



# TIME FOR ACCOUNTABILITY

Four years ago, the PSAC asked all three political parties how they would act on 12 issues if they formed government. The YUKON PARTY won the election with a majority of the seats in the Legislature

## HOW DID THE YUKON PARTY GOVERNMENT DO ON THESE 12 ISSUES?

<p><b>QUESTION #1: WOMEN'S DIRECTORATE</b> If elected, would your government reinstate the Women's Directorate to its previous stand alone position with adequate funding and personnel to deliver its services, and if yes, when could it be expected to occur.</p>	<p>YP's Response: Yes, we will reinstate the Women's Directorate to its previous stand alone position. It will be done as soon as we can logistically do so.</p>	<p>RECORD: Technically, the Women's Directorate now reports to the Minister. The Director does not have the same status as a Deputy Minister, which was the case when the Directorate was created by the NDP.</p>	<p><b>MET</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>FAILED</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>QUESTION # 2: DEVOLUTION</b> If elected, would your government provide the Public Service Commission with a mandate to conclude an agreement with the PSAC for devolving Northern Affairs Program Employees? Would you be prepared to include in the mandate direction to reach an equitable agreement on classification review, salary protection, seasonal indeterminate status and parental leave benefits?</p>	<p>YP's Response: We say we will ensure fair treatment for federal employees and Yukon government employees who are affected by the Northern Affairs Program Devolution Transfer Agreement.</p>	<p>RECORD: Emergency firefighters, a majority of which are members of Yukon First Nations, continue to be paid less than the minimum standards prescribed by the Labour Standards Act. This is in contravention of the Tri-Partite agreement with First Nations. Where is the fairness?</p>	<p><b>MET</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>FAILED</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>QUESTION #3: RENEWAL - LIQUOR STORE MOVE AND LOTTERIES COMMISSION</b> The "Renewal" exercise included changes which were undertaken without any meaningful consultation. Notably, the move of the Whitehorse Liquor Store to Quartz Road and the dismantling of the Yukon Lotteries Commission. If elected, will your government undertake a review of "Renewal"? What criteria will you review be based on? Are you prepared to re-establish the Lottery Commission's independence and maintain a stand alone Liquor Store?</p>	<p>YP's Response: A press release entitled "Dealing with Government Renewal" should answer this question.</p>	<p>RECORD: The Whitehorse Liquor Store relocation was cancelled.</p> <p>The YUKON LOTTERIES COMMISSION lost its independent status under the Liberal government. The YUKON PARTY was asked to reinstate that body's autonomy so that its decisions could continue to be free of political influence. The YUKON PARTY failed to do so.</p>	<p><b>MET</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>FAILED</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MET</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>FAILED</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>QUESTION #4: RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS</b> If elected, what will your government do to address the problems that exist in the Yukon for recruiting and retaining Healthcare Professionals?</p>	<p>YP's Response: We will be expanding education and training program in areas of particular relevance to the North, such as tourism, resource management and construction north of 60, health care professionals, care providers and teachers.</p>	<p>RECORD: Over the course of the Yukon Party's tenure in office, the crisis of Healthcare Professionals has deepened. Vast numbers of Yukoners do not have access to a family physician. No strategy is even contemplated to address the problem of recruitment and retention.</p>	<p><b>MET</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>FAILED</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>QUESTION #5</b> Government employees are at risk should they "whistle blow" on improprieties they become aware of in the exercise of their employment duties. If elected, would your government introduce whistle blowing legislation? When would it be introduced? What process would you implement to develop legislation?</p>	<p>YP's Response: We say we will implement effective "whistleblower legislation" which protects the anonymity of public employees who report abuse within the government and provides a clear process for a full and fair investigation.</p>	<p>RECORD: The Yukon Party government did not introduce "Whistleblower Legislation", none was adopted. No consultation took place with the organizations that represent territorial government employees.</p>	<p><b>MET</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>FAILED</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>QUESTION #6: MANAGEMENT EXCLUSIONS</b> Subsequent to the implementation of "Renewal", government unilaterally introduced a new process to include employees in the Management Group. This process replaced a tri-partite agreement between the government, the PSAC and the Yukon Public Service Staff Relations Board. Since the April 1, 2002 change, more management exclusions have occurred than the cumulative total for the previous five years. If elected, will your government be prepared to reinstate the tri-partite agreement and undertake a review of management in government?</p>	<p>YP's Response: We will be prepared to examine the tri-party agreement and work with the parties involved to restore it.</p>	<p>RECORD: The Liberal government USURPED the process of declaring certain public service positions excluded from the union. The Yukon Party committed to restore the legitimate process. Once in power, they DID A COMPLETE ABOUT FACE!