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## SENIOR PLANNER'S REPORT

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**TO:** Dawson Regional Planning Commission

**FROM:** Tim Van Hinte

**SUBJECT:** Report for January 19, 2021 – March 17, 2021

**DATE:** March 17, 2021

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The following is a summary of key activities completed by staff between January 2021 and March 2021.

### 1. Finance and Administration

**Final Recommended Work Plan and Budget 2021-2022:** Staff revised and submitted the Commission's final recommended work plan and budget to YLUPC, YG and TH following the last Commission meeting in January. This submission triggers the preparation of the Commission's financial agreement with YG for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

**Senior Land Use Planner Position:** As announced at the January Commission meeting, Tim Van Hinte will be leaving the Senior Land Use Planner position with the Commission at the end of March 2021. The Commission Chair and YLUPC recently concluded the competition for this position and the team is pleased to announce that Tim Sellars will become the new Senior Land Use Planner starting April 1, 2021.

Tim Sellars has lived and worked in the Yukon for over 30 years. His first job in Yukon was working as a mapping technician for the Yukon Land Use Planning Commission, supporting the Greater Kluane Land Use Planning process. Since that time, Tim has worked in land use planning, integrated resource management, policy, and communications for various departments within the Government of Yukon.

**Land Use Planner Position:** Katie Fraser will be leaving the Land Use Planner position with the Commission in April 2021. The posting for this position will begin as soon as possible. The Commission and staff want to sincerely thank Katie for all her hard work and dedication, and the team wishes her well in her future endeavors!

### 2. Public Engagement and Communications

**Public Updates and Communication:** Staff continue to communicate with the public and planning partners through email, Facebook and the Commission's website. The most recent public update was posted and sent by email on January 25, 2021.

**Draft Plan Engagement Strategy:** With the assistance of John Glynn-Morris (Independent Contractor), staff have begun preparing a public engagement strategy for

the Draft Plan. A summary of the preliminary strategy will be presented at the Commission's March meeting to receive feedback from the Commission and the public.

**Meetings with Plan Partners** – Staff attended the following key meetings:

- **Cumulative Effects Working Group** – Staff attended the working group meetings on January 20, 2021 and March 8, 2021. The group includes staff from YG, TH, YLUPC and the Commission and its work focuses on developing tools to assist the Commission in making recommendations in the plan related to cumulative effects management.
- **Alaska to Alberta Railway** – Staff attended an introductory meeting on February 2, 2021 with a consultant representing the Alaska to Alberta Railway Development Corporation to learn more about the proposed project.
- **YESAB** – Staff participated in a YESAB-led meeting on cumulative effects management on January 26, 2021.

### **3. Draft Plan Development:**

The Commission and staff continue to build the Draft Plan in anticipation of a spring 2021 submission to TH and YG (the Parties) and the public. The Commission provided the Parties with the first part of the Draft Plan, consisting of the draft land use designation system and conservation areas for consideration in the planning region, in February 2021 to assist with the Parties' discussions on potential interim land withdrawals.

The Commission and staff are now focusing their attention on drafting and reviewing the remaining sections of the Draft Plan, including draft land management directions and recommendations for the planning region. A full Draft Plan submission will be delivered to the Parties and the public in spring 2021, at which point the Commission will conduct a comprehensive public engagement period.

### **4. Other Activities**

**TWG Meetings** – The Technical Working Group (TWG) met on March 3, 2021. The key topic discussed at the meeting was land management options and strategies in the Yukon River Landscape Management Unit (LMU).

**SLC Meetings** – The Senior Land Use Planner and Land Use Planner attended the Senior Liaison Committee (SLC) meeting on February 10, 2021 (via video conference).