

1. The demand for health care in Yukon continues to increase. What would your party do to improve illness prevention through active living? How would it mitigate the negative health effects of a car-oriented culture, such as obesity, traffic collisions, and respiratory ailments?

The Yukon NDP has been supportive of an approach to healthcare that doesn't limit itself to responding to symptoms but actually invests more in preventative care. Included in this is active living in the schools and in our communities and encouraging cycling as a transportation option. This can be done through enhanced education in collaboration with community partners but also in ensuring that cyclists are protected on the roads. Everyone should feel as though their safety is not at risk to get from home to work, to school, to visiting friends and family or just going for a leisurely ride.

2. With nearly half of Yukon's greenhouse gas emissions coming from onroad transportation sources, how would your party reduce vehicle-related GHG emissions?

The Yukon NDP is committed to reducing emissions from industry, home heating, and transportation. We can do that by supporting infrastructure that makes hybrid and electric vehicles an option within Whitehorse and in the communities. We are committed to expanding the number of publically accessible plug in stations for electric vehicles. We will also develop a clean energy vehicle policy that will offer rebates for the purchase of hybrid and electric vehicles.

3. What would your party do to address road safety for all users across all modes of transportation, considering various ages and abilities?

The Yukon NDP believes that the most important role of government on transportation issues is to ensure safety. The City of Whitehorse is a strong partner in prioritizing safety in all their roadwork. This means prioritizing highway and road renovations that improve safety and take into account the safety of more than just cars and trucks. We must put more focus on bicycle safety, pedestrian safety and that means consultation with community associations like we did with Hillcrest and Valleyview on Alaska Highway upgrades. We would consult with organizations like the Urban Cycling Coalition as well to ensure cyclists are always involved in any changes to any roads.

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4. The Alaska and Klondike Highways pass directly through or adjacent to the majority of Yukon communities. How would you improve the relationship between these highways and the adjacent communities?

The Yukon NDP has spent the last five years listening to folks in the communities who often raise concerns about poor signage along the Alaska and Klondike Highways. There are missed opportunities for economic stimulus that would help those communities.

5. What would your party do to promote and enhance cycling as an accessible transportation option for all Yukoners?

The first key to growing the cycling community is to partner with organizations like the Whitehorse Urban Cycling Coalition and ensure they are involved in decision-making with regard to urban transportation. We have excellent trails throughout the Yukon that are well used by cyclists and we will continue to support the expansion of those trail systems. Where we need to do more is on making sure cyclists always feel safe on the roads. By working with the City of Whitehorse and cyclists themselves we can ensure that a portion of the road construction budget is allocated to improving cyclist safety. We can do that through legislated safe distances for motor vehicles from cyclists, protected lanes, improved intersection design and enforcement of existing traffic safety laws that are meant to protect cyclists.