4. Review private and public sector recruiting and hiring policies to ensure that Yukoners who possess the necessary skills and abilities are being considered.

DRR supports for public sector.

5. Set priorities for increasing the number of trained Yukon tradespeople to replace imported workers and develop a system for transferring the necessary skills.

DRR agrees.

Training

Recommendations

1. Identify skill shortage areas, forecast labour demand and make this information available to the public.

DRR supports.

2. Provide training courses through a number of agencies: Yukon College, government, bands and community groups. These courses must be flexible and practical. They should be offered on a continuous entry basis and in a variety of ways, including distance education techniques. Entrance requirements should not be too restrictive.

DRR supports in principle, although notes the need for coordination of these various training courses to avoid duplication.

3. Establish or improve support services for students by simplifying the process for obtaining financial assistance, by providing childcare at Yukon College and Community Learning Centres and by exploring options

for family and rural student accommodation in Whitehorse. As well, ensure that adequate personal and vocational counselling is available locally.

DRR supports.

4. Gear on-the-job training to existing employment opportunities to provide an incentive for taking training. Recognize the experience obtained during training, perhaps through credits or certificate.

DRR currently provides some on-the-job training, but further improvements and efforts can be made.

5. Focus on transferrable skills, including oral and written communication, interpersonal skills, core trade and entrepreneurial skills. These skills can be used in a variety of jobs.

DRR supports.

6. Ensure that new training courses are available when needed. For example, the current turnaround time for a new course to be developed and delivered through Yukon College is too long to take advantage of changing job opportunities.

No comment.

7. Provide enough advance notice to communities of course coming up.

DRR agrees.

8. Increase the ratio of apprentices to journeypeople in order to make the apprenticeship program more cost-effective. Currently, the program is not working in rural areas: it is too restrictive and too expensive to operate; rural students also find it difficult to spend

a long period of time in Whitehorse with a trainer. Yukoners want changes in the apprenticeship program to deal with these concerns.

No comment.

9. Provide bands and local communities with the funds to develop and administer their own training courses.

No comment.

10. Include a cross-section of people as designated representatives on a Yukon College board of governors.

DRR agrees.

11. Communities, bands, high schools, college and government should cooperate in developing programs to reduce the drop-out rate.

DRR agrees.

Objective

2. Recognize the desire of Yukoners to live in their own communities and increase the participation of rural Yukoners in the economy.

DRR supports.

Recommendations

1. Pursue options to develop sustainable rural communities. Feasibility studies, pilot projects, appropriate research and development, locally based training, alternative financing and local input are all necessary components of this recommendation. The Government should provide funds for these ideas but not long-term financial support.

DRR supports. With the availability of renewable resources throughout the Yukon, the department believes this sector offers many options for the development of sustainable rural economic opportunities.

Demonstration projects that exhibit environment-economy integration will be developed in communities as part of the Yukon Conservation Strategy.

2. Establish criteria to let communities recommend and administer training programs. The Community Learning Centres (Community Campuses) should be geared to the needs of a small population and responsive to change. They should offer courses that meet the training needs of rural residents and provide necessary skills.

DRR agrees.

3. Consider transferring more responsibility and support work for community-based government programs to the communities, although not all programs would benefit from decentralization. Highway maintenance and campground maintenance were mentioned as likely candidates for transfer. People in rural communities complain that government personnel based in Whitehorse are often unable to spend enough time in the communities or learn enough about them.

DRR agrees and to some extent already hires locally for campground maintenance and administration is often undertaken by regional staff. Private sector contracts have not proven successful in some cases, however, leading to tourist complaints about poor maintenance.

4. Ensure community residents have a fair chance at community-based government jobs. If specific skills are required, build in on-the-job training periods to bring community residents to the required level. This will pay off in the long run since residents are more likely to remain in the community, providing long-term stability and reduced

turnover. Specific government positions that have been suggested include teachers and game branch personnel.

The Department of Renewable Resources hires some local residents for jobs in their communities, but this has not been the practice in the enforcement field because of the potential for conflicts between the enforcement officer and friends and relatives. If some of the department's other operations were decentralized to regional offices in Dawson and Watson Lake, there would be more opportunities for community-based hiring.

5. Advertise information about government job openings and training and other programs through a combination of local resources and modern communication methods.

DRR supports.

6. Explore ways of providing career counselling to rural areas in ways appropriate to each community.

DRR supports.

Objective

3. Recognize the Indian economy as a viable mode of economic activity and create opportunities for Indian people in both traditional and dominant economies.

DRR supports and has worked to protect and preserve the subsistence lifestyle of Indian people.

Recommendations

1. Identify the skills and knowledge that will be required to make use of the opportunities arising from a land claims settlement. This will enable Indian people and others to start preparing themselves now. Young Indian people can prepare for the settlement of land claims

through training and education. The best approach would be cooperative action by the Council for Yukon Indians and individual bands.

DRR supports.

2. Complete a skills inventory of each band to identify existing skills and skill shortages. The inventory would be supervised by the band and would set out the variety and depth of skills within each band. Such an inventory could help band members find work and employers find workers.

DRR supports.

3. Encourage flexible work patterns that allow part-time work, variable hours or seasonal work to accommodate the demands of the Indian economy.

DRR supports.

4. Hire local community economic development officers to give start-up assistance, technical support and follow-up help. Bands have found that Whitehorse-based economic development officers, whether provided by the Yukon or federal governments or the Council for Yukon Indians, cannot give them the consistent, on-going support they need.

DRR supports.

5. Guarantee that a certain portion of the money available under the Economic Development Agreement goes to Indian people.

DRR supports.

6. Review the criteria of the federal and territorial Indian economic development programs with a view to increasing their effectiveness.

DRR supports.

7. Encourage joint ventures between Indian people and others.

DRR supports.

8. Provide funding for bands to administer, design, offer or contract their own training courses. The need for such training is urgent.

DRR supports.

9. Guarantee seats for Indian people on Yukon College's board of governors.

DRR supports.

10. Include in the school curriculum the history of the Yukon and the study of Indian people as role models.

DRR supports.

11. Inform Yukon bands about the Positive Employment Program and ask for their support in making it work.

DRR supports.

12. Improve bands' administration and management skills through training.

DRR supports.

Objective

4. Improve the prospect for young people and increase their participation in the economy.

DRR supports.Recommendations

1. Provide help in using information about available jobs, labour requirements and training opportunities. Career counselling can assist young people to use such information to make decisions about their own futures.

DRR supports.

2. Hold workshops to teach students about funding programs, job search techniques and basic business knowledge.

DRR supports.

3. Provide adequate support services for students, including career counselling, childcare and financial assistance. Ensure training allowances are high enough to be an incentive for young people to study or train.

DRR supports.

4. Screen prospective teachers to make sure they are prepared for teaching in the Yukon, especially those recruited to teach in rural areas.

DRR supports.

5. Design specialized training programs at Yukon College and in the high schools for students who have dropped out of school.

DRR supports.

6. Establish cooperative or work experience training programs.

DRR supports.

7. Advertise training programs more effectively, using a variety of media.

DRR agrees.

8. Offer and advertise specialized courses at Yukon College for students outside the Yukon.

DRR agrees.

9. Offer a fuller selection of basic courses that can be transferred to Canadian universities.

This will depend on the local availability of suitable instructors. Since many of these instructors have other jobs, employers should support flexible working arrangements that will allow instructors to teach.

10. Encourage underfilling Yukon government positions in conjunction with training.

DRR agrees.

11. Place students attending school in summer jobs that will continue from year to year, in order to give them work experience.

DRR agrees.

Objective

5. Encourage the participation of women in the economy and recognize the value of work done by them in both wage and non-wage economies.

DRR supports.

