



October 29, 2007

RE: Proposed Resolution by Ray Wells

There is a general agreement that the current shortage of labour is the single greatest impediment to economic development in the Yukon. Without concentrated effort and singular focus by all stakeholders this problem will continue to curtail the potential of this territory going forward. Most, if not all jurisdictions in Canada have Ministries accountable for labour. There will be continued competition, particularly in Western and Northern Canada for labour, as the shortage is a Pan-Provincial/Territorial issue.

**Whereas**, the Yukon economy is strong and it's future looks bright.

**Whereas**, The Yukon has the lowest unemployment rate in Canada

**Whereas**, the labour shortage is the most significant impediment to short and long term economic growth in the territory.

**Whereas**, competition for labour in Western and Northern Canada is and will continue to be a significant factor to economic growth in the Yukon.

Be it resolved that:

- 1) The Yukon Government assign accountability to a single Ministry to work with stakeholders and have ultimate accountability to work towards resolving the short term labour shortage and to establish a long term sustainable strategy to ensure labour is not the constraining factor to the development of the Yukon economy.
- 2) The Yukon Government work with the Federal Government to increase the personal northern Tax Benefit established in the mid – 1980's to level the playing field with respect to attracting and retaining Yukon labour.