From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Newkirk, Jacob; Harris, Dylan
Subject:	Fw: Mining Corps and change of free space zoning
Date:	Monday, July 6, 2026 11:14:33 AM

Fyi

Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse

From: Bethany Paquette [redacted]
Sent: Monday, 06 July 2026 10:55:52
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Mining Corps and change of free space zoning

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

I am emailing as I am unable to make the CoW council meeting tomorrow, but have been a resident of Mary lake for 6 years now. This email is in regards to Gladiator Metals and their upcoming request increasing and changing their permit zone for further mineral exploration in the Mary Lake area.

I absolutely love this area and the amazing trail system it has. I frequently use the trails year round for biking, skiing, quading, snowmobiling, paddling the lake and getting the dogs out into a quiet space. There is also amazing berry picking around the trails. I even have friends that have done multi day trips on these trails connecting from Annie Lake all the way to Mt. Sima.

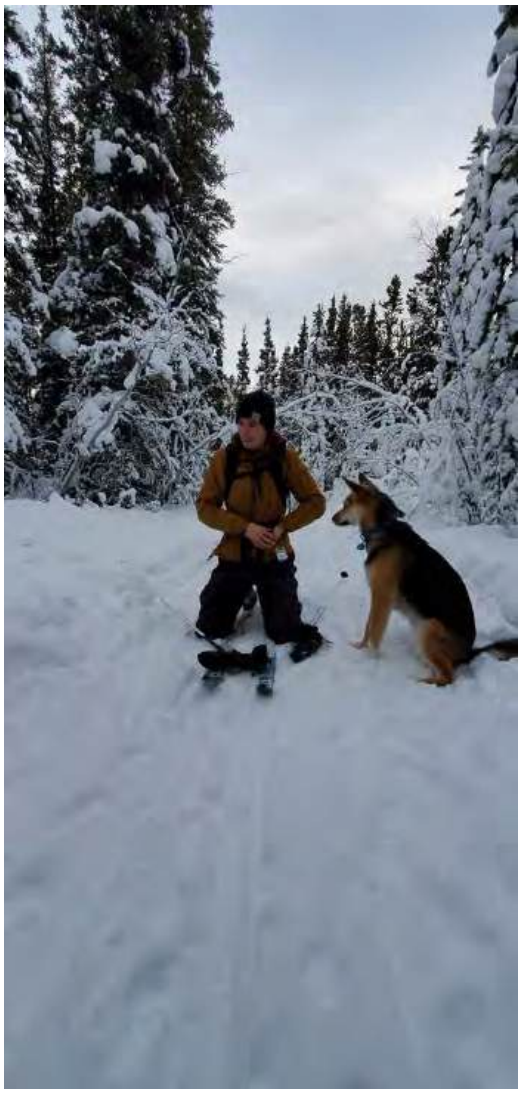
However, since this mining exploration has begun the trails are being absolutely destroyed. In addition to the destruction of this beautiful wild land, they are now putting up "No Trespassing signs" Cutting off these trails from the people that have maintained them for years and use them on a regular basis.

There are many big concerns with the exploration continuing and expanding is not only how it affects the area and trails, which are a huge reason many of us live out here. But where does this exploration end? With the current Yukon Mining Regulations I have little hope that this space will ever go back to the way that it was or that it will be treated with respect during or after the mining exploration. Should they find what they are looking for will this eventually turn into another remediation situation down the road, like so many others across the Yukon. Do we need to be worried about the potential pollution of groundwater when the majority of us rely on wells? Will the city compensate people when that happens. What about the plethora of wildlife that use the area? There are multi spots that moose use as a nursery in the spring, and bears and cubs hang around, Caribou come to rest and find food. Countless grouse and rabbits and wolves that frequent the area.

This is such an important place to so many of us and right at the edge of city limits, please limit the destruction that is being caused and demonstrate that the government actually cares about it's Yukon residents and not just about making life easy and accessible for mining companies, so they can continue to do as they please ravaging the land with zero

accountability and leaving a disaster behind for others to clean up.

I have attached a few photos showing these trail systems and the use of them.



Bethany Paquette

[redacted]

[redacted]

From: Jean Hogg
To: publicinput@whitehorse.ca
Subject: Gladiator and OCP
Date: Monday, July 6, 2026 12:53:18 PM

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

I am totally against the activity Gladiator is conducting in the area(s) next to the country residential areas of Cowley Creek, Mary Lake, Wolf Creek, Mount Sima, etc..
The OCP should NOT be adjusted to allow Gladiator to have access to the green spaces nor wildlife habitat in these nor neighbouring locations!!
The Yukon is a large area. Gladiator is only doing their exploration here because it is easy.
I say **no** further allowances for them to degrade our backyards!!
Regards
Jean Hogg
[redacted]

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Public Input
Subject: Fw: Letter of Concern - July 7 meeting
Date: Monday, July 13, 2026 2:52:28 PM

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Julie Bouchard [redacted]
Sent: July 6, 2026 11:32 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Letter of Concern - July 7 meeting

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Good morning,

I am unable to attend the city council meeting on July 7th, and as such am writing this email. I am a concerned citizen and property owner in Cowley Creek and I am writing in opposition to Gladiator Metals attempts to redesignate land within the Whitehorse OCP to pursue exploratory drilling. The city's initial survey on mineral development showed that the majority of Whitehorse residents oppose mineral development within the city limit. This latest proposal by Gladiator raises concerns about whether the voice of the citizens of this city will be respected by the Mayor and council.

Although Gladiator Metals have only been conducting exploratory work in the area for a few short months, the negative impact on community members is already felt. Gladiator Metals have placed "No Trespassing" signs on the local trail system, despite being unauthorized to do so. Local residents have also noted environmental spillage, which seems only too likely to be fault of Gladiator, despite zero responsibility being taken for the clean up.

The areas surrounding Mary Lake are heavily used by local residents of Cowley Creek, Mary Lake and Wolf Creek for cross-country skiing, walking their dogs, skating or playing hockey. The trails are vital to supporting residents' mental and physical health by providing access to the outdoors, particularly during the long winter months. Access to these outdoor areas greatly benefits all that use it, including children who thrive when provided with access to the great outdoors. [redacted]

It is perplexing why a city that boasts itself as “the wilderness city” and whose very own website touts having a vast trail network within city limits, would consider approving further mineral exploration within the OCP. We as Yukoners also have a duty to protect the green spaces, watersheds and wildlife that occupy these areas. My expectation as a voter, property taxpayer and homeowner, is that the Whitehorse City Council will follow the will of the citizens to whom they are held accountable and will refuse to allow this dangerous precedent to be set which will threaten our city’s natural beauty.

Thank you for your consideration,

Julie Bouchard

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: Opposition to Proposed OCP Amendments for Expanded Mineral Exploration
Date:	Monday, July 13, 2026 2:52:11 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Kelly Scott [redacted]
Sent: July 6, 2026 1:00 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Opposition to Proposed OCP Amendments for Expanded Mineral Exploration

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,
I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed Official Community Plan amendments requested by Gladiator Metals to expand mineral exploration within Whitehorse city limits.
I am deeply concerned about the proposal to rezone existing Greenspace areas along the Copperbelt, including the area near Mary Lake, in order to permit mineral exploration activity. These lands are currently designated as Greenspace for an important reason and should remain protected as such.
Greenspaces within and around Whitehorse provide ecological, recreational, cultural, and community value. They support wildlife habitat, watershed health, outdoor recreation, and the overall wellbeing of residents. Rezoning these areas to accommodate industrial exploration sets a concerning precedent and undermines the purpose of these protected land designations.
I am also concerned about the proposal to allow mineral exploration across all Future Planning Areas within city limits. Many residents understand these areas to be intended to remain flexible for future community-led planning processes, not to become default exploration zones before that planning has taken place. These lands should remain subject to thoughtful planning that prioritizes long-term public interests, environmental stewardship, and sustainable land use.
Whitehorse residents value accessible natural spaces and careful planning for the future of our city. I urge Council to reject these proposed amendments and maintain the current Greenspace protections.
Thank you for your time and consideration.
Sincerely,

Kelly Scott
(she/her)

I acknowledge that I live and work on the traditional territory of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: Concerns regarding Gladiator Metals request to amend the OCP
Date:	Monday, July 13, 2026 2:52:00 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Mattaeus Geisler [redacted]
Sent: July 6, 2026 11:41 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Concerns regarding Gladiator Metals request to amend the OCP

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Members of Whitehorse City Council,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Gladiator Metal's request to amend the Official Community Plan to allow additional mineral exploration near residential neighbourhoods.

My family lives on Marigold Place, where we have already experienced a noticeable increase in exploration activity. The constant noise has reduced our ability to enjoy the peace and quiet that drew us to this neighbourhood.

Equally concerning is the impact on the trail network behind our home. My family regularly hikes, bikes, and enjoys these trails, but the current exploration has created disturbances that have made sections difficult or impossible to use. We have had to change our regular outdoor routines to avoid both the noise and the disruption. These trails are not just used by my family, they are enjoyed year-round by countless residents for hiking, biking, dog sledding, winter biking, walking dogs, and motorized recreation. Thanks in large part to their direct connection with the Trans Canada Trail, this area is one of Whitehorse's most heavily used

recreational green spaces and serves a diverse range of users throughout every season.

I am also disappointed by the condition in which previous exploration sites have been left. Disturbed ground, debris, and visible impacts remain long after the work has stopped, leaving residents to live with the consequences. If exploration is to occur, companies should be held to a much higher standard of site restoration and stewardship.

While I recognize that mining is an important part of Yukon's economy, I do not believe mineral exploration belongs so close to established residential communities. Exploration should occur in areas where there is a realistic possibility that a mine could one day be responsibly developed. The land immediately behind the Mary Lake subdivision is simply not an appropriate location for a future mine. It is surrounded by homes and is heavily valued as a community recreation area. If a mine would never be considered appropriate in this location, then it is difficult to justify expanding exploration activities there in the first place.

Green spaces surrounding our neighbourhoods provide recreation, support wildlife, and contribute significantly to residents' physical and mental well-being. These are the very reasons my family chose to make this area our home.

I encourage Council to consider not only the immediate impacts on nearby residents but also the long-term precedent this amendment would set. Once industrial activity is permitted closer to residential areas, it becomes increasingly difficult to preserve the natural spaces that make Whitehorse such a desirable place to live.

I respectfully ask Council to reject this proposed amendment and protect the green spaces of our community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mattaeus Geisler
[redacted]
Whitehorse, Yukon

From: Max Fraser
To: publicinput@whitehorse.ca
Subject: re: Opposing Gladiator"s request to amend OCP
Date: Monday, July 6, 2026 7:39:56 PM

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing briefly to express my abhorrence and opposition to the proposal by the mining exploration company Gladiator Metals to amend the OCP.

The OCP was developed to provide for the future, and we must all think long term. As the city grows, so will the need for green space and natural landscapes. The best use of this area for the long term is for green space for residents, now and in the future.

In the world today, there is nothing more valuable and irreplaceable as wilderness. We must protect what is there for those who come after us.

The mining industry has cost Yukoners plenty in terms of lost wilderness, environmental degradation and perpetual remediation/treatment costs such as the Faro mine. Exploration profits only the developers who hope to sell what they find for a high price to a mine developer or otherwise parlay their action into increased share prices. These economic gtains will not benefit local residents, especially those whose quality of life will suffer. The promise of jobs and benefits is hollow. Mining comes at a much higher cost than any benefit that can be identified. The record speaks for itself.

To cow tow to the mining industry is a losing proposition. Please end this now and send a signal that Whitehorse is a community where people can live comfortably and without fear of losing what is precious to them. Send a message that any mining company that has no local residency, presence or interest can’t just come along and adversely affect peoples neighbourhoods and lives, and that they shouldn’t even bother trying. Be firm and do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Max Fraser

[redacted]
Whitehorse Yukon Canada [redacted]
On Yukon Standard Time (UTC-7/Pacific)
[redacted] He/Him)
[redacted]
Cell: [redacted]

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: mining exploration activities
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 9:41:11 AM
Attachments:	image.png

FYI

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Mj Peltier [redacted]
Sent: July 6, 2026 6:42 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: mining exploration activities

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

We strongly urge you NOT to approve any mining exploration activities in our green spaces. Prohibit mining exploration activities in City Limits.

Mike Peltier
Whitehorse

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Opposition to Proposed OCP Amendments for Expanded Mineral Exploration
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 9:40:16 AM
Attachments:	image.png

FYI

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Molly Pratt [redacted]
Sent: July 6, 2026 8:22 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Opposition to Proposed OCP Amendments for Expanded Mineral Exploration

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to formally express my strong opposition to the proposed Official Community Plan (OCP) amendments requested by Gladiator Metals to expand mineral exploration within Whitehorse city limits. As a resident who lives in the Copperbelt region, my opposition is directly informed by how these land-use decisions impact our local environment. While the proposal affects multiple tracts, the request to rezone the protected green space directly surrounding Mary Lake is particularly concerning.

This specific area is unique because it brings industrial boundaries significantly closer to everyday land users and sits directly on top of a highly active, sensitive habitat.The viability of the Mary Lake region relies entirely on a "shared space" model where community recreation and a vibrant ecosystem exist in balance. The peace in this area is palpable, and the local wildlife relies heavily on this undisturbed green space. Sitting by the lake, one can observe multiple resident beaver families, loons, swans, and various migrating birds. In the winter, the area serves as an important corridor for caribou. Simultaneously, this exact landscape supports public activities like dog walking, swimming, paddleboarding, hiking, mountain biking, and cross-country skiing.

We already have direct, lived proof in our neighborhood that intensive industry completely dismantles this shared-use balance. We only have to look at the current mineral operations in the nearby quarry area to see the real-time breakdown of public land sharing.In the quarry zone, the 24/7 industrial schedule under the current exploration permit leaves no room for

concurrent public use.

There is no operational difference or scheduling adjustment made for weekdays, weekends, or statutory holidays. The constant mechanical whine of generators and heavy water-pumping infrastructure creates a localized level of continuous disturbance that has effectively displaced recreators and fractured the local habitat. Moving this exact type of high-impact footprint even closer to land users at Mary Lake will entirely eliminate it as a shared public asset.

This breakdown of the shared-use model informs every dimension of this amendment:

Zoning Precedent: Industrial exploration does not coexist with green space; it replaces it. Granting these amendments allows industry to establish a dominant footprint that dictates the future of the land, permanently erasing its multi-purpose capability.

Impact on Recreational Infrastructure: The Mary Lake trail system represents significant community infrastructure utilized by residents from across Whitehorse. Intensive, non-stop drilling operations are fundamentally incompatible with these established recreational networks, effectively prioritizing a single industrial user over public infrastructure.

Environmental Compatibility: Class 3 permits are designated for projects with a moderate-to-high risk of causing adverse environmental impacts. Allowing high-impact exploration to encroach into municipal green spaces compromises the shared responsibility to protect local watersheds and wildlife corridors.

Furthermore, I object to treating Future Planning Areas as default exploration zones. These sectors were explicitly designated to remain flexible for community-led planning. Permitting industrial exploration before these public processes occur undermines the intent of the OCP and excludes residents from determining how city lands should be balanced.

Protected green spaces lose all functional meaning when industrial activities are allowed to displace them. I urge Council to maintain the integrity of the OCP, protect the shared-use model of our public lands, and reject these amendments

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Molly Pratt
Mary Lake resident

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Newkirk, Jacob; Harris, Dylan
Subject:	Fw: Opposition to Gladiator Metals
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 2:06:13 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: TamaraLyn Young [redacted]
Sent: July 6, 2026 3:43 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Opposition to Gladiator Metals

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Good afternoon,

I am writing to express my deep concerns and opposition to Gladiator Metal's application to expand their exploration operations within the city of Whitehorse.

I have lived in Mary Lake for almost 30 years. I use the trails and green space daily year round. I walk my dog, I trail run, cycle. I kayak and paddle board on Mary Lake. All of these activities in the areas Gladiator wants to destroy. One of the things that makes Whitehorse a liveable city, a place people want to stay, to raise families, work and thrive, is access to nature, trails, green spaces, undisturbed forest. Many people from other parts of the city drive out to Mary Lake daily to use the area trails. They ski, cycle, ATV, dirt-bike, skidoo, walk, run, canoe, kayak, ect. The cadet camp uses areas well beyond their property for activities with the cadets. The Catholic church hosts parish picnics near the lake every summer. The trails are well-used, accessible and maintained by community volunteers. The destruction of these areas greatly reduces the quality of life in Whitehorse.

The Mary Lake area is home to many wildlife species. I see foxes, moose, porcupines, weasels, mink, black and grizzly bears, and coyotes frequently. Caribou have returned to the area recently. The lake itself is a vital nesting area for waterfowl, full of several species of duck, loons, other birds and multiple families of beaver. Wolf Creek, which runs through the area, is a very important salmon bearing waterway. All of these animals will have their home destroyed if Gladiator(or any exploration company) is allowed to expand their exploration.

This application shows no respect for the environment, wildlife or the human citizens of Whitehorse and the Yukon. It is solely about getting as much money as possible from investors, before leaving a huge mess for Yukon taxpayers to clean up. Yukon mining laws are weak and lax. They are easy to violate with no consequences. The Yukon has a long, expensive history of footing the bill when mining companies abandon their projects. Gladiator has already proven they can't be trusted by violating their initial permits. They have been convicted of violating those permits and yet are still allowed to operate in the same areas. The destruction they have already caused is shocking.

I participated in the process to develop the Official Community Plan. Under the OCP, some of the areas Gladiator is requesting access to are designated as green space and environmentally sensitive. Developing that plan was a major project for city staff. It very much feels like that effort, from staff and citizens, was a waste of time and money when the plan can be easily, radically changed.

I hope Mayor and Council will vote against this proposal at the first opportunity.

Thank you,
Tamara Young

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Gladiator application
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:05:43 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Aileen Horler <[redacted]>
Sent: July 7, 2026 11:52 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Gladiator application

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]
Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

To Whitehorse Mayor and Council

I am writing to express my opposition to the request by Gladiators Metal to change the City of Whitehorse Official Community Plan.

The recently created OCP took a lot of work and reflects the wishes of the city's residents. Please stick to it. The short-term interests of any commercial enterprise should not be allowed to override the considerable efforts and commitment that were involved in creating a vision for the City's future.

While any change to the OCP is objectionable, Gladiator's initiative, if successful, will impact an important wilderness area and create an unsettling precedent.

While Gladiator's less than responsible practices in the area have caused a lot of distress to area residence since beginning operations, this is a broader issue that challenges the OCP process and integrity.

Please don't allow this.

Aileen Horler
[redacted]
Whitehorse

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Confusing website
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 12:59:04 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Andrew Anderson [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 12:52 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Confusing website

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Concerns with the confusing City of Whitehorse website

"Explore Whitehorse, the Wilderness city."

I read these words on the CIty of Whitehorse website this very morning. I'm ashamed to admit I thought it was a call to action to prospective residents, visitors and passers-through. You know, come enjoy the trememdous access to all the Yukon has to offer right from our back door. That sort of thing. Trails and access for every activity without leaving city limits! A point of collective pride, I foolishly believed, in the serene livability of our little northern oasis.

I see now my error. These words were not aimed at me, or my children, or the countless others who choose to live and contribute to this unique and wonderful city. How foolishly egotistical I feel. These words were aimed at those who see greenspaces as a barrier to drill and dig. "Exploration open in our wilderness city... don't let our official community protections stop you!"

You will forgive me for my misunderstanding. After all, I note many of you ran for council on values that included "community wellness", "enhancing the quality of life", "embracing winter", "enhancing access to recreation opportunities". Perhaps if these election platforms stated outright a desire to reduce the city's designated green-space, my embarrassing gaffe

would have been avoided. As, likely would your terms on council.

And so I urge you to update your website, for the sake of your more simple-minded residents. By this I mean those of us who read an Official Community Plan (passed by this council just last year!) and think words like "Continue an appropriate moratorium on mineral staking" and "Uses that may be suitable for inclusion in areas designated as Greenspace include, but are not limited to, trails, and parks and related facilities" actually mean something. I see now they are simply placeholders to keep the calm until special interests can get their act together.

Were I more astute I could appreciate the sneaky effectiveness of listing fire-breaks as an acceptable activity in protected greenspaces and then referring to those same fire-breaks as a reason those areas should no longer be protected. Bravo!

And so I write today to ask you to move the "Explore Whitehorse" headline to a more appropriate section to reduce confusion. I might suggest you place it under: "Drill, baby, drill" or "Don't worry about them, they just live here."

On my side, I commit to deep reflection on how to avoid such embarrassing gaffes in the future. I will ponder on my many dog walks and bike rides in the Mary Lake area. I will inquire from the countless families and residents I see on those trails. If I'm still able to this winter, I will reflect as I glide on the (100% volunteer-groomed!) ski trails, or as I fat-bike the popular Mary Lake loop through now threatened green-space. I will give it deep thought watching the struggling salmon in Wolf Creek - an invaluable urban river flowing from the same area through four City of Whitehorse neighbourhoods.

My ability to reflect will be greatly increased free from the distracting sounds and smells of new mining exploration in existing protected zones close to residential areas. If there's anything you can do about that it would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Andrew Anderson
City of Whitehorse resident and active wilderness city explorer.

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Bylaw 2026-25 and the changes to the Official Community Plan 2040 and the expansion of mining exploration in City Limits
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:04:32 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Brianne Bremner [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 12:00 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Re: Bylaw 2026-25 and the changes to the Official Community Plan 2040 and the expansion of mining exploration in City Limits

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

To Mayor and Council,

I have lived here in Whitehorse the majority of my life, having been born and raised here and only left for education/travel.

I deeply love this city, and this land and feel grateful that I am able to call it home.

This is why I am asking council NOT to proceed with Bylaw 2026-25.

We, the citizens of Whitehorse, were extensively consulted through a multi-year process to develop the Official Community Plan 2040. That plan contains the key land-use decisions the community made already.

I do not agree that greenspace/green belt or environmentally sensitive lands be re-designated as Future Planning to facilitate more mining activity and disruption to our communities, recreation, wildlife corridors, and watersheds. To be clear, this is not just about one project or one company- This is about protecting the City and Council's authority in deciding what happens in our neighbourhoods, green spaces, environmental sensitive areas, wildlife corridors, and watersheds within city limits.

I also want to emphasize that a mining claim is not a land-use plan. Valid mineral tenure should not mean automatic land-use compatibility. A company may hold mineral rights under

Yukon law, but that does not mean exploration is appropriate within city limits or in city green spaces, environmentally sensitive areas, close to citizen residences, wildlife corridors or watersheds.

In addition, past disturbance doesn't mean the land should be mined continuously. Previously disturbed areas are living ecosystems and recovering habitat, aided by restoration efforts by many levels of government at significant cost.

Thank you for listening and taking our concerns seriously.

We live in a wilderness city for a reason. We want to continue to raise our families here. Expansion of mining exploration within our City limits is not what we want.

Brianne Bremner

Brianne Bremner
[redacted]

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Gladiator Metals request to amend the OCP
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 9:52:42 AM
Attachments:	image.png

FYI

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Bruce Barrett [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 9:51 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Gladiator Metals request to amend the OCP

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Greetings, mayor and council;

As a resident of the Pineridge subdivision, I would like to express my concern about the recent Gladiator Metals proposal to amend the City of Whitehorse Official Community Plan. From my limited understanding of the issues, it appears that this proposal would compromise the City's ability to regulate and control mining development within city limits.
There are many other concerns to do with his proposal, and to do with the actual activities intended by Gladiator, but it is this diminishment of the City's authority over environmental regulation that concerns me most.