Recommendations

1. Continue to support home and volunteer work as valuable economic activities. Conduct a study of volunteer activities in order to assess the effectiveness of channelling public dollars to volunteer organizations, particularly social service agencies. Include volunteers in the study.

DRR supports.

2. Ensure that good, accessible, affordable childcare is available. Explore ways to make childcare more affordable; for example, through subsidies to parents or to daycare operations. Childcare is a particular concern in rural areas where few facilities are available.

DRR supports.

3. Provide adequate funding for long-term training in life skills and confidence-building, and offer the training in communities.

DRR supports.

4. Encourage work sharing and other flexible job arrangements like flex-time and part-time work.

DRR supports.

5. Ensure that rural and urban women comprise at least 50 per cent of the membership of all government boards and commissions.

DRR supports in principle, but the suitability and backgrounds of candidates should also be a factor. Gender should not be the only criteria.

6. Develop a directory of childcare information and services. The work should be done by the Government and the Yukon Childcare Association.

DRR supports.

7. Encourage the Government's Affirmative Action and Positive Employment programs.

DRR supports.

Objective

6. Increase the participation of Yukoners with disabilities and improve their income levels.

DRR supports.

Recommendations

1. Increase public awareness and education about the contributions disabled individuals make to the economy. The focus should be on ability rather than disability. The Government and voluntary organizations can work together to find ways of recognizing and publicizing the achievements of the disabled in the Yukon. In particular, educate employers and co-workers about the disabled.

DRR supports.

2. Document the employment situation of people with disabilities, reassess and revamp current programs and resources, and study successful employment programs from other jurisdictions as potential models for the Yukon.

DRR supports.

3. Conduct a job skills analysis to pinpoint possible employment for disabled people.

DRR supports.

4. Establish a Career Services program to coordinate existing programs, simplify access, reduce paperwork and to develop more comprehensive programs.

DRR supports.

5. Ensure that the Yukon College Board has at least one disabled person.

DRR supports.

6. Identify the needs of students with special problems and respond to them. Encourage integrated training programs that allow students with disabilities to use regular education facilities.

DRR supports.

Objective

7. Increase the participation of the elderly in the economy and recognize their skills and knowledge as community assets.

DRR supports.

Recommendations

1. Encourage and support those seniors who choose to lead independent lives. Provide support services to assist in this independence when necessary.

DRR agrees.

2. Increase the money available to bands that support their elders.

No comment.

3. Explore the feasibility of employing senior citizens in Yukon to give young people on-the-job training and teach them traditional skills.

DRR agrees.

4. Ensure that the skills and experience of seniors are used by employing them on advisory committees and boards.

DRR agrees.

3.2 NATURAL RESOURCES

Objectives

1. Develop the full range of natural resources, both renewable and non-renewable.
2. Increase the economic return to the Yukon from its resources.
3. Develop renewable resources at a rate that will not deplete them.
4. Develop non-renewable resources at a rate that assures more stable economic growth.
5. Maintain the resources required for subsistence lifestyles.
6. Safeguard the Yukon's natural environment and historical and archaeological heritage.
7. Establish Yukon control over the territory's natural resources.
8. Establish procedures for managing natural resources, which accommodate the needs and values of Yukoners.

We agree with the objectives as they have been stated and they are explicitly being built into the draft conservation strategy (along with other relevant objectives from other reports). The details of the implementation of each objective will take more work, but will be contained in a final conservation strategy.

Recommendations

1. Directly involve Yukoners in natural resource management.

DRR agrees and currently does involve Yukoners in resource management to some extent. New structures are being developed to enhance this involvement.

Structures under consideration include a Wildlife Management Board with enhanced representation, band-level committees which are being negotiated at land claim talks, or "community conservation committees" for individual demonstration projects under the conservation strategy.

2. Develop renewable resource management systems.

This is currently being done and in some instances will be negotiated as part of the devolution process, land use planning and land claims settlement implementation.

3. Plan the use of our land resources.

A Northern Land Use Planning Program has been signed, and it will be important to integrate the planning of land and water resources.

4. Assess socio-economic and environmental impacts.

The Cabinet has endorsed new principles for a new Development Assessment Process, which will provide a consistent approach for the review and analysis of development projects. Modifications have been made to Cabinet documents that require a consideration of the environmental implications of proposals. Federal processes for environmental assessments (FEARO) will be under review this winter.

5. Combine development with conservation.

This is the principle focus of the conservation strategy and all the other reports DRR is now working with (e.g., National Task Force on Environment and Economy).

6. Develop siting and operating standards and regulations.

DRR supports this recommendation. This would require new legislation (e.g., a territorial Environmental Protection Act) and modifications to some existing acts (e.g., Northern Inland Waters Act and both the Quartz and Placer Mining Acts). The new federal Environmental Protection Act is mostly limited to control of toxic substances.

7. Develop policies on natural resources.

This is a fundamental task of the conservation strategy and DRR's Strategic Plan: to fill legislative and policy gaps; and to reduce overlap and inefficiency in existing legislation and policy.

8. Settle native land claims.

DRR completely supports this recommendation and is anxious for a speedy settlement, particularly for wildlife, agriculture and park management purposes. Budgets and personnel have been realigned to ensure that the needs of the negotiation process can be fulfilled.

3.3 FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Objective

1. Encourage entrepreneurship and the development of small businesses in all sectors.

DRR supports.

Recommendations

1. Private and public sector financial institutions should work together to provide Yukoners with a complete selection of capital through various forms of equity and long- and short-term loans.

DRR supports.

2. The government should pass legislation enabling the establishment of trust companies and credit unions in the Yukon so that the territory can have access to the full range of financial institutions. Trust companies and credit unions should be established only if they are viable.

No comment.

3. Long-term business success should be encouraged by both private and public lenders. For example, banks should offer loans on a longer term than they currently do and government should provide money in the form of long-term forgivable loans.

No comment.

4. Develop local venture capital pools to assist high-risk, high-payoff businesses that cannot get conventional loans. Help entrepreneurs

find information on available venture capital and help them package their proposals to venture capitalists.

No comment.

5. Both public and private financial institutions should give local managers more flexibility and responsibility in order to respond to local conditions and needs. Encourage staff orientation so that officers acquire a full understanding of Yukon business conditions and practices.

DRR supports.

6. Streamline the process by which businesses get the capital they need:
 - ° programs should be designed for ease of understanding and access;
 - ° forms and documentation requirements should be simplified and standardized;
 - ° the number of different funding programs should be kept to a minimum and carefully coordinated;
 - ° business development officers should help businesses identify, prepare for and apply to funding sources.

DRR supports.

7. Business training should be made available to operators of small businesses, especially those interested in starting up businesses for the first time. This training should include information on funding systems, basic business practices, the records, projections and control systems they are expected to have in place and how to prepare financial statements and cash flows.

DRR supports, although it notes that other agencies are currently performing some of these functions.

8. Government and large financial institutions should consider applications for funding on a case by case basis, using clear and well understood criteria that fit the Yukon. These criteria should be assessed to ensure that businesses without long and successful track records do not face unnecessary barriers to accessing capital. Financial institutions and government should not try to pick winning sectors or regions.

DRR supports.

Objective

2. Improve access to capital and financial services in rural areas.

DRR supports.

Recommendations

1. Those government financial programs that are not providing fair levels of assistance to rural businesses should do so.

DRR supports.

2. The government should use its deposit clout with banks to get them to provide better service and more loans to rural areas and to ensure that rural businesses face no unnecessary barriers to capital.

DRR supports.

3. Basic cheque-cashing and deposit-taking should be available in all Yukon communities. Local businesspeople could be hired to act as agents for the banks, or existing territorial agents or economic development officers should provide the service.

