



LEGISLATIVE RETURN

SUBMITTED BY: Pauline Frost, Minister responsible for Yukon Housing Corporation

1. On Thursday, November 9, 2017 from Wade Istchenko, MLA Kluane Lake Region

asked the following question during the Oral Question Period at page(s) 1595 to 1599 of *Hansard*

submitted the following written question – WQ No. _____

gave notice of the following motion for the production of papers – MPP No. _____

RE: _____

OR

2. This legislative return relates to a matter outstanding from discussion related to:


_____ on _____ at page(s) _____ of *Hansard*.

The response is as follows:

Speaking about previous government commitment to build a senior’s facility in Haines Junction. Worried about consultation being with senior’s organizations instead of individual seniors. Noted that a written response from the premier committed the YHC to meeting with CAFN and the Village of Haines Junction, but this response did not include the St. Elias Seniors Group.
Would like to know

- (1) “when did the consultations [with the CAFN and Village of Haines Junction] take place and with whom did YHC meet?” and
- (2) “Can the minister commit to actually meeting with the St. Elias seniors and the elders within the community of Haines Junction, sometime before this strategic plan and the capital plan for the Yukon government are put forward — the five-year capital plan?”

Nov 21, 2017
Date


Signature

Question from Istchenko November 9, 2017: Speaking about previous government commitment to build a senior's facility in Haines Junction. Worried about consultation being with senior's organizations instead of individual seniors. Noted that a written response from the premier committed the YHC to meeting with CAFN and the Village of Haines Junction, but this response did not include the St. Elias Seniors Group.

Would like to know

- (1) *"when did the consultations [with the CAFN and Village of Haines Junction] take place and with whom did YHC meet?"* and
- (2) *"Can the minister commit to actually meeting with the St. Elias seniors and the elders within the community of Haines Junction, sometime before this strategic plan and the capital plan for the Yukon government are put forward — the five-year capital plan?"*

Istchenko would like this response to be a legislative return.

Response for November 9, 2017:

Yukon Housing Corporation currently operates 285 units that are designated for seniors' social housing that are located across seven Yukon communities including: Haines Junction, Mayo, Dawson City, Faro, Watson Lake, Teslin and Whitehorse.

Yukon Housing Corporation is making investments in seniors' social housing through retrofit programs and will continue to explore new approaches to social housing through collaboration with the private sector on models that promote economic growth in communities.

We will continue to work with our clients to improve the client service experience.

In Haines Junction:

Yukon Housing Corporation has one community housing manager on-site in the community who is also supported by the Haines Junction Community Housing Advisory Committee. The committee ensures that the voice of community members are considered in finding local housing solutions. Recently, the Committee members were asked to provide input into Yukon Housing Corporations' Strategic Planning – we look forward to capturing the community voices in our next plan.

Yukon Housing Corporation community engagement has included meeting with Campaign & Aishihik First Nation during the summer to discuss the First Nation Housing Partnership Program.

Haines Junction has a nine-unit seniors' building: Six of the units are seniors' social rent-geared-to-income and three units are fixed-rent for seniors. These fixed-rent units were a unique model at the time and are expected to return to a standard RGI model as they become vacant in the future.

As November 16, 2017 there is only one senior on the waitlist in Haines Junction.

The current design of the building and size constraints of the site plan make an expansion of the current building or a second separately constructed building not feasible at this location.

In 2015, an internal stairway was constructed to allow tenants to have a safe alternate way between floors rather than using the elevator.

Some maintenance work will be undertaken on the building this year including repairs to retaining walls on the property.

Response on May 26, 2017 to question from Ischenko:

Residents of Haines Junction benefit from home care provided through the Department of Health and Social Services (HSS). In addition, Champagne & Aishihik First Nation also provides a Home and Community Care program working in partnership with HSS's home care providers.

In order to establish our future housing priorities and make informed decisions, we are undertaking information collection, analysis and engagement to help determine the needs of each community in Yukon. Pressures specifically related to seniors' social housing include: seniors housing complexes that are in disrepair, demographic demand, or communities without any purpose-built seniors' housing, including Carmacks, Carcross and Ross River.

No funds have been earmarked in the 2017/18 budget to build additional seniors' social housing in Haines Junction. However, I am committed to travelling to Haines Junction in the near future to listen to residents' housing concerns and insights to help inform future policy and decision making.