

Public Meeting #1 2026-27 Minutes

June 2, 2026 (11:00am – 2:45pm)

Present

Council: Al Foster (Chair); Neil Salvin (Member); Carl Sidney (Member).

Staff: Tim Sellars (Director); Michelle Christensen (Administrator); Julia Benn (Finance Manager); Sam Skinner (Senior Land Use Planner), Micheal Jim (Land Relationship Planner).

Guests: Kirsten Reid (DRPC), Georgianna Low (CTFN Elder).

Note: an In-Camera session proceeded the public meeting from 9:00 – 11:00am.

1. Review Agenda

Motion to approve agenda.

Moved by Neil Salvin, seconded by Carl Sidney; *motion passed.*

2. Review Minutes/Actions from March 31, 2026 meeting

Motion to approve March 31, 2026 minutes.

Moved by Carl Sidney, seconded by Neil Salvin; *motion passed.*

Action item review:

Tim to request a May meeting with Minister Laking and to develop a written follow-up from February meeting.

- Minister Laking has agreed to meet every 6 months. Staff to make a request in early July for an end-of-August meeting. Written follow-up from February was done.

Tim to look into whether CAFN regional planning area would include the game sanctuary.

- Done. CAFN regional planning would include the sanctuary.

Tim to follow up with the Parties about the Northern Tutchone FNs deadline for the expression of interest in the NND Region.

- The door is still open for Selkirk and LSCFN to join NND's planning process even though the deadline has passed, as the GTOR is still being negotiated. Carl updated that he was unable to get on the agenda for the Northern Tutchone May Gathering.

Seek federal allocation for conformity checks under YESAA, a constitutional responsibility.

- To be addressed under item #6, Finance.

3. Director's Report

- Dawson Region
 - The Final Recommended Plan has been released. Sam has been working to get material online in an interactive way. Council needs to start thinking about making a post-plan approval-stage TOR.
- NND Region
 - Upcoming meeting June 16 with YG and FNNND.

Action: Staff to get an update from FNNND on the status of the public inquiry into the Eagle Mine disaster.

- Communications
 - Sam and Al recently made a presentation on regional planning to a law class from Calgary – it was a good opportunity for prospective lawyers to learn about land claims.
- Peel Watershed Plan Implementation
 - Sam completed a conformity check on behalf of YLUPC for the Michelle Creek project: it doesn't conform to the plan. PPIC have also done a conformity check: the Parties have previously come to consensus on conformity checks, but were not able to this time.
 - Council discussed class 1 vs. class 3 projects.
 - Rusty Springs has applied for a Class 3 Quartz land use permit – project is located in the southwest corner of the Peel Watershed.

4. Chair Appointment

Motion to appoint Neil Salvin as YLUPC Chair for a 6-month term, beginning June 15, 2026.

Motion by: Carl Sidney; seconded by: Al Foster; *motion passed*.

Neil accepted the nomination and appointment.

5. Meeting Debriefings

TK Circle

- A pause was put on TK Circle meetings and work, due to funding challenges.
- Chief Franklin Patterson will stay on the Circle as Northern Tutchone rep.
- Critical components are being posted on the website.
- TK definition has been completed – Carl: TK is experience on the land.
- Upcoming work:
 - Prepare for next land gathering – bringing shared understanding to action.
 - Outline for a Land Relationship Plan.
 - UFA Spirit and Intent – need a common understanding.
 - Al suggested that TK Circle look at Dawson Plan for appropriate TK inclusion.
- Updates from members:
 - Hammond talked about Kaska working on caribou personhood and IPCA.
 - Colleen talked about CTFN's Mother's Law.
- Stories (Neil)
 - Some stories are not to be changed, others need to change to reflect the situation.

Action: Staff to request Kirsten's Plan presentation for the TK Circle as well as for the Circle's feedback on the Dawson Plan.

LUNCH

5. Meeting Debriefings:

UFA Boards and Committee Working Group

- Group has evolved to work at getting common training for new board members as well as having common policies that all groups can use.
- Training Policy Committee got three-year funding for pilot project.
- Oversight committee should be careful with how they approach CIRNAC for funding.
- Hoping for a final steering committee gathering in 2027.

Action: Staff to contact Lauren with the UFA Boards and Committee Working Group to make a presentation at YLUPC's upcoming land relationship gathering.

6. Finance

2025-2026 Fiscal Year

The 2024-2025 fiscal year ended with a deficit of \$15,447. The 2025-2026 fiscal year ended with an estimated surplus of \$7,322, resulting in a current cumulative deficit of approximately \$8,124. These figures are subject to change pending the audit and year-end adjustments. The 2025-2026 audit will be conducted during the first week of July by Crowe MacKay. The draft audit report and final approvals are expected by the end of July.