No comment.

4. Government and community organizations should press banks to locate a loans officer in rural communities. This should be a person who already resides in the community.

No comment.

Objective

3. Remove barriers to capital for Indian businesses.

DRR agrees.

Recommendations

1. Maintain and support Dana Naye Ventures as an Indian-controlled financial assistance program for Indian businesses.

DRR supports.

2. Help establish aboriginal controlled development corporations in communities whose bands want them.

DRR supports.

3. Encourage banks to reassess the criteria used to judge loan applications from businesses without long and successful track records in order to ensure that Indian businesses face no unnecessary barriers to obtaining capital.

DRR supports.

4. Both levels of government should work cooperatively with the Council for Yukon Indians to develop ways to:

- ° examine the equity requirements in all government programs to remove barriers that block access to capital for Indian businesses;
- ° simplify application procedures for government assistance programs and provide help in applying for government funding;
- ° provide training for aboriginal entrepreneurs using appropriate learning approaches.

DRR supports.

Objective

4. Improve women's access to capital.

DRR supports.

Recommendations

1. Government and women's groups should pressure banks to re-examine their lending practices and attitudes toward women. Public and private sector loans officers should be educated about women's success in small business.

DRR supports.

2. Better business training and assistance should be provided for women. The programs should include workshops on starting a small business in the home.

DRR supports.

3. Women active in business should be encouraged. Pamphlets providing information on successful business women and potential mentors would be useful.

DRR supports.

4. Banks should be encouraged to place more women in managerial positions.

DRR supports.

5. The government should examine criteria used to evaluate requests for money under its programs in order to remove any barriers that block women's access to capital.

DRR supports.

Objective

5. Investigate the potential of community-based enterprises.

Recommendations

1. The development of community-based enterprises in rural Yukon communities should be explored, encouraged and supported.

DRR supports.

2. The potential for community-based enterprises in Whitehorse should also be explored. Groups within the city might be interested in developing community enterprises and should be encouraged.

DRR supports.

3. Capital assistance programs that exclude community groups and non-profit societies should be changed to make such groups eligible for assistance. Also legislation governing non-profit societies should be reviewed to ensure it does not preclude operation of business activities.

DRR supports.

4. Any Yukon venture capital program should be open to community-based enterprises.

DRR supports.

Objective

6. Maintain the leading role of the private financial sector in providing capital and financial services.

DRR supports.

Recommendations

1. Government resources should be used only when private sector cannot or will not provide the required services.

DRR supports.

2. Loans should be provided through banks wherever possible. Government loan programs should be delivered by established private financial institutions working on contract. This approach has the benefit for the entrepreneur of a relatively quick turnaround in the loan application, the establishment of a working relationship with a bank and the development of skills in dealing with bankers.

DRR supports.

3. In order to improve banking service:
 - ° bankers at the banks' central offices should learn about the Yukon's economy and business environment;
 - ° local bank managers should have adequate credit authority;
 - ° loan officers and managers should be encouraged to stay longer in any community;
 - ° bankers should be encouraged to review their requirements for collateral and their ways of appraising realizable assets.

DRR supports.

Objective

7. Encourage increased competition among financial institutions.

No comment.

Recommendations

1. The Yukon Government will need to foster competition among the existing banks in order to maintain enough private debt capital and efficient, convenient banking services. The Government should use moral suasion and its own deposit clout to keep competition alive.

No comment.

2. The Yukon Government should encourage other banks and trust companies to come to the Yukon.

No comment.

3. The Yukon Government should discuss the concept of a northern bank with other northern governments.

DRR has concerns about this recommendation given the recent fate of several regional banks in Western Canada.

Objective

8. Develop an effective role for government in complementing and backing up the work of private financial institutions.

DRR supports.

Recommendations

1. A single basic application form for government financial assistance programs should be developed, with addenda as required to meet specific conditions of each program.

DRR supports in principle.

2. Efforts should be made to reduce the number of decision-making committees.

No comment.

3. Approval processes should be speeded up to avoid delays that could cost the applicant business.

DRR supports.

4. If new funding is needed to fill gaps, the money should, if possible, be distributed through existing programs rather than by adding new ones. In some cases it will be more efficient to replace existing programs with new and broader programs.

No comment.

5. The entrepreneur with a small project currently faces the same application and evaluation procedures, and the same effort, as the business person with a large project. There should be more flexibility in dealing with smaller projects.

DRR supports.

6. All forms of government financial assistance should address problems like equity, short-term debt and cash flow which Yukon businesses must face.

No comment.

7. Government assistance should be short-term, but aimed at projects that demonstrate the potential to be viable over the long term. Businesses should not be encouraged to depend on aid, since it will not always be available.

DRR supports.

8. Up-front assistance should be given preference over subsidies and rebates since it is more effective and less complex to administer.

No comment.

9. Programs and projects should be evaluated, but without adding too much to their cost or reducing their efficiency. Procedures should be established to account to the public for use of government funds. Industry representatives should be involved in the evaluation.

Public accountability is a must. Although efforts may be made to minimize the effect of procedures, this principle cannot be sacrificed and it may simply be in some cases the price to be paid for government assistance.

10. Over time, government assistance should recover its costs, either directly or indirectly. The calculations of such recovery should take into account benefits like increased tax revenue and decreased welfare or unemployment payments.

DRR supports.

3.4 INFORMATION RESOURCES

Objective

1. Use science and technology as tools for development.

DRR supports.

Recommendations

1. The Government of the Yukon should develop a position of Science and Technology Advisor. The Advisor would review and advise the government on science and technology. Given the size of the Yukon, this may only require a part-time position.

DRR supports in principle; however, well defined terms of reference would be required to ensure there would be no duplication between the existing scientific functions in some agencies, nor a limitation on the potential growth in services that could be provided by the Yukon Science Institute.

2. Examine measures governments can take to promote the use of science and technology.

DRR agrees and supports this effort as a member of the Canada-Yukon Science and Technology Committee.

Objective

2. Improve our understanding of the natural and social environment and improve access to existing sources of information.

DRR supports.

Recommendations

1. Government should establish networking systems which can promote information and computer link-ups with other research institutions and local information sources.

DRR supports.

2. Yukon College should set up a Research Data and Information Centre to store documents received under the current science statute and any new programs. As well as providing a central storehouse of research and information on the Yukon or applicable to the Yukon, this centre should take on responsibility for circumpolar information exchange.

DRR supports; however, it would seem rational to integrate this function with the Libraries and Archives Branch.

3. The Department of Education's Learning Materials Centre should be promoted for community use in addition to school use.

DRR supports.

4. The Government should support the continuation of the Yukon Science Institute's lecture series called "Science Today." Other methods of communicating science and technology to the public, such as demonstration projects, should be considered.

DRR agrees. Local demonstration projects will be undertaken in conjunction with the Yukon Conservation Strategy and the Yukon Science Institute.

5. The Yukon Government should encourage businesses, with appropriate incentives, to make information about science and technological innovations public.

Most scientific research related to renewable resources is publicly funded, and we suspect that it likely will remain this way for the foreseeable future, whether by government directly or through university programs.

Objective

3. Do original scientific research in the North.

DRR supports. Much work is already done here, particularly in renewable resource fields. It should be possible to increase university attention to the Yukon, particularly in fields outside of biology and geology.

Recommendations

1. The Scientists and Explorers Ordinance should be replaced with a "research and innovation program" which promotes research in the Yukon. In return, the researcher would help the Yukon by making research available locally, by training local research assistants and by using the research for local applications.

The Scientists and Explorers Act does have a regulatory function that the department should continue but could be updated and improved. This would not preclude including the program contemplated in this recommendation within the legislation.

