

**Yukon Wood Products Association**

**Date:** July 9, 2021

**Attendees:**

YWPA

- Ron Johnson (President)
- Myles Thorp (Executive Director)
- Louise Blanchard (Director)

DRPC:

- Tim Sellars
- Nicole Percival
- Charlotte Luscombe

**Notes:**

- YWPA perspective is related to whether the Draft Plan ensures the needs of Yukon consumers are met re. access to wood products in the Territory
- Regarding Land Stewardship Trust, note that the Forest Sector Trust Fund was set up with YG and the Federal Govt 2 years ago
  - Could be something that works alongside Land Stewardship Trust
  - Could be particularly relevant for Placer Mining
- Forestry industry would prefer not to have additional regulation around wetlands as the industry is small and heavily regulated already
- Feel as though forestry industry is pushed to the sidelines in favour of mining industry; forestry decision making will come after mineral strategy but this leaves smaller operators in limbo
- Harder and harder to access lumber – not allowed to go into new areas until a harvest plan is decided, and then industry won't be allowed in to access allowable cuts until everything in the regional plan is finalised
- Commission should understand how timber resource and fuel wood licensing works; they run concurrently. Can't adjust according to need, stuck in the middle of permitting
- There needs to be a timber supply analysis completed
- The moratorium on staking and OIC – does this apply to Forestry? If so, that could severely inhibit the industry
- Wood is essential for reducing reliance on fossil fuels – it is a renewable resource
- There needs to be mechanisms in the Plan that can quickly respond to changes - 5 year reviews aren't quick enough, and small businesses just won't survive
- Yukoners need to make a living **on** the land and Plans don't seem to allow this. Need to be able to live off the land sustainably
- Recommend that an economist look at the opportunity costs
- Canada as a whole wants the Yukon to be a park, the North is disproportionately affected by conservation plans by federal government. If we restrict the land base, are we in that case saying we should limit the population?