Thank you for your consideration,
Bruce Barrett
[redacted]

Sent from Bruce's mobile device

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Bylaw 2026-25
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 9:15:24 AM
Attachments:	image.png Outlook-u2fmo304.png

FYI

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Legislative Services [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2026 8:50 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Cc: Legislative Services [redacted]
Subject: Fw: Bylaw 2026-25

Hello all,

Please see the below email received, from Caitlin and Michael Knutson.

Sincerely,

Delaney

Delaney Davies (She/hers)
Executive Assistant, Corporate Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted]
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Legislative Services [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 8:46 AM
To: Caitlin Knutson [redacted]; Michael Knutson [redacted]
Cc: Legislative Services [redacted]
Subject: Re: Bylaw 2026-25

Thank you for your email. We will forward this to Mayor and Council.

Sincerely,

Legislative Services

From: Caitlin Knutson [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 8:31 AM
To: Legislative Services [redacted]; Michael Knutson [redacted]
Subject: Bylaw 2026-25

You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

We, Caitlin and Michael Knutson have lived in Whitehorse Copper for 15 years.

We care about this place because trails, skiing, walking, wildlife, wetlands, raising children, and the close connection to land.

We are asking Council not to proceed with Bylaw 2026-25.

We, the citizens of Whitehorse, were extensively consulted through a multi-year process to develop the Official Community Plan 2040. That plan contains the key land-use decisions the community made already.

We do not agree that greenspace/green belt or environmentally sensitive lands be re-designated as Future Planning to facilitate more mining activity and disruption to our communities, recreation, wildlife corridors, and watersheds.

This is not just about one project or one company. This is about protecting the City and Council's authority in deciding what happens in our neighborhoods, green spaces, environmental sensitive areas, wildlife corridors, and watersheds within city limits.

We also want to emphasize that a mining claim is not a land-use plan. Valid mineral tenure should not mean automatic land-use compatibility. A company may hold mineral rights under Yukon law, but that does not mean exploration is appropriate within city limits or in city greenspaces, environmentally sensitive areas, close to citizen residences, wildlife corridors or watersheds.

In addition, past disturbance doesn't mean the land should be mined continuously. Previously disturbed areas are living ecosystems and recovering habitat, aided by restoration efforts by many levels of government at significant cost.

The living ecosystems around the Whitehorse Copper Belt– including Mary Lake, Cowley Creek, Wolf Creek, Mount Sima are central to our recreation, mental health and wellness, family connection, cultural practices and sense of home.

The City is already developing a broader Mineral Exploration and Development Framework. Council should complete that broader framework rather than make applicant-driven changes to our Official Community Plan.

Thank you for taking these concerns seriously,

Caitlin and Michael Knutson
[redacted]
Whitehorse Yukon
[redacted]

[redacted]

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject: Fw: Gladiator Metal's Request to Amend the Official Community Plan 2040
Date: Wednesday, July 8, 2026 8:39:46 AM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Christine Aikens [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 4:50 PM
To: Mayor and Council <[redacted]
Subject: Gladiator Metal's Request to Amend the Official Community Plan 2040

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Hello Mayor and Council

My name is Christine Aikens. I have been a resident of Whitehorse for 19 years. My family previously lived in Mary Lake, and we now live in Pineridge.
I live near and regularly recreate in the areas that would be directly affected by this proposal. I cross-country ski, bike, snowmobile, walk my dogs, swim, and skate in these so-called "disturbed" areas. The ecosystems of the Whitehorse Copper Belt are central to our recreation, our mental and physical well-being, and our sense of home.
While this proposal directly affects these areas, its implications are much broader. It has the potential to set a precedent that could weaken protections for greenbelts and environmentally sensitive areas throughout Whitehorse. It could also weaken the City's authority to regulate mineral exploration within Whitehorse.
I am writing today because I strongly oppose Gladiator Metals' request to amend the Official Community Plan Whitehorse 2040 to allow additional mineral exploration within city limits.
I respectfully ask Council to reject these proposed amendments at first reading. Specifically, I ask you to:

- Reject proposed amendments that redesignate greenbelts or

environmentally sensitive areas to "Future Planning" to accommodate mineral exploration.
- Reject proposed amendments that would weaken your ability to regulate mineral exploration within municipal boundaries.
- Uphold the Official Community Plan and the vision developed through years of work and public consultation.

The community invested significant time in developing the Official Community Plan through extensive public consultation. That process established a clear vision for land use within Whitehorse, and this proposal should not reopen protections that residents worked together to create.
Council has made a commitment to ethical and transparent government, and I encourage you to consider that commitment as you deliberate on this proposal. The Official Community Plan is the City's highest-level planning document and reflects extensive public engagement.
I have questions about the process that led to this proposal. Why were City staff working with Gladiator Metals to develop proposed amendments to the Official Community Plan? What planning rationale led City staff to recommend these amendments to Council?
I believe Council already has the information it needs to make this decision. I respectfully ask you to reject these proposed amendments at first reading rather than move them forward to a public hearing process.
Gladiator Metals is asking Council to reconsider protections established in the Official Community Plan by redesignating greenbelts and environmentally sensitive areas because they have already been disturbed. Previous disturbance does not justify removing these protections.
These are not abandoned or degraded lands. They are active, well-used community spaces with popular skiing, hiking, biking, and snowmobiling trails, skating ponds, swimming holes, wildlife corridors, sensitive watersheds, and recovering ecosystems.
The Official Community Plan already recognizes that activities such as fuel abatement can occur within greenbelts where appropriate. That does not diminish their value or justify removing their protected status.
This proposal is about more than one exploration project. It is about whether the City of Whitehorse will retain its authority to guide land use within its neighbourhoods, green spaces, environmentally sensitive areas, wildlife corridors, and watersheds.
You were elected to make decisions in the public interest, including when those decisions are difficult.
Residents have consistently expressed that they value Whitehorse's greenbelts, environmentally sensitive areas, and the City's ability to guide land use within its boundaries.
I respectfully ask you to vote against first reading of these proposed amendments tonight. Please uphold the Official Community Plan, protect the public interest, and preserve the shared vision that residents worked together to create.
Thank you for your time and consideration.

Christine Aikens
[redacted]
Whitehorse

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject: Fw: Timing of public hearing Bylaw 2026–25
Date: Wednesday, July 8, 2026 8:37:53 AM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Christine Aikens [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 9:09 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Timing of public hearing Bylaw 2026–25

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and council.

I was one of the delegates that presented tonight in opposition to bylaw 2026–25. I really appreciated the opportunity to speak to council and the respectful tone of our whole meeting. While disappointed in the result, I understand your decision to proceed to second reading and public consultation.However, I would like to point out that the timing of the proposed public consultation is at a time when many, many Yukoners are out of the territory. As I am sure you wish to engage with as many citizens as possible, I am respectfully suggesting you delay the consultation until kids are back in school and families are back in the Yukon.

Thank you, Christine Aikens

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: comments on Gladiator Metals
Date:	Monday, July 13, 2026 2:51:16 PM
Attachments:	image.png HEON_City June 7, 2026.docx

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Daniele Heon [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 10:16 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: comments on Gladiator Metals

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Please find attached my submission to the council meeting tonight.

Thank you.

Danièle Héon

Danièle Héon – Geologist
[redacted]
Whitehorse, Yukon
Canada Y1A 6A2

Cell: [redacted]

To: Mayor Kirk Cameron and City Council
Re: Comments on activities by Gladiator Metals

June 7, 2026

Dear Mayor Cameron and City Councillors,

I saw a sandwich board at the Mary Lake mailboxes that invited people to submit their feelings about the latest request by Gladiator Metals. The wording, right there, demonstrated the source of the polarization around this issue. People have feelings about the mineral industry, but supporters of the industry are responding with facts, which do not seem to hold much sway when confronted with feelings.

I am not constantly monitoring the schedule of City Council meetings and cannot make a presentation each time opponents to mineral activity in Whitehorse decide they want to present. So, I am writing this short letter to let you know that we are still here, people who live in Whitehorse and work in the mineral industry. People who realize the true impact of mineral activity and do not agree when exaggerations and misrepresentations of facts are publicized by interest groups and our local media. People who participate in the debate and contribute to the knowledge, social fabric, and wealth base of our community.

Gladiator Metals has been bending over backwards to accommodate concerns of residents, above and beyond what is required by regulations. From relinquishing claims to using track-mounted drill rigs and electrical water pumps to adopting noise mitigation measures, they seem to have demonstrated genuine opening to concerns and follow-through with solutions.

Mineral exploration is part of the fabric of our community. If I was to voice my feelings, it would be to say that I am dismayed and saddened by the fact that some people insist on prioritizing their access to unlimited recreation opportunities over the welfare and livelihood of their neighbours. That I feel fearful when I hear the hatred and the lack of willingness to compromise in the voice of some who oppose the industry. That I deeply grieve the sense of community that once was.

I support the City's work at changing the designation of parcels that are no longer (and haven't been in centuries) pristine forest. I will support a common-sense approach that seeks compromise and respect for all parties.

Sincerely,
Danièle Héon, geologist.

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Public Input
Subject: Fw: Gladiator metals mineral exploration in Mary Lake/Cowley Creek
Date: Monday, July 13, 2026 2:50:55 PM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Danna Campbell [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 10:50 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Gladiator metals mineral exploration in Mary Lake/Cowley Creek

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]
Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

Hello,

I am a resident of Mary Lake Subdivision and I am writing with my concerns about mineral exploration that is happening in my backyard. I have lived in Mary Lake since I was 13- for 26 years and counting. I grew up with horses on my property and have been riding the extensive trail networks since then. I bought my home from my parents and now now raising my own kids there. We have horses and dogs still, and use the trails behind Mary Lake and Cowley creek on a a weekly basis- for trail riding, walking and in the winter skiing. Over the past several years Gladiator Metals has been active on the existing trails and causing so much damage. They leave behind a mess of trees, mud, debris, garbage, holes filled with water etc… Every weekend I go out on the main trails I have always used and there is a new piece of equipment causing noise pollution and making more mess in a different location. Every year the trails look different because of the extensive destruction and new "temporary trails" they make.

I was disappointed that Gladiator Metals was granted a permit to increase their activity in our area, and now even more shocked that they are requesting to further expand their exploratory drilling projects into designated green space. I recognize that many of the existing trails were originally mining trails, however mining ended in 1982 and the trails became a network for the local community. The residential area has expanded significantly and the City of Whitehorse needs to protect its residents and our trails and green space. My question: why did the City of Whitehorse plan and expand the area for residential use knowing there were active mining claims in the area? Mining within the city limits and so close to residential areas should not be permissible, and I am asking the City of Whitehorse to not allow the further expansion of exploration in our area.

Please listen and hear the concerns of the many residents who have been outspoken on the this important issue. This is our home. The impact of drilling on our multi use trail system, wildlife, green space, and properties is devastating. Keep mining out of residential areas! Vote NO!

Thank you,

Danna Campell, a long term resident of Mary Lake Subdivision

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Public Input
Subject: Fw: Gladiator mining
Date: Monday, July 13, 2026 9:09:19 AM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Dewan Houde [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 4:58 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Gladiator mining

> You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

I am writing this email to voice my displeasure of this company being allowed to destroy all the green space behind are homes. I've lived in this area for 25 years and recently bought a home behind where they started ruining the land. Imagine my surprise when this company starts running behind my house and I have to listen to their equipment during the day… just fantastic and they just keep coming closer. I'll be patiently waiting for the compensation of my devalued home that I have a million dollars into that i pay $7000 in taxes a year for and get 0 services.
This is absolutely b*ullshit.

Dewan Houde

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Stop the Copper Belt Mining
Date:	Thursday, July 9, 2026 5:28:52 AM
Attachments:	image.png

FYI

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Shannon Harder [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 9:08 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Stop the Copper Belt Mining

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

To Whitehorse Mayor and Council

I am writing to express my opposition to Gladiators Metal request to changing the City of Whitehorse Official Community Plan. I encourage you to stick to the OCP that was just recently created that took a lot of work, time and dollars to create. Having a commercial interest in asking for sweeping changes that WILL have major impacts on Whitehorse Residents is rather distasteful. The timing of this request is also distasteful as it is coming in the middle of summer when many people are not around to attend your council meetings or reply. I am replying remotely as I am not able to attend to oppose this request. Nor do have adequate time to prepare a lengthy response.

I live in the Cowley Creek Subdivision and have seen first hand the damage and impact the existing mining has done to our community. The constant noise from the equipment and damage to our eco system has a direct negative impact on our community and our property values.

In addition, the damage done to our trails is extensive and make it dangerous to navigate. The trails represent so much to our community on many many levels. The recent Fire Break has had a significant impact on our trial network and now Gladiator Metals is further impacting our trails with no regard for residents. They have left messes behind. They have used the trails for exploration and caused damage to the trails with no regard for current users. I do not believe they have any regard as they continue to destroy the surface of the trails almost daily for several weeks.

Your City Administration appears to be very pro mining. I am opposed to Dylan Harris's assessment that the Fire Break is "Disturbed Land" and not "Green Space or Environment Sensitive Area". Yes the surface trees are currently disturbed but please remember that this project is NOT completed at this time. A big part of the Fire Break is Forest conversion - changing the forest from Conifer Trees to Deciduous Trees- This process will take several years to see the full changes. These areas are in fact Green Spaces and should remain so as to the OCP. If they are changed it seems like the Fire Break was not a Fire Break after all and just an excuse for more development.

Mayor and Council you have a duty to the Citizens of Whitehorse and to follow our OCP I ask you to take this responsibility seriously and have the courage to say NO to Gladiator Metals.

Mining/Exploration activity do not mix with Residential areas. Mining should not happen in the City Limits or just agacent to country residential. Please say NO to these proposed amendments and stop all future and existing mining applications in and around our community.

Regards,
Dustin Harder
A resident of Cowley Creek Subdivision.

Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

From: Shannon Harder
To: legsvcs@whitehorse.ca
Subject: Stop the Copper Belt Mining
Date: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 9:15:57 AM

You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

I would like to express my opposition to the Copperbelt mining and exploration. I would like my letter presented at the meeting showing my opposition.

I am writing to express my opposition to Gladiators Metal request to changing the City of Whitehorse Official Community Plan.

I live in the Cowley Creek Subdivision and have seen first hand the damage and impact the existing mining has done to our community. The constant noise from the equipment and damage to our eco system has a direct negative impact on our community and our property values.

I encourage you to stick to the OCP that was just recently created that took a lot of work, time and dollars to create. Having a commercial interest in asking for sweeping changes that WILL have major impacts on Whitehorse Residents is rather distasteful. The timing of this request is also distasteful as it is coming in the middle of summer when many people are not around to attend your council meetings or reply. I am replying remotely as I am not able to attend to oppose this request. Nor do have adequate time to prepare a lengthy response.

In addition, the damage done to our trails is extensive and make it dangerous to navigate. The trails represent so much to our community on many many levels. The recent Fire Break has had a significant impact on our trial network and now Gladiator Metals is further impacting our trails with no regard for residents. They have left messes behind. They have used the trails for exploration and caused damage to the trails with no regard for current users. I do not believe they have any regard as they continue to destroy the surface of the trails almost daily for several weeks.

Your City Administration appears to be very pro mining. I am opposed to Dylan Harris's assessment that the Fire Break is "Disturbed Land" and not "Green Space or Environment Sensitive Area". Yes the surface trees are currently disturbed but please remember that this project is NOT completed at this time. A big part of the Fire Break is Forest conversion - changing the forest from Conifer Trees to Deciduous Trees- This process will take several years to see the full changes. These areas are in fact Green Spaces and should remain so as to the OCP. If they are changed it seems like the Fire Break was not a Fire Break after all and just an excuse for more development.

Mayor and Council you have a duty to the Citizens of Whitehorse and to follow our OCP I ask you to take this responsibility seriously and have the courage to say NO to Gladiator Metals.

Mining/Exploration activity do not mix with Residential areas. Mining should not happen in the City Limits or just agacent to country residential. Please say NO to these proposed

amendments and stop all future and existing mining applications in and around our community.

Regards,
Dustin Harder
A resident of Cowley Creek Subdivision.

Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Gladiator Metal's Request to Amend the Official Community Plan 2040 to allow for more mining activity within City Limits.
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:06:40 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Emily Woodruffe [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 11:23 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Re: Gladiator Metal's Request to Amend the Official Community Plan 2040 to allow for more mining activity within City Limits.

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

My name is Emily Woodruffe. I have lived in the Pine Ridge subdivision, located very close to Mary Lake subdivision for 22 yrs. I care about this place because my whole family regularly accesses the trails in the Mary Lake area for skiing and walking. It is a special place with so many beautiful trails, regular wildlife sightings, and wetlands that provide habitat for nesting birds. We love the quiet, the community, the easy access to the outdoors and the connection to land.

I am asking Council not to proceed with Bylaw 2026-25. We, the citizens of Whitehorse, were extensively consulted through a multi-year process to develop the Official Community Plan 2040. That plan contains the key land-use decisions the community made already. I do not agree that greenspace/green belt or environmentally sensitive lands be re-designated as Future Planning to facilitate more mining activity and disruption to our communities, recreation, wildlife corridors, and watersheds. This is about protecting the City and Council's authority in deciding what happens in our neighborhoods and all these spaces within city limits.

I also want to emphasize that a mining claim is not a land-use plan. Valid mineral tenure should not mean automatic land-use compatibility. A company may hold mineral rights under Yukon law, but that does not mean exploration is appropriate within city limits or in city greenspaces, environmentally sensitive areas, close to citizen residences, wildlife corridors or watersheds. I am not opposed to mining, but I feel strongly that mining activity and residential developments are not compatible.

In addition, past disturbance doesn't mean the land should be mined continuously. Previously disturbed areas are living ecosystems and recovering habitat, aided by restoration efforts by many levels of government at significant cost. The living ecosystems around the Whitehorse Copper Belt– including Mary Lake, Cowley Creek, Wolf Creek, Mount Sima are central to our recreation, mental health and wellness, family connection, cultural practices and sense of home.

The City is already developing a broader Mineral Exploration and Development Framework. Council should complete that broader framework rather than make applicant-driven changes to our Official Community Plan.

Thank you for listening and taking my concern seriously.

Sincerely,

Emily Woodruffe

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: Opposition to Bylaw 2026-25 – Proposed Amendments to the Official Community Plan 2040
Date:	Monday, July 13, 2026 2:51:32 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Erin McKnight [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 10:16 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Opposition to Bylaw 2026-25 – Proposed Amendments to the Official Community Plan 2040

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Members of Whitehorse City Council,

I am writing to express my opposition to Bylaw 2026-25 and the proposed amendments to the Whitehorse Official Community Plan 2040 requested by Gladiator Metals.

My family and I live near Mary Lake, and this area is much more than where we live—it is where we spend our time together throughout the year. We regularly use the surrounding trails for walking, hiking, biking, skiing, and enjoying the natural beauty of our community. These greenspaces provide opportunities for recreation, connection with nature, and quality time as a family. They are an important part of why we chose to live here and what makes Whitehorse such a special place.

Like many residents in our area, we also rely on well water. While I understand that this bylaw is about land-use planning, I am concerned about the long-term implications of expanding mining activity within city limits and what that could mean for local watersheds and groundwater. Protecting our drinking water and the health of our local ecosystems should remain a priority when considering changes that could enable additional mining activity.

I respectfully ask Council not to proceed with Bylaw 2026-25.

The Whitehorse Official Community Plan 2040 was created through years of extensive public

consultation and represents the long-term vision that residents established for the future of our city. It is intended to guide Council's land-use decisions while balancing growth, environmental protection, recreation, and the interests of the community. I recognize that Council has the legal authority to amend the Official Community Plan. However, I believe that significant changes to this community-developed vision should occur only through a transparent, community-wide planning process that clearly demonstrates a broad public benefit—not through an application driven by the interests of a single proponent.

I am particularly concerned that the proposed amendments would redesignate portions of Greenspace and Environmentally Sensitive Areas as "Future Planning" because they are considered previously disturbed. Previously disturbed land is not vacant or without value. These areas continue to function as living ecosystems that support wildlife, connect important habitats, protect watersheds, and provide recreational opportunities that residents use every day. The areas surrounding Mary Lake, Wolf Creek, Cowley Creek, Mount Sima, and the Whitehorse Copper Belt are integral to our community's health, well-being, and identity.

I am also concerned about the precedent this proposal could establish. A mining claim or mineral tenure under the Yukon Quartz Mining Act should not automatically determine whether exploration or mining is appropriate within city limits. Municipal land-use planning exists to balance many interests, including environmental stewardship, recreation, public health, and the quality of life of residents. Those decisions should remain with the City and continue to reflect the vision established through the Official Community Plan.

The City's own administration has acknowledged concerns that the applicant's proposed amendments could reduce the City's regulatory authority. I believe it is essential that Council preserve its ability to make independent land-use decisions through the Official Community Plan, zoning bylaws, and the Municipal Act, rather than creating a process that could make municipal planning subordinate to territorial mining approvals.

This issue extends well beyond one company or one exploration project. It is about maintaining the integrity of the Official Community Plan and respecting the extensive public consultation that shaped it. Residents invested significant time and effort in developing a shared vision for Whitehorse's future. That vision should not be altered before the City's broader Mineral Exploration and Development Framework has been completed and the community has had the opportunity to participate in that process.

I encourage Council to complete the Mineral Exploration and Development Framework before considering amendments that could fundamentally change the Official Community Plan. This comprehensive process is the appropriate place to determine how mineral exploration and development should be managed within city limits while balancing economic opportunities with environmental protection, recreation, and the interests of current and future residents.

Thank you for your time, your service to our community, and your thoughtful consideration of these concerns. I respectfully ask that Council reject Bylaw 2026-25 and uphold the vision established through the Whitehorse Official Community Plan 2040.

Sincerely,

Erin McKnight,

Mt Sima Resident

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject: Fw: Gladiator Mines push to amend OCP
Date: Monday, July 6, 2026 5:06:54 PM
Attachments: image.png

FYI

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Fran Nyman [redacted]
Sent: July 6, 2026 4:44 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted] Cameron, Kirk
[redacted]
Subject: Gladiator Mines push to amend OCP

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Members of Whitehorse City Council,
I am writing to express my strong opposition to Gladiator Mines' request to expand its operations into lands designated under the Official Community Plan OCP. I request that Council make NO bylaw amendments to the OCP based on any of the requests put forward by Gladiator mines nor the report of recommendations done by the city administration.
The Official Community Plan exists to provide long-term certainty, consistency, and transparency in land-use planning. It represents years of public consultation and careful consideration of the community's vision for Whitehorse. It should not be amended simply to accommodate the immediate interests of a single company.
Granting this request would establish a troubling precedent. If Council allows exceptions whenever a private developer or mining company seeks them, it weakens the integrity of the OCP and makes future policy decisions more vulnerable to similar requests. The OCP should remain the guiding document for land-use decisions until a comprehensive review is undertaken through the proper public process.
I, along with my family and friends, regularly use the trail network from Mary Lake to Mt Sima, and I am concerned about any development that could affect this valued recreational connection. There has already been so many alterations to the area that any more only further hurt wildlife habitat and recreational trails. It becomes a very slippery slope if Greenspace designations can be overturned without due process for the consequences. Deciduous forest will grow in the fire break and so the now barren landscape will become a lush and lovely place to walk, ski and ride through for future generations.
I am also concerned about the timing of this proposal. It is being advanced during the summer

months when many residents are travelling or otherwise unable to participate fully in public consultation. Decisions with significant long-term implications for our neighbourhoods and community deserve broad public engagement, not a process that many citizens may not even be aware is taking place.

Given the significance of this request, I believe Council should also consider whether it is appropriate for such an important policy decision to proceed while the City Administrator is serving in an acting capacity. This proposal has implications well beyond a single development application and deserves the benefit of stable administrative leadership and a thorough review.