2. Yukon College should play a role in promoting northern research. The college can provide facilities and lobby for national research funds with other institutes that currently are not eligible to receive them. It can offer technological training programs.

DRR supports. This is an excellent idea that could dramatically improve the scope and comprehensiveness of the existing research programs.

3. The Yukon Government can take the following actions: encourage more girls and Indian students to take maths and sciences, offer a secondary school course that relates science and technology to the community and assist teachers to improve their skills in the area.

DRR supports efforts to increase the participation of women and Indian people in non-traditional fields.

Objective

4. Reinforce the traditional Indian and rural lifestyles by using appropriate technologies and adapting traditional technologies for modern uses.

DRR supports in principle, but much more work is required to specify the areas in which this is feasible (or necessary).

Recommendations

1. Link traditional Indian knowledge to scientific knowledge, for example, in the renewable resources areas.

DRR is making efforts to increase the cross-cultural knowledge of its staff to promote this linkage. These efforts could be increased and improved if sufficient resources were available.

2. Upgrade traditional craft skills through modern technological methods.

DRR supports.

3. Use technology to increase the dialogue and information exchange between rural communities and Whitehorse.

DRR supports.

Objective

5. Expand the scope of resource industries by using technology to move in new directions.

DRR supports.Recommendation

1. The Government could use extension agents - specialized field workers - to promote science, technology and innovation. However, the size of the Yukon population, the interests of private sector institutions and limits to government financial resources should be considered in determining how best to provide this service.

DRR supports in principle, but it is a rather grand idea for such a dispersed population area. Such a function could conceivably be provided through upgraded, expanded DRR regional offices, particularly following the transfer of fisheries, forestry and water from DIAND. This would also fit nicely with the concept of Local Resource Boards being discussed at the land claims table.

Objective

6. Promote the small business sector and individual entrepreneurs in their use of science and technology.

DRR supports.Recommendations

1. The Yukon Chamber of Commerce and Yukon College should study examples of entrepreneurship training programs elsewhere in Canada and adapt them for use in the Yukon.

DRR agrees.

2. The Yukon Government should investigate means to support business start-up for firms using technology by using such things as the incubator concept.

DRR supports, but acknowledges that private sector has a role with regard to the recommendation. The Chamber of Commerce is looking at the incubator concept.

Objective

7. Improve public infrastructure through science and technology.

DRR agrees.

Recommendation

1. Develop northern-oriented programs to improve construction, housing, sewer and other types of infrastructure.

DRR agrees, however notes that much work is already done by the National Research Council (Canada), the Cold Region Research Laboratory (U.S.A.) and other countries (Scandinavia, U.S.S.R., etc.).

3.5 TRANSPORTATION

Objectives

1. Assess the cost and benefits of transportation developments to local and regional interests. Consult both industry and community representatives.

DRR supports in principle. Any such cost benefit assessment must consider both tangible and intangible elements.

2. Integrate management and development of transportation modes within the Yukon.

DRR supports in principle. Any such processes should involve environmental design and routing procedures and formal environmental impact assessment methods.

Recommendations

1. Review the impact of proposed federal regulatory reforms on all transportation modes.

DRR supports this, particularly as it applies to the transportation of hazardous substances.

2. Review all standards and regulations to eliminate internal inconsistencies and harmonize the Yukon transportation system with other jurisdictions.

No comment.

Objective

3. Integrate the Yukon's transportation system with those of other jurisdictions.

DRR supports.

Recommendations

1. Devolution of full responsibility for rural airports from the federal to the territorial government.

DRR supports.

2. Establish a separate Yukon Government agency for management, planning and development of air services and facilities.

No comment.

3. Devolution of full responsibility for roads from the federal to the territorial government.

DRR supports.

4. Conduct regular reviews with industry and community representatives to identify specific requirements for planning and integration of the Yukon transportation system.

DRR supports.

5. The departments of Community and Transportation Services, Economic Development, Renewable Resources and Tourism should conduct an annual review along with the communities to identify existing and potential user conflicts.

Incremental road construction poses problems for wildlife. There should be an ongoing review and monitoring of its effects, as well as a mechanism to consider the cumulative effects of road construction. This mechanism should be undertaken in the context of the Yukon Land Use Planning process.

6. Develop a policy outlining criteria for the provision and allocation of routes.

DRR supports this, given that such a policy considers the environmental implications of "provision and allocation" of transportation corridors.

3.6 ENERGY

Objective

1. Substitute local energy resources for imported energy forms, where it is technically feasible and cost effective to do so.

DRR supports in principle. Environmental costs must also be accounted in any feasibility studies.

Recommendations

1. Conduct research into small hydro, grid extension, pricing and other options to reduce electrical costs.

DRR supports in principle; the research should assess the environmental impacts of such projects.

2. Assess the impact of industry structure on prices of imported fuels.

No comment.

Objective

2. Assess new energy developments considering the direct and indirect economic benefits to local communities.

Economic benefits should not be considered in isolation from environmental and other potential costs (direct or opportunity costs).

Recommendation

1. Consult with industry and community representatives to assess costs and benefits of new energy initiatives.

A study of costs and benefits should include an assessment of the environmental costs.

Objective

3. Improve the cost-effectiveness of existing energy sources through an examination of distribution costs and conservation methods.

DRR supports. During the last decade there have been many examples in which conservation method costs were far lower than the marginal costs of the next addition to any energy production and distribution system.

Recommendations

1. Assess the impact of direct and indirect energy subsidies on energy use and the effectiveness of other government programs.

DRR supports.

2. Assess the impact of electricity pricing structure on energy conservation and fuel substitution goals.

DRR supports.

3. Improve conservation program delivery mechanisms for rural and native residents.

DRR supports.

4. Conduct further research into the conservation potential in the transportation sector.

DRR supports.

5. Continue support for education programs promoting energy conservation.

DRR supports.

6. Establish energy conservation as a central component in the design and construction of all new public buildings.

DRR supports.

7. Review building codes to determine where energy conservation can be introduced in a manner that is cost effective.

DRR supports.

Objective

4. Ensure an equitable distribution of energy costs among Yukon customers.

Equalized rates could result in increased demand and may not be in keeping with conservation efforts. The government should examine marginal cost pricing for new energy sources as a means of encouraging people to conserve energy.

Recommendation

1. Establish an energy pricing policy for the Yukon.

DRR supports in principle; following an exhaustive evaluation of energy production and conservation alternatives.

3.7 COMMUNICATIONS

Objective

1. Ensure a satisfactory level of broadcasting and telecommunications services for Yukoners throughout the territory.

DRR supports.

Recommendations

1. Develop a policy to improve access for Yukon communities to a choice in telecommunications services at reasonable rates and consistent with national standards.

DRR agrees.

2. Adopt an integrated communications system policy.

No comment.

3. Participate in federal-provincial-territorial communications policy development and regulatory processes.

No comment.

Objective

2. Use emerging communications technology in the most appropriate manner for individuals, businesses and communities in the Yukon.

DRR supports and notes the need for improvements in the government's VHF system to help ensure renewable resource personnel are not placed in situations where they have no means to communicate with regional or the main offices.

Recommendations

1. Establish a mechanism for ongoing consultation with interested community, industry and business representatives.

DRR agrees.

2. Establish a mechanism for quickly providing information from government to all Yukon communities.

DRR agrees.

3. Establish a mechanism for monitoring and reviewing advances in communications technology as they might apply to other government goals.

No comment.

4. Develop, with the Department of Education, a strategy for increasing the availability of broadcasting and telecommunications services in distance education.

DRR agrees.

Objective

3. Support and strengthen the Yukon economic environment through enhanced availability and quality of communications services and the development of the communications industry.

DRR supports.

