



October 27th YCS/CPAWS Conservation Conversation Comments

Debbie Nagano
Chair,
Dawson Regional Land Use Planning Commission
Via email

Dear Debbie and Commission,

Please accept these comments which are transcribed from notes taken during a public event around conservation issues about the Dawson Regional Land Use Plan, held in Dawson on the evening of October 27th.

20 people attended, of which 8 had not previously attended any Commission events.

The comments arose from a question we asked of the attendees:

“Imagine it is 2050, about 30 years from now. You are looking back on the Dawson Land Use Plan. What is your hopeful or fearful future for the Dawson Region?”

- Hope to see Caribou, Moose, Salmon, Lynx still living here.
- Hope to see Salmon return in numbers to the Klondike River.
- Hope that the rivers are all healthy
- Hope to see the 40 Mile Caribou herd restored.
- Hope that we move from maintaining wildlife to thriving wildlife.
- Hope that Moose do not follow in the footsteps of Mammoths and go extinct.
- Hope for increased biodiversity
- Hope that the Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in are happy with how the plan worked out.
- Hope that the Plan leads to a community that is well engaged with and supportive of the environment.
- Fear of climate related declines in wildlife but hope we can help wildlife adapt to change, by giving them room to move
- Hope for better care of the land and better clean-up of mine sites.
- Hope we think on a large scale
- Hope we maintain connectivity
- BE BOLD!
- Fear that we will look back and wonder why we chose the short-term benefits of a mine over a caribou herd.
- Fear that there won’t be enough Plan feedback supporting conservation
- Hope to see a First Nation that is leading conservation
- Hope that we choose nature over business
- Hope that the new mining act is sustainable and that any new mines are done well.
- Hope that we find a way to restore the wetlands damaged by mining.



- Hope that things don't get any worse.
- We have seen the 40 Mile Caribou return, hope to see the salmon return too.
- Hope to see better, world class placer reclamation standards.
- Hope for more protected areas and fewer roads
- BE BOLD!
- Hopes that mines are held accountable (not like the Wolverine mine)
- Hope that in 30 years we are not regretful
- Hope that we understand that the treaties are for all Yukoners, not just for First Nations.
- Hope that we live up to the vision of the Elders who worked so hard for the treaties.
- Hope that the voice of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in is heard in the way that is contemplated in the treaty.
- Hope that mining reclamation gets so good that you can farm on old mines
- Fear that we shall continue to lose the environment
- Hope that we protect more than 3.8% of the land
- Hope youth will be engaged. They need support, because sometimes they don't know how to say what they want to say.
- Dawson is a place that works- its people fit together and has a healthy culture. Hope that the spirit that led to the Final Agreements persists- that optimism continues and that will be blown away by what we have accomplished.
- Hope for a region that is socially healthy, has healthy wildlife and healthy salmon and that the community still feels healthy
- Hope that the Community and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in build and maintain ongoing connection to the land.
- Hope that the Plan is held up as an example for the future.

Thank you to the Commission Staff who attended and helped to make the event work, we very much hope these words are helpful in the months ahead as you deliberate on a Recommended Plan.

Regards,

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