

LEGISLATIVE RETURN

SUBMITTED BY: Pauline Frost, Minister of Environment



1. On March 26, 2019, Kate White, Member for Takhini-Kopper King
- asked the following question during the Oral Question Period at page(s) _____ 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:
- Bill No. 210-Committee of the Whole (Environment)
- On March 26, 2019 at page(s) ⁴⁰⁸⁹⁻⁴⁰⁹¹~~4078-4085~~ of Hansard

The response is as follows:

1. Yukon government campgrounds are monitored by various staff members over the season. These include, Park Officers and Rangers, Park Attendants and Maintenance staff, Park Interpreters and, in some cases, hiring third-party security services.

On average, a Park Officer may cover between 25 to 350 kilometres in a shift. All employees are trained and equipped for the work they do to ensure for their health and safety. Safe Work Practices have been established for all tasks and constant communication with employees is a top priority. This includes working in pairs or more when required and use of two-way communication tools, such as radios and satellite communication devices.
2. We do not have statistics on visits per campground. However, we do provide general trend information online that is informed by those statistics over time. Online, we use red, yellow and green bar graphs that indicate peak times for each campground, with descriptions of what that means for campers planning their trips. In addition, we have done significant work on a multi-year awareness campaign that informs Yukoners about our top “undiscovered” campgrounds, which offer great experiences, a little further afield, with the benefit of more regular availability than campgrounds closer to Whitehorse.
3. The departments of Energy, Mines and Resources and Environment are actively working together on the ATAC road in collaboration with First Nations. Together with the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun, we have agreed to a new approach on government to government planning for the Beaver River portion of the Stewart River watershed, and to working with ATAC Resources Ltd to develop a road access management plan. The Beaver River Land Use Planning Committee, which includes a representative from the Department of Environment, started its work in summer of 2018 and aims to complete the planning process by March 2020.

The new resource road regulation will provide the Government of Yukon with the required land management tools and clarify the roles and responsibilities for government and industry over the lifespan of resource roads. The Department of Environment has been providing expert information and advice on issues regarding impacts to environment values from increased access, in particular, increased hunter harvest. The agreement and planning are aimed at mitigating impacts associated with future road construction and use, as well as promoting environmental stewardship of land and resources.

April 2, 2019
Date


Signature