2025-2026 Variances by Budget Category

- Revenue
 - Earned \$4022 in GIC interest.
- Administration
 - 8.5% (-\$10,830) under budget.
 - 8% rent increase effective November 2025 – effective for 3 years.
 - Rent cost-sharing with DRPC (\$13,347). There will be no cost-sharing this fiscal. Subletting could be explored.
- Council Expenses
 - 11.8% (+\$4,763) over budget.
 - Increased special assignments and travel honoraria.
- Personnel
 - 4.5% (+\$23,879) over budget.
 - Manager of Finance wage increase following salary review.
 - Senior Planner return to work earlier than budgeted.
 - Personnel costs not re-billed to DRPC.
 - Increased health benefits coverage.
- Planning
 - 12.2% (-\$4,818) under budget.
 - Promotional items not purchased.
 - Includes new website by BizonT.
- Special Projects
 - 19.2% (-\$16,294) under budget.

- Majority of tech support costs being rebilled to DRPC.
- Additional notes:
 - TK Circle expenses are now separated into two categories: 'honoraria and travel' and 'annual gathering'.
- External Funding Received for the Annual Gathering:
 - \$8,000 (YESAB – honoraria and travel)
 - \$5,000 (CYFN – catering)
 - \$1,047 (registration fees)
 - Total: \$14,047
 - The registration fee for the gathering was not worth the effort.
 - Carl suggested we can still ask for donations from other boards and councils.
 - TPC may contribute funding to YLUPC's next gathering.
 - Carl suggested having the gathering in Carcross this fall.

Action: Staff to get TK Circle hats and stickers made, for next TK Circle meeting if possible.

Action: Tim and Julia to revise budget for next Council meeting.

Funding Adequacy

- Funding is available for the Dawson region while the Plan is going through the approval process. Unsure about funding after the Plan is approved.
- Ongoing commission funding discussions are happening in parallel to the 10-year UFA B&C negotiations. They do not have any new information on those negotiations.
- CIRNAC does not decide on activities and amounts approved for Council or commissions.
- YG has funded FNs in the past for land use planning.

7. Gatherings Summary

Michelle presented highlights of the Gatherings' summary.

- 2021-2025 gatherings focused on improving regional planning under the UFA by better embracing TK and served as a reminder of how to uphold the spirit and intent of the agreements.
- Attendees included reps from YT, Canada and FN govts, YLUPC, TK Circle, CYFN, UFA boards, FN elders, researchers and previous planning commission chairs. 50-70 people attended each one except for the elders gathering in Whitehorse which was focused only for YLUPC.
- Approach: all used a mix of traditional and western methods, including ceremony, storytelling, traditional activities, panels, breakout groups and discussions etc.
- Across all the gatherings recurring issues have been identified:
 - The shift from land use to land relationship.
 - Strong, consistent, transparent relationships.
 - Recommendations from UFA boards and councils are not often implemented.
 - Legislation needs to be reformed and brought into alignment with the UFA.

- Traditional Knowledge needs the same respect and weight as western science.
- Cumulative effects and rapid change need to be addressed.
- We need to finish LUP in the Yukon – UFA boards and committees lack capacity and funding.
- The structural issues - implementation, legislation, political engagement, capacity and funding and strengthening co-management remain the biggest barriers to progress.
- Council could consider writing different versions of the summary for different audiences.
- Next gathering: topic could be spirit and intent of the Final Agreements.

8. Policy Updates

- Last fall, Council approved wage increases based on inflation rates as published by the Bureau of Statistics. The HR Policy has been updated accordingly.

9. Media and Correspondence

- Council discussed Minister Laking's correspondence re: meeting scheduling; funding concerns; advancing land use planning; Lands and Mineral Acts; plan implementation; the Dawson Plan, NY Plan review and the NND planning process.
- Still waiting for response from VGFN on North Yukon Plan review.
- Council congratulated FNNND and Selkirk FN on their recent elections.
- Council discussed Carleton University's study on the Yukon's mining approval process and caribou in Kaska territory.

11. Upcoming Meetings

- Next working session – July 6. Focus: gathering planning and budget.
- Next public meeting – end of July/early August. Focus: audit approval.
- TK Circle meeting - Mike and Carl to plan for some time early summer.
- CYFN GA – June 23-25 in Duke Meadows. Tim, Carl (Kluane Research Station), Neil (camping) and Mike to attend.
- Southern Lakes Caribou meeting June 10-11.

Action: Tim to ask if there's a trade show at Southern Lakes Caribou meeting, June 10-11.

- Still waiting to hear back from LSCFN on YLUPC attendance at their GA this weekend.
- Carcross RRC land gathering June 6 – Al plans to attend as Mt. Lorne representative.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45.




Approval of June 2, 2026 meeting minutes at July 6, 2026 Council meeting.


Neil Savin (Jul 9, 2026 10:57:17 PDT)

YLUPC Chair

July 9, 2026

Date



YLUPC Director

July 9, 2026

Date