Mining is an important contributor to the Yukon's economy, but it must operate within the planning framework established by the community. The Official Community Plan should not be altered at the whim of a mining company's demands or short-term business interests.

I respectfully urge Council to reject Gladiator Mines' request and uphold the integrity of the Official Community Plan until any future amendments are considered through the scheduled comprehensive review process, with full public participation.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to protecting the long-term interests of Whitehorse residents.

Sincerely,

Fran Nyman
[redacted]
Whitehorse, Yukon

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Mining operations in residential areas.
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 4:19:20 PM

Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse

From: frank smith [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, 07 July 2026 15:19:35
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Mining operations in residential areas.

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Hi, I use these areas for recreation along with many other local residents. I do not support mining operations in this area. Or other residential areas for that matter.

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Bylaw 2026-25 and the changes to the Official Community Plan 2040 and the expansion of mining exploration in City Limits
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 4:19:38 PM

Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse

From: Gary Bremner [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, 07 July 2026 15:18:35
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Re: Bylaw 2026-25 and the changes to the Official Community Plan 2040 and the expansion of mining exploration in City Limits

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

To Mayor and Council,

I have lived here in Whitehorse for the last 21 years.

I deeply love this city, and this land, and feel grateful that I am able to call it home.

This is why I am asking council NOT to proceed with Bylaw 2026-25.

We, the citizens of Whitehorse, were extensively consulted through a multi-year process to develop the Official Community Plan 2040. That plan contains the key land-use decisions the community made already.

I do not agree that greenspace/green belt or environmentally sensitive lands be re-designated as Future Planning to facilitate more mining activity and disruption to our communities, recreation, wildlife corridors, and watersheds. To be clear, this is not just about one project or one company- This is about protecting the City and Council's authority in deciding what happens in our neighbourhoods, green spaces, environmental sensitive areas, wildlife corridors, and watersheds within city limits.

I also want to emphasize that a mining claim is not a land-use plan. Valid mineral tenure should not mean automatic land-use compatibility. A company may hold mineral rights under Yukon law, but that does not mean exploration is appropriate within city limits or in city green spaces, environmentally sensitive areas, close to citizen residences, wildlife corridors or watersheds.

In addition, past disturbance doesn't mean the land should be mined continuously. Previously disturbed areas are living ecosystems and recovering habitat, aided by restoration efforts by many levels of government at significant cost.

Thank you for listening and taking our concerns seriously.

We live in a wilderness city for a reason. We want to continue to raise our families here. Expansion of mining exploration within our City limits is not what we want.

Gary Bremner

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject: Fw: Gladiator metals !
Date: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 9:40:03 AM
Attachments: image.png

FYI

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Geoffrey Paulyn [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 6:08 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Gladiator metals !

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

I am writing to express my strong concern regarding Gladiator Metals' mineral exploration activities both just outside and within the City of Whitehorse limits.
I believe this exploration raises important questions about the long-term interests of our community. Yukon has seen numerous mining projects over the years that have failed to deliver lasting economic benefits, with many ending in financial difficulty, environmental concerns, or expensive reclamation efforts. This track record should encourage caution before supporting additional exploration so close to our city.
I am also concerned about the employment benefits often promised by mining companies. Too frequently, these projects rely on workers who are brought in from outside the local community, while relatively few long-term, well-paying positions go to Whitehorse residents. If local people are not the primary beneficiaries, our community is left carrying many of the potential impacts without receiving the economic benefits that are often advertised.
Exploration and potential future mining activity near residential areas also raise concerns about environmental protection, wildlife habitat, water quality, noise, traffic, and the overall quality of life for those who live in and around Whitehorse. These are issues that deserve careful consideration before any further approvals or support are given
Sincerely
Geoffrey Paulyn

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject: Fw: Bylaw 2026-25
Date: Wednesday, July 8, 2026 8:36:21 AM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Geoffrey Paulyn [redacted]
Sent: July 8, 2026 6:01 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Bylaw 2026-25

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hi Kirk,
Can you please help me with something?
When Council voted on the mining issue, what information led you to vote against what many of your constituents believed was in their best interest and instead support a foreign mining company?
I'm trying to get a fix on why, given Yukon's history with failed mines, abandoned sites, and the long-term environmental and financial impacts that taxpayers have often been left to deal with, you believed this was the right decision. This is a mystery to me.
I also don't understand why the concerns raised by so many residents seemed to carry less weight than the interests of a foreign mining company.
Would appreciate any help you can give me on this…
Many thanks, Geoff

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Further to my presentation this evening.
Date:	Wednesday, July 8, 2026 8:38:52 AM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Glenys [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 6:57 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Further to my presentation this evening.

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

I do not think well on my feet. A better answer to Councillor Morris's question is:
A social licence may be possible but it would take a lot of work and time on the part of the exploration company. They have, to date, created exactly the opposite which is distrust. Our homes and recreational areas have been affected without proper consultation and, were that to take place, I expect the company would not be satisfied with our positions. In the end, residential areas and green spaces are simply not compatible with heavy industry.

Also, this OCP change being request is not a small request. It is not a change from one type of residential designation to another. It is a request tp change a green space designation to make it possible to conduct heavy industry - the opposite end of a scale.

I urge you to deny this request. It is the top of a very steep and slippery slope.

Respectfully,

Glenys Baltimore, president
Cowley Creek Neighbourhood Association

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: Date of public hearing for bylaw 2026-25
Date:	Monday, July 13, 2026 8:47:18 AM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Glenys [redacted]
Sent: July 11, 2026 9:50 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Date of public hearing for bylaw 2026-25

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

I would like to request that this public hearing be rescheduled until everyone is back and settled in from summer holidays. Ideally this would be after Labour Day so kiddos and their parents are back and into this year's routine.
Thank you for any consideration you are able to give this.

Glenys Baltimore, president
Cowley Creek Neighbourhood Association

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: Concerned Citizen of Mary Lake
Date:	Monday, July 13, 2026 2:50:39 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Grace and George [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 1:09 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Concerned Citizen of Mary Lake

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

We do not support Bylaw 2026-25 going forward.

My family have been residents of the Mary Lake neighbourhood for over 30 years. We raised our family here. Over three decades, we have all enjoyed recreated throughout the neighbouring wild spaces, during all of the Yukon's seasons. Having access to these spaces was one of the reasons we located here and why we built our home here. We are very concerned about the mineral development that is now in our recreational (and spiritual) backyard and we do not support it in any way, shape or form.

Sincerely,
Grace Snider & Family

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Voicing our opposition to Gladiator Metal"s wish to be allowed to do more destructive mining exploration in city limits
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:05:05 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 11:53 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Cc: Legislative Services [redacted]
Subject: Voicing our opposition to Gladiator Metal's wish to be allowed to do more destructive mining exploration in city limits

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear City Council,

We are writing to tell you that we are strongly opposed to Gladiator Metals request to amend the OCP to allow for more mineral exploration in city limits, especially in our back yard in Mary Lake. To date Gladiator has created a mess, has disturbed our peace with their drilling noise and been careless with waste and spills. The area we enjoyed for biking, running and berry picking is now in a sad state.
Please don't allow them to further destroy precious ecosystems in the City and Yukon.

Helen Stappers and Dan Shier
[redacted]

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Mining within City Limits
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 10:17:30 AM
Attachments:	image.png Uncertain-Benefits-Known-Costs-Yukon-Mining-Audit-Wang-et-al.-2026.pdf

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FYI

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Irene Lubbers [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 10:10 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Mining within City Limits

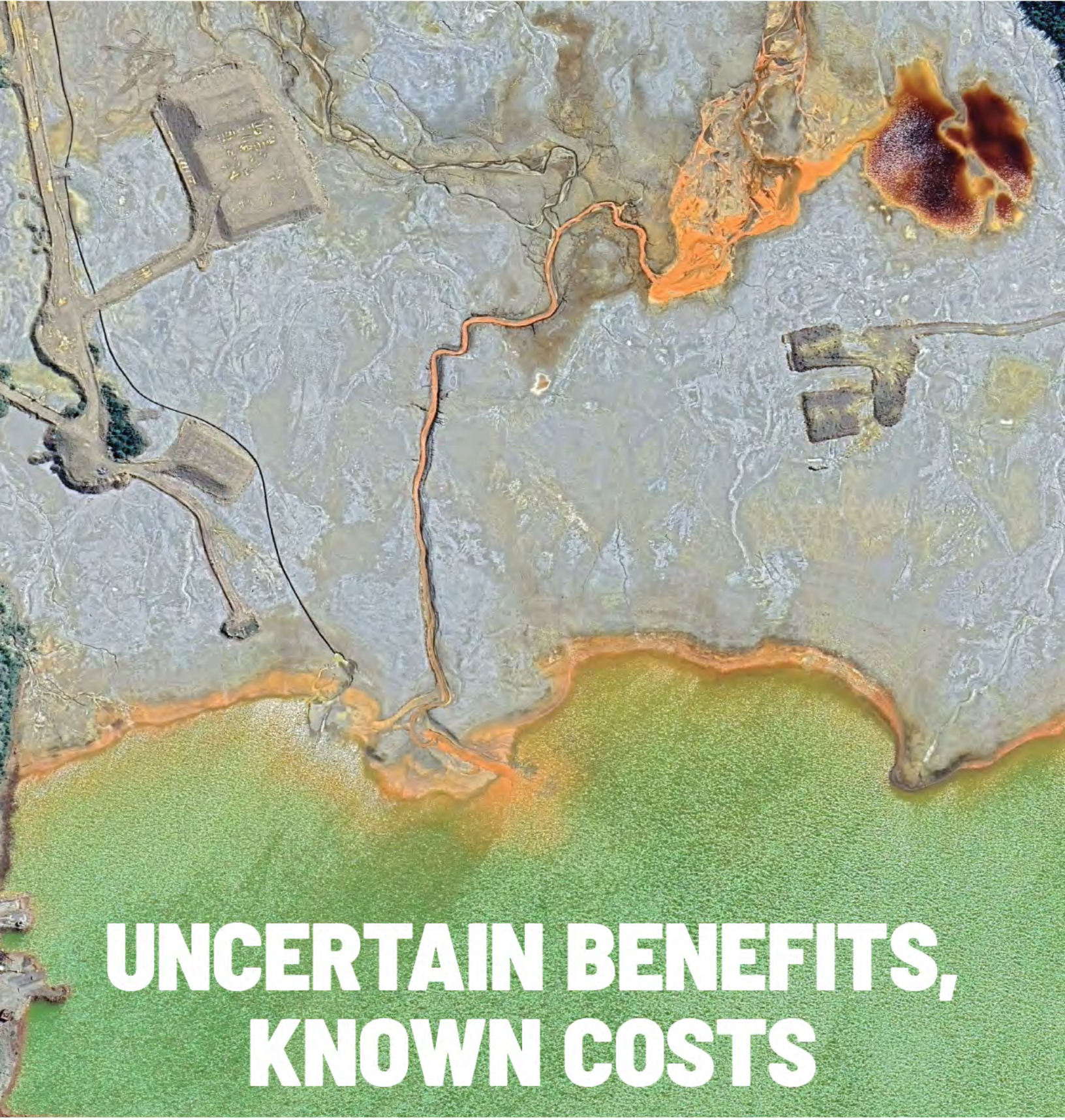
[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]
Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

Please read the following study.

Please be advised, my husband and I have lived in Mary Lake since 1988 and strongly oppose mining exploration etc within city limits.

Irene and Gord Lubbers

Sent from my iPhone



UNCERTAIN BENEFITS, KNOWN COSTS

An Audit of Yukon Major Mines

Jixiang Wang, Jessica Dempsey, Rosemary Collard

UBC Centre for Climate Justice

The authors welcome feedback on this working paper.

Send any comments to Jessica Dempsey jessica.dempsey@geog.ubc.ca and Rosemary Collard rcollard@sfu.ca.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

Mining is promoted by the Yukon government as a cornerstone of territorial economic development, particularly in the context of growing demand for critical minerals. Mine proponents and policymakers claim that mining delivers well-paid jobs, stable revenues, and long-term prosperity for the territory, while regulatory processes are cited as a barrier to timely project development. This working paper tests those claims by auditing the economic performance of major Yukon mines approved through the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB) process since 2005.

We set out to answer the following questions:

- *To what extent do regulatory processes play a role in delaying mine opening?*
- *How do the economic benefits of mining projects compare to the projections made during the mines' environmental assessments?*

The analysis focuses on six major mines: Minto, Wolverine, Keno Hill, Eagle Gold, Mactung, and Carmack Copper. We compare projected timelines and economic benefits presented during the YESAB process with actual outcomes. Specifically, the audit examines whether mines opened as projected, the causes of delays or non-operation, and how actual production, employment, and government revenue (corporate and mining taxes and royalties), compare with forecasts made in YESAB documents.

FINDINGS

The findings show a consistent pattern: mining costs to the public are relatively predictable, while economic benefits are less predictable, frequently overstated, and/or unrealized. Of the six mines, two started production as projected, two experienced multi-year delays, and two remain non-operational. Three of the mines were delayed or failed to open because proponents lacked sufficient financing, and one failed environmental review. This shows that regulation was rarely responsible for mine delays and closures.

Economic performance consistently fell short of projections. All four mines that reached production significantly overstated expected output. Average annual production across operational mines was 57 percent lower than forecast, and when non-operational mines are included, actual production averaged 72 percent below projections. Employment projections were similarly unreliable. Where data were available, average employment was 31 percent lower than projected at operational mines, and 59 percent lower when non-operational projects are included. Mining employment was also highly volatile, with abrupt closures and long shutdowns common, reflecting the sensitivity of these projects to market forces. Where employment data were disaggregated, the majority of jobs went to non-Yukon workers. These findings undermine claims that mining delivers stable, local employment benefits.

Corporate taxes and royalties were rarely reported in comparable ways, making auditing challenging. But available evidence shows significant underperformance.

SUMMARY OF AUDIT FINDINGS

The audit compared economic benefits forecasted in mine applications approved by the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB) since 2005 to actuals as of 2024. Economic benefits include the production of the mined material, the workforce employed, and corporate and mining taxes. *Note that Mactung and Carmack Copper mines did not open.*

Mine (operational and non-operational)	**Production Audit**	**Employment Audit**	**Tax Audit**
Minto	-15%	*Not enough data*	*Not enough data*
Wolverine	-69%	-4%	*Not enough data*
Keno Hill	-61%	-14%	*Not enough data*
Eagle Gold	-85%	-76%	-99.5%
Mactung	-100%	-100%	-100%
Carmack Copper	-100%	-100%	-100%
Average	**-72%**	**-59%**	**-100%**

At Eagle Gold, actual tax payments were 99.5% percent below projections, and royalty payments across projects were modest to nonexistent, particularly when placed next to remediation costs.

CONCLUSIONS

While mining's economic benefits are volatile, its monetary costs are consistent and often fall to governments and taxpayers.[1] The territorial government now bears primary responsibility for remediation of abandoned and failed mines, with liabilities nearing $190 million as of 2024, excluding the rapidly escalating costs associated with the Eagle Gold heap leach failure, likely to at least double that amount. These numbers do not include federal liabilities incurred before devolution (e.g. for substantial costs related to Faro mine). These findings highlight the need to weigh uncertain economic benefits against the known and escalating costs that governments and the public ultimately bear.

LIMITATIONS

Our findings are constrained by systemic gaps in economic data. Mine proponents do not always provide complete or comparable projections for employment, taxes, and royalties in YESAB assessments, and the Yukon government, like other jurisdictions, does not systematically track whether projected benefits materialize after approval. As a result, regulatory decisions and public oversight rely on partial and inconsistent information, obscuring the true economic performance and risks of mining projects.

Based on our findings, we offer the following recommendations to the Yukon government to ensure that future mining decisions serve the public interest:

1. Strengthen economic information requirements during the YESAB process,

2. Improve transparency and post-approval accountability, and

3. Ground decision-making in the actual track record of Yukon mines

1 There are also environmental impacts, which fall largely on the communities living near the mines. These impacts are outside the scope of this audit, except the extent that the impacts become monetary costs - for example, for cleanup.

1 | INTRODUCTION

With growing interest in critical minerals at the territorial level, the Yukon government (YG) positions mining projects as a way to provide "many well-paying jobs to Yukoners," while promising that it will be "done responsibly to protect our environment and benefit Yukoners" (Government of Yukon, 2025b; Government of Yukon, 2024). This is a common narrative not only in the Yukon, but also in the rest of Canada (e.g. NRCAN, 2022). The assumption is that mines' costs are outweighed by the benefits.

The costs of mining in the Yukon are relatively well known, particularly from a series of poorly managed mines that were ultimately abandoned, leaving governments to assume the costs of remediation. This longstanding pattern extends back to the Faro mine, which began operating in 1969 (see Box 1). It remains an issue with mines assessed by the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB), and approved by YG after 2005. Just in care and maintenance alone, YG spent around $42 million on Wolverine mine in 2024, with only $10.5 million covered by Yukon Zinc's financial security (Pilkington, 2024). In its most recent budget (2025-26), YG allocated $5.5 million for year one of a two-year water treatment plan at the Wolverine Mine (Government of Yukon, 2025a). This reflects a wider problem in mining, where water treatment is often required in perpetuity, funded by governments.[1] None of these costs cover remediation, which has not yet begun (Pilkington, 2024). Total expenses are therefore expected to rise significantly.

In the Yukon, the responsibility of remediating abandoned or failed mines now largely rests with the territorial government. Following the Yukon Northern Affairs Program Devolution Transfer Agreement (DTA) coming into effect in 2003, the YG assumed full responsibility for environmental liabilities and remediation for all mines permitted after devolution, with the exception of Type II mines, for which the Government of Canada still shares responsibility. This illustrates the fiscal exposure YG and, in some cases, the federal government faces if proponents of currently operational mines were to abandon operations. These abandoned mines often leave the territory responsible for the remaining remediation cost despite limited revenue from these mines. These deficits ultimately have to be covered through public funds, diverting resources from other priorities.

At the territorial level, the burden of remediation has grown exponentially in recent years. As of March 31, 2024, the Yukon government has recorded $189.9 million as a liability for the estimated costs related to the remediation of environmental contamination for which YG is responsible (Department of Finance, 2024, p. 22). Of the liabilities, $70.9 million (37.3%) is related to the Minto mine site, and $44.6 million (23.4%) is for the Wolverine site (Ibid.). This does not include the remediation cost of Eagle Gold Mine. In June 2024, the heap leach pad at the Eagle Gold Mine failed, resulting in the spill of approximately two million tonnes of cyanide-soaked ore. This marked one of the two "most catastrophic failures" in the history of the heap-leaching mining process, according to a member of the independent review board (Brenna, 2025). The remediation cost associated with Eagle Gold Mine has gone up steadily since August 2024, from $100 million to $220 million (Plonka, 2025). YG's Budget 2025-26 includes "up to $118 million in advances to the court appointed receiver for Victoria Gold Corp., in addition to funding contributions to the First Nation of

1 According to the SME (Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration) *Tailings Management Handbook*, "The mining industry has a significant challenge in that these TSFs [Tailings Storage Facilities] will last for perpetuity. Unfortunately, humans have no experience in designing facilities to last forever, so responsible tailings management is required for as long as the TSF exists" (Morrison and Lammers, 2022). See also article December 2025 issue of *Mining Engineering* reporting on a study by the US Forest Service which concluded "that the natural processes that drove risk would always be present and would slowly degrade the reclaimed facilities over time. The only solution to maintaining system performance was a commitment to site care and maintenance — well, forever ... There is no expiration date on reclamation integrity, and mining companies should recognize their post-closure care and maintenance obligations may last far longer than they have currently planned for and, in some instances, may be a forever proposition" (Werner, 2025, p 23).

Nacho Nyak Dun for their response, as well as the costs for an independent review board to investigate underlying causes of the failure" (Government of Canada, 2025a).

As the above examples show, mining in the Yukon has generated costs to the public purse. Despite these known costs, YG continues to promote mining as a key economic development strategy, banking on mine's economic benefits. What does the track record of mines' economic performance tell us about how reliable and stable these benefits are?

Under the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act (YESAA), project proponents are required to include socio-economic effects assessments. These assessments should account for the full lifecycle of the project, from operation through closure and post-closure, as well as address potential economic impacts, such as jobs and tax revenue (YESAB, 2006). Through the YESAB process, then, mine proponents forecast economic benefits like jobs and tax revenue, as well as mine opening and closure timelines (that are relevant for economic benefit delivery and for ecosystem protections). These forecasts are influential for government decision-making. But YG, like other jurisdictions, does not track whether these benefits materialize.

Another issue is whether or not proposed mines are even built, and when. Mining companies and associations have drawn attention to YESAB for its delays in all

BOX 1

A detailed study of the Faro mine, at one time world's largest operational open-pit lead-zinc mine, operating from 1969-1999, finds that the mine generated a government deficit of approximately $747.5 million (in 2024 dollars) when comparing total revenues (including corporate income tax and Yukon royalties) with total expenditures (covering infrastructure, subsidies, and remediation) (Beckett, 2025) .[1]

Following bankruptcy, Faro was abandoned in 1998, leaving behind enough acid-generating waste to cover more than 26,000 football fields (Office of the Auditor General of Canada, 2024). Remediation costs for the Faro mine continue to grow: in 2017, the costs were anticipated at $500 million for 10-15 years (Jacques, 2017), and in 2022-23, the estimated remediation cost increased to an additional $5 billion (Office of the Auditor General of Canada, 2024). As of 2024, nearly $800 million has already been spent on care, maintenance, and remediation planning (Office of the Auditor General of Canada, 2024) - see Table 1.

Table 1. Government revenue from and expenditures on Faro Mine (Beckett, 2025; Hodge et. al, 2021)

Government revenue + expenses for Faro mine	Amount (2024 dollars)
Corporate income tax	+ $480,546,005
Yukon royalties	+ $99,913,751
Total revenue	**+ $580,459,756**
Infrastructure, subsidies	- $528,000,000
Remediation to date *(expected to rise)*	- $800,000,000
Total Expenses	**- $1,328,000,000**
Revenue - expenses	**- $747,540,235**

Note | *Data taken from Beckett's thesis (2025): p 124, 401 and Appendix 1. Dollar amounts converted to 2024 dollars using https://inflationcalculator.ca/*

1 *Note: The Faro Mine is a federal liability, as it was approved and licensed by the federal government. As a part of the Devolution Transfer Agreement (where the Yukon took over more province-like jurisdiction), in 2004, the Yukon Government took the lead of daily maintenance and remediation design, while Canada foot the bill. In 2018, the Government of Canada assumed full responsibility for the management of the site.*

stages of environmental assessment, citing concerns around hiring and investment (Plonka, 2024). This has led YESAB to reorganize and allocate more resources for assessments (Elliot, 2025). Regulation is not the only source of delay for mines in Canada. In British Columbia, economic factors like commodity prices and financing are the most commonly reported sources of delay for mines (Collard et al. 2024). This led us to ask the question, is regulation alone to blame for slow project timelines in the Yukon?

With an eye to better understanding mines' actual economic benefits and timelines and determining the accuracy of YESAB forecasts, our research audits projections made in YESAB documents. Specifically, we asked: Are mines opening when projected? And if there are delays, what is the cause of those delays? How do the actual economic benefits of mining projects - jobs, production, and taxes, compare to the projections made during environmental assessments?