</p>	<p><b>MET</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>FAILED</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>QUESTION #7: YUKON HIRE</b> The Yukon Hire Policy was amended by removing the three month waiting period and adding an exemption for Yukon students. Some of the changes can have a net adverse impact on Yukoners. If elected will your government undertake a review of the changes, and what actions are you prepared to take to give first consideration to "Yukoners"?</p>	<p>YP's Response: We can unequivocally say "yes" to giving first consideration to Yukoners.</p>	<p>RECORD: The Yukon Party failed to reinstate the three month residency requirement to qualify for Yukon Hire priority or enforce a policy giving priority on jobs to Yukon residents.</p>	<p><b>MET</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>FAILED</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>QUESTION #8: RENEWAL STRESS ON EMPLOYEES</b> The "Renewal" of government has left the majority of employees feeling insecure in their employment relationship. A comprehensive survey identified a strong disbelief that this exercise was undertaken to improve service. If elected what steps are you prepared to take to ease government employees' anxieties and stresses related to "Renewal"? What is your view on this?</p>	<p>YP's Response: We are prepared to address government employees concerns regarding "Renewal".</p>	<p>RECORD: The Yukon Party government did act on some of its commitments to not cause more "needless anxiety" (see YP news release, October 30, 2002). On the other hand, they decided that "needed anxiety" and stress was warranted when they embarked on the WITCH HUNT referred to as the "computer use investigation", the consequences of which are still felt today and for years to come. To this day, Cabinet has yet to adopt a clear "Computer Use Policy", leaving everyone in government and the public dealing with government employees vulnerable to arbitrary treatment.</p>	<p><b>MET</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>FAILED</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>QUESTION #9: Community Development Fund</b> The Community Development Fund has been discontinued. Do you support this decision or are you prepared to reinstate the fund? What level of funding should community development have?</p>	<p>YP's Response: We say we will reinstate the Community Development Fund (CDF) to its original level while introducing a system of accountability, ensuring CDF does not sponsor unfair business competition and give preference to projects that generate revenue.</p>	<p>RECORD: The Liberal Government scrapped the Community Development Fund created by the NDP before them. The Yukon Party did reinstate the CDF with somewhat lower funding than previously allocated.</p>	<p><b>MET</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>FAILED</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>QUESTION #10: Free Collective Bargaining</b> The PSAC/YEU has experienced, over the last couple of decades, a broad range of attitudes toward collective bargaining from different governments both federal and territorial. To provide some level of certainty for the future we pose the following questions. What is your definition of free collective bargaining and how will you be sure that your views are implemented by the Public Service Commission.</p>	<p>YP's Response: We intend to work with our employees in a fair, cordial and respectful manner and believe in free collective bargaining.</p>	<p>RECORD: The Yukon Party reached agreements with all bargaining units under YTG's jurisdiction. They did not resort to special legislation to impose their will.</p> <p>But in light of the "Computer Use Investigation", their commitment to deal with their employees in a "fair, cordial and respectful manner" rings quite hollow.</p>	<p><b>MET</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>FAILED</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MET</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>FAILED</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>QUESTION #11:</b> Funding levels for Yukon College have not increased to meet normal inflation and economic increases - coupled with recent decisions to change the Community Training Fund results in community campus cuts and potential Ayamdigut campus cuts. If your party forms the next government what steps will you take to rectify this situation?</p>	<p>YP's Response: We state our intentions regarding education in our policy manual under the title "Achieving a Better Quality of Life".</p>	<p>RECORD: The Yukon Party government reversed the closures of community campus announced by the Liberals before them and increased the core funding for Yukon College.</p>	<p><b>MET</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>FAILED</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>QUESTION #12:</b> Childcare Workers in the Yukon are poorly paid in relation to the responsibilities they have for children. Would your government increase the wages of these workers through direct subsidies that must be passed on by their Employer?</p>	<p>YP's response: Under "Caring for Children" in our policy manual, we state our extensive plans for improving children's care in the Yukon. This is a very high priority for our government.</p>	<p>RECORD: After four years of Yukon Party government, the problem remains whole, if not worse. Childcare workers remain the lowest paid professionals in Yukon society. Respect for children means respect for the people who nurture them, educate them and keep them healthy and safe.</p>	<p><b>MET</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>FAILED</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>

**On October 10, 2006, it will be your turn to hold the Yukon Party accountable.  
GO OUT AND VOTE!**