

Monthly Newsletter March 2018

Welcome New Members



Events Calendar

Chamber Events

YCC AGM

May 18
Dawson City

Opportunities North

October 23-24
Whitehorse

For information on events that the Yukon Chamber of Commerce is hosting please visit our website

www.yukonchamber.com

Other Events

[Dawson City International Gold Show](#)

May 17-19, 2018

Business Connects Conference
Whitehorse May 16-17, 2018

Low Carbon Economy Challenge Roadshow

Environment and Climate Change Canada recently launched the Low Carbon Economy Challenge, a major new federal funding program. The Challenge will provide more than \$500 million for projects that will generate clean growth and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. All provinces, territories, businesses, municipalities, not-for-profit organizations, and Indigenous communities and organizations who meet eligibility criteria will be able to apply.

Department officials and other federal departments with funding programs will be holding an information session in **Whitehorse** on **Tuesday, April 10** at the **Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre** from **9:00 am to 12:00 pm**. In addition to providing information about the Challenge, the sessions will include presentations from other government departments or programs, such as the Clean Growth Hub, Natural Resources Canada, and Infrastructure Canada.

Event details are yet to be confirmed. More information on the Low Carbon Economy Fund can be found at <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/climate-change/low-carbon-economy-fund/challenge.html>.

Please send any questions to the Low Carbon Economy Fund Secretariat at ec.lcef-fefec.ec@canada.ca

Federal Funding Programs – March 2018

We have updated our reference list of federal programs and funds available in the sectors of energy, natural resources, and infrastructure. The document is available on the Yukon Chamber of Commerce website <http://www.yukonchamber.com/resources-links.aspx>

Airport Survey: Management and Funding

The Airport Survey was developed by the members of the YCC Infrastructure and Transportation Committee. The survey originated from the need to better capture the views of the business community on the management and funding of Yukon airports. 127 respondents responded to the survey that was conducted between November 3rd and December 1st, 2017. Click [HERE](#) to view the full summary.

Yukon Community Economic Development Conference

The Government of Yukon invites you to participate in the 2018 Yukon Community Economic Development Conference “Accelerating Our Local Economies” on April 17-19, 2018 in Watson Lake.

Special keynote speakers: Mayor Josie Osborne of Tofino, British Columbia, and CEO Brian Smith of Rhiza Capital Inc.

The three-day event brings community and business leaders together to share their economic-development stories and share ideas. The program includes panel discussions, presentations, and group work designed to stimulate discussion around the various economic-development models. The program starts on Tuesday, April 17, with a stop for lunch and a tour of Teslin’s Biomass Facility. [Click here](#) to see the draft agenda.

For more information, visit the Government of Yukon conference website at www.economicdevelopment.gov.yk.ca/ycedc2018.html. Members interested must fill out a [registration form](#) before March 31, 2018.

Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP)

HACCP is an approach to food safety recognized and recommended by the Codex Alimentarius Commission, a joint intergovernmental body of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and World Health Organization (WHO). HACCP is used by most countries around the world. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) encourages and supports the development, implementation and maintenance of Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) systems in all federally-registered establishments. Since 2005, HACCP is mandatory in Canada for federally-registered meat and poultry establishments but is not mandatory for federally-registered dairy, processed product, egg, honey, maple, or hatchery establishments. Still, for businesses interested in exporting products, the designation is essential. More information on HACCP is available on the [CFIA website](#).



JOIN US!

At the Yukon Convention Centre

This years conference includes:

- Meet the Man in Motion - Rick Hansen
- A chance to meet Alberta's most inspirational person of the month - Elaine Lee
- Keynote luncheons to get updated on City and Yukon Government Initiatives
 - Networking opportunities
 - Entertainment
- Exhibitors at the Trade Show ready to show you what they have to offer you
 - Play the Exhibit Hall Passport Contest to win some amazing prizes
- Engaging and meaningful speakers talking on issues that are important to the Business Community

DON'T MISS THIS PHENOMENAL EVENT!