These are timely questions as YG contemplates future mining projects, such as BMC's contentious proposal for the Kudz Ze Kayah mine, an open-pit and underground zinc, silver, copper, gold and lead mine to be built in southeast Yukon. BMC and YG claim the project will generate direct tax and royalty payments to Yukon and Canada of $761 million over its ten-year lifespan and employ 400 people during operations (Government of Yukon, 2022; BMC, 2023). YG approved the mine in 2022, despite opposition from the two Kaska Nations - Liard First Nation (LFN) and Ross River Dena Council (RRDC) - on whose territory the mine is proposed. LFN and RRDC successfully challenged the mine's approval in court, citing inadequate consultation (Hong, 2024; Liard Aboriginal Women's Society, n.d.; RRDC v Yukon, 2024). In late 2024, the Yukon Court of Appeals ordered YG to engage in additional consultation, particularly on the economic feasibility of the mine, which is ongoing. YG's initial approval of the project, despite LFN and RRDC's explicit denial of consent and long-record of opposition, rests on the promise of significant economic benefit. Auditing past mines' economic performance provides valuable data with which to assess the likelihood of that promise.

2 | METHODS

Six major mines in the Yukon were included in our audit. From the list of major mines derived from the YG (Government of Yukon, 2026), we included mines that went through the full YESAB process after 2005 and were approved and projected to go into production at the time of the study (June 2025). 2005 was selected as the cutoff because it marks when socio-economic assessments began following a consistent and standardized process under YESAA (Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, 2013). Out of nine major mines listed on the YG website, six went through YESAB review after 2005 and so were included in this audit: Wolverine, Carmacks Copper Project, Minto, Mactung, Keno Hill,[1] and Eagle Gold (Table 2).

While some of these mines have a history of prior mining activity, our audit focuses on their projected performance following completion of the full YESAB process. The Minto mine differs from the others in our dataset because the YESAB process in this case applies specifically to an increase in existing mining and milling rates. Nevertheless, Minto is included because the data they included in their proposal consist of aggregated production figures for the mine as a whole.

Similarly, some of these mines have subsequently applied to expand their mining activities. Because these later applications often do not provide the same level of detail as the original submissions, this audit focuses on the initial application reviewed through YESAB. In the case of Keno Hill, this means our audit is limited to the Bellekeno Mine (for employment and production), one of four sites that went through YESAB in 2009.

Our audit compares predicted and actual timelines and economic outcomes for these six mines, focusing on each mine's operation and closure schedule, and three economic indicators: production levels, employment, and corporate and mining tax revenues and royalties. We collected data on predicted timelines and economic indicators from project proposals submitted to YESAB, accessed through the YESAB Registry website. For data on actual timelines and economic indicators, we gathered data from news reporting, corporate reporting [e.g., annual reports and financial statements, accessed from company's websites and through System for Electronic Document Analysis and Retrieval (SEDAR) for the public mining companies, and the Extractive Sector Transparency Measures Act (ESTMA) data portal, for private international mining companies], and press releases. We searched media and corporate reporting to determine the publicly stated reasons, if declared, for any mine delays and closures.

To compare predicted and actual production, employment, and tax revenues, we compiled spreadsheets for each mine covering its lifetime.[2] Only comparable data (between predicted and actual)

1 *Note:* Keno Hill is both a Type II under the DTA (federal responsibility) and an operating mine under YG's purview
2 Data available at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_vr_MuANC7K9vTdnk5BJu0ASMm3uGDR-/view?usp=sharing

were included. For example, we included both tax projections and actual tax figures only when they referred to the same tax categories. This means we considered only cases where corporate and mining taxes are reported separately from individual income taxes and royalties. For mines with multiple assessments due to project expansions, we reviewed each assessment and aggregated the projections. For some years we were unable to access data on actual employment and tax data; these cells are marked with "N/D", for "no data." This is also the case for the predicted tax data. In some cases, proponents did not predict tax revenue or royalties, or only provided such data in the aggregate, including, for example, personal income taxes, which makes comparison with actuals impossible. In those cases, we also marked N/D in our database. Because of these significant data limitations, our ability to calculate the annual average varied for each indicator and each mine. For mines with less than 80% of annual data coverage, we did not calculate averages, marking "not enough data" in place of an average. For mines above that threshold, we calculated averages, excluding the missing year(s) data from the average. We then calculated the percentage difference between the average projected and average actual.

Table 2. Major mines in the study dataset, including original proponent and current owner (if different) and ownership type.

Project Name	Proponent Name	Current Owner	Ownership Type
Wolverine	Yukon Zinc Corporation	*N/A*	*Private (bankrupt in 2019)*
Carmacks Copper Project	Western Copper Corporation	Granite Creek Copper	*Public (Copper North acquired the Carmack property in 2011 which was later acquisted by Granite Creek Copper Ltd. in 2020)*
Minto	Minto Explorations Ltd.	Selkirk Copper Mines	*Private to Public to Indigenous Owned (sold to Selkirk Copper Mines after the mine was abandoned by previous owners - see Pilkington 2025)*
Mactung	North American Tungsten Corp. Ltd.	Fireweed Metals Corp.	*Public to Private (Fireweed Metals Corp. took over in June 2022 after North American Tungsten Corp. Ltd. declared bankruptcy in October 2015 - see GNWT 2022)*
Keno Hill	Alexco Keno Hill Mining Corp.	Hecla Mining Company	*Private to Public (acquired by Hecla Mining Company, a publicly-traded US company, in September 2022)*
Eagle Gold	Victoria Gold Corp.	N/A	*Public (delisted from the TSX on September 23, 2024 and currently for sale through a court-supervised receivership process, see Plonka, 2025)*

3 | FINDINGS

Our audit shows that mines experienced delays and consistently overestimated their economic benefits. Inadequate financing was cited as the primary reason for these delays. In terms of our audit of economic predictions, underperformance and lack of data are the headline finding. All four mines that reached production significantly overstated their average annual output; on average, actual production fell 57% short of projected levels. Where enough data were available to audit employment, actuals also fell short of forecasts, the majority of jobs went to non-Yukon workers,[1] and at three of the four operational mines, employment was not steady over time. Tax and royalty contributions were far below projections, where data were available.

1 *Note*: Minto is the only major mine that reports employment by different groups. Based on data from Minto's annual socio-economic reports (from 2014 onwards), workers who are First Nations and other Yukon make up, on average, 43.9% of the total workforce

One third of mines were delayed and one third remain non-operational

Of the six mines approved by YESAB since 2005 and projected to open by 2024, two opened in the same year they projected in their project proposals submitted to YESAB. Two of the six mines remain non-operational, and the other two were delayed (Eagle Gold by six years and Wolverine by four) (Table 3).

Out of the four mines where production was delayed or never started, three (Wolverine, Mactung Mine, and Eagle Gold Mine) were due to inadequate financing, according to media coverage. For example, in the case of the Eagle Gold Mine, in the same year the project was projected to begin production, the proponent reported having only $35 million in place - $395 million short of the financing needed for construction and start-up (CBC News, 2013). The one outlier was the Carmacks Copper Project, which did not proceed to production due to environmental concerns that ultimately led to the rejection of a water certificate by the Yukon Water Board (Oke, 2010).

Despite industry and government narratives of regulatory delay to mining projects (e.g. Stephenson, 2025), our research points to insufficient financing as the primary source of mines' delay. Half of the mines in our dataset were either delayed or have failed to open due to a lack of financing. YESAB recommends projects for government approval (which YG then approves) without evidence that proponents can finance their projects to opening or to closure - as demonstrated by the public costs of mine clean up.

Underperforming economic benefits

Our economic benefit audit reports data from the Yukon mines that operated (Minto, Wolverine, Keno Hill, and Eagle Gold), as well reporting averages from all six mines, where the non-operational mines have actual performance values of zero.

Production

Production data are the most complete, and the finding is the most consistent. All four mines that went into production significantly overestimated their average annual output, with actual figures falling short by 15% to 85% (calculated using average annual production based on the projected life of mine). Year by year, with the exception of Minto (which in two out of eight years has exceeded the projected production), all mines within the projected life of mine underperform every year. Accounting for non-operational mines further widens the gap. Across all six mines (operational and not), the actual average annual production is 72% less than the projections. In general, production levels are influenced by economic factors, especially mineral prices.[1]

Employment

The employment data are more limited because there are no consistent standards for predicting or reporting socio-economic indicators, resulting in incomplete data.[2] But we are able to see three key patterns through the data, despite these limitations.

The first pattern is mines' underperformance in employment. We were able to audit the employment projections of three of the operational mines in our

1 The connection between production volatility and economic forces is explicitly acknowledged in the additional information accompanying the Minto mining and milling rate increase application. As noted, "the determination of the mining life of a given mineral deposit...is subject to the economic viability and volatility associated with mineral prices and the global economy in general. The duration of mining and milling activities is therefore affected not only by changes to processing capacity, but also by economic forces that frequently lead to changes in economic recoveries, resource tonnages, and ultimately the projected mine life of projects" (Weston, 2008, p. 1).
2 In the case of Minto, the proponent did not provide projected employment figures, making it impossible to compare them with the actual data. For Keno Hill, the reported employment numbers include labour for reclamation activities, so it is not possible to isolate employment related to operations alone.

Table 3. Projected production start vs. actual start

Project Name	Projected production start	Actual production start	Reason (s) for delay
Eagle Gold Mine	2013	*2019*	*Inadequate financing (CBC News, 2013)*
Wolverine	2007	2011	*Inadequate financing (PwC, 2019)*
Mactung Mine	2013	Not started	*Inadequate financing (Williams, 2022)*
Carmacks Copper Project	2010	Not started	*Environmental concerns (Thompson, 2011)*

Table 4. Summary of Audit Findings

Mine (operational and non-operational)	**Production Audit**	**Employment Audit**	**Tax Audit**
Minto	-15%	*Not enough data*	*Not enough data*
Wolverine	-69%	-4%	*Not enough data*
Keno Hill	-61%	-14%	*Not enough data*
Eagle Gold	-85%	-76%	-99.5%
Mactung	-100%	-100%	-100%
Carmack Copper	-100%	-100%	-100%
Average	**-72%**	**-59%**	**-100%**

dataset: Eagle Gold, Wolverine and Keno Hill. Our audit of Eagle Gold Mine shows that the proponent overestimated the annual average employment by 76% during the projected production years. Wolverine employed significantly more workers than projected when it was operating, but it only operated for five years, instead of the twelve predicted (Yukon Zinc Corporation and AXYS Environmental Consulting Ltd 2005, p iv). Over Wolverine's projected Life of Mine (LoM), then, it employed 4 percent fewer people than forecasted. The Keno Hill Bellekeno project employed 14% fewer than projected. Employment overall averaged 31% percent less than projected at the three operational mines with adequate data, and 59% average across the five mines with enough data (including non-operational mines).

Our data point to a second key pattern: employment at Yukon mines is characteristically volatile (see Saxinger and Gartler, 2015; First Nation of Nacho Nyäk Dun Elders et al., 2019; CBC News 2017b for more work on this issue). Keno Hill closed for an extended period between 2013 and 2020, due to low commodity prices (CBC News, 2017a). Wolverine mine's initially temporary closure in 2015 turned into permanent closure. It operated for only five years instead of the twelve years predicted (2007-2018) (Yukon Zinc Corporation and AXYS Environmental Consulting Ltd 2005, p iv). Eagle Gold catastrophic heap failure in 2024 brought an abrupt end to operations (and employment) at that mine.

The third and final pattern the employment audit suggests is that many mining jobs in the Yukon go to non-Yukoners. Only two operational mines - Minto and Wolverine - reported their actual employment by disaggregating Yukoners and non-Yukoners - but at both, the majority of jobs were held by non-Yukoners. At Minto, across the seven years for which we have data (2014-2021, except 2019), an average of 64 percent of employees were non-Yukoners. At Wolverine, during the five years the mine operated fully (2010-2014), an average of 71 percent of workers were non-Yukoners. Mine proponents are aware of this: in their socio-economic assessments, mine proponents consistently cite high employment and labour force participation rates in the territory, noting the need to recruit specialized workers from outside Yukon. Out of the six mines we audited, five mentioned shortage of skilled labour in their YESAB application, stating they expect to fill positions with workers outside of the region, or even the Yukon.[1] Volatile employment and a reliance on non-local workers ultimately means that economic benefits of employment for Yukoners are uncertain.

Government Revenues

The final indicator we sought to audit pertains to government revenues from mines, namely corporate and mining tax payments and royalties. While a lack of data and transparency constrained full assessment, available evidence shows consistent underperformance. For taxes, Eagle Gold is the only mine with enough data

1 For example: Eagle Gold IA 0 "VIT may require workers to come from outside of Yukon to meet the operational needs of the mine—particularly some of the more specialized positions" (Stantec, 2011, p. 6–385); Mactung: "...in 2007, mining exploration projects had difficulty finding local residents to work" (EBA, 2008, p. 632). "It is estimated that out of 273 estimated employment during operation phase, 171 of them would be from outside of Yukon (62.6% of the workforce)" (bid., p. 662). Carmacks Copper: Contractors "will almost certainly be from outside the Yukon" (Vector Research p. 54). Minto: "...construction and operating labour may be difficult to find even at higher wage rates..." (Cavery et al., pp. 42-43). Wolverine: "A longer duration of stay at site [...] would attract an experienced workforce from outside of the Yukon willing to commute long distances at personal cost ...of the 191 direct jobs created, many will flow outside the Yukon initially" (Yukon Zinc Corporation, 2005, pp. 7–453, 7–455).

to audit. The difference between projected and actual annual tax is -99.5% over the projected life of the mine. Eagle Gold did generate tax payments after the mine was predicted to close, but the total of these payments (before the heap leach failure), is 10 million, as opposed to the 85 million forecasted.

Royalties have also been inconsistent. As illustrated in Table 5, across projects, many proponents do not include royalty projections in their YESAB materials, and actual royalty payments are modest to nil. The sums collected through royalties are particularly small in contrast to the significant costs associated with mine closure and environmental remediation.

Table 5. Royalty audit

Project Name	Projected royalty	Total royalty paid as of 2023 [1]	Difference
Wolverine	$12 million	*$0*	*-100%*
Carmacks Copper Project	No data[2]	$0 (non-operational)	*Lacking projection*
Minto	No data	$35 million [3]	*Lacking projection*
Mactung Mine	No data [4]	$0 (non-operational)	Lacking projection
Keno Hill (filed under Bellekeno Mine)	$3.8 million [5]	$0.7 million	-82%
Eagle Gold Mine	No data	$8.8 million	Lacking projection

1 Data collected from the Government of Yukon's Website (n.d.-b)
2 Western Copper has estimated that annual corporate tax and royalty payments from the operation will average about $7 million per year.
3 Paid to the Selkirk First Nation due to Minto being on Category A Land
4 Citing difficulties in projecting the royalty given the modest numbers in royalty collected under the Quantz Act in the Yukon historically (Project Proposal, p.667).
5 Calculation based on Bellekeno Preliminary Economic Assessment Technical Report

4 | CONCLUSION: Uncertain Benefits, Known Costs

This working paper identifies a persistent imbalance in Yukon mining development: project costs are relatively certain, while the projected benefits are uncertain and unpredictable. Tax revenues and job creation are routinely overstated. Moreover, our employment audit indicates that employment is volatile and, where data are available, the majority of jobs are held by non-Yukoners. Our audit also shows that Yukon mines are commonly delayed or remain non-operational well past their planned opening date, but that delays and non-operation stem largely from lack of financing more than regulation.

These fluctuations in mining projects' contributions to the economy are part of a broader pattern of volatility inherent to the mining industry. Yet this is rarely acknowledged or adequately accounted for in environmental and socio-economic assessments. These assessments often present economic benefits as stable and predictable, overlooking market dynamics like in commodity price fluctuations, global market shifts, and financing constraints. As a result, economic projections appear to function more as justifications for YG approval than realistic assessments of economic benefits and risk.

Despite the poor economic record, the framing of mining as both economically indispensable and constrained by regulation continues to shape public policy. In 2025, the Yukon government amended the Placer Mining Land Use Regulation and the Quartz Mining Land Use Regulation and the Waters Regulation to temporarily extend approvals, allowing eligible operators to continue work while waiting for licence renewals, "in recognition of the important role the mineral exploration and mining industries play in the territory's economy and the economic benefits that the industry provides to local communities" (Government of Yukon, 2025c). These amendments were enacted

without consultation with Indigenous governments, prompting Yukon First Nations to call for their repeal (Meilleur, 2025). Notably, the policy changes are not supported by evidence demonstrating that regulatory delay, rather than market conditions or project viability, constitutes the primary obstacle to mine development.

In a time of geopolitical uncertainty and growing emphasis on energy transition minerals, mining is being repositioned as a central development strategy for the territory. But the track record of previous Yukon mines raise significant doubt about this strategy. As documented in this brief, past projects, including Wolverine and Faro, have cost the territorial and federal governments far more than they delivered in economic returns, while imposing substantial burdens on communities and ecosystems. BMC's proposed Kudz Ze Kayah mine, located just 25 km from Wolverine and 150 km from Faro, has certain costs: significant impacts to caribou, long-term water impacts, and disruptions to Kaska traditional land use (Decision Bodies for the Kudz Ze Kayah Decision Document, 2024). What remains deeply uncertain are the benefits - the hundreds of millions in projected tax and royalty revenues and hundreds of steady jobs over a decade - that are used to justify approval.

At the same time, public investment to support further mining exploration and development is accelerating. The Yukon Resource Gateway Program alone commits $398.4 million to roads serving mineral-rich areas (Government of Yukon, n.d.-a). In 2024, Natural Resources Canada added $60 million for infrastructure in the Golden Triangle of northwestern British Columbia and the Yukon, including a new access road for the Galore Creek mine and a pre-feasibility study for a transmission line linking Yukon to the continental grid (Bennett, 2024). An additional $12.9 million has been allocated to Fireweed Metals for road and power planning from the Government of Canada (Fireweed Metals, 2024).[1] If the future is anything like the past, our research suggests that these known costs, especially when added with costs of remediation and clean up, will overwhelm the uncertain economic benefits.

1 Note: This is in addition to the US$15.8 million (~C$22.5 million) awarded by the U.S. Department of Defense under Title III of the Defense Production Act of 1950 ("DPA Title III").

TOWARDS RECOMMENDATIONS

1 | Strengthen economic information requirements in YESAB assessments

- Require and standardize economic benefit forecasting units and methodologies across projects to ensure public legibility and comparability.
- Use the track record of economic benefits from comparable Yukon and northern mining projects, rather than relying exclusively on modelled projections.
- Develop and publish territorial guidance on economic forecasting practices, informed by economic, Indigenous, and public interest expertise.
- Incorporate Indigenous governments and independent economic expertise into the development and review of economic information requirements.

2 | Embed economic benefit reporting and public transparency in YG mine regulations and permitting

- Require decision bodies to include enforceable conditions obligating approved mining projects to submit annual socio-economic performance reports. These reports should compare actual employment, wages, production, and government revenues against the forecasts presented during assessment.
- Create a centralized, publicly accessible registry where this information is housed, standardized, and searchable by project.
- Use registry data to support cumulative effects assessments, regional land-use planning, and future YESAB reviews and YG mine decisions.

3 | Ensure government oversight and accountability mechanisms

- Establish an independent oversight body (e.g., an Impact Review Board) or delegate the Auditor General of Canada to:
  - » Audit socio-economic performance,
  - » Flag underperformance relative to socio-economic forecasts,
  - » Recommend enforcement actions (e.g., permit revisions, financial penalties).
- Link post-approval performance to future project approvals and public investment decisions.

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From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Public consultation date change RE OCP amendment
Date:	Wednesday, July 8, 2026 8:37:35 AM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: James Minifie [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 9:53 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Public consultation date change RE OCP amendment

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Mayor and Council,

I spoke as a delegate tonight at the council meeting. Thank-you for taking the time to hear our concerns.

I think it would be appropriate to change the date of public consultation to early September after Yukoners are through the craziness of summer, back in town, and the kids are back in school. I think you all realize how important it would be to hear from as many Yukoners as possible.

Thank-you,
James

--

James Minifie
Association of Canadian Mountain Guides - Ski Guide/Hiking Guide
Canadian Avalanche Association - Professional Member
Skookum Backcountry Adventures - Owner/Lead Guide
[redacted]
Tombstone Moto Adventures - Owner
[redacted]

Whitehorse, YT, Canada

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Gladiator request to amend OCP
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 4:19:54 PM
Attachments:	Mary Lake Mining Issue - j. hicklin June 7, 2026.docx

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Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse

From: j hicklin [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, 07 July 2026 15:00:01
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Gladiator request to amend OCP

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Good day Mayor and Council, please see attached.
Thankyou.
Janne

[redacted]

Re: Gladiator Metal's Request to Amend the OCP-2040 to allow for increased mining exploration activity within City Limits.

- I have lived in the Yukon since 1980, in Mary Lake since 1988. My appreciation for this area runs deep. Specifically around Mary Lake itself, and further southward where a network of trails are enjoyed for x-c skiing, skijoring, snowshoeing, cycling, walking, kayaking, bird-watching and more. Until recently I was grateful for the quiet opportunity to be in nature. There are multiple reasons for these areas to be designated as they currently are - without disruption to neighbourhoods, trails, wildlife corridors and watersheds.

- The Official Community Plan 2040 is based on extensive consultation with residents of Whitehorse through a multi-year process. The OCP should not be tampered with in a manner that **sets precedent for future applications for industrialization**, from Gladiator or any other company.

- This application is requesting the **complete opposite** of the current designation of greenspace/greenbelt or environmentally sensitive lands to "Future Planning", for which the applicant has no other purpose than to open the area for more mining activity. I cannot adequately express my astonishment at their overt intentions.

- It's obvious that the City staff has invested considerable public funds to create the document on the table today. This didn't happen overnight, yet we didn't know until a few days ago of the opportunity to comment today. The City must respect its own process and the effort undertaken by staff and residents to create the OCP and stop entertaining requests that challenge the legitimacy of the OCP.

- This intervention highlights the importance of the City protecting their authority in deciding what happens in neighborhoods, green spaces, environmental sensitive areas, wildlife corridors, and watersheds within city limits. A mining claim does not give irrevocable license and it is not a substitute for a land-use plan. A company may hold mineral rights under Yukon law, but that does not mean exploration drilling is appropriate or allowable wherever they want access and permissions.

- This company has made very little effort to garner meaningful social license. For example, they have posted "keep out" signs on recreational trails (which they don't have the right to do), abandoned a large puddle of unidentified yellow oily discharge made by their equipment in the middle of a small parking area where humans and dogs regularly walk, and driven large equipment along roads that were never intended for that heavy use and are now full of potholes and severely compacted.

- Past "disturbance" shouldn't mean the land can be mined in perpetuity. Previously mined areas up for discussion in this application are finally, decades later, becoming living ecosystems. The habitat is slowly recovering, aided by restoration efforts by many levels of government, at significant cost.

- These living ecosystems around the Whitehorse Copper Belt – including Mary Lake, Cowley Creek, Wolf Creek, Mount Sima are central to our recreation, mental health and wellness, family connection, cultural practices and sense of home.

- The City is in the process of developing a Mineral Exploration and Development Framework. Council should complete that broader framework rather than being distracted by applicant-driven proposals to change our Official Community Plan.

- I am asking Council to proceed no further with Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for taking my concerns seriously.

Janne Hicklin

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject: Fw: Request to consider rescheduling Public Hearing
Date: Wednesday, July 8, 2026 8:37:18 AM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Jennifer England [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 10:19 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Request to consider rescheduling Public Hearing

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

Thank you for listening to the statements and reading the hundreds of emails on behalf of the Bylaw 2026-25.

Given the decision is to proceed to a Public Hearing on August 10th, at which time many Whitehorse residents are still out on school holidays/summer vacation, I would like to request that you consider rescheduling at such time when more Whitehorse citizens can participate in this important hearing.

