



October 10, 2025

Yukon Agricultural Association
#203-302 Steele Street
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C5

Dear Hanna,

RE: Advancing Agriculture in Yukon: Long Term Goals

Thank you for your letter *Advancing Agriculture in Yukon: Long Term Goals*, and the questions you asked in it.

The Yukon Party strongly supports increasing local food production, and recognizes the many benefits that come from the Yukon Grown sector of our economy, as well as value-added food products made locally.

If elected, a Yukon Party government will work closely with the Yukon Agricultural Association and producers to grow this sector of the economy, including ensuring that government buys more locally produced food, and provides predictable increased funding specifically for local food production.

The Yukon Party's plan includes moving to a model which will provide certainty to Yukon food producers under multi-year contracts, through which government will commit to purchasing a minimum amount of product from individual farms and producers at an agreed price. We envision this providing local producers of food including beef, pork, eggs, vegetables, dairy products, poultry, flour, and oatmeal the certainty they need to invest in increasing food production.

This is a plan you can take to the bank – it is also intended to help producers attract financing from private lenders and investors, and grow your operations further.

A Yukon Party government will work with the Yukon Agricultural Association, Growers of Organic Food Yukon, and farmers to undertake a minor review of the 2020 Agriculture Policy, to determine what specific changes are needed. We will also update the Local Food Strategy, and food procurement by government.



Your Questions and Our Answers:

1. If elected, will you allocate annual targeted funds to departments specific towards the purchase of locally produced food?

A Yukon Party government will provide dedicated funding to departments for local food purchasing, which will not be able to be used for purchasing non-local products. This will include funding for increased local food purchasing by our continuing care facilities, highway camps, and other government facilities.

2. If elected, will you establish an action plan to reduce the barriers in place preventing the procurement of local food to government departments?

Yes. We will work with the Yukon Agriculture Association and producers to set clear priorities, and an action plan with measurable commitments.

3. If elected, how will your government ensure the online Yukon food procurement platform is used consistently and effectively across departments?

While we support improving the online food procurement platform, we believe that this approach alone will not effectively ensure that government departments purchase Yukon Grown food and food products. Our plan includes moving to a model which will provide certainty to Yukon food producers under multi-year contracts, through which government will commit to purchasing a minimum amount of product from individual farms and producers at an agreed price.

4. If elected, will your party commit to setting a public sector local food procurement target of at least 5% by the end of 2025, increasing to 15% by 2027?

We will endeavor to increase local food purchasing significantly by the end of the 2025/26 fiscal year, and we will include money in Budget 2026/27 specifically earmarked for Yukon Grown food purchasing, which cannot be reallocated to non-local food products.

The amount of money spent on food by government can be calculated several different ways, and for that reason, we feel that the percentage-based target approach may not be the best one to use. If elected, we will work with you to set tangible, specific targets based on the amount of food to be purchased – for example, minimum annual orders of local beef, vegetables, eggs, milk, poultry, and flour.



Enacting Right to Repair Legislation

2025 Election Ask: Commit to amending the Yukon's Consumers Protection Act, RSY 2002, c.40, to require that a manufacturer, at the request of a consumer or a repair business, provide to that consumer or business, within a reasonable time, the most recent version of the repair manual, replacement parts, software and other tools that the manufacturer uses for, or provides to others for the purposes of diagnosing, maintaining and/or repairing its products. The manufacturer must provide a refund or replacement of the product if they do not comply.

The manufacturer would be able to charge the consumer or repair business a "fair cost" for this. Furthermore, the manufacturer can require a person to sign a confidentiality agreement if a repair manual discloses a trade secret of the manufacturer. Ideally, the legislation would apply to all industries, but in particular farm equipment, consumer

Questions:

- 1. If elected, will your party commit to amending Yukon's Consumers Protection Act to include the Right to Repair?**
- 2. If elected, how will you ensure that this legislation includes key sectors like agriculture, where repair access is critical?**

During the last several years, we have had the pleasure of meeting with the Yukon Agricultural Association and individual farmers and producers on many occasions. This issue, however, is one we haven't heard much about. While we support the concept in principle, we have questions about whether it has been successful in other jurisdictions, and how the territorial government would enforce it if a manufacturer's warranty specified that disputes had to be settled in the court of a province, or in a U.S. Court. We note your indication that it has been adopted by Quebec, and question why it has not been adopted by any of the western provinces.

Advancing the 2020 Yukon Agriculture Policy

2025 Election Ask: Commit to the one Government approach to achieving the targets set out by actively engaging across departments on their roles within the Yukon Agriculture Policy, and tasking each department with set goals to reach by 2030.



Questions:

1. If elected, what actions will your government take to ensure all departments actively fulfill their roles within the 2020 Yukon Agriculture Policy?

A Yukon Party government will provide clear direction to departments about their roles, obligations, and our expectations related to the support of the Yukon's agriculture sector.

We have had heard a number of concerns from farmers about some parts of the 2020 Yukon Agriculture Policy – for example, the cap on spot land applications and the unrealistic notion of making 25% of new agricultural land released through leases instead of titled lots, and the overly-prescriptive requirement that one lot resulting from an agriculture lot being subdivided has to be exactly the minimum lot size – instead of simply requiring that both lots be at least as large as the minimum lot size, but can be larger.

A Yukon Party government will work with the Yukon Agricultural Association, Growers of Organic Food Yukon, and farmers to undertake a minor review of the 2020 Agriculture Policy, to determine what specific changes are needed.

2. If elected, will you commit to setting public timelines and departmental accountability measures to achieve the policy's seven targets by 2030?

We look forward to working the Yukon Agricultural Association to develop and implement accountability measures to meet six of the seven targets. We would like to hear from the agriculture sector whether the requirement that all environmental farm plans should be reviewed every five years is helpful, or if it results in an undue burden on farmers.

3. If elected, will you establish a concrete plan to update outdated agricultural regulations and policies?

Yes. We will review outdated regulations, including environmental health policies which in some cases are needlessly adding to the cost of farmers and processors operating.

4. If elected, how will you ensure meaningful agricultural sector involvement in the development of future policies and regulations that directly or indirectly impact the industry?

We will work closely with farmers, including ensuring that key Ministers and the Premier sit down with the Yukon Agricultural Association and farmers on an ongoing basis.



Protecting the Right to Farm

2025 Election Ask: Commit to creating a Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act that shields farmers from nuisance complaints and unreasonable restrictions on normal farm practices on designated agricultural land. The Act should include a dispute resolution process and clearly protect agricultural development, aligning Yukon with other Canadian jurisdictions.

Questions:

1. If elected, will your party commit to introducing a Yukon Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act during your term in office?

We would work with the Yukon's agricultural and agri-business community to develop or amend legislation that is needed to enable you to succeed and grow in the territory.

2. If elected, how will you ensure that such legislation provides clear protections from nuisance lawsuits for farmers using accepted practices on agricultural land?

We look forward to hearing your thoughts and suggestions for how best to achieve this goal.

3. If elected, will your government establish a fair and transparent dispute resolution mechanism for agricultural land use conflicts as part of Right to Farm legislation?

We look forward to hearing your thoughts and suggestions for how best to achieve this goal.

Thank you for your letter, and questions. If elected, I will also ensure that the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources reaches out to you soon after being sworn in to meet with your association and discuss your priorities.

Sincerely,

Currie Dixon
Leader of the Yukon Party