To register or to learn more:
Email: business@whitehorsechamber.ca
Phone: (867) 667-7545
www.whitehorsechamber.ca



Yukon



NVD

Proposed Safe Food for Canadians Regulations (SFCR)

In January 2017, the Safe Food for Canadians Regulations (SFCR) were pre-published in the Canada Gazette (Part I). The public consultation closed in April 2017. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) received over 1,700 submissions from Canadian consumers, national and international businesses, governments, and industry associations on the proposed new regulations. The full summary report – *What We Heard Report: The Proposed Safe Food for Canadians Regulations Consultation* is available on CFIA website [here](#). Here is an excerpt of the information you will find in the report.

Small business

- Small business owners welcomed the proposed measures to alleviate the administrative burden, including the three-year implementation timeline, exemption from maintaining a written preventive control plan (PCP) for certain micro and small businesses, and the recognition that smaller businesses would need additional support through guidance documents to help with compliance.
- However, larger firms and national associations called for mandatory licensing and maintenance of a written PCP to ensure food safety at every link in the supply chain, while smaller business owners felt the government could do more to support them.
- Many small business owners perceived the anticipated administrative, financial and compliance burden as significant.
- There were various suggestions for reducing the burden on small businesses including raising the exemption threshold for a written PCP or adoption of the United States' approach (e.g. offer modified requirements to businesses with either less than \$1M USD in total sales or \$500K USD in annual sales and sales over 50 percent to qualified users within 275 miles of their business). Interest was also expressed in having access to government funding to assist with the necessary investments to comply with the new requirements and to extend the licence renewal period (from the proposed period of two years) as an administrative and cost-saving measure.

Organic products

The current Organic Product Regulations were consolidated into the proposed Safe Food for Canadians Regulations (SFCR) and included a proposal to enhance the integrity of organic certification along with the entire organic supply chain.

- Stakeholders expressed concern about the proposed inclusion of slaughter, storage and conveyance facilities in the scope of organic activities that would be subject to mandatory certification requirements.
- Stakeholders perceived that a SFCR license was required for organic certification, but licensing is more related to food safety requirements and is separate from organic certification.

- Stakeholders requested that the mandatory percent organic content on certificates and the period of validity of organic certificates be removed.

Technical

- Respondents endorsed the consolidation of several food-related regulations into one, as it would significantly improve regulatory consistency, and reduce regulatory duplication and complexity. Additional suggestions included providing clarification of the regulatory text through interpretation and guidance documents.
- Several stakeholders requested that any label changes linked to the implementation of the proposed regulations be coordinated with Health Canada's impending nutrition labelling changes, to help mitigate the associated costs.
- With respect to animal welfare, more precise training protocols, and specific and stronger language were requested for the humane treatment of animals prior to, and during, slaughter.
- There was a mixed reaction to exempting transporters and storage facilities from licensing, as they were seen by many stakeholders as being integral and core elements of the supply chain. The exemption of foodservice operations prompted opposition by some and comparisons were made with retailers who would be required to prepare and keep traceability documents.

Implementation

- Several stakeholders recommended additional training for inspectors to ensure consistent interpretation and application of the proposed regulations, as well as industry advice and technical assistance from the CFIA in real time.
- Clarification was sought in various areas, including potential changes to the frequency and type of regulatory oversight, and how private certification schemes would fit with the proposed regulations.

Trade and Competitiveness

- Harmonizing regulatory requirements for domestic food businesses and importers to create a more level playing field was well received.
- There was also significant support for the recognition of foreign systems.
- There was a mixed reaction to the proposal that importers be able apply for an import licence if they have a fixed place of business in a country that has been recognized by CFIA as having a comparable food safety system. Concerns included increased inspection and investment costs. Stakeholders proposed allowing United States' non-resident importers to present a notarized document or affidavit to Canadian officials at the time of import into Canada. Another proposal was to allow CFIA-approved importers in foreign countries to be licensed to import food.
- There was also a mixed reception to the licensing exemption for personal use (e.g. products that will not be offered for sale directly to consumers and weigh up to

100 kg). Proponents on both sides referenced current domestic and international practices.