My suggestion- after school comes back in, perhaps mid-September?

Thank you,

Jennifer

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Newkirk, Jacob; Harris, Dylan
Subject:	Fw: Gladiator Amendment Letter
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:04:21 PM
Attachments:	image.png Exploration_Gladiator July 7_Jennifer Sharp.docx

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Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Jennifer Sharp [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 12:00 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Gladiator Amendment Letter

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Re: Gladiator Metal's Request to Amend the Official Community Plan 2040 to allow for more mining activity within City Limits.

I, Jennifer Sharp have lived in Mt Sima subdivision for 8 years.

- I am asking Council not to proceed with Bylaw 2026-25.
- We, the citizens of Whitehorse, were extensively consulted through a multi-year process to develop the Official Community Plan 2040. That plan contains the key land-use decisions the community made already.
- Gladiator Metals is also suggesting and advertising that areas zoned as 'Greenspace' are already disturbed due to fuelbreak activities that were not specifically rezoned for fuel abatement purposes. I believe these arguments overlook both the intent of the Official Community Plan and the ongoing public safety function these lands serve. The City's Official Community Plan explicitly recognizes wildfire fuel abatement as a permitted activity across all land use designations, and the fuelbreak never required rezoning, nor did it fundamentally change the land use of the area. While trees were removed, the area has been extensively re-planted with aspen. This is misinformation that needs to be corrected.
- Section 13.6 states: "Wildfire fuel abatement is permitted, as appropriate, in any land use designation, subject to applicable bylaws and environmental guidelines."
- In addition, Section 15.5.1 of the Greenspace policies states that Greenspace areas are intended to remain in a natural state with minimal disturbance or development, and that: "The only exception will be for wildfire fuel abatement activities."
- These policies clearly demonstrate that fuel abatement activities were anticipated and supported by Council through the OCP without the need for a separate rezoning process. The existence of fuel abatement treatments should therefore not be interpreted as evidence that the area is suitable for industrial development or mineral exploration.
- I do not agree that greenspace/green belt or environmentally sensitive lands be re-designated as Future Planning to facilitate more mining activity and disruption to our communities, recreation, wildlife corridors, and watersheds. How many zoning applications have successfully converted greenspace to industrial activity in the last few years? I know we successfully deterred a zoning amendment for Sidhu Trucking to expand for the third time into zoned green space. Since when did green space become the new development space?
- I also want to emphasize that a mining claim is not a land-use plan. Valid mineral tenure should not mean automatic land-use compatibility. A company may hold mineral rights under Yukon law, but that does not mean exploration is appropriate within city limits or in city greenspaces, environmentally sensitive areas, close to citizen residences, wildlife corridors or watersheds.
- In addition, past disturbance doesn't mean the land should be mined continuously. Previously disturbed areas are living ecosystems and recovering habitat, aided by restoration efforts by many levels of government at significant cost.
- The living ecosystems around the Whitehorse Copper Belt– including Mary Lake, Cowley Creek, Wolf Creek, Mount Sima are central to our recreation, mental health and wellness, family connection, cultural practices and sense of home.
- The City is already developing a broader Mineral Exploration and Development Framework. Council should complete that broader framework rather than make applicant-driven changes to our Official Community Plan.
- Thank you for listening and taking my concern seriously.

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Newkirk, Jacob; Harris, Dylan
Subject: Fw: Mineral exploration on the Whitehorse Copper Belt
Date: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:05:37 PM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: J van [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 11:50 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Mineral exploration on the Whitehorse Copper Belt

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello Mayor and City Council.

I have lived and worked as a geologist in the Yukon for over 40 years and have lived in the Mary Lake subdivision for 35 years.

We are very fortunate to live where we do that has unlimited trails and forest/mountains surrounding most of the city Whitehorse.

We also have a rich history of copper mining directly behind many subdivisions in Whithorse. This previous Mining has produced roads and trails and open pits that people swim in and now it is being suggested that we can no longer use those very trails and roads for the purpose for which they were built, namely, mineral exporation.

Any debate that we have regarding land use continues to get clouded by people‘s emotions and ill informed or biased media.

The city of Whithorse needs to hear facts, not people‘s emotions when trying to decide what the best thing to do from a city council perspective moving forward.

The city should be reaching out to people that work in the mineral industry and getting information rather than responding to these outrageous ideas that we can no longer do exporation within the city of Whithorse boundaries. These boundaries were created to encompass the known mineral claims of the Whithorse copper belt in order to gain wealth

from the royalties of the mineral/mining claims that are along the Whithorse copper belt.

Please don’t allow NYMBY entitled folks to squander a chance for Yukoners and Canadians to do mineral exploration responsibly under watchful eyes in the past producing Whitehorse Copper belt.

Kind regards,
Jo

Jo van Randen, Geologist.

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: My family is opposed to the mining on the Copper Belt.
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 11:21:35 AM
Attachments:	image.png Uncertain-Benefits-Known-Costs-Yukon-Mining-Audit-Wang-et-al.-2026.pdf

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FYI

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

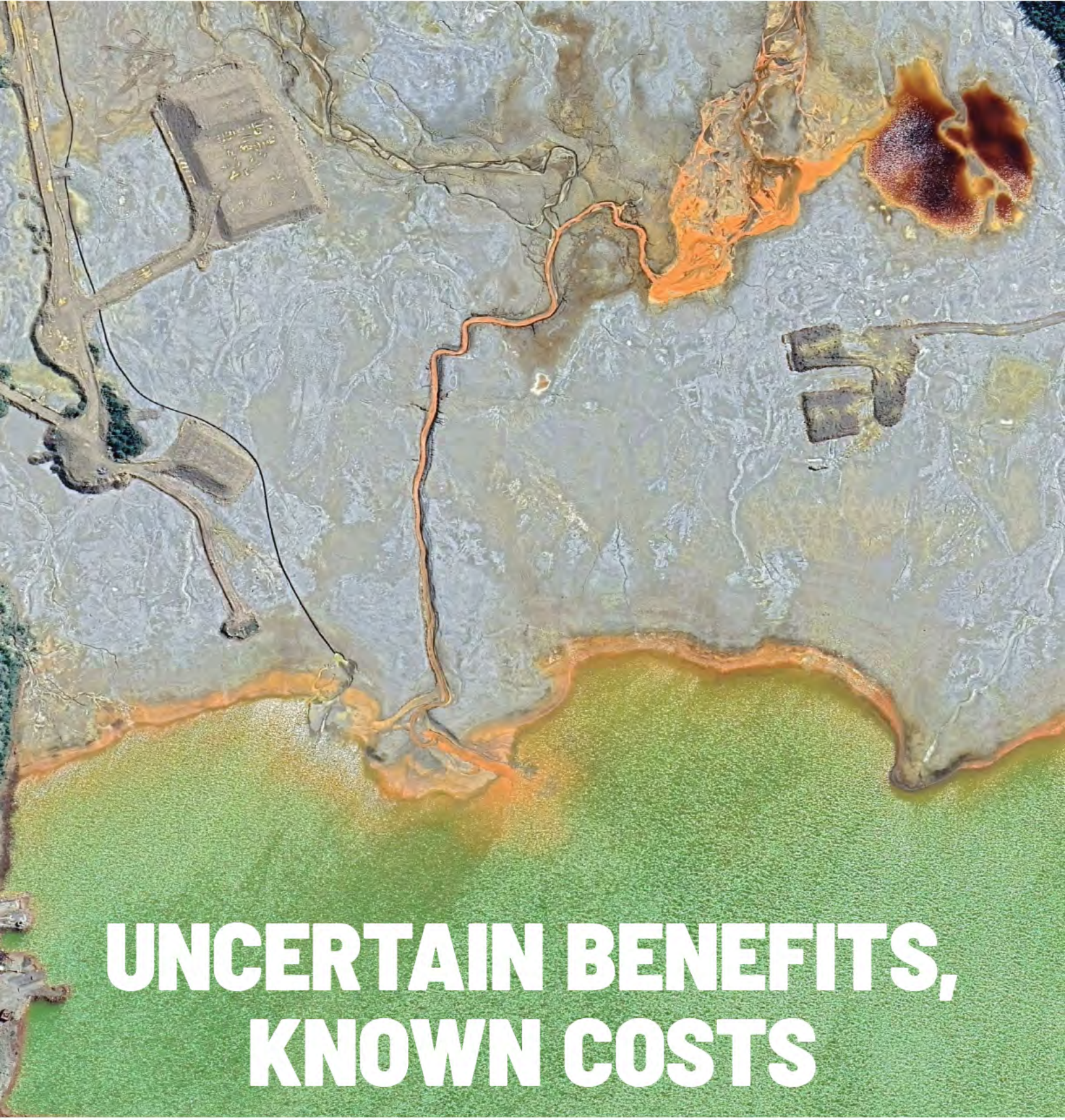
From: Jordan Robins [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 11:17 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Cc: Hilary [redacted]
Subject: My family is opposed to the mining on the Copper Belt.

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello,
I have lived in Cowley Creek with my young family for many years and we frequently make use of the trail system behind us in the Mary lake area for all kinds of different things including Skiing, biking, snowmobile, motorbiking, etc, etc. We would hate to see the area being ruined by the invasion of mining in our beautiful green space. Please say no to the rezoning of our back yard.

Thanks for taking the time to read this.
Jordan Robins and Family of 6

Sent from my Bell Samsung device over Canada's largest network.



UNCERTAIN BENEFITS, KNOWN COSTS

An Audit of Yukon Major Mines

Jixiang Wang, Jessica Dempsey, Rosemary Collard

UBC Centre for Climate Justice

The authors welcome feedback on this working paper.

Send any comments to Jessica Dempsey jessica.dempsey@geog.ubc.ca and Rosemary Collard rcollard@sfu.ca.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

Mining is promoted by the Yukon government as a cornerstone of territorial economic development, particularly in the context of growing demand for critical minerals. Mine proponents and policymakers claim that mining delivers well-paid jobs, stable revenues, and long-term prosperity for the territory, while regulatory processes are cited as a barrier to timely project development. This working paper tests those claims by auditing the economic performance of major Yukon mines approved through the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB) process since 2005.

We set out to answer the following questions:

- *To what extent do regulatory processes play a role in delaying mine opening?*
- *How do the economic benefits of mining projects compare to the projections made during the mines' environmental assessments?*

The analysis focuses on six major mines: Minto, Wolverine, Keno Hill, Eagle Gold, Mactung, and Carmack Copper. We compare projected timelines and economic benefits presented during the YESAB process with actual outcomes. Specifically, the audit examines whether mines opened as projected, the causes of delays or non-operation, and how actual production, employment, and government revenue (corporate and mining taxes and royalties), compare with forecasts made in YESAB documents.

FINDINGS

The findings show a consistent pattern: mining costs to the public are relatively predictable, while economic benefits are less predictable, frequently overstated, and/or unrealized. Of the six mines, two started production as projected, two experienced multi-year delays, and two remain non-operational. Three of the mines were delayed or failed to open because proponents lacked sufficient financing, and one failed environmental review. This shows that regulation was rarely responsible for mine delays and closures.

Economic performance consistently fell short of projections. All four mines that reached production significantly overstated expected output. Average annual production across operational mines was 57 percent lower than forecast, and when non-operational mines are included, actual production averaged 72 percent below projections. Employment projections were similarly unreliable. Where data were available, average employment was 31 percent lower than projected at operational mines, and 59 percent lower when non-operational projects are included. Mining employment was also highly volatile, with abrupt closures and long shutdowns common, reflecting the sensitivity of these projects to market forces. Where employment data were disaggregated, the majority of jobs went to non-Yukon workers. These findings undermine claims that mining delivers stable, local employment benefits.

Corporate taxes and royalties were rarely reported in comparable ways, making auditing challenging. But available evidence shows significant underperformance.

SUMMARY OF AUDIT FINDINGS

The audit compared economic benefits forecasted in mine applications approved by the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB) since 2005 to actuals as of 2024. Economic benefits include the production of the mined material, the workforce employed, and corporate and mining taxes. *Note that Mactung and Carmack Copper mines did not open.*

Mine (operational and non-operational)	**Production Audit**	**Employment Audit**	**Tax Audit**
Minto	-15%	*Not enough data*	*Not enough data*
Wolverine	-69%	-4%	*Not enough data*
Keno Hill	-61%	-14%	*Not enough data*
Eagle Gold	-85%	-76%	-99.5%
Mactung	-100%	-100%	-100%
Carmack Copper	-100%	-100%	-100%
Average	**-72%**	**-59%**	**-100%**

At Eagle Gold, actual tax payments were 99.5% percent below projections, and royalty payments across projects were modest to nonexistent, particularly when placed next to remediation costs.

CONCLUSIONS

While mining's economic benefits are volatile, its monetary costs are consistent and often fall to governments and taxpayers.[1] The territorial government now bears primary responsibility for remediation of abandoned and failed mines, with liabilities nearing $190 million as of 2024, excluding the rapidly escalating costs associated with the Eagle Gold heap leach failure, likely to at least double that amount. These numbers do not include federal liabilities incurred before devolution (e.g. for substantial costs related to Faro mine). These findings highlight the need to weigh uncertain economic benefits against the known and escalating costs that governments and the public ultimately bear.

LIMITATIONS

Our findings are constrained by systemic gaps in economic data. Mine proponents do not always provide complete or comparable projections for employment, taxes, and royalties in YESAB assessments, and the Yukon government, like other jurisdictions, does not systematically track whether projected benefits materialize after approval. As a result, regulatory decisions and public oversight rely on partial and inconsistent information, obscuring the true economic performance and risks of mining projects.

Based on our findings, we offer the following recommendations to the Yukon government to ensure that future mining decisions serve the public interest:

1. Strengthen economic information requirements during the YESAB process,

2. Improve transparency and post-approval accountability, and

3. Ground decision-making in the actual track record of Yukon mines

1 There are also environmental impacts, which fall largely on the communities living near the mines. These impacts are outside the scope of this audit, except the extent that the impacts become monetary costs - for example, for cleanup.

1 | INTRODUCTION

With growing interest in critical minerals at the territorial level, the Yukon government (YG) positions mining projects as a way to provide "many well-paying jobs to Yukoners," while promising that it will be "done responsibly to protect our environment and benefit Yukoners" (Government of Yukon, 2025b; Government of Yukon, 2024). This is a common narrative not only in the Yukon, but also in the rest of Canada (e.g. NRCAN, 2022). The assumption is that mines' costs are outweighed by the benefits.

The costs of mining in the Yukon are relatively well known, particularly from a series of poorly managed mines that were ultimately abandoned, leaving governments to assume the costs of remediation. This longstanding pattern extends back to the Faro mine, which began operating in 1969 (see Box 1). It remains an issue with mines assessed by the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB), and approved by YG after 2005. Just in care and maintenance alone, YG spent around $42 million on Wolverine mine in 2024, with only $10.5 million covered by Yukon Zinc's financial security (Pilkington, 2024). In its most recent budget (2025-26), YG allocated $5.5 million for year one of a two-year water treatment plan at the Wolverine Mine (Government of Yukon, 2025a). This reflects a wider problem in mining, where water treatment is often required in perpetuity, funded by governments.[1] None of these costs cover remediation, which has not yet begun (Pilkington, 2024). Total expenses are therefore expected to rise significantly.

In the Yukon, the responsibility of remediating abandoned or failed mines now largely rests with the territorial government. Following the Yukon Northern Affairs Program Devolution Transfer Agreement (DTA) coming into effect in 2003, the YG assumed full responsibility for environmental liabilities and remediation for all mines permitted after devolution, with the exception of Type II mines, for which the Government of Canada still shares responsibility. This illustrates the fiscal exposure YG and, in some cases, the federal government faces if proponents of currently operational mines were to abandon operations. These abandoned mines often leave the territory responsible for the remaining remediation cost despite limited revenue from these mines. These deficits ultimately have to be covered through public funds, diverting resources from other priorities.

At the territorial level, the burden of remediation has grown exponentially in recent years. As of March 31, 2024, the Yukon government has recorded $189.9 million as a liability for the estimated costs related to the remediation of environmental contamination for which YG is responsible (Department of Finance, 2024, p. 22). Of the liabilities, $70.9 million (37.3%) is related to the Minto mine site, and $44.6 million (23.4%) is for the Wolverine site (Ibid.). This does not include the remediation cost of Eagle Gold Mine. In June 2024, the heap leach pad at the Eagle Gold Mine failed, resulting in the spill of approximately two million tonnes of cyanide-soaked ore. This marked one of the two "most catastrophic failures" in the history of the heap-leaching mining process, according to a member of the independent review board (Brenna, 2025). The remediation cost associated with Eagle Gold Mine has gone up steadily since August 2024, from $100 million to $220 million (Plonka, 2025). YG's Budget 2025-26 includes "up to $118 million in advances to the court appointed receiver for Victoria Gold Corp., in addition to funding contributions to the First Nation of

1 According to the SME (Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration) *Tailings Management Handbook*, "The mining industry has a significant challenge in that these TSFs [Tailings Storage Facilities] will last for perpetuity. Unfortunately, humans have no experience in designing facilities to last forever, so responsible tailings management is required for as long as the TSF exists" (Morrison and Lammers, 2022). See also article December 2025 issue of *Mining Engineering* reporting on a study by the US Forest Service which concluded "that the natural processes that drove risk would always be present and would slowly degrade the reclaimed facilities over time. The only solution to maintaining system performance was a commitment to site care and maintenance — well, forever ... There is no expiration date on reclamation integrity, and mining companies should recognize their post-closure care and maintenance obligations may last far longer than they have currently planned for and, in some instances, may be a forever proposition" (Werner, 2025, p 23).

Nacho Nyak Dun for their response, as well as the costs for an independent review board to investigate underlying causes of the failure" (Government of Canada, 2025a).

As the above examples show, mining in the Yukon has generated costs to the public purse. Despite these known costs, YG continues to promote mining as a key economic development strategy, banking on mine's economic benefits. What does the track record of mines' economic performance tell us about how reliable and stable these benefits are?

Under the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act (YESAA), project proponents are required to include socio-economic effects assessments. These assessments should account for the full lifecycle of the project, from operation through closure and post-closure, as well as address potential economic impacts, such as jobs and tax revenue (YESAB, 2006). Through the YESAB process, then, mine proponents forecast economic benefits like jobs and tax revenue, as well as mine opening and closure timelines (that are relevant for economic benefit delivery and for ecosystem protections). These forecasts are influential for government decision-making. But YG, like other jurisdictions, does not track whether these benefits materialize.

Another issue is whether or not proposed mines are even built, and when. Mining companies and associations have drawn attention to YESAB for its delays in all

BOX 1

A detailed study of the Faro mine, at one time world's largest operational open-pit lead-zinc mine, operating from 1969-1999, finds that the mine generated a government deficit of approximately $747.5 million (in 2024 dollars) when comparing total revenues (including corporate income tax and Yukon royalties) with total expenditures (covering infrastructure, subsidies, and remediation) (Beckett, 2025) .[1]

Following bankruptcy, Faro was abandoned in 1998, leaving behind enough acid-generating waste to cover more than 26,000 football fields (Office of the Auditor General of Canada, 2024). Remediation costs for the Faro mine continue to grow: in 2017, the costs were anticipated at $500 million for 10-15 years (Jacques, 2017), and in 2022-23, the estimated remediation cost increased to an additional $5 billion (Office of the Auditor General of Canada, 2024). As of 2024, nearly $800 million has already been spent on care, maintenance, and remediation planning (Office of the Auditor General of Canada, 2024) - see Table 1.

Table 1. Government revenue from and expenditures on Faro Mine (Beckett, 2025; Hodge et. al, 2021)

Government revenue + expenses for Faro mine	Amount (2024 dollars)
Corporate income tax	+ $480,546,005
Yukon royalties	+ $99,913,751
Total revenue	**+ $580,459,756**
Infrastructure, subsidies	- $528,000,000
Remediation to date *(expected to rise)*	- $800,000,000
Total Expenses	**- $1,328,000,000**
Revenue - expenses	**- $747,540,235**

Note | *Data taken from Beckett's thesis (2025): p 124, 401 and Appendix 1. Dollar amounts converted to 2024 dollars using https://inflationcalculator.ca/*

1 *Note: The Faro Mine is a federal liability, as it was approved and licensed by the federal government. As a part of the Devolution Transfer Agreement (where the Yukon took over more province-like jurisdiction), in 2004, the Yukon Government took the lead of daily maintenance and remediation design, while Canada foot the bill. In 2018, the Government of Canada assumed full responsibility for the management of the site.*

stages of environmental assessment, citing concerns around hiring and investment (Plonka, 2024). This has led YESAB to reorganize and allocate more resources for assessments (Elliot, 2025). Regulation is not the only source of delay for mines in Canada. In British Columbia, economic factors like commodity prices and financing are the most commonly reported sources of delay for mines (Collard et al. 2024). This led us to ask the question, is regulation alone to blame for slow project timelines in the Yukon?

With an eye to better understanding mines' actual economic benefits and timelines and determining the accuracy of YESAB forecasts, our research audits projections made in YESAB documents. Specifically, we asked: Are mines opening when projected? And if there are delays, what is the cause of those delays? How do the actual economic benefits of mining projects - jobs, production, and taxes, compare to the projections made during environmental assessments?

These are timely questions as YG contemplates future mining projects, such as BMC's contentious proposal for the Kudz Ze Kayah mine, an open-pit and underground zinc, silver, copper, gold and lead mine to be built in southeast Yukon. BMC and YG claim the project will generate direct tax and royalty payments to Yukon and Canada of $761 million over its ten-year lifespan and employ 400 people during operations (Government of Yukon, 2022; BMC, 2023). YG approved the mine in 2022, despite opposition from the two Kaska Nations - Liard First Nation (LFN) and Ross River Dena Council (RRDC) - on whose territory the mine is proposed. LFN and RRDC successfully challenged the mine's approval in court, citing inadequate consultation (Hong, 2024; Liard Aboriginal Women's Society, n.d.; RRDC v Yukon, 2024). In late 2024, the Yukon Court of Appeals ordered YG to engage in additional consultation, particularly on the economic feasibility of the mine, which is ongoing. YG's initial approval of the project, despite LFN and RRDC's explicit denial of consent and long-record of opposition, rests on the promise of significant economic benefit. Auditing past mines' economic performance provides valuable data with which to assess the likelihood of that promise.

2 | METHODS

Six major mines in the Yukon were included in our audit. From the list of major mines derived from the YG (Government of Yukon, 2026), we included mines that went through the full YESAB process after 2005 and were approved and projected to go into production at the time of the study (June 2025). 2005 was selected as the cutoff because it marks when socio-economic assessments began following a consistent and standardized process under YESAA (Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, 2013). Out of nine major mines listed on the YG website, six went through YESAB review after 2005 and so were included in this audit: Wolverine, Carmacks Copper Project, Minto, Mactung, Keno Hill,[1] and Eagle Gold (Table 2).

While some of these mines have a history of prior mining activity, our audit focuses on their projected performance following completion of the full YESAB process. The Minto mine differs from the others in our dataset because the YESAB process in this case applies specifically to an increase in existing mining and milling rates. Nevertheless, Minto is included because the data they included in their proposal consist of aggregated production figures for the mine as a whole.

Similarly, some of these mines have subsequently applied to expand their mining activities. Because these later applications often do not provide the same level of detail as the original submissions, this audit focuses on the initial application reviewed through YESAB. In the case of Keno Hill, this means our audit is limited to the Bellekeno Mine (for employment and production), one of four sites that went through YESAB in 2009.

