



Special Industry Meeting with Minister Dendys - Minutes – Wednesday, June 3, 2020 (2:30pm – 3:30pm)

Note: numbers in brackets correspond with when each person starts speaking in the recording

Meeting Minutes

92 people on the zoom call
Slido #89426

(1:40) – Welcome:

TIA Yukon Executive Director, Blake Rogers

(4:09) – Introduction of Speakers:

TIA Yukon Chair, Neil Hartling

(9:35) – Remarks from Yukon Minister of Tourism & Culture, Hon. Jeanie Dendys

- Here is the link to BC stats that Minister Dendys just referenced:
<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/data>

(25:46) – Q&A:

1. Janet Sanders: could you please clarify "We are instead telling travellers both here in the Yukon and from outside the territory #WaitForSomeday and #ExploreYukonLater

(Ministers Dendys responded, **26:09**, Valerie Royle Responded **27:37**)

2. **(29:34)** Rahel: Is there a control mechanisms at the BC/YT border to ensure that only BC residents enter the Yukon, not travellers from AB or other jurisdictions transiting BC?

(Ministers Dendys responded **29:51**)

3. **(31:08)** Andy Pettitt: With the BC/Yukon opening up, if a client from Europe was to fly into BC and spend two weeks in the province, will they be permitted to travel into the Yukon?

Minister Dendys **31:27**

Valerie Royle **32:07**

Minister Dendys, **32:48**

4. **(34:39)** Rosie: Can we get any clarity of the opening of the of the Yukon borders to international travellers?

(Valerie Royle responded **35:07**)

5. **(37:38)** Andy: What is the Government of Yukon doing to support local tourism businesses bridge the financial stress over the winter into the 2021 season?

Minister Dendys **36:52**

Valerie Royle **39:42**

Minister Dendys **40:16**

Valerie Royle **40:55**

(42:09) CanNor, Sierra van der Meer

6. **(44:26)** Todd Collins: When will Canadians that are not residents of territory but are private property owners be allowed to cross the Yukon border to have access to their property?

(Minister Dendys responded **44:35**)

7. **(45:43)** Joost van der Putten: Will wilderness tour operators need to have a health and safety plan/protocol in place before being allowed to operate?

Minister Dendys **45:59**

Valerie Royle **48:26**

Neil Hartling **49:19 seconds**

Minister Dendys **51:15**

8. **(53:31)** June Hampton: Has consideration been given to opening NWT border at same time to allow Dempster Highway travel for visitors from BC?

(Minister Dendys responded, **53:47**)

9. **(55:24)** Noby Yamamoto: Our company provides sightseeing tours and transportation. I am wondering if the Yukon government has set any rules about passenger ratio in the vehicle.

Minister Dendys **55:37**
Valerie Royle **56:30**
Minister Dendys **56:52**

<https://yukon.ca/en/guidelines-taxi-and-ride-sharing-during-covid-19>

10. **(58:09)** Linda Leon: Can the territory provide covid-19 testing for all visitors?

Minister Dendys **58:25**
Valerie Royle **59:20**
Minister Dendys **59:54**

Minister Dendys last remarks, **1:01:39**

11. **(1:05:29)** Janet Sanders: Are we watching Alberta and Sask closely to see if we could possibly expand the bubble to these provinces

(Already touched on, skipped)

12. **(1:05:54)** Lisa Christainsen: Have ideas been developed re: how to communicate YT municipalities/FNs' wishes re: welcoming YT/BC visitors? Online, at the border, through other means, etc.

(Valerie Royle responded **1:06:13**)

13. **(1:07:27)** Hardy Ruf: We just had to pay our liability/property insurance. From the fixed cost program we receive 3/12. How are we supposed to pay the rest if we have no season?

(Sierra van der Meer responded **1:08:17**)

14. **(1:09:17)** Cathy: When will Carcross Visitor Information Center open?

(Valerie Royle responded, **1:07:25**)

15. **(1:10:06)** Boreale: Can we have a understanding of the term/policies, as it relates to the Yukon, of trusted travel groups/travel cohorts'. This is utilized in other jurisdictions.

(Valerie Royle responded, **1:10:25**)

16. **(1:11:17)** Andy Pettitt: No business wants to have a finger pointed at them if an outbreak occurred from a tourist using their services. With businesses following guidelines, there are still chances of travelers spreading COVID-19 in Yukon. What will YG do to reduce potential backlash to local businesses if this was to happen?

(Valerie Royle responded, **1:11:51**)

17. (**1:13:40**) Brian Stethem: Will northern NWT become a bubble

(Valerie Royle responded **1:13:51**)

18. (**1:14:48**) Timothy Bell: Hi Val, just to be clear are the Visitor Centers going to open this year?

(Valerie Royle responded **1:14:53**)

19. (**1:16:19**) Noby Yamamoto: Where are the areas/places/facilities those are not cleaned up? For example, outhouses on the highway, outhouses in the campground, etc.

(Valerie Royle responded **1:16:47**)

20. (**1:18:45**) Brian Stethem: What about private planes from other Canadian jurisdictions flying into Dawson

(Valerie Royle responded **1:18:54**)

Neil Hartling's last remarks **1:19:34**

3:45pm – Adjourn

Zoom side bar chat

Valerie Royle : Here is the link to BC stats that Minister Dendys just refernced:
(<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/data>)

Timothy Bell : Is there no opportunity for these lodge owners from outside Yukon to self isolate for 14 days?

Marcelle : People from other provinces can come in the Yukon for working in other field than tourism if they isolate for 14 days, why the lodge owners cannot come?

Valerie Royle : Hi Tim, there are two steps to entry: (1) you have to meet the criteria in the Civil Emergency Measure Act Order and (2) then you have to self-isolate. Tourism property owners/ businesses currently do not meet #1, so the issue of self-isolation is

not considered. We are currently working with individual cases to get an exception from Minister Streicker.

Valerie Royle : operational plan template: <https://yukon.ca/en/covid-19-operational-plan-template-businesses-and-services>

Valerie Royle : <https://wcb.yk.ca/COVID-19.aspx>

Kalin Pallett : The WTAY working group is meeting tomorrow morning. If you have questions, concerns, thoughts or ideas, don't hesitate to reach out: kalin@eddyline.ca and Sandy can be found at info@wtay.com

Valerie Royle: taxi guidelines: <https://yukon.ca/en/guidelines-taxi-and-ride-sharing-during-covid-19>

Valerie Royle : I'll follow up with HPW. Right now, they will be greeted and asked to leave. (until July 1st, if they are BC residents)