Coming Next

The CFIA is now preparing for the final publication of the regulations which is planned to appear in Canada Gazette (Part II) in spring 2018. The timing for the coming into force of the Act and Regulations will be announced when the Regulations are published.

Yukon First Nation Chamber of Commerce Acclaims New Board

MARCH 15, 2018

WHITEHORSE, YUKON

YUKON FIRST NATION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ACCLAIMS NEW BOARD

Yukon First Nation Chamber of Commerce held its 5th Annual General Meeting today in Whitehorse, Yukon. Members were provided with updates, a review of the financials, and a bylaw amendment, and participated in the Board of Director Elections.

Yukon First Nation Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce that Michelle Kolla has been acclaimed as President, Delmar Washington acclaimed as Vice President, Directors acclaimed, Nelson Lepine, Les Wilson, McGarry Selbee, and Ben Asquith. Congratulations to all!

Yukon First Nation Chamber of Commerce would also like to extend our warm-hearted wishes to Lynn Hutton outgoing President, Chris Milner and Geordan Clarke outgoing Directors who have made significant contributions to furthering the Chamber. We recognize their dedication, effort and vision for the betterment of not only First Nation business, but for all Yukon. "Mussi Cho".

For more information, please contact:

Albert Drapeau

Executive Director, YFNCC

albert@yfncc.ca

[867.667.7917](tel:867.667.7917)

The Bottom Line Conference

YCC's Employer Advisor, Mal Malloch attended a conference last week on improving mental health in Canadian workplaces. The Bottom Line Conference 2018 was organised by the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA). You can find out more at the conference website: <http://www.bottomlineconference.ca/>.

This year's edition marked the 15th anniversary of this national conference. The theme this time around was "Navigating the New Workplace: We All Have a Part". Mental health challenges in modern workplaces are taking an ever-increasing toll. The financial cost to employers can be considerable; the human suffering is a tragedy.

One highlight of the conference was a frank and honest talk about depression by Madame Justice Michele Hollins of the Court of Appeal in Alberta. Her speech was highly personal and led the audience from the pain of depression in the workplace, through diagnosis and treatment, and finally to healing and recovery. It was powerful indeed.

Another highlight was the keynote presentation by psychology professor, researcher and acknowledged expert in workplace behaviour, Dr. Linda Duxbury of Carleton University. Dr. Duxbury's research clearly demonstrates that many employers in Canada are talking about the need for better work-life balance. The absence of balance between a worker's home life and the demands of the workplace causes stress that can be a significant contributing factor to mental illness. The research also shows that while there is a lot of talk, little or no actual progress is being made in this crucial area.

Physician, author and columnist Dr. Dave Hepburn walked delegates through the workplace changes to come this year when cannabis becomes legal in Canada. There is much for employers to do to be ready for the changes.

Delegates learned about a website called Guarding Minds at Work and their Workplace Guide to Psychological Health and Safety. Guarding Minds at Work can be found here: <http://www.guardingmindsatwork.ca/>.

Another important topic was the National Standard of Canada for Psychological Health and Safety in the Workplace developed by the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC). The MHCC's site is at: <https://www.mentalhealthcommission.ca/English>.

If you would like to find out more, please don't hesitate to call Mal at 393-6061 or send him a note at advisor@yukonchamber.com.

Business Continuity

“Dealing with Disaster through Resilience”

On March 15, the Yukon Chamber of Commerce hosted a one-day conference entitled ‘Business Continuity Essentials: Dealing with Disaster Through Resilience’.

The chamber undertook this conference upon learning that 40% of the businesses in Fort McMurray have not reopened since the fires and in any given year 1 in 5 businesses experience an event that impedes their operation. Even more alarming is the statistic that the majority of businesses that experience a disastrous event fail within two years. Our objective for the conference was to provide small businesses, not-for-profits as well as municipal and First Nations governments with tools, resource, and contacts to begin to develop their own emergency-response and business-continuity planning.