Our audit compares predicted and actual timelines and economic outcomes for these six mines, focusing on each mine's operation and closure schedule, and three economic indicators: production levels, employment, and corporate and mining tax revenues and royalties. We collected data on predicted timelines and economic indicators from project proposals submitted to YESAB, accessed through the YESAB Registry website. For data on actual timelines and economic indicators, we gathered data from news reporting, corporate reporting [e.g., annual reports and financial statements, accessed from company's websites and through System for Electronic Document Analysis and Retrieval (SEDAR) for the public mining companies, and the Extractive Sector Transparency Measures Act (ESTMA) data portal, for private international mining companies], and press releases. We searched media and corporate reporting to determine the publicly stated reasons, if declared, for any mine delays and closures.

To compare predicted and actual production, employment, and tax revenues, we compiled spreadsheets for each mine covering its lifetime.[2] Only comparable data (between predicted and actual)

1 *Note:* Keno Hill is both a Type II under the DTA (federal responsibility) and an operating mine under YG's purview
2 Data available at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_vr_MuANC7K9vTdnk5BJu0ASMm3uGDR-/view?usp=sharing

were included. For example, we included both tax projections and actual tax figures only when they referred to the same tax categories. This means we considered only cases where corporate and mining taxes are reported separately from individual income taxes and royalties. For mines with multiple assessments due to project expansions, we reviewed each assessment and aggregated the projections. For some years we were unable to access data on actual employment and tax data; these cells are marked with "N/D", for "no data." This is also the case for the predicted tax data. In some cases, proponents did not predict tax revenue or royalties, or only provided such data in the aggregate, including, for example, personal income taxes, which makes comparison with actuals impossible. In those cases, we also marked N/D in our database. Because of these significant data limitations, our ability to calculate the annual average varied for each indicator and each mine. For mines with less than 80% of annual data coverage, we did not calculate averages, marking "not enough data" in place of an average. For mines above that threshold, we calculated averages, excluding the missing year(s) data from the average. We then calculated the percentage difference between the average projected and average actual.

Table 2. Major mines in the study dataset, including original proponent and current owner (if different) and ownership type.

Project Name	Proponent Name	Current Owner	Ownership Type
Wolverine	Yukon Zinc Corporation	*N/A*	*Private (bankrupt in 2019)*
Carmacks Copper Project	Western Copper Corporation	Granite Creek Copper	*Public (Copper North acquired the Carmack property in 2011 which was later acquisted by Granite Creek Copper Ltd. in 2020)*
Minto	Minto Explorations Ltd.	Selkirk Copper Mines	*Private to Public to Indigenous Owned (sold to Selkirk Copper Mines after the mine was abandoned by previous owners - see Pilkington 2025)*
Mactung	North American Tungsten Corp. Ltd.	Fireweed Metals Corp.	*Public to Private (Fireweed Metals Corp. took over in June 2022 after North American Tungsten Corp. Ltd. declared bankruptcy in October 2015 - see GNWT 2022)*
Keno Hill	Alexco Keno Hill Mining Corp.	Hecla Mining Company	*Private to Public (acquired by Hecla Mining Company, a publicly-traded US company, in September 2022)*
Eagle Gold	Victoria Gold Corp.	N/A	*Public (delisted from the TSX on September 23, 2024 and currently for sale through a court-supervised receivership process, see Plonka, 2025)*

3 | FINDINGS

Our audit shows that mines experienced delays and consistently overestimated their economic benefits. Inadequate financing was cited as the primary reason for these delays. In terms of our audit of economic predictions, underperformance and lack of data are the headline finding. All four mines that reached production significantly overstated their average annual output; on average, actual production fell 57% short of projected levels. Where enough data were available to audit employment, actuals also fell short of forecasts, the majority of jobs went to non-Yukon workers,[1] and at three of the four operational mines, employment was not steady over time. Tax and royalty contributions were far below projections, where data were available.

1 *Note*: Minto is the only major mine that reports employment by different groups. Based on data from Minto's annual socio-economic reports (from 2014 onwards), workers who are First Nations and other Yukon make up, on average, 43.9% of the total workforce

One third of mines were delayed and one third remain non-operational

Of the six mines approved by YESAB since 2005 and projected to open by 2024, two opened in the same year they projected in their project proposals submitted to YESAB. Two of the six mines remain non-operational, and the other two were delayed (Eagle Gold by six years and Wolverine by four) (Table 3).

Out of the four mines where production was delayed or never started, three (Wolverine, Mactung Mine, and Eagle Gold Mine) were due to inadequate financing, according to media coverage. For example, in the case of the Eagle Gold Mine, in the same year the project was projected to begin production, the proponent reported having only $35 million in place - $395 million short of the financing needed for construction and start-up (CBC News, 2013). The one outlier was the Carmacks Copper Project, which did not proceed to production due to environmental concerns that ultimately led to the rejection of a water certificate by the Yukon Water Board (Oke, 2010).

Despite industry and government narratives of regulatory delay to mining projects (e.g. Stephenson, 2025), our research points to insufficient financing as the primary source of mines' delay. Half of the mines in our dataset were either delayed or have failed to open due to a lack of financing. YESAB recommends projects for government approval (which YG then approves) without evidence that proponents can finance their projects to opening or to closure - as demonstrated by the public costs of mine clean up.

Underperforming economic benefits

Our economic benefit audit reports data from the Yukon mines that operated (Minto, Wolverine, Keno Hill, and Eagle Gold), as well reporting averages from all six mines, where the non-operational mines have actual performance values of zero.

Production

Production data are the most complete, and the finding is the most consistent. All four mines that went into production significantly overestimated their average annual output, with actual figures falling short by 15% to 85% (calculated using average annual production based on the projected life of mine). Year by year, with the exception of Minto (which in two out of eight years has exceeded the projected production), all mines within the projected life of mine underperform every year. Accounting for non-operational mines further widens the gap. Across all six mines (operational and not), the actual average annual production is 72% less than the projections. In general, production levels are influenced by economic factors, especially mineral prices.[1]

Employment

The employment data are more limited because there are no consistent standards for predicting or reporting socio-economic indicators, resulting in incomplete data.[2] But we are able to see three key patterns through the data, despite these limitations.

The first pattern is mines' underperformance in employment. We were able to audit the employment projections of three of the operational mines in our

1 The connection between production volatility and economic forces is explicitly acknowledged in the additional information accompanying the Minto mining and milling rate increase application. As noted, "the determination of the mining life of a given mineral deposit...is subject to the economic viability and volatility associated with mineral prices and the global economy in general. The duration of mining and milling activities is therefore affected not only by changes to processing capacity, but also by economic forces that frequently lead to changes in economic recoveries, resource tonnages, and ultimately the projected mine life of projects" (Weston, 2008, p. 1).
2 In the case of Minto, the proponent did not provide projected employment figures, making it impossible to compare them with the actual data. For Keno Hill, the reported employment numbers include labour for reclamation activities, so it is not possible to isolate employment related to operations alone.

Table 3. Projected production start vs. actual start

Project Name	Projected production start	Actual production start	Reason (s) for delay
Eagle Gold Mine	2013	*2019*	*Inadequate financing (CBC News, 2013)*
Wolverine	2007	2011	*Inadequate financing (PwC, 2019)*
Mactung Mine	2013	Not started	*Inadequate financing (Williams, 2022)*
Carmacks Copper Project	2010	Not started	*Environmental concerns (Thompson, 2011)*

Table 4. Summary of Audit Findings

Mine (operational and non-operational)	**Production Audit**	**Employment Audit**	**Tax Audit**
Minto	-15%	*Not enough data*	*Not enough data*
Wolverine	-69%	-4%	*Not enough data*
Keno Hill	-61%	-14%	*Not enough data*
Eagle Gold	-85%	-76%	-99.5%
Mactung	-100%	-100%	-100%
Carmack Copper	-100%	-100%	-100%
Average	**-72%**	**-59%**	**-100%**

dataset: Eagle Gold, Wolverine and Keno Hill. Our audit of Eagle Gold Mine shows that the proponent overestimated the annual average employment by 76% during the projected production years. Wolverine employed significantly more workers than projected when it was operating, but it only operated for five years, instead of the twelve predicted (Yukon Zinc Corporation and AXYS Environmental Consulting Ltd 2005, p iv). Over Wolverine's projected Life of Mine (LoM), then, it employed 4 percent fewer people than forecasted. The Keno Hill Bellekeno project employed 14% fewer than projected. Employment overall averaged 31% percent less than projected at the three operational mines with adequate data, and 59% average across the five mines with enough data (including non-operational mines).

Our data point to a second key pattern: employment at Yukon mines is characteristically volatile (see Saxinger and Gartler, 2015; First Nation of Nacho Nyäk Dun Elders et al., 2019; CBC News 2017b for more work on this issue). Keno Hill closed for an extended period between 2013 and 2020, due to low commodity prices (CBC News, 2017a). Wolverine mine's initially temporary closure in 2015 turned into permanent closure. It operated for only five years instead of the twelve years predicted (2007-2018) (Yukon Zinc Corporation and AXYS Environmental Consulting Ltd 2005, p iv). Eagle Gold catastrophic heap failure in 2024 brought an abrupt end to operations (and employment) at that mine.

The third and final pattern the employment audit suggests is that many mining jobs in the Yukon go to non-Yukoners. Only two operational mines - Minto and Wolverine - reported their actual employment by disaggregating Yukoners and non-Yukoners - but at both, the majority of jobs were held by non-Yukoners. At Minto, across the seven years for which we have data (2014-2021, except 2019), an average of 64 percent of employees were non-Yukoners. At Wolverine, during the five years the mine operated fully (2010-2014), an average of 71 percent of workers were non-Yukoners. Mine proponents are aware of this: in their socio-economic assessments, mine proponents consistently cite high employment and labour force participation rates in the territory, noting the need to recruit specialized workers from outside Yukon. Out of the six mines we audited, five mentioned shortage of skilled labour in their YESAB application, stating they expect to fill positions with workers outside of the region, or even the Yukon.[1] Volatile employment and a reliance on non-local workers ultimately means that economic benefits of employment for Yukoners are uncertain.

Government Revenues

The final indicator we sought to audit pertains to government revenues from mines, namely corporate and mining tax payments and royalties. While a lack of data and transparency constrained full assessment, available evidence shows consistent underperformance. For taxes, Eagle Gold is the only mine with enough data

1 For example: Eagle Gold IA 0 "VIT may require workers to come from outside of Yukon to meet the operational needs of the mine—particularly some of the more specialized positions" (Stantec, 2011, p. 6–385); Mactung: "...in 2007, mining exploration projects had difficulty finding local residents to work" (EBA, 2008, p. 632). "It is estimated that out of 273 estimated employment during operation phase, 171 of them would be from outside of Yukon (62.6% of the workforce)" (bid., p. 662). Carmacks Copper: Contractors "will almost certainly be from outside the Yukon" (Vector Research p. 54). Minto: "...construction and operating labour may be difficult to find even at higher wage rates..." (Cavery et al., pp. 42-43). Wolverine: "A longer duration of stay at site [...] would attract an experienced workforce from outside of the Yukon willing to commute long distances at personal cost ...of the 191 direct jobs created, many will flow outside the Yukon initially" (Yukon Zinc Corporation, 2005, pp. 7–453, 7–455).

to audit. The difference between projected and actual annual tax is -99.5% over the projected life of the mine. Eagle Gold did generate tax payments after the mine was predicted to close, but the total of these payments (before the heap leach failure), is 10 million, as opposed to the 85 million forecasted.

Royalties have also been inconsistent. As illustrated in Table 5, across projects, many proponents do not include royalty projections in their YESAB materials, and actual royalty payments are modest to nil. The sums collected through royalties are particularly small in contrast to the significant costs associated with mine closure and environmental remediation.

Table 5. Royalty audit

Project Name	Projected royalty	Total royalty paid as of 2023 [1]	Difference
Wolverine	$12 million	*$0*	*-100%*
Carmacks Copper Project	No data[2]	$0 (non-operational)	*Lacking projection*
Minto	No data	$35 million [3]	*Lacking projection*
Mactung Mine	No data [4]	$0 (non-operational)	Lacking projection
Keno Hill (filed under Bellekeno Mine)	$3.8 million [5]	$0.7 million	-82%
Eagle Gold Mine	No data	$8.8 million	Lacking projection

1 Data collected from the Government of Yukon's Website (n.d.-b)
2 Western Copper has estimated that annual corporate tax and royalty payments from the operation will average about $7 million per year.
3 Paid to the Selkirk First Nation due to Minto being on Category A Land
4 Citing difficulties in projecting the royalty given the modest numbers in royalty collected under the Quantz Act in the Yukon historically (Project Proposal, p.667).
5 Calculation based on Bellekeno Preliminary Economic Assessment Technical Report

4 | CONCLUSION: Uncertain Benefits, Known Costs

This working paper identifies a persistent imbalance in Yukon mining development: project costs are relatively certain, while the projected benefits are uncertain and unpredictable. Tax revenues and job creation are routinely overstated. Moreover, our employment audit indicates that employment is volatile and, where data are available, the majority of jobs are held by non-Yukoners. Our audit also shows that Yukon mines are commonly delayed or remain non-operational well past their planned opening date, but that delays and non-operation stem largely from lack of financing more than regulation.

These fluctuations in mining projects' contributions to the economy are part of a broader pattern of volatility inherent to the mining industry. Yet this is rarely acknowledged or adequately accounted for in environmental and socio-economic assessments. These assessments often present economic benefits as stable and predictable, overlooking market dynamics like in commodity price fluctuations, global market shifts, and financing constraints. As a result, economic projections appear to function more as justifications for YG approval than realistic assessments of economic benefits and risk.

Despite the poor economic record, the framing of mining as both economically indispensable and constrained by regulation continues to shape public policy. In 2025, the Yukon government amended the Placer Mining Land Use Regulation and the Quartz Mining Land Use Regulation and the Waters Regulation to temporarily extend approvals, allowing eligible operators to continue work while waiting for licence renewals, "in recognition of the important role the mineral exploration and mining industries play in the territory's economy and the economic benefits that the industry provides to local communities" (Government of Yukon, 2025c). These amendments were enacted

without consultation with Indigenous governments, prompting Yukon First Nations to call for their repeal (Meilleur, 2025). Notably, the policy changes are not supported by evidence demonstrating that regulatory delay, rather than market conditions or project viability, constitutes the primary obstacle to mine development.

In a time of geopolitical uncertainty and growing emphasis on energy transition minerals, mining is being repositioned as a central development strategy for the territory. But the track record of previous Yukon mines raise significant doubt about this strategy. As documented in this brief, past projects, including Wolverine and Faro, have cost the territorial and federal governments far more than they delivered in economic returns, while imposing substantial burdens on communities and ecosystems. BMC's proposed Kudz Ze Kayah mine, located just 25 km from Wolverine and 150 km from Faro, has certain costs: significant impacts to caribou, long-term water impacts, and disruptions to Kaska traditional land use (Decision Bodies for the Kudz Ze Kayah Decision Document, 2024). What remains deeply uncertain are the benefits - the hundreds of millions in projected tax and royalty revenues and hundreds of steady jobs over a decade - that are used to justify approval.

At the same time, public investment to support further mining exploration and development is accelerating. The Yukon Resource Gateway Program alone commits $398.4 million to roads serving mineral-rich areas (Government of Yukon, n.d.-a). In 2024, Natural Resources Canada added $60 million for infrastructure in the Golden Triangle of northwestern British Columbia and the Yukon, including a new access road for the Galore Creek mine and a pre-feasibility study for a transmission line linking Yukon to the continental grid (Bennett, 2024). An additional $12.9 million has been allocated to Fireweed Metals for road and power planning from the Government of Canada (Fireweed Metals, 2024).[1] If the future is anything like the past, our research suggests that these known costs, especially when added with costs of remediation and clean up, will overwhelm the uncertain economic benefits.

1 Note: This is in addition to the US$15.8 million (~C$22.5 million) awarded by the U.S. Department of Defense under Title III of the Defense Production Act of 1950 ("DPA Title III").

TOWARDS RECOMMENDATIONS

1 | Strengthen economic information requirements in YESAB assessments

- Require and standardize economic benefit forecasting units and methodologies across projects to ensure public legibility and comparability.
- Use the track record of economic benefits from comparable Yukon and northern mining projects, rather than relying exclusively on modelled projections.
- Develop and publish territorial guidance on economic forecasting practices, informed by economic, Indigenous, and public interest expertise.
- Incorporate Indigenous governments and independent economic expertise into the development and review of economic information requirements.

2 | Embed economic benefit reporting and public transparency in YG mine regulations and permitting

- Require decision bodies to include enforceable conditions obligating approved mining projects to submit annual socio-economic performance reports. These reports should compare actual employment, wages, production, and government revenues against the forecasts presented during assessment.
- Create a centralized, publicly accessible registry where this information is housed, standardized, and searchable by project.
- Use registry data to support cumulative effects assessments, regional land-use planning, and future YESAB reviews and YG mine decisions.

3 | Ensure government oversight and accountability mechanisms

- Establish an independent oversight body (e.g., an Impact Review Board) or delegate the Auditor General of Canada to:
  - » Audit socio-economic performance,
  - » Flag underperformance relative to socio-economic forecasts,
  - » Recommend enforcement actions (e.g., permit revisions, financial penalties).
- Link post-approval performance to future project approvals and public investment decisions.

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From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Newkirk, Jacob; Harris, Dylan
Subject:	Fw: Gladiator Metals request to amend the OCP
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 10:44:50 AM
Attachments:	image.png

FYI

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Judith Forrest [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 10:41 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Gladiator Metals request to amend the OCP

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

To Mayor and Council

I am asking Council to **not proceed with Bylaw 2026-25**. I do not agree that greenspace/green belt or environmentally sensitive lands be re-designated as Future Planning to facilitate more mining activity and disruption to our communities, recreation,
wildlife corridors, and watersheds.

It appears that this proposal would compromise the City's ability to regulate and control mining development within city limits. There are many other concerns to do with this proposal, and to do with the actual activities intended by Gladiator, but it is this diminishment of the City's authority over environmental regulation that concerns me most.

We have lived in the Pineridge Area for 50 years. We have used the entire trail system in our neighbourhood as well as the area behind Wolf Creek, Mary Lake and Sima as our recreational area for skiing, snowshoeing, kicksledding and walking in the summer.

We are also aware that the water table in our neighbourhood is at risk with any mining activity in the proposed area. Plus we are also a corridor for wildlife which would be greatly disturbed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Judy Forrest

[redacted]
Pineridge
Whitehorse Yukon

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Opposition to Proposed Amendment to OCP (re: Gladiator Metals)
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 9:49:13 AM
Attachments:	image.png

FYI

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Julia Boye [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 9:47 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Opposition to Proposed Amendment to OCP (re: Gladiator Metals)

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Whitehorse Mayor and Council,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed change to the Official Community Plan in regards to Gladiator Metal's mining activities.

The affected area is a popular area for recreation and outdoor enjoyment. As a resident of Cowley Creek, we frequently use the trails for dog walking, skiing, quadding, and generally enjoying the outdoors. In recent years, the road has become more accessible due to the firebreak. I have noticed a significant increase in recreation traffic in the area including many people from "in town". In fact, it is rare for me to access those trails without running into anyone anymore, and I am surprised the City seems to be unaware of how popular and well-used this area is by people from all parts of Whitehorse.

I appreciate that we must balance residential, recreational, and economic interests. However, of all the areas to consider, I would strongly argue that this is not the one to rezone. It is already loved by many as a greenspace.

Furthermore, Gladiator Metals has previously violated their permit and has left several messes in the area. These are already noticed and felt to have had a negative impact on recreation users. It seems irresponsible for the City to consider amending the Community Plan for a company that has already demonstrated a disregard for regulations. Furthermore, this would set a questionable precedent for other mining activity within greenspace in city limits.

I strongly encourage you to leave the Official Community Plan unamended in this case.

Thank you for your time in this matter.

Julia Boye

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject: Fw: Opposition to Changes to the OCP
Date: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 2:25:31 PM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Kamira Tyerman [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 2:24 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Opposition to Changes to the OCP

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and City Council,
I am writing to you to express my opposition to the proposed changes to the Official Community Plan that would allow Gladiator Metals to engage in mining exploration in the greenbelt areas near Mary Lake and surrounding areas.
My family and I are residents and homeowners in Cowley Creek subdivision, and we use the trail systems around Cowley Creek and Mary Lake during both the summer and winter, for skiing, running, hiking and riding our horses. Access to trails and green space are one of the main reasons that we moved to this area.
Some of the trails we use have already been impacted by mining exploration by Gladiator Metals. Gladiator Metals has a history of irresponsible practises during their past exploration activities above the swamp lake across the highway from Kookatsoon Lake. This included excessive removal of trees and brush to clear cut areas they were drilling and exploring, using diesel water pumps that were leaking fuel next to streams and lakes, and leaving behind garbage and drilling mud that impacts the wildlife and plants in the area. They also left significant piles of brush and trees, that are a fire hazard and not fire smart to leave in areas that are so close to residential areas. During their exploration activities the pumps and drilling produced significant noise pollution that made it very unpleasant to be in those areas, rendering many of the trails we used to frequent unusable during those years.
I am very concerned that Gladiator Metals is wanting to engage in mining exploration at the end of Mary Lake. This is a sensitive wetland area and if their past practices are repeated they will have a significant negative impact on the plants and wildlife in this area, along with the impacts to the trail system used by many residents in this area.
I strongly encourage you to not make changes to the OCP, and to not allow Gladiator Metals

to continue mining exploration within City Limits, as their activity has and will continue to have a significant negative impact on our community and the surrounding areas.
Regards,
Kamira Tyerman

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Newkirk, Jacob; Harris, Dylan
Subject: Fw: Mining in city limits
Date: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:02:38 PM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Kat Lacroix [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 12:31 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Mining in city limits

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from mrs.[redacted]. Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

To Whom It May Concern,

As a resident of this beautiful city, specifically Mary Lake, please, please do not change zoning limitations for mining beside my home. We moved here to enjoy the beauty and freedom that this landscape provides. [redacted]

The tree disturbance is supposed to be replanted with less flammable trees… not the first step to welcoming a foreign company that wants to exploit our land.

Please, please, protect us.

Kat Lacroix
[redacted]

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject: Fw: Bylaw 2026-25
Date: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:00:07 PM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Suzanne McDonald [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 12:43 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Bylaw 2026-25

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

I do not support bylaw 2026-25 because I don't feel it's proper to allow mining or mineral exploration within the city limits. Although that might have been okay 100 years ago, in 2026 I feel it's an imposition on peoples property and recreational areas.

Thank you
Kevin McDonald

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject: Fw: Bylaw 2026-25
Date: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 12:59:18 PM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Kim Greenman [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 12:51 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Bylaw 2026-25

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

I am writing to express my concerns about Bylaw 2026-25 and that I do not support it going forward. This is a residential area. My children and I access these trails for skiing, snowmobiling, walking, biking and berry picking. The health of my family will be impacted if this bylaw goes through. This is within city limits and completely unacceptable.

Kim Greenman

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject: Fw: OCP Map and Text Amendment - July 7th Council Meeting
Date: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:03:39 PM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Kirsten Hogan [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 12:11 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: OCP Map and Text Amendment - July 7th Council Meeting

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed amendments to the OCP that would allow mineral exploration in Future Planning areas, and especially to the proposed changes from designated greenspace and environmentally sensitive areas to Future Planning, allowing mineral exploration to take place in these areas.