Recommendations

1. Assess the costs and benefits of improving specialized telecommunications services to all Yukon communities.

DRR agrees.

2. Evaluate the costs and benefits of improving the amount of Yukon-produced broadcasting available to Yukon and national audiences.

No comment.

3.8 MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Objective

- 1. Use infrastructure development to promote local employment, business development and enhance the quality of life.

DRR supports.

Recommendations

- 1. Establish a business incentives policy for local government.

No comment.

- 2. Establish a policy for the use of local materials for local and territorial governments.

DRR supports.

Objective

- 2. Devolve and decentralize responsibility for infrastructure management and planning, and delivery of municipal services to local communities as they request it.

DRR supports

Recommendations

- 1. Promote the devolution of responsibilities for infrastructure to communities and bands.

DRR agrees.

2. Establish local training programs for residents in municipal management.

No comment.

3. Encourage community-based economic and land use plans.

Some of this is being done and the Yukon Land Use Planning process will provide added opportunities for it. DRR supports these efforts.

4. Identify gaps in present community infrastructure by community.

DRR supports.

Objective

3. Maintain and develop community infrastructure according to standards which reflect regional conditions.

DRR supports.

Recommendations

1. Conduct research into new developments in northern and rural infrastructure to reduce operating costs.

DRR agrees.

2. Establish reviews and status reports for all community infrastructure.

DRR agrees.

3. Integrate design and capital standards in community capital plans and supporting government programs to reflect local conditions and cultural preferences.

DRR agrees

3.9 HOUSING

Objective

1. Provide access for all Yukoners to good quality, appropriate and affordable housing.

DRR supports.

Recommendations

1. Develop alternative financing programs to encourage home ownership, especially in rural Yukon.

No comment.

2. Develop information systems that will develop factual and measured statistics on the status of Yukon housing at regular intervals.

No comment.

3. Conduct research into better meeting the requirements for adequate, appropriate and affordable northern housing.

DRR agrees.

4. Review housing programs on a regular basis to ensure they meet the demand and the need in a cost-effective and efficient manner.

DRR agrees.

5. Encourage the construction of super-insulated homes.

DRR agrees.

6. Review the building code.

No comment.

Objective

2. Devolve and decentralize responsibility for administration and delivery of housing programs.

DRR supports.

Recommendations

1. Decentralize and devolve housing programs to community organizations and individuals as they are requested.

No comment.

2. Develop alternative strategies and programs to meet housing demand including the construction of rental units and housing cooperatives.

No comment.

3. Encourage the development of community plans.

DRR agrees.

Objective

3. Use housing development to promote local training, employment and business development, and enhance the quality of life.

DRR supports.

Recommendations

1. Consult with local interests to ensure economic opportunities in the local community are maximized.

DRR agrees.

2. Establish training programs for local residents in housing administration and building trades.

No comment.

3. Establish a local materials policy and identify construction materials and supplies that can be economically produced locally.

DRR supports.

3.10 LEISURE AND RECREATION

Objective

1. Integrate recreation and leisure planning into the community and territorial economic development strategies at the community and territorial levels.

DRR supports. The Parks and Outdoor Recreation Unit of DRR has a mandate to develop complementary programs around and between communities.

Recommendations

1. Integrate recreation planning and development into community economic development initiatives.

DRR agrees.

2. Identify and develop the links between tourism and community recreation programs and facilities.

DRR agrees.

Objective

2. Enhance local control of recreation and leisure activities through increased emphasis on human resource development.

DRR agrees.

Recommendations

1. Establish local training programs for residents in recreation management planning.

No comment.

2. Recognize the significance of the volunteer sector as an integral part of the economy and as central to a healthy community.

DRR agrees.

Objective

3. Encourage the participation of all Yukoners in recreation and leisure activities, especially with respect to cross-cultural development.

DRR supports.

3.11 CONSTRUCTION

What we need

1. The role of government is to support and encourage the development of opportunities within the private sector so that Yukon construction businesses can grow as entrepreneurs and employers.

DRR agrees.

2. Recognize that government-funded construction is an important tool for community development.

DRR agrees.

3. Use the construction industry to stabilize economic activity within the territory's communities.

DRR agrees.

4. Develop and strengthen the links between construction and the other sectors which produce goods.

No comment.

How to get there

1. Tender government construction contracts as soon as the capital budget has been approved by the Legislature.

DRR agrees.

2. Stagger the closure dates for government tenders.

DRR agrees.

3. Construction projects ought to be tendered only in the Yukon and not in larger centres to the south.

DRR supports in principle, although it may not be possible in cases where a particular expertise is not available in the Yukon.

4. Provide a financial assistance program to help Yukoners purchase, build, upgrade and own property.

No comment.

5. Break large contracts into smaller ones.

DRR supports.

6. Increase the pool of skilled labour in the territory in consultation with unions, the construction industry and the communities.

DRR supports.

7. Provide government guaranteed contract security to a specified amount for companies unable to obtain bonding through traditional means.

No comment.

3.12 MANUFACTURING

What we need

- 1. Encourage selective development of the manufacturing industry.

No comment.

- 2. Conduct research and provide information about the manufacturing industry.

No comment.

- 3. Use and encourage the use of locally manufactured products.

DRR supports.

- 4. Encourage the use of locally available resources and the development of skills of people involved in the industry.

DRR supports.

How to get there

- 1. Assist the sector with the development of new products and markets.

No comment.

- 2. Develop export and tourist markets for Yukon products.

DRR supports.

3. Encourage the development of a Yukon manufacturing industry through import substitution.

DRR supports.

4. Make progress payments at various stages of the government contracts.

No comment.

5. Promote government financial assistance programs.

DRR supports.

6. Improve the quality and availability of business training within the territory.

No comment.

7. Provide more flexible and focussed training programs for manufacturing.

No comment.

3.13 MINING

What we need

1. The federal and Yukon governments should create a climate of "business certainty" to promote the mining industry.

DRR agrees.

2. The government should improve its understanding of the structure of the industry and develop appropriate policies to support both small and large mining firms.

DRR agrees.

3. To speed decision-making, the government and the industry should work to improve communication channels among government, industry, and other resource users.

DRR agrees.

4. The mining industry should work to improve the perception of the industry by the public.

DRR agrees.

How to get there

1. Some of the land currently withdrawn from mining activity because of conservation or other reasons could be reassessed for mineral potential.

Most of the land withdrawn for conservation purposes is in the territory's two national parks and thus beyond the jurisdiction of the Yukon government. It is the DRR's belief that a vast majority of people in Canada and the Yukon are opposed to opening national parks to exploration and development.

It is expected that through a rational land use planning process and land claim negotiations that additional lands valued for conservation purposes will be proposed for withdrawal. This process should definitely consider mineral potential as one of many land uses before final decisions on land withdrawals are made.

2. The Department of Indian and Northern Affairs and the Department of Fisheries should speed up their talks to settle on regulations which will allow placer mining on Yukon streams and rivers.

DRR agrees.

3. Government should streamline the application and approval process for permits and licences.

DRR agrees. We believe, however, that the reform of minerals legislation should allow for direct, simple environmental controls on the industry rather than the indirect and incomplete system now in place.

4. The government should proceed quickly to settle the land claims issue.

DRR agrees.

5. The Yukon government should negotiate increased funding from the federal government to increase the geological data base in the territory.

DRR agrees.

6. The Yukon government should lobby the federal government to expand eligibility rules for flow-through shares.

No comment.

7. The Yukon government should continue to support road construction.

DRR agrees, but believes changes are needed in the Regional Resource Roads Program to ensure direct environmental regulation. The consultant's recent review of the RRRP determined that there was no evidence to support the assertion that the proactive development of mineral development roads had a net economic benefit.