Speakers focused on business-continuity principles, as well as areas of specific interest including employer obligations and best practices in terms of human resources and YWCHSB, appropriate Insurance coverage, telecom and IT backup options for small organizations, and the contingency plans of electrical utility providers in the event of emergencies.

Our keynote speaker was Brian Bettis, the regional Manager who headed up the TELUS command center in Fort McMurray during the fires. He made a very powerful and compelling presentation prompting significant questions from the attending delegates.

The event was rounded out by an “Awareness Area” comprising representatives from the private sector as well as territorial and not-for-profit organizations that deal with various aspects of emergency response to both local and international disasters.

This was an exciting and informative event with great delegate representation from not only the Yukon business community but a number of municipalities and First Nations organizations as well. The Chamber will be conducting a survey with delegates to measure interest in follow-up workshops focusing on specific aspects of business continuity. We will keep all of our members apprised of future events that may come out of this.

Yukon Tourism Development Strategy (YTDS)

How do I participate?

[Take the online survey](#) before March 31, 2018 and share your thoughts on how we can sustainably grow tourism in the territory.

[Attend a community event!](#) Visit the online schedule to find out where to join in. The YTDS project team looks forward to sharing more details about the community engagement schedule in the coming weeks.

Learn more on the [Yukon Tourism Development Strategy website](#).

What is this engagement about?

Together, the team wants to develop a made-in-Yukon strategy to sustainably grow tourism in the territory.

The Government of Yukon is committed to supporting a strong and growing tourism sector because we all benefit when the industry succeeds. The time is right to take tourism to the next level—to explore what is possible and decide together how we get there.

It all starts with you. It is important that everyone sees themselves in this new vision going forward. So share your thoughts. Get involved. The team wants to hear from you.

How will my input make a difference?

Your feedback will help the project team create a Yukon Tourism Development Strategy. This strategy will guide future action plans on key strategic priorities.

At the conclusion of each community engagement, they will report back on what they heard. These reports and responses to the survey will provide the foundation of the Yukon Tourism Development Strategy.

Once developed, the team will share a draft strategy with First Nations governments, Steering Committee members and the organizations they represent for review. After this review, they will post the document on the YTDS website for public comment. The Steering Committee will submit a recommended strategy to the Government of Yukon for final review and approval.

The YTDS team expects to release the final strategy later in the year.

Where can I find related information?

Visit the [Yukon Tourism Development Strategy website](#) to find out more.

Where can I find results?

The team will share results at each stage of the process on their website.

Give your feedback on the engagement process

Share your thoughts on the engagement process by sending an email to tourism@gov.yk.ca

Recruitment

Bilingual Recruitment

David Lapierre is the Economic Advisor for the Association franco-yukonnaise. Last February, David met with the Yukon Chamber of Commerce and presented the recruitment efforts and programs offered by the association in collaboration with other territorial and national partners. For more information on the following programs or if you need help with finding qualified workforce and navigating the recruiting process abroad, please contact David at 867 668-2663 (ext. 213) or dlapierre@afy.yk.ca

Destination Canada hosted fairs in France and Belgium in 2017. The Fair is presented by the [Embassy of Canada in France](#) with support from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada and in partnership with public agencies for employment and international mobility. Destination Canada gives employers access to a pool of workers with a wide variety of skills. These countries have a high level of education and training and their economies are diversified. The hospitality, culinary and food industry sectors have been identified as having particularly high potential for qualified and mobile applicants. Employers interested can participate in person at the fairs but the French Association is happy to represent Yukon employers and advertise at no cost any job opportunities, current or future, they may have. http://www.destination-canada-forum-emploi.ca/employeur_pourquoi.php?lang=en#pp