I am not opposed to mining in the Yukon. My concern is that Council is considering a large, blanket amendment to a public document at the request of a single actor. The OCP is a document drafted following extensive public engagement and the opportunity for individuals, businesses, and other entities to provide their input. Changes to the OCP should be made in a similarly transparent way, and should consider the perspectives of Whitehorse residents and what is best for our community. As residents of Mary Lake, my family and I regularly use the areas that you are considering changing from greenspace and environmentally sensitive to future planning. Those areas are great spaces to enjoy, but more importantly they provide wildlife habitat along an environmentally sensitive wetland and lake complex, and provide protection for our groundwater and surface water resources. We have accepted the work on the fuel break as a necessary protection for the whole City and have put up with the noise, disturbance, and changes to our natural areas that this has caused because we know it would benefit everyone in the end. Mineral exploration does not meet the same bar for having a positive effect on our community as a whole, and has the potential to do irreparable damage to our groundwater resources.

Gladiator metals, the main driving force behind this proposed amendment, has not proven themselves to be a good neighbour or a company that follows the rules set out for them. Their exploration activities continue to damage summer and winter trails in the areas adjacent to Mary Lake (damage that they could have avoided if they had tried). In the past they have left drilling fluid on the ground surface, have left equipment running unattended, and have failed to attempt or complete reclamation of any of their drill sites. There is no reason to assume that they will do any better if allowed to expand their exploration activities into other areas. Their main interest is in proving a resource to sell to others. In their public open houses they made it clear that they have no future stake in our community, in the quality of the groundwater that most residents of the south Whitehorse community rely on, or in cleaning up the messes that they have made so far.

The proposed bylaw amending the OCP would give companies like Gladiator Metals broad permission to damage sensitive areas. Establishing a 5 m wide access road, even on previously disturbed ground, is a significant activity. No individual citizen is allowed this kind of latitude. The OCP represents our collective ideas about how the City should develop. Changes like this should be part of an OCP update where all parties have an equal opportunity to present information. Bypassing the process like this is not a responsible use of your powers as mayor and council, and I urge you to not proceed with considering the proposed Bylaw at this time.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kirsten Hogan

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Opposition to proposed bylaw changes allowing expanded mineral exploration by Gladiator Metals near Mary Lake, Cowley Creek, and surrounding areas
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 2:02:51 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Lane Currie [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 1:31 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Re: Opposition to proposed bylaw changes allowing expanded mineral exploration by Gladiator Metals near Mary Lake, Cowley Creek, and surrounding areas

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor Cameron,

I am writing as a resident of Whitehorse to express my strong opposition to the proposed bylaw changes that would facilitate expanded exploration activities by Gladiator Metals in the areas around Mary Lake, Cowley Creek, and nearby neighborhoods and watersheds.

These areas are important to our community for recreation, wildlife habitat, water quality, and quality of life.
I am concerned that increased exploration could negatively impact the local environment, trails, and ecosystems that many residents value and rely upon.

My parents have resided in cowley creek for over 30 years and I myself grew up there and loved exploring the beautiful wilderness surrounding the area.

I urge you and City Council to reject these bylaw amendments and prioritize the protection of our natural areas over further mineral development in sensitive zones close to the city.

Thank you for your time and for representing our community's interests. I would appreciate any update on this matter.

Sincerely,

Lane Currie

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: OCP amendment - Mineral Exploration
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 9:20:28 AM
Attachments:	image.png

FYI

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Laura Cabott [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 9:04 AM
To: Laura Cabott [redacted]
Cc: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: OCP amendment - Mineral Exploration

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

Hi Mayor and Council, I'm not in Yukon tonight and thus unable to speak to the First Reading of the OCP amendment tonight but wanted to send you my concerns.

1 - It took two separate Councils to develop the current OCP. A lot of time was put in by Council, staff, consultants and most of all the public. To undo all that work is a breach of public trust. To allow the proponent's application beyond First Reading will put Council on the road to a review of the OCP and an unnecessarily full resident wide consultation with significant consequences. OCP amendments are very difficult to do, for good reason. If there is an appetite to consider changes, it should be done in the next full OCP review.

2 - Green space is just as much of an asset to a community as a road, an industrial park or a new neighbourhood. It improves the quality of life for everyone in the community. It cannot be undervalued. Once you take it away, you can't get it back.

3 - The area under consideration has a high density of wildlife, including the unique Carcross Caribou herd. It is also used by many Whitehorse residents, not just those who live in the immediate area, for hiking, dog walking, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, dirt biking, berry picking and bird watching.

Thank you for your time and all the important and hard work that you do. Full disclosure, I am a resident of the area-Cowley Creek subdivision.

Laura Cabott

Whitehorse, Yukon
[redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw:
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 2:46:08 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Lea Bayliss [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 2:44 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]>
Subject:

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

I do not support Bylaw 2026-25 going forward for multiple reasons. Environmental/wildlife impacts, lack of respect for property owners, increased noise, [redacted] Albania resisted and came out on top. The citizens of Whitehorse can and will do the same if necessary. Enough is enough mayor and council. Do better.

Lea Bayliss
Whitehorse, Yukon

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Gladiator metals
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 9:15:44 AM
Attachments:	image.png

FYI

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: leslie oulton [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 8:48 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Gladiator metals

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

Good morning

I am a marylake resident and a life long yukoner. I am very concerned about gladiator metals-kluane drillings and what they are doing just a short distance from my home. They have been fined for the mess they left in the Cowley area and continue to leave a mess where ever they are drilling. Also the noise of there two drills operating at all hrs of the day should not be allowed. I cannot leave my window open at night due to the constant humming and other noise from them. This area should be left alone and exploration and mining has no place where people live. I am also very concerned if this is allowed to continue our properties which we have invest heavily in will lose there value and for a lot of us our homes are our future. Allowing gladiator to continue will depreciate them and also ruin the life we have invested in.

I contacted bylaw services over a month ago and they went and did a sound check and found it to to be the over the allowable limits but told me since they were operating just outside of city limits they couldn't do anything and that is with just one drill operating at the time. The area they are currently drilling in is also home to the two old abandon quarries which people use to have fun in the summer there is also a small pond where people take there dogs swimming and our family goes and to find frogs there which my kids love doing.

These activities that gladiator are doing is way to close to people's home and I don't think this would be acceptable if it was in Riverdale or the middle of porter creek. The Yukon is a huge place with lots of minerals. Find some somewhere else. This should not be allowed so close where people live and function. Mining is not the answer for our economy which it has been proven time and time again. Also with 62% of local residents saying no that should be enough of a sign of us to put this to

bed and move on before another disaster hits very close to home and it will happen not of but when.

Also gladiator is not an open company as they have stated they are. I have sent 5 emails and have had one short reply which didn't answer a single question I have asked. I am asking the city of Whitehorse to halt gladiator's exploration attempts and let us locals live the life we have invested in and thrive in.

Thank you
Les oulton
Sent from my iPhone

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject: Fw: Opposed to Gladiator Metals request to change OCP
Date: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 10:55:05 AM
Attachments: image.png

FYI

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Melissa Klein [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 10:53 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Opposed to Gladiator Metals request to change OCP

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Mayor and Council,

I am writing to express my opposition to Gladiator Metals request to change the City of Whitehorse Official Community Plan (OCP).

Mining or exploration should not be allowed in the CIty limits or close to residential areas. The area proposed for change is important for wildlife, recreation, and fire break.

Please say no to the proposed amendments. Please protect this area.

Sincerely,

Melissa Klein
Mary Lake Resident

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Newkirk, Jacob; Harris, Dylan
Subject: Fw: Bylaw 2026-25 — Gladiator Metals" Request to Amend the Official Community Plan 2040
Date: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:03:14 PM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: M Svoboda [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 12:24 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Bylaw 2026-25 — Gladiator Metals' Request to Amend the Official Community Plan 2040

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Re: Bylaw 2026-25 — Gladiator Metals' Request to Amend the Official Community Plan 2040

Mayor and Council,
I am writing to urge Council not to proceed with Bylaw 2026-25, and to uphold the Official Community Plan 2040 as adopted.
The OCP 2040 reflects a hard-fought community vision — one built through extensive public consultation — that deliberately limits incompatible industrial activities within city limits. Re-designating greenspace, greenbelt, and environmentally sensitive lands as "Future Planning" to accommodate expanded mineral exploration would undermine that vision and open the door to disruption of our neighbourhoods, recreation areas, wildlife corridors, and watersheds. This is the wrong direction and signal.
Holding a claim should not mean automatic entitlement to explore within city limits, in city greenspaces, in environmentally sensitive areas, or near residences.
This is also a question of local decision-making. The OCP exists so that the City — and the people who live here — decide what happens within city limits. Amending it in response to a single proponent's request sets a precedent that weakens that authority for every future decision.
I ask Council to reject Bylaw 2026-25 and maintain the OCP 2040 as is.
Thank you for taking my concerns seriously.
Respectfully,
Michael Svoboda
Whitehorse, YT

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw:
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 10:16:52 AM
Attachments:	image.png

FYI

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Michelle Christensen [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 9:54 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]; Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject:

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Hi there,

I am opposed to Gladiator metals request to amend the OCP to pursue further mineral exploration within city limits. Their request is ridiculous, especially given the location of their proposed activity, which impacts a high-use recreational trail.

What's the point in having an OCP if amendments like this go through? If passed, I fear a precedent could be set which compromises the integrity of the OCP.

Michelle Christensen

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject: Fw: Gladiator metals
Date: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:04:47 PM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Mike Herdes [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 11:58 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Gladiator metals

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

Dear Mayor and Councilors.

City I am writing to urge you to not vote in favour of changing the new OCP to allow for mining within the city limits. Along with many of my neighbors I have lived in the Mary lake area for more than 40 years and have witnessed first hand the increased recreational use of the trails in this area . Mining and recreation aren't compatible and the City should not support this request to change the OCP.

Thank you, Mike Herdes.

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject: Fw: Amendments to OCP to allow mineral exploration within city limits
Date: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:06:27 PM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Mike Power [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 11:27 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Amendments to OCP to allow mineral exploration within city limits

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Madams & Sir -
I fully and wholeheartedly support amending the Official Community Plan to allow mineral exploration within the city limits. The original boundaries of the city were expanded to take in mines and lands with high mineral potential to support the tax base. This intent should be honored.
Mineral exploration is not mining; it is seeking to determine if an area hosts a mineral deposit. This should be allowed to proceed with reasonable conditions.
Sincerely,
Mike Power
--

Mike Power, M.Sc., CPG
Geologist / Geophysicist

Paladin
Geoscience
Corp.

[redacted]

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Today's discussion around greenspace in Mary Lake Cowley Creek
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:05:57 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Peter Lawrence [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 11:51 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Today's discussion around greenspace in Mary Lake Cowley Creek

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

Please register
Peter Lawrence from [redacted]

Thank you

Peter

Sent from my iPhone

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Public Input
Subject: Fw: Bylaw 2026-25
Date: Monday, July 13, 2026 2:50:17 PM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Rita Smith [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 2:19 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Bylaw 2026-25

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

I am writing as a born and raised Yukoner of 44 years, and have spent a majority of my life growing up in the southern side of country residential.
I am very concerned about the current proposal of this bylaw as there is a substantial amount of green space already lost to our wilderness city, and crime is on the rise significantly because of the lack of hobbies and activities for youth already, and taking away more green space is also going to impact the already growing problem of depression and addiction in this town. These green spaces keep people healthy both mind and body. I myself spend over 10 hours a week hiking, quading, horse back riding in these areas since the age of 7.
A huge majority of my friends and family also frequent these green spaces and its their main source of living a healthy life. This proposed development I am STRONGLY against. We paid for these properties to enjoy a quality of life that is trying to be taken from us.

Rita Smith

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: comments on request by Gladiator Metals to change OCP
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 4:20:10 PM
Attachments:	letter to Council_7jul26.docx

Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse

From: Sandy & Lois Johnston [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, 07 July 2026 14:47:10
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: comments on request by Gladiator Metals to change OCP

Attached please find our comments on the above…for tonights meeting.

Thanks

Sandy and Lois Johnston

July 07, 2026.

Whitehorse Mayor and City Council,

We urge you to reject the request from Gladiator Metals that would require modifying the Official Community Plan. This Plan took several years of extensive consultation to develop and contains the key land-use decisions decided upon in that process. The request to re-designate green space/green belt or environmentally sensitive lands as Future Planning to facilitate more mining activity is unethical and disrespectful to the process. Changing the greenspace designations would have major negative effects on lifestyles of many Whitehorse residents and cause disruption to our wildlife corridors, watersheds, and the surrounding environment.

We have lived in the Mary Lake Subdivision for more than 3 decades and have been actively involved in the Community to make it an attractive and safe area to raise families and retire in - in a rural setting. We have been involved in various activities such as trail planning and maintenance, wildfire preparedness and stewardship. We live here because of the Greenspaces and what they have to offer: ready access to recreational activities such as hiking, walking, year round biking, x-c skiing, snow-shoeing, paddling; lack of high traffic congestion; the lack of industrial noise and air pollution; a place to maintain mental health and be mindful of the natural environment – birdsongs, wildlife and plant viewing, and appreciation of the sensitive habitats that support the wildlife – in particular the waterbodies. This is our place of wilderness in the "Wilderness City". More and more people from other areas in the Whitehorse come here to enjoy this place of wilderness in the "Wilderness City" too. It must remain as such for future generations.

Thank-you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lois and Sandy Johnston

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Gladiator Metals proposal
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:07:47 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Sarah Geary [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 12:57 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Gladiator Metals proposal

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

To the City of Whitehorse Mayor and Council:

I'm writing to express my opposition to the proposed changes to the OCP by Gladiator Metals, which I believe is proposed Bylaw 2026-25.

Having been residents of Mary Lake for almost 7 years, we have already seen substantial changes to the area during our time. We did not previously live in Whitehorse so don't have a point of reference.

We were not aware of any active mining claims in the area south of us around Mary Lake, and would not have thought to look into this since it is a residential area within city limits. After our own exploring and enjoyment of the area, we quickly figured out that there had been previous mining activity but assumed this was long in the past.

Shortly after we moved here, the Copper Haul fire break project started. We were told this was a necessary precaution for having fire access since the most likely route of a forest fire would be from the south. We attended the information sessions about this and while we were sad to see so much clear cutting, we understood that this was a reasonable precautionary measure. It was also stated that the clearing of the pine and spruce trees would be replaced by reforestation of deciduous trees.

When we learned last year (I think?) of Gladiator's presence in the area, it came as a surprise given our understanding of the area as stated above. It then became discouraging and alarming

when we learned of Gladiator's destruction of the area beyond the allowance of their permit. (Forgive me if I use the wrong terminology.) I'm not sure what accountabilities Gladiator was held to, but it certainly left a bad taste in my mouth. It also made me question the true intention of the Copper Haul fire break project, to be honest.

At this point now, after they have already left messes behind and gone against permitting and policies, I am not comfortable with their desire to push the boundaries even further. I don't trust that this activity won't have severe consequences to this wonderful area that we all love--not only by those of us who live next to it, but also by the different recreational groups and competitions throughout the city that use this area. We have some absolutely amazing volunteers who use their time, energy, and resources to make this area so enjoyable; particularly during the winter with accessibility and grooming of packed down trails. This has helped make the long winters a much more enjoyable experience and encouraged all of us to get outside. In the summertime, you will always find people riding bikes, kayaking on the lake, or otherwise enjoying the area.

I understand the need for generating revenue from natural resources; however, there are so many other options that would not disrupt the lives of so many tax payers who just want to peacefully enjoy the area in which we live and play. Having these options in our own backyard allows us to be active without having to generate emissions from driving to other places. All of this is encouraged by other areas of city and government.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sarah Geary

From: Shannon Harder
To: legsvcs@whitehorse.ca
Subject: Stop the Copper Belt Mining
Date: Tuesday, July 7, 2026 9:19:42 AM

You don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

I would like to express my opposition to the Copperbelt mining and exploration. I would like my letter presented at the meeting showing my opposition.

I am writing to express my opposition to Gladiators Metal request to changing the City of Whitehorse Official Community Plan.

I live in the Cowley Creek Subdivision and have seen first hand the damage and impact the existing mining has done to our community. The constant noise from the equipment and damage to our eco system has a direct negative impact on our community and our property values.

I encourage you to stick to the OCP that was just recently created that took a lot of work, time and dollars to create. Having a commercial interest in asking for sweeping changes that WILL have major impacts on Whitehorse Residents is rather distasteful. The timing of this request is also distasteful as it is coming in the middle of summer when many people are not around to attend your council meetings or reply. I am replying remotely as I am not able to attend to oppose this request. Nor do have adequate time to prepare a lengthy response.

In addition, the damage done to our trails is extensive and make it dangerous to navigate. The trails represent so much to our community on many many levels. The recent Fire Break has had a significant impact on our trial network and now Gladiator Metals is further impacting our trails with no regard for residents. They have left messes behind. They have used the trails for exploration and caused damage to the trails with no regard for current users. I do not believe they have any regard as they continue to destroy the surface of the trails almost daily for several weeks.

Your City Administration appears to be very pro mining. I am opposed to Dylan Harris's assessment that the Fire Break is "Disturbed Land" and not "Green Space or Environment Sensitive Area". Yes the surface trees are currently disturbed but please remember that this project is NOT completed at this time. A big part of the Fire Break is Forest conversion - changing the forest from Conifer Trees to Deciduous Trees- This process will take several years to see the full changes. These areas are in fact Green Spaces and should remain so as to the OCP. If they are changed it seems like the Fire Break was not a Fire Break after all and just an excuse for more development.

Mayor and Council you have a duty to the Citizens of Whitehorse and to follow our OCP I ask you to take this responsibility seriously and have the courage to say NO to Gladiator Metals.

Mining/Exploration activity do not mix with Residential areas. Mining should not happen in the City Limits or just agacent to country residential. Please say NO to these

proposed amendments and stop all future and existing mining applications in and around our community.

Regards,
Shannon Harder
A resident of Cowley Creek Subdivision.

Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject: Fw: Stop the Copper Belt Mining
Date: Thursday, July 9, 2026 7:48:53 AM
Attachments: Outlook-reuvendn.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Shannon Harder [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 9:20 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Stop the Copper Belt Mining

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

> To Whitehorse Mayor and Council
>
> I am writing to express my opposition to Gladiators Metal request to changing the City of Whitehorse Official Community Plan.

I live in the Cowley Creek Subdivision and have seen first hand the damage and impact the existing mining has done to our community. The constant noise from the equipment and damage to our eco system has a direct negative impact on our community and our property values.

> I encourage you to stick to the OCP that was just recently created that took a lot of work, time and dollars to create. Having a commercial interest in asking for sweeping changes that WILL have major impacts on Whitehorse Residents is rather distasteful. The timing of this request is also distasteful as it is coming in the middle of summer when many people are not around to attend your council meetings or reply. I am replying remotely as I am not able to attend to oppose this request. Nor do have adequate time to prepare a lengthy response.
>
> In addition, the damage done to our trails is extensive and make it dangerous to navigate. The trails represent so much to our community on many many levels. The recent Fire Break has had a significant impact on our trial network and now Gladiator Metals is further impacting our trails with no regard for residents. They have left messes behind. They have

used the trails for exploration and caused damage to the trails with no regard for current users. I do not believe they have any regard as they continue to destroy the surface of the trails almost daily for several weeks.

Your City Administration appears to be very pro mining. I am opposed to Dylan Harris's assessment that the Fire Break is "Disturbed Land" and not "Green Space or Environment Sensitive Area". Yes the surface trees are currently disturbed but please remember that this project is NOT completed at this time. A big part of the Fire Break is Forest conversion - changing the forest from Conifer Trees to Deciduous Trees- This process will take several years to see the full changes. These areas are in fact Green Spaces and should remain so as to the OCP. If they are changed it seems like the Fire Break was not a Fire Break after all and just an excuse for more development.

Mayor and Council you have a duty to the Citizens of Whitehorse and to follow our OCP I ask you to take this responsibility seriously and have the courage to say NO to Gladiator Metals.

Mining/Exploration activity do not mix with Residential areas. Mining should not happen in the City Limits or just agacent to country residential. Please say NO to these proposed amendments and stop all future and existing mining applications in and around our community.

Regards,
Shannon Harder
A resident of Cowley Creek Subdivision.

Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Gladiator Metals Exploration Within City Limits
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 10:59:11 AM
Attachments:	image.png

FYI

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Sophia M[redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 10:57 AM
To: Mayor and Council[redacted]
Subject: Gladiator Metals Exploration Within City Limits

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello,

I understand that there will be a discussion about Gladiator metals request to conduct mineral exploration withing city limits at tonight's council meeting.

I want to express my concern regarding this request. I believe the the current extents of Gladiators exploration outside of city limits is completely inappropriate and way to close to residential areas. I believe that there is no reason for exploration to occur within city limits. Will the city ever allow a mining to occur within city limits? I surely hope not! And if not then there is no reason for exploration to occur.

I reside in Mary Lake and I fear a decrease in the value of my property if mining activities were to commence within city limits. Within the current exploration areas I still worry about my property value. It also impact my quality of life as I can hear current exploration activities from my backyard.

Again, I state that it is completely inappropriate for any exploration or mining activities to occur within city limits and, in my opinion, within 5 kilometers of residences. I hope you can do your part to not allow Gladiator to conduct exploration within city limits.

Best regards,

Sophia Merritt

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: Opposition to Gladiator Metals" Proposed OCP Amendment
Date:	Monday, July 13, 2026 2:51:40 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Stephen Burles [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 9:25 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Cc: Glenys [redacted]; Sibell Hackney [redacted]
Subject: Opposition to Gladiator Metals' Proposed OCP Amendment

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]
Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

To the Mayor and Council of the City of Whitehorse,

I am writing to add my voice to what is becoming a continual fight to keep mining and mineral exploration out of our city limits — and to ask plainly: who is representing the citizens of Whitehorse in this process?

I oppose Gladiator Metals' request to amend the City of Whitehorse Official Community Plan. The OCP was recently completed after considerable public time, effort, and expense. It should not be reopened every time a mining company decides its business interests would be better served by different rules. A private commercial interest seeking sweeping changes with major impacts on residents is troubling on its own — that this is only the latest such request makes it worse. If council accommodates this one, what is to stop the next, and the one after that? At some point residents are entitled to know the OCP means something.

The timing of this request is also telling. It arrives in the middle of summer, when many residents are away and unable to attend council meetings or respond in writing.

This is not a one-time inconvenience. The recent fire break has already significantly impacted our trail network, and Gladiator Metals has compounded that damage with no regard for residents. When a company treats resident concerns as an obstacle to route around rather than something to respect, that pattern should worry council as much as it worries residents.

Your city administration appears to be consistently pro-mining, and I disagree with the idea that the

fire break area constitutes "disturbed land" rather than "green space" or an "environmentally sensitive area." The project is not complete. A major part of the fire break involves forest conversion — from conifer to deciduous — a process that will take years to fully materialize. These areas remain green spaces under the OCP and should stay classified as such. Reclassifying them now raises an uncomfortable question: was the fire break ever truly about fire prevention, or was it always going to be leveraged into an opening for development?

Mayor and Council, you have a duty to the citizens of Whitehorse to uphold the OCP we already fought to establish — not to treat it as a starting point for negotiation every time a mining company asks. I ask you to take that duty seriously and have the courage to say no to Gladiator Metals, and to say no to whatever comes after them. I understand the importance of minerals to our economy. But mining and exploration do not belong in residential areas, and mining should not happen within city limits. If council will not hold that line, residents deserve to know who will.

Please reject these proposed amendments.

Respectfully, Stephen Burles

Sent from my iPad

From:	Executive Assistant
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: Gladiator OPC amendment
Date:	Thursday, July 16, 2026 2:45:28 PM
Attachments:	Gladiator Metals OCP Opposition Letter.pdf

From: Stephen Burles [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2026 2:43 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Gladiator OPC amendment

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]
Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

Thankyou for including this submission into the materials for the upcoming review.