8. The government should consider ways to reduce transportation and energy costs for mining companies.

Any such support should be carefully analyzed to ensure there is a net economic benefit to the Yukon, not simply to a private firm's shareholders. Such cost-benefit assessments should also consider all the costs (e.g., environmental) of such subsidies and also examine the economic distribution effects of subsidies.

9. Provide ways to improve investor confidence in the industry.

No comment.

10. The Yukon/Canada Economic Development Agreements should be continued once the current ones expire.

DRR agrees.

11. Industry representatives should have the opportunity to meet quarterly with government officials and annually with government ministers to discuss mining issues.

DRR supports in principle, including environmental issues.

12. The Yukon government should encourage dialogue between resource users so conflicts and potential problems can be dealt with in a timely and fair manner.

The National Task Force on Environment and Economy has recommended a Round Table on Environment and Economy. DRR strongly agrees and will propose such a Round Table to Cabinet in the near future (jointly with Economic Development).

3.14 CULTURAL INDUSTRIES

What we need

1. Recognize culture as an economically important activity.

DRR supports.

2. Provide government assistance in the development of cultural industries.

DRR agrees.

3. Provide marketing assistance to the industry.

DRR supports.

4. Treat aboriginal culture separately in recognition of the unique possibilities in this area and enhance opportunities for development according to the desires and needs of the Indian community.

DRR supports.

5. Encourage improved communication between different levels of government and business to assist in further development of cultural industries.

DRR supports.

How to get there

1. Government, in consultation with the public, should develop policies which enhance the economic significance of the cultural community.

DRR supports.

2. Take further advantage of the prime tourist season and local demand for cultural industry products by diversifying and offering more activities in the summer.

DRR supports.

3. Develop marketing support for various Yukon products.

DRR supports.

4. Government should help the industry, where feasible, to form co-ops and to initiate other cooperative efforts.

No comment.

5. Evaluate the feasibility of a summer arts school along the lines of the Banff Centre, which would provide a focal point for culture and provide training to local and visiting artists.

No comment.

6. In cooperation with the Indian community, evaluate the feasibility of a school of Indian art.

No comment.

7. In cooperation with Yukon Indians, begin a program to document Indian history, language and customs. The government should make this a priority to make sure the knowledge held by old people is not lost.

DRR supports.

8. Urge municipal governments to alter bylaws so that craft production and other non-intrusive business activities can be done at home.

No comment.

9. Urge businesses to provide space for artists at reduced rates in exchange for special breaks on zoning bylaws.

No comment.

10. The Yukon Government should lobby the Government of Canada to provide Yukonns with a fairer share of federal culture funds and to improve accessibility to existing cultural programs.

DRR agrees.

3.15 VOLUNTEERISM AND HOUSEWORK

What we need

1. Provide training opportunities to ensure volunteer organizations are as effective as they can be.

DRR supports.

2. Ensure experience gained in volunteer and homemaking activities is given full recognition in hiring for paid employment.

DRR supports.

3. Encourage the development of flexible working arrangements.

DRR supports.

4. Provide support and educational services to families.

DRR supports.

How to get there

1. Open government training courses to volunteer groups when space is available.

DRR supports on the basis suggested.

2. Consider seconding government employees to volunteer agencies for training purposes.

DRR questions the practicality of this recommendation given the workload of government employees.

3. Create a "volunteer action centre" to provide information to volunteers about volunteer and training opportunities.

No comment.

4. Ensure that relevant volunteer and homemaking experiences are recognized within the wage economy.

DRR agrees.

5. Government staff involved in the hiring process should be trained to obtain information about applicant's volunteer and other experience.

DRR agrees.

6. The Yukon Government should encourage other employers to recognize the value of "non-wage" skills in employment.

DRR agrees.

7. Encourage flexible working arrangements such as job-sharing, flexible work hours and completing work at home.

DRR agrees.

8. Include an educational campaign to improve the perception and availability of part-time work.

DRR agrees.

9. Offer workshops on starting small home businesses.

No comment.

10. Amend the Matrimonial Property Act to include private pension benefits as a family asset for the purposes of divorce settlement.

DRR agrees.

11. Facilitate the development of a full range of childcare options, so that family members can more fully participate in all aspects of the economy.

No comment.

12. The federal and territorial governments should establish a task force to identify and help solve parenting problems.

No comment.

3.16 SUBSISTENCE

What we need

1. Develop a proper understanding of the subsistence economy and harvest.

An EDA/CYI study on subsistence is underway and the DRR is involved in this. It is expected it will take years to complete a detailed description of the subsistence economy and harvest.

2. Encourage the development of flexible work arrangements to integrate subsistence and wage activities.

DRR supports.

3. Ensure that experience gained through subsistence activity is given full recognition in wage employment.

DRR acknowledges the need to improve staff understanding and use of traditional knowledge and efforts will be made to address this need.

How to get there

1. Increase the use of flexible work arrangements to accommodate participation in both subsistence and wage activities.

DRR supports.

2. Ensure that experience gained in subsistence living is fully recognized for wage employment.

DRR supports.

3. YTG should encourage other employers to recognize the value of subsistence skills in employment.

DRR supports.

3.17 COMMERCIAL USE OF WILDLIFE (Hunting, Trapping, Guiding)

What we need

1. Sustain wildlife populations within a wilderness setting.

DRR agrees. The investigation of a mechanism to protect wildlife and wildlife habitat is part of the Habitat Canada Project, land claim negotiations and the development and implementation of a parks policy.

2. Capitalize on the unique and high quality use of the resource.

DRR agrees.

3. Carefully study the feasibility of new commercial ventures, and then begin such operations on a pilot or incremental basis before agreeing to full-scale development.

DRR agrees. The development of a Game Ranching Policy is an example of such an approach.

How to get there

1. Provide training programs for big game and wilderness guides.

A feasibility study on a guiding program is expected to get underway shortly under the auspices of Yukon College.

2. Continue to market the wilderness experience in cooperation with the industry.

DRR agrees, but it believes this cooperative venture should involve wilderness recreation ventures and other non-consumptive uses, as well as outfitting.

3. Provide security of tenure for concessions.

New terms for concessions, such as a contractual arrangement, are now being considered.

4. Increase the availability of range lands.

Range lands are now managed under the new Grazing Policy.

5. Enhance the wildlife resource by manipulating habitat.

Several pilot studies have been completed on the best way to accomplish this.

6. Continue to fight against the anti-trapping lobby.

DRR is continuing its fight against the anti-trapping lobby.

7. Increase the use of trapping concessions.

DRR supports this recommendation.

8. Investigate compensation in cases of land-use conflict.

The development of a new compensation policy is now underway.

9. Research the impact of fur farming on the trapping industry.

DRR supports this recommendation.

10. Develop the local market for lower-valued furs.

DRR supports this recommendation, but believes this is fundamentally an undertaking for the private sector.

11. Continue trapper education and expand its focus.

DRR is continuing trapper education and its efforts to expand its focus.

12. Provide specialized training opportunities for those involved in wilderness guiding.

DRR agrees and recognizes the need for training opportunities for those involved in wilderness guiding experiences (i.e., outfitting, wilderness recreation ventures, river rafting, and other non-consumptive uses)(see Number 1).

13. The government and industry should continue to promote wilderness guiding.

DRR agrees.

14. Provide better access to and public education about our wilderness and wildlife resources.

DRR agrees and is currently involved in revamping its information/education program to enhance public education about the Yukon's wilderness and wildlife resources.

15. Investigate, in conjunction with the industry, whether wilderness guides should be licenced.

DRR supports such an investigation.

16. Provide researchers and scientists with a list of locally available suppliers, guides, transportation companies and other services when they apply for research permits.

DRR agrees.

17. Train local people to assist visiting researchers.

DRR agrees.