Mobilité francophone allows Canadian employers to hire francophone and bilingual workers from abroad to work outside of Quebec in managerial, professional and technical/skilled trades occupations without having to obtain a Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA), irrespective of age or nationality. <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/work-canada/hire-foreign-worker/french-speaking-bilingual-workers-outside-quebec.html>

Vivre aux Territoires is the result of a partnership between the French Association, Conseil de Développement Économique des Territoires du Nord-Ouest and Carrefour Nunavut that aim to recruit bilingual workers in the territories. The groups hosted multiple job fairs, mainly in Ontario, Québec and New Brunswick in the last year. As for Destination Canada, the French Association can advertise at no cost any job opportunities current or future on behalf of employers.

These initiatives will most likely be renewed next fiscal year. Financial support from the federal and territorial governments is to be confirmed later this spring.

Other Recruitment Programs and Resources

STEP is a program offered by the Yukon Department of Education. The program is quite popular so make sure to apply as soon as the call for applications is released in local newspapers. Applications are usually accepted early October and the call closes early November. Yukon employers can apply for wage subsidies to hire Yukon post-secondary students for summer jobs in career-related fields of study. The subsidy is \$7.20 per hour, for 450 to 600 hours of employment. Eligible jobs or employment opportunities must:

- Relate to a student's field of study, demonstrate career-related training, and benefit the student's future employability
- Guarantee at least 450 hours of work
- Provide at least 37.5 hours of work per week
- Start no earlier than May 1 and end no later than September 1
- Pay according to the STEP pay scale.

For more information, contact Terilee Huff at 667-5927 or terilee.huff@gov.yk.ca. You can also visit the website at <http://www.education.gov.yk.ca/step-employer-info.html>

Canada Summer Jobs program provides wage subsidies to employers, including small businesses with 50 or fewer full-time employees, to create summer job opportunities for young people aged 15 to 30 years who are full-time students intending to return to their studies in the next school year. The call for applications is usually released at the beginning of January and closes a month later (early- or mid-February). For more information, visit their website at <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding/canada-summer-jobs.html>.

Mobilize is a national employment program designed to connect Canadian employers with the semi-skilled labour they need. Work placements are available for summer and winter deployments in the tourism, hospitality or restaurant sectors. The program has been very popular with workers between the ages of 18 and 30 years old but welcomes anyone of legal working age that meets the following requirements: Age 18 or older, must be legally able to work in Canada, have high-school diploma, supply two references and clean background check. Mobilize responsibilities are: hiring and HR administration, recruitment, training, employee oversight, payroll management, benefits, incentives, and insurance. Participating business must provide seasonal placements per role, cover housing costs for workers, and have ethical work standards. More information is available on their website at <https://www.mobilizejobs.ca>

Yukon BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Putting you in touch with Yukon businesses

<http://www.directoryyukon.com>

On the Yukon Chamber website click the Invest Yukon icon on the lower left-hand side of the main page to access the Yukon Business Directory.

To find a Yukon business, simply enter a keyword, business name, category, or location, using the search fields.

To register your business, click "Register Your Business" in the top right-hand corner.

For more information, or to edit an existing business listing, please contact the Yukon Chamber of Commerce 867-667-2000 or by email office@yukonchamber.com



Membership Recognition



The Yukon Chamber of Commerce would like to recognise

The City of Whitehorse

as they have been a member since 1996.



Book&Meet

Yukon Chamber members get discounted boardroom booking rates when booking a meeting room at the Waterfront Station Business Centre. For pricing and room photos visit the website www.wsbcyukon.ca or contact office@yukonchamber.com



YCC Staff. From left to right Julie Dufresne, Mal Malloch, Rachel Morgan, Peter Turner

Yukon Chamber of Commerce
Suite 220, 2237 – 2nd Ave
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 0K7
office@yukonchamber.com
867.667.2000
www.yukonchamber.com

Thank you to all our members for your ongoing support for the efforts of the Yukon Chamber. It's your memberships that allow us to do the work we do for the Yukon business community.