18. Provide the infrastructure related to the scientific use of wildlife.

DRR agrees.

19. Promote the development of an "umbrella organization" for secondary processing of wildlife.

DRR believes the private sector is better suited to undertake this initiative.

20. Investigate the development of local tanning facilities.

DRR supports, however, it should be noted that at least one local tannery is now in business.

21. Provide training in the production and management of cottage crafts, marketing and raw materials processing.

This is seen as a joint responsibility of Education, Economic Development, the Business Development Office and DRR (e.g., trapper workshops).

22. Develop government policy and remove legal barriers to secondary processing.

DRR agrees.

23. Improve marketing for secondary processing.

DRR agrees.

24. Limit support to fur farming.

A policy is now being developed on fur farming.

25. Government should support test situations for the captive breeding of non-furbearing species.

This recommendation will be assessed.

3.18 FISHING

What we need

1. The Yukon government must assume responsibility for the freshwater fishery and ensure that sufficient money is provided to adequately manage the resource.

DRR believes the devolution of the freshwater fishery to the Government of the Yukon is high priority goal. Recent efforts to obtain this responsibility have stalled because of the federal government's refusal to provide sufficient resources to adequately manage the resource.

2. Clearly the Yukon government should study our fisheries to ensure the long term viability of this sector.

Requests for a fisheries study have now been tendered. A report will be available by April 1, 1988.

3. The Yukon government should, therefore, consult with users, including Yukon's Indian peoples, and develop a comprehensive management plan.

DRR agrees, but it believes devolution is a necessary part of developing a comprehensive management plan.

4. The Yukon government should support public awareness and education programs about the fishing industry.

DRR agrees, but its information/education budget focuses on areas that it is directly responsible for. This is an area that may be investigated in conjunction with the Department of Tourism.

5. The government should encourage the development of new fish products.

This is the responsibility of the Department of Economic Development; private sector initiative is also needed.

6. The government should consider further improving access to our fishery.

DRR agrees. Some work will be done in this sector, together with the Department of Tourism, through trail development.

How to get there

1. Make the devolution of fisheries a top priority in talks with the federal government.

The devolution of fisheries currently has the highest priority in discussions with the federal government.

2. Assess the strengths and weaknesses of existing policies and regulations affecting the fishing industry.

Such an assessment is being done as part of the devolution process and the preparation of a Yukon Conservation Strategy.

3. Inventory current fish stocks in the territory.

DRR agrees, but has neither funds nor mandate for such an inventory. This will be taken up with the DFO.

4. Undertake a public awareness program.

DRR agrees, but the department's budget for the information/education focusses on wildlife, parks, etc., as these are areas for which it is directly responsible (see Number 4 on page 83). A fisheries publication is in production.

5. More effectively promote fishing.

DRR agrees, but it has only a limited mandate to undertake this activity. A fisheries publication is in production.

6. Expand fishery enhancement programs.

DRR agrees, but it has no mandate to undertake this activity.

7. Conduct product and marketing studies to determine which species are commercially viable.

DRR agrees. This is one aspect of a fishery study currently tendered.

8. Improve access to fishing locations.

DRR agrees. This is under consideration with the Department of Tourism.

9. Increase employment and training opportunities in the industry.

DRR agrees, but it has no mandate to undertake this activity.

Note: We are already overfishing some species and there may be no way to expand the industry in these species.

3.19 FORESTRY

What we need

1. Ensure that the maximum income and productivity is derived from forestry.

This is a largely private sector responsibility.

2. Legislation, policy and regulation are required to enable the sound development of the forestry industry.

Legislation, regulations and policies to enable the sound management of the resource are being developed as part of the devolution discussions.

How to get there

1. Funding the acquisition of inventory for sawmill operators.

This is being addressed by Economic Development.

2. Improve productivity through new technology and increased specialization.

DRR agrees.

3. Our forest resources must be quickly and fully inventoried to enable further development to occur.

DRR agrees.

4. Develop a central facility which can be used for the kiln-drying, planing and marketing of wood products.

DRR agrees.

5. Use residue for space heating and steam generation.

DRR agrees.

6. Provide forest operators with training in business as well as forest management.

DRR agrees.

7. Increase research and development.

DRR agrees.

8. Develop comprehensive forestry management legislation, policy and regulation.

As mentioned above, legislation, regulations and policies to enable comprehensive forest management are being developed as part of the devolution process.

3.20 AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

What we need

1. Increase the supply of land available for agricultural uses.

The amount of land available for agriculture can be increased, though ideally this will involve a series of trade-offs with other land users. The DRR believes there is a need to promote the optimum variety of land uses. Land with agricultural potential will be protected, to the extent legislation permits, from permanent alienation for that purpose.

2. Develop local and export markets for Yukon produce.

DRR agrees.

3. Research and development should be undertaken to assist in growth and expansion of the agricultural industry.

DRR agrees. At present the highest priority of the Agricultural Branch is to provide extension services. Funding of research and development projects will be undertaken as budgets permit. It is expected there will be a slow increase in the funds available for research and development.

4. Infrastructure is needed for the various subsectors of the agricultural industry.

DRR agrees.

How to get there

1. Make more land available for agriculture through more land transfers, better land use planning and a more efficient land application process.

DRR agrees. As mentioned above, DRR believes the best situation would be one in which there is an optimum mix of land uses in the Yukon.

2. Increase public awareness of agriculture in Yukon through effective promotion.

DRR agrees. The department currently does promotional work about agriculture, but more funds are needed to increase this.

3. Promote increased research and development through a variety of measures.

DRR agrees. At present the highest priority of the Agricultural Branch is to provide extension services. Funding of research and development projects will be undertaken as budgets permit. It is expected there will be a slow increase in the funds available for research and development.

4. Develop infrastructure for the meat industry.

DRR supports this recommendation, but believes the private sector also has a responsibility in the development of this infrastructure.

5. Increase access to capital and financial services for Yukon producers.

This is a responsibility of the Business Development Office.

6. Pass legislation to allow game farming.

The development of a game ranching policy is now well-advanced. There is a question as to whether legislation is needed in this area.

7. Reduce high costs and address problems of availability of inputs and machinery through producer co-ops.

DRR supports in principle.

8. Provide a more continuous supply of crops through adequate storage facilities.

DRR supports.

9. Develop a cooperative marketing strategy.

DRR supports.

10. Develop grading standards for animal and plant products sold in the market.

The Agriculture Branch plans to undertake this activity together with Consumer and Corporate Affairs and Health Branch, although funds are needed for the purpose.

3.21 TOURISM

What we need

1. Develop growth markets and maintain existing markets.

DRR supports and notes that the wilderness experience that the Yukon offers has considerable growth potential.

2. Direct development and marketing efforts towards high return markets.

No comment.

3. New program initiatives should not restrict existing successful programs.

DRR supports.

4. Take a more targeted approach, which identifies the Yukon as a destination point for specific markets.

DRR supports.

5. Develop the industry in a way that benefits all Yukon communities.

DRR supports.

6. Develop the industry in a way that provides shoulder and off-shoulder markets.

DRR supports.

7. Encourage greater Indian participation in tourism.

DRR supports.

8. Increase professional training of those working within the industry.

DRR supports. The department has some involvement with the Department of Education with a guiding program proposed for Yukon College.

9. Continue the evaluation of tourism programs.

DRR supports.

How to get there

1. Implement a series of marketing directions.

DRR supports.

2. Provide training opportunities in the Tourism industry.

DRR supports.

3. Conduct research in the tourism industry.

No comment.

4. Develop projects to meet tourist needs.

The DRR has completed a review of opportunities for the non-consumptive use of wildlife and is identifying opportunities for new interpretative programs. The best sites for viewing wildlife will be proposed and be available to tourists as well as Yukoners.

3.22 TRADE AND SERVICES

Wholesale and Retail Trade

What we need

1. Encourage greater local support for wholesalers by fostering discussion and information exchange between wholesalers, retailers and manufacturers.

DRR agrees.

2. Support the industry and its development without encouraging unfair competition.

DRR agrees.

How to get there

1. Encourage the upgrading of shopping districts in consultation with the business community.

No comment.

2. Promote the role of the Business Development Office as an advisor to business on business issues.

DRR agrees.

3. Provide rural communities with basic banking facilities.

DRR supports.

4. Foster discussions between the Yukon's retailers, wholesalers, manufacturers and distributors.

DRR supports.

Household and Business Services

What we need

1. Further encouragement by government of this industry.

DRR supports.

How to get there

1. Examine the potential for more flexible government contracting guidelines.

DRR agrees.

2. Advertise tenders in local newspapers only.

DRR agrees this should be done whenever possible; however, there may be instances when suitable materials or services are not available in the Yukon.

3. Make information available about upcoming projects in advance.

DRR supports with the provision that it would not be possible to make information about projects public prior to the introduction of the budget in the Legislature as it would violate budget confidentiality.

4. Develop a business incentive policy for consulting services.

DRR supports. The department is preparing a consultants inventory which will provide it with a ready list of local consultants that can be used for projects.

5. Encourage southern-based consulting firms to work with local companies when undertaking Yukon Government projects.

DRR supports. This would already appear to be the trend with some outside firms hiring local residents to represent them in the Yukon.

6. Develop a local business hire policy for major projects receiving significant Yukon Government contributions.

DRR supports.

7. Work with the industry in examining its information needs.

DRR agrees.

8. Ensure that there is no deterioration in the existing air service to the south and examine the potential for developing better east/west air service.

DRR agrees.

4.0 SUMMARY

4.0 SUMMARY

In summary, and to amplify some of the specific responses listed above, we have three basic proposals to present as potential inclusions in the broad Yukon 2000 strategy. In each case, the proposals involve an augmentation of existing budgets and it is fully understood that there are limited resources available. Nevertheless, these ideas represent relatively modest suggestions, to respond to some of the "theme" components of "The Things That Matter," all incorporating many of the specific suggestions, section by section.

4.1 PROPOSAL 1: A RESTATEMENT OF THE COMMITMENT TO PREPARE A DETAILED YUKON CONSERVATION STRATEGY

The Yukon Conservation Strategy will eventually involve a detailed set of commitments for improved resource management in the Yukon. Guided by the Yukon 2000 principle and recommendations, these commitments will also propose a set of demonstration projects for government, industry and non-government groups (NGOs).

The drafting of the strategy involves a significant amount of public involvement and will evolve over several months. It would be premature, therefore, to announce specific components of a strategy at this time, however, a number of commitments could be included.

- (a) A restatement of the general commitment to produce a conservation strategy. This could include an announcement of a commitment to develop some of the specific new policies that are identified as necessary in the soon-to-be-completed technical background analysis of conservation planning needs.
- (b) A commitment to new structures for formal public involvement in the conservation strategy (and Yukon 2000 follow-up). A made in Yukon version of the proposed Round Table on Environment and Economy, proposed by the National Task Force on Environment and Economy, could be implemented now (as a subcommittee of the Yukon Economic Council?). This could eventually evolve into the principal NGO group involved in implementing and monitoring the detailed conservation strategy.
- (c) A restatement of the commitment to produce a local conservation strategy for Old Crow, and to indicate that it will serve as a model for other regions. It could be emphasized that the proposed "community conservation committee" (or whatever the official title is,

post land claims, possibly Local Resource Board) will be a fundamental tool to improve the exchange of and use of local knowledge, in resource management decision- making.

- (d) A commitment to gradually expand the resources allocated to, and the efficiency of the conservation education programs. This would also help fulfill a great many of the recommendations of the Select Committee on Renewable Resources.
- (e) A commitment to develop a new budget or reprofile existing budgets into a program of support for private sector involvement in conservation demonstration projects (this would logically remain a joint responsibility with the Department of Economic Development). A list of potential projects is being compiled.
- (f) To develop a new budget, or reprofile existing budgets into a program of government conservation demonstration projects (for whichever department proposed them).

4.2 PROPOSAL 2: A COMMITMENT TO EXPANDED REGIONAL SERVICES

Both the Yukon 2000 and Select Committee reviews have recommended that the department should expand its regional services. This would be difficult to do with existing personnel resources, however, the department is undergoing a personnel audit to determine if the existing mandate is being adequately fulfilled.

Pending the outcome of the audit, it is difficult to know if new personnel would be required or not. The following suggestions for expanded regional services therefore may require modest increases in person-year allocations and the O&M budget.

- (a) Expansion of the existing enforcement field offices in Dawson City and Watson Lake, to regional departmental offices, including regional management biologists.
- (b) Revitalization and enhancement of the auxiliary conservation officer program.
- (c) Expansion of the information/education program to involve a mobile "conservation-mobile" (summer campground use/winter rural schools use).
- (d) Establishment (as part of the conservation strategy implementation) of four community conservation committees or Local Resource Boards in Carcross, Carmacks, Faro and Mayo. These would undertake specific demonstration projects (rather than be involved in full scale conservation strategies like Old Crow).
- (e) Enhanced regional service offices eventually will be necessary as fisheries, forestry, and water resources are transferred from the federal government.

4.3 PROPOSAL 3: NATIVE INVOLVEMENT

The department does not have a good record of hiring or training native people, although this is improving with recent employment of the first native conservation officer, a native harvest management biologist and secretarial staff. A program for the use of traditional knowledge also never successfully developed, although some tentative steps have been taken.

Again, pending the outcome of the personnel audit, the following modest expansion of departmental activities could improve the involvement of native people in departmental activities.

- (a) Hiring of two additional native conservation officer trainees for Pelly Crossing and Ross River.
- (b) Hiring a policy analyst (trainee?) to function as a native affairs specialist, with a mandate to develop a cross-cultural education program for the department, to establish a band liaison program (for all branches, not just Fish and Wildlife), to support the land claims process (and devolution) and to develop a traditional knowledge program.
- (c) Early establishment of Local Resource Boards (as discussed in the land claims Agreement-in-Principle) or the community conservation committee (under the conservation strategy) with an appropriate racial and gender balance.
- (d) Development of a trial traditional knowledge project as part of the Old Crow local conservation strategy.

4.4 PROPOSAL 4: DEVELOP ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The present approach to the assessment of the environmental and socio-economic effects of various types and sizes of development projects is fractured and incomplete. The Yukon is the only jurisdiction in Canada without a systematic and comprehensive approval process, particularly for major projects. Cabinet already has endorsed the design of a Development Assessment Process, following several basic principles (e.g., regulatory simplicity and certainty, single window approaches, etc.). Work has been proceeding slowly, however, several initiatives are now converging to provide a renewed impetus to the project. These include a DIAND-sponsored review of its own processes; a FEARO-sponsored review of the federal assessment process; and a specific land claims subagreement on environmental assessment. These initiatives provide a major opportunity to develop lasting reforms to the existing situation.

- (a) The Yukon 2000 final report provides an idea vehicle to announce the work on a new Development Assessment Process. The regulatory reform theme in the various workshop reports (and in the Select Committee report) provide the basis for an announcement of a single, simplified assessment process.

To conclude, it is obvious that these summary proposals likely involve a modest expansion of the departmental O&M budget, and some new hiring. However, the focus is almost all on new services and functions in rural Yukon. These suggestions are offered for consideration in the spirit of those presented in "The Things That Matter."