Stephen Burles [redacted]
>
>
>
>

July 16, 2026

Dear Mayor and Members of Whitehorse City Council,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Gladiator Metals' request to expand its operations into lands designated under the Official Community Plan (OCP). I request that Council make no bylaw amendments to the OCP based on any of the requests put forward by Gladiator Metals, nor the report of recommendations prepared by city administration.

The Official Community Plan exists to provide long-term certainty, consistency, and transparency in land-use planning. It represents years of public consultation and careful consideration of the community's vision for Whitehorse. It should not be amended simply to accommodate the immediate interests of a single company.

Granting this request would establish a troubling precedent. If Council allows exceptions whenever a private developer or mining company seeks them, it weakens the integrity of the OCP and makes future policy decisions more vulnerable to similar requests. The OCP should remain the guiding document for land-use decisions until a comprehensive review is undertaken through the proper public process.

I, along with my family and friends, regularly use the trail network from Mary Lake to Mt. Sima, and I am concerned about any development that could affect this valued recreational connection. The area has already seen extensive alteration, and any further disturbance would only compound the harm to wildlife habitat and recreational trails. Allowing Greenspace designations to be overturned without a full accounting of the consequences sets a dangerous precedent. Left alone, deciduous forest will regenerate through the existing fire break, turning the now-barren landscape into a lush corridor for walking, skiing, and riding for future generations — an outcome this amendment puts at risk.

I would also note a basic inconsistency in the proponent's own case. Gladiator Metals and its supporters have suggested that residents need not fear an actual mine ever being built on this land — framing the OCP amendment as a modest, low-stakes step. Yet the entire economic development rationale offered for the amendment depends on a mine being developed; that is the only way the promised jobs, investment, and tax revenue would materialize. Council cannot be asked to approve this change on the strength of an economic upside that requires a mine, while simultaneously being told a mine is not really what's on the table. The proponent should be expected to make one argument or the other, not both, and Council's review should proceed on the assumption that mine development is the actual, intended outcome.

I am also concerned about the timing of this proposal. It is being advanced during the summer months, when many residents are travelling or otherwise unable to participate fully in public

consultation. Decisions with significant long-term implications for our neighbourhoods and community deserve broad public engagement, not a process that many citizens may not even be aware is taking place.

Given the significance of this request, I believe Council should also consider whether it is appropriate for such an important policy decision to proceed while the City Administrator is serving in an acting capacity. This proposal has implications well beyond a single development application and deserves the benefit of stable administrative leadership and thorough review.

Mining is an important contributor to the Yukon's economy, but it must operate within the planning framework established by the community. The Official Community Plan should not be altered at the whim of a mining company's demands or short-term business interests.

I respectfully urge Council to reject Gladiator Metals' request and uphold the integrity of the Official Community Plan until any future amendments are considered through the scheduled comprehensive review process, with full public participation.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to protecting the long-term interests of Whitehorse residents.

Sincerely,

Stephen

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: July 7 Council meeting-- Gladiator
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:06:53 PM
Attachments:	image.png susanalton.vcf

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Susan Alton [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 11:22 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: July 7 Council meeting-- Gladiator

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

As a resident of Whitehorse and Mary Lake I am writing to voice continued opposition to the latest request to the City by Gladiator Metals to reivse the OCP.

Specifically I urge the City to not change the designation of the three tracts of land away from current Green Space or ESAs. Even if small parts of these areas are already degraded by mineral exploration or fire protection clear-cutting, this does not justify further degradation.

I appreciate the ernest efforts by City Staff to examine the Gladiator proposal in an objective manner, but the bottom line is that we should not have our preferences as City residents steamrolled by a corporate entity that does not have to live with the results of exploration and extraction.

Many thanks,

Susan Alton
[redacted]
Whitehorse YK
[redacted]

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Bylaw 2026-25 July 7, council meeting
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 2:07:54 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: susie rogan [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 2:06 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Bylaw 2026-25 July 7, council meeting

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

To the Mayor and Council,

I am adamantly opposed to any accommodation of Gladiator's request that the city change zoning and take other actions to potentially increase their footprint in the Cowley / Mary Lake area.

I also want to note that Mayor Kirk Cameron sent a reply to a resident that seemed to mock people for buying in the area. It was shared on facebook and I just looked for it to post it here but could not find it. In summary, Mayor Cameron wanted the resident to help him understand why people didn't know there were claims in the area called "Copper Belt" (yes, he used quotation marks), and said it was a "mystery" to him how they could not be aware of the claims.

If he was indeed being rude, I want to note that he is in no position to act that way as the lead representative of residents of Whitehorse, to the bureaucracy. If he is in fact completely baffled, I don't know how he could live here his entire life and be so confused but at least he is at this point looking for answers, and I respect that.

Fact is, there are claims all over the place and a claim is not a permit. Permits and zoning

changes are made if the balance of benefit and public interest weighs in their favour. Kirk should know this as mayor. He should also know that the city built and/or approved these subdivisions and as such, is responsible for people living on or near mining claims. Again, this should not be a big issue due to the fact that a claim is not permission to explore or mine.

Next up, just to return to the issue of the response to a sincere message from a constituent, I want to address the quotation marks Mayor Cameron used around the name of the area of "Copper Belt". Is Mr. Cameron suggesting that "Whistle Bend" is going to become a Whistle blast location for incoming paddle wheelers again? Does Mayor Cameron seriously think that naming the area "Copper Belt" means that forevermore people should be warned that there just might be a full on mine next door some day?

Does Mayor Cameron see a historic name as justification in itself to restart a historic activity, or a heads up to the citizenry that this might happen? I should hope not! Locations all over the Yukon are named for things that went on in the past. I find his commentary to be very 'borderline', as a mayor's response to a resident who wrote to him in good faith in the context of his job as a public servant. I hope I misunderstood him and that he really is very confused about it, finds it to be a great mystery, and is looking for answers. It is always possible that he is looking to assess the liability that the city might have in terms of encouraging people to live in this area.

Sincerely,

Susan Rogan

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Bylaw 2026-25
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:02:15 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Suzanne Mcdonald [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 12:36 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Bylaw 2026-25

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

I do not support bylaw 2026-25 because I'd like to see an outright ban of exploration and mining within the boundaries of the city of Whitehorse.

Thank you,
Suzanne McDonald

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: OCP Amendment - Exploration
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 4:16:47 PM

Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse

From: Tanya ordish [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, 07 July 2026 15:48:46
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: OCP Amendment - Exploration

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

Unfortunately, I am unable to attend the meeting regarding the first reading of the proposed OCP amendment. I would, however, like to share my concerns for your consideration.

1. Protecting the Integrity of the OCP

The current OCP was the result of years of work by two separate Councils, City staff, consultants, and most importantly, members of the public. A great deal of time and effort went into developing a plan that reflects the community's vision for Whitehorse. Making amendments of this nature risks undermining the public confidence that was built through that process. Please do not allow this application to proceed beyond First Reading. OCP amendments are intentionally difficult to make, and for good reason. Should Council wish to consider changes, it should be done during the next Full OCP review which allows for proper consultation and due process.

2. Environmental and Recreational Importance of the Area

The area being considered supports a wide variety of wildlife, including the important Carcross caribou herd. It is also is a well-used recreational space enjoyed by residents from across Whitehorse for activities such as hiking, skiing, dog walking, berry picking, bird watching, biking, snowmobiling, and off-road recreation. Its importance extends well beyond the surrounding neighbourhood.

3. The Value of Green Space

Natural areas are critical community assets and deserve to be valued alongside infrastructure, commercial development, and housing. Access to green space contributes to residents' health, well-being, and overall quality of life. Once these landscapes are altered or lost, they cannot easily be restored, making their protection especially important. This is even more important today in our growing city population.

Thank you for your time and for the work you do on behalf of our community.

Sincerely,

Tanya Ordish
Whitehorse, YT
[redacted]

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: I do not support Bylaw 2026-25
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 12:59:43 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Tim Hogan [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 12:43 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: I do not support Bylaw 2026-25

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from t[redacted] Learn why this is important

Hi,

I am a homeowner in the Mary Lake subdivision in Whitehorse. I do not support Bylaw 2026-25 that would allow changes to the OCP and allow for mining companies to explore for minerals in currently protected areas.

I believe when the country residential lots were being developed in the south end of Whitehorse, most people buying houses in this area would have believed that if neighbourhoods were being developed, than there was no way that mining would be allowed to occur within a very short distance from those houses. People enjoy living out here because we have access to beautiful, natural areas right near our houses. I for one would not have purchased a house in this area if I knew that City Council would allow mining to happen right outside our back door.

Even if I didn't live in Mary Lake, I would be very against the change to the OCP to accommodate mining companies. Whitehorse has been developing neighbourhoods on the west side of the Alaska Highway for 30 years. The Whitehorse Copper Subdivision has most recently been developed. I don't think it was shared by City staff at the time that people planning to live in the area could end up with a mine very close to them. The City is also looking at developing the South Growth area south of Copper Ridge in the near future. These properties will also have the potential to have a mine right next door to them.

Gladiator Metals has not shown that they are looking to be a good long-term neighbour.

[redacted] They have made a mess of the area behind Mary Lake, and yet they were still allowed to expand their exploration program.

I do not support any mining within the boundaries of Whitehorse city limits. Whitehorse advertises itself as the Wilderness City, not a mining city.

Tim Hogan, P.Eng.

Aperture Consulting Inc.
[redacted]

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Opposition to changing OCP for Gladiator Metals
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 9:23:01 AM
Attachments:	image.png Mary Lake Gladiator Metals.pdf

FYI

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Trevor Braun [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 8:34 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Opposition to changing OCP for Gladiator Metals

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Helloi Mayor and Council

Please find my letter on this matter attatched. I hope you do the right thing.

--
Trevor Braun
[redacted]

[redacted]
Whitehorse, Yukon

[redacted]

July 7, 2026

To Whitehorse Mayor and Council

I am writing to express my opposition to Gladiators Metal request to changing the City of Whitehorse Official Community Plan. I encourage you to stick to the OCP that was just recently created that took a lot of work, time and dollars to create. Having a commercial interest in asking for sweeping changes that WILL have major impacts on Whitehorse Residents is rather distasteful. The timing of this request is also distasteful as it is coming in the middle of summer when many people are not around to attend your council meetings or reply. I am replying remotely as I am not able to attend to oppose this request. Nor do have adequate time to prepare a lengthy response.

I have lived in Mary Lake for 15+ years. I have volunteered hundreds of hours and my own dollars to maintain a network of community winter trails every winter. These trails represent so much to our community on many many levels. The recent Fire Break has had a significant impact on our trial network and now Gladiator Metals is further impacting our trails with no regard for residents. They have left messes behind. They have used the trails for exploration and caused damage to the winter trails with no regard for current users. I personally asked exploration crews to be more respectful of these trails this spring. All I got was lip service yes but action proved they had no regard as they continued to destroy the surface of the winter trails almost daily for several weeks.

Your City Administration appears to be very pro mining. I am opposed to Dylan Harris's assessment that the Fire Break is "Disturbed Land" and not "Green Space or Environment Sensitive Area". Yes the surface trees are currently disturbed but please remember that this project is NOT completed at this time. A big part of the Fire Break is Forest conversion - changing the forest from Conifer Trees to Deciduous Trees- This process will take several years to see the full changes. These areas are in fact Green Spaces and should remain so as to the OCP. If they are changed it seems like the Fire Break was not a Fire Break after all and just an excuse for more development.

Mayor and Council you have a duty to the Citizens of Whitehorse and to follow our OCP I ask you to take this responsibility seriously and have the courage to say NO to Gladiator Metals. I am not anti- mining as I grew up in Faro and I know the importance of minerals to our society. However Minin/Exploration activity do not mix with Residential areas. Mining should not happen in the City Limits. Please say NO to these proposed amendments.

Regards
Trevor Braun
Mary Lake Resident

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: OCP Map and text amendments
Date:	Tuesday, July 7, 2026 1:04:11 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Zandria Ash [redacted]
Sent: July 7, 2026 12:03 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: OCP Map and text amendments

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello Mayor Kirk, and council members.

I am very concerned and against the proposed zoning and wording changes to the OCP.
Q
Concerns I have to the proposed amendments are:
1. Setting a dangerous precedent of being able to change zoning from green space to future dev for mining purposes.
2. Changing the definition of mining exploration to benefit the mining industry at the expense of the city residents and environment
3.removing or interfering with the city's regulatory capacity related to mining exploration.
4. Why allow exploration drilling when we/you NEVER want actual mining to ever occur there?
5. Why do they want access directly to Mary Lake's water? What will they do to it or use it for? What will their impact on the lake be? (Re: Map 5)
6. Gem proposed site has Copper Haul road going right through it. If they are already shutting down trails (trying to) how will this impact use of CHR for the public?
7. Noise. I don't want mines or mining exploration within a certain distance from existing neighbourhoods because the noisedisturbance.
8. Affect on environment and ground water. These areas- Mary Lake in particular, is beautiful. Allowing exploration drilling in this area will severely impact the look and ability to enjoy the area as well as impact on wildlife.

Thanks for your ear Noah. Let me know if I can let others in the area get ahold of you about this.

Thank you for your time.

-Zandria Ash Lawrence
Sent from my iPhone

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: Request to postpone Aug 10 public hearing for bylaw 2026-25
Date:	Monday, July 13, 2026 9:34:55 AM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Amanda McCarthy [redacted]
Sent: July 8, 2026 1:38 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Request to postpone Aug 10 public hearing for bylaw 2026-25

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello,
Please consider postponing the scheduled Aug 10 public hearing for bylaw 2026-25.

A public hearing on an important issue like this should allow for the public to participate to the fullest extent possible.

Knowing that it is summer and residents of Whitehorse are away, it would be appropriate planning to consider that this is not the best time to move forward. Respect your residents and allow us to participate by rescheduling this hearing to a date in the fall when school is back in and more people are likely to be home.

Thank you,
Amanda McCarthy

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject:	Fw: Bylaw amendment to allow exploration within city limits
Date:	Wednesday, July 8, 2026 9:00:18 AM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Coralie Langevin [redacted]
Sent: July 8, 2026 8:59 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Bylaw amendment to allow exploration within city limits

> Certaines personnes qui ont reçu cet e-mail ne reçoivent pas souvent de e-mail de la part de [redacted] Pourquoi c'est important

Good day,

I'm writing regarding the proposed amendment of bylaw 2025-26 to expand mining exploration in greenbelt areas in city limits.

I am against it. I have nothing against mining, I know it is a big part of Yukon's economy and we all need it. However, allowing exploration within city limit is unacceptable. Have you ever lived next to a mine? I don't wish you that, not for you or not even for your kids.

If you start allowing this, there is no turning back. When environmental issues will start and people will start to complain, you will be responsible for this and that is how people will remember you. Protecting these zones is the right call, you know it. There are full of wildlife (I catch caribou, moose, deer, lynx, etc. often on my trail cam).

Please don't do this. The Yukon is vast enough to explore somewhere else.

Thank you for reading,

Coralie

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Harris, Dylan; Newkirk, Jacob
Subject: Fw: bylaw 2026-25 re drilling within city limits
Date: Wednesday, July 8, 2026 9:17:45 AM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Susan [redacted]
Sent: July 8, 2026 9:16 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]; [redacted]
Subject: bylaw 2026-25 re drilling within city limits

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Good morning,
We were unable to make it to the meeting, however we are extremely disappointed that our City and Council would vote in favor of drilling in City Limits and/or in close proximity to residential areas.. With the Yukon being an enormous expanse of land, why would you support such invasive industrial activity to occur near residential areas where families have built homes specifically for the peace, quiet and proximity to natural wildlife corridors? I am asking respectfully that you postpone the next meeting until after school is in session so many of the affected and interested residents can participate. This matter is too important and the potential impacts too great to rush anything for the sake of expediting political interest.
We have been long time Cowley Creek residents (30 years) and have had to put up with the noise of machinery, the destruction of the beautiful crown space and signs that restrict our access to trails we have used for recreation, harvesting and running our dogs for three decades. If any of you take a trip back in the natural spaces you will be appalled at the destruction and mess that has already been made.
Thank you,
Susan and Ron Koser

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Public Input
Subject: Fw: OCP Amedment Vote & Hearing
Date: Monday, July 13, 2026 9:14:15 AM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Meghan Marjanovic [redacted]
Sent: July 9, 2026 12:46 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: OCP Amedment Vote & Hearing

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

I've heard the news that the majority of you voted in favour of the amendment on the Whitehorse Official Community Plan (OCP) put forward by Gladiator Metals bylaw 2026-25. It appears that the next steps are to have a public hearing in August, however I strongly urge you to delay until the fall once families are back to school and work after the summer break.

I am also strongly opposed to exploration activities in our area, particularly as a resident of the Copperbelt region and one who recreates with family and friends throughout the area. I am very concerned about the added mineral exploration within city limits and it's effects on the environment (water, air, noise, plants and animals) and our ability to enjoy recreating in this Wilderness City.

Our community and neighbours south of town are facing multiple cumulative impacts from multiple different industrial/commercial projects right in our backyards. Not to mention the impacts of all these proposed future projects. Whether it's clearcutting the forests for 'fuel breaks' and industrial activity, or mineral exploration activities, or considering sites for the potential diesel generating stations, our community and environment is facing multiple compounding threats. It makes me think, when will it end? And how far will our governments (municipal and territorial) go to allow industiral activities so close to our communities. The amendment in question is for exploration, and the activities are touted as less invasive with less disturbance, but what happens when exploration leads to actual mine development and mining. Then there will be more amendments and even great disturbance. You can't have it

both ways, safe places for residents to live and recreate and a thriving mining industry in City Limits.

The zones in question appear to be those designated as Greenspace and for Future Planning Areas. These areas were explicitly designated to remain flexible for community-led planning. Permitting industrial exploration before future planning for the community undermines the intent of the OCP and excludes residents from determining how city lands should be used.

I urge the City to consider the cumulative effects of all these projects (current and future) and to help maintain the integrity of the OCP, by protecting the shared-use model of our public lands.

Myself and my neighbours look forward to the chance to be heard in the fall if the hearing can be scheduled at a better time.

Sincerely,
Meghan Marjanovic
Copperbelt Resident

From: Schneider, Lindsay
To: Public Input
Subject: Fw: Date for public hearing regarding Gladiator Metal's proposed OCP amendments
Date: Monday, July 13, 2026 8:48:51 AM
Attachments: image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Joti Røsholt [redacted]
Sent: July 10, 2026 3:30 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Date for public hearing regarding Gladiator Metal's proposed OCP amendments

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Good afternoon Honourable Mayor and Council,

Can someone from Council or administration please confirm the date for the public hearing regarding Gladiator Metal's proposed OCP amendments?

At the meeting on Tuesday it sounded like it was scheduled for August 10th, which is notably a time when many residents are not available. I have since heard from someone that council has since agreed to schedule the hearing for late August.

I am hoping that someone could please tell me the date for this, and the deadline for sending comments or input by email.

Many thanks,

Joti Roesholt
Whitehorse, Yukon.

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: August 10 public hearing request to reschedule
Date:	Monday, July 13, 2026 8:48:24 AM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Heather Swystun [redacted]
Sent: July 11, 2026 8:19 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted] >
Subject: August 10 public hearing request to reschedule

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello,

I am sending a request to delay the August 10 public hearing until September when more residents are in town. The city often seems to schedule controversial decisions and meetings during summer when so many people are away! Please stop doing this. Our summers are so short and we have a right to have equal participation in these decisions!

I urge council to vote against Bylaw 2026-25 to amend the Official Community Plan 2040 to allow for expanded mineral exploration and activity in environmentally sensitive areas and greenspaces in city limits by Gladiator.

Please reschedule this public Hearing is scheduled for August 10th, while many Whitehorse folks are still away on school holidays/summer vacay.

If you have 25 minutes to LEARN MORE: This project is in its early stages, but moving quickly. Hear directly from the CEO, Jason Bontempo on their vision to create a multi-decade open pit copper mine in city limits, in environmentally sensitive areas YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rMbjMmGttOw

Respectfully,
Heather Swystun

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: Whitehorse Copper.
Date:	Monday, July 13, 2026 2:49:21 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Jim Boyde [redacted]
Sent: July 11, 2026 9:29 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Whitehorse Copper.

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

Morning:

In my opinion the August 10 public meeting is too early to adequately convene a comprehensive review of thinking concerning this challenging issue.

An abbreviated collection of opinions with limited factual evidence will not provide the needed understanding for such an important understanding and vote.

Thanks for listening.

Jim Boyde

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: August 10 hearing - Bylaw 2026-25 regarding changes to the OCP.
Date:	Monday, July 13, 2026 2:48:20 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Patricia Brennan [redacted]
Sent: July 12, 2026 3:02 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: August 10 hearing - Bylaw 2026-25 regarding changes to the OCP.

> Certaines personnes qui ont reçu cet e-mail ne reçoivent pas souvent de e-mail de la part de [redacted] Pourquoi c'est important

To the Mayor and city of Whitehorse Councillors :
As a citizen of the Yukon for over 15 years, I can't recall being more alarmed by any other issue than the deplorable way the mining industry has treated our territory.
To learn that such an important decision on mining in the Mary Lake sector was to be made during the summer shocked and angered me, among many others.
The present OCP provides at least some protection from further destruction of the environment, and more fiascos that we taxpayers end up paying for.
The 35 M$ investment offered by the mining company doesn't even begin to cover the costs for the necessary contingencies in the event of another disaster like Faro, and I am disappointed to learn that the discussions and vote held on Motion 2026-25 took place during a summer meeting while many are away.
Have you forgotten that tax payers are the ones who actually pay a much larger amount in investment and support in our community?
We, at the very least, should have the opportunity to be present at these hearings.
Please postpone the August 10 second hearing to later in September to allow the people of the community to be present.
Thank you.
Patricia Brennan
Envoyé de mon iPhone

From:	Schneider, Lindsay
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: Public hearing for Bylaw 2026-25
Date:	Monday, July 13, 2026 8:46:34 AM
Attachments:	image.png

Thanks Lindsay

Lindsay Schneider
Director, Development Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted] • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Robin Reid-Fraser [redacted]
Sent: July 12, 2026 4:46 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]; Legislative Services [redacted]; Executive Assistant [redacted]>
Subject: Public hearing for Bylaw 2026-25

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello Mayor, Councillors and members of the City Administration,

I was one of the delegates at last Tuesday's meeting, speaking on the matter of Bylaw 2026-25. Although I spoke in opposition to the bylaw, I really appreciated all the engagement from delegates, all members of City Council and the city staff who had so many good questions and important insights on the topics.
Now that the motion passed first reading, I understand that it will now proceed to a public hearing process. I believe that the date for the public hearing is currently set to August 10.
I would like to respectfully request that you postpone the public hearing date to some point in September. I think that the questions raised in Bylaw 2026-25 are important to many Whitehorse residents, and that many people will want to engage. However, August is also an important time for many Whitehorse residents to be away camping, visiting with family and friends or otherwise busy, and I worry that the invitation to participate in the public hearing will not reach nearly as many people as would be reached if it were held at a time when kids are back in school.

I look forward to hearing back on whether this is possible.

In the meantime, Mayor and Council I hope you enjoy your summer recess!

Thank you,

Robin

From:	Executive Assistant
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: Official Community Plan and mining projects
Date:	Tuesday, July 14, 2026 8:28:07 AM
Attachments:	image.png

Casey Mojica (She/hers)
Executive Assistant, Corporate Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted]
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: jeni rudisill [redacted]
Sent: July 13, 2026 4:37 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Official Community Plan and mining projects

S[redacted]eived this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

REGARDING BYLAW 2026-25

I am concerned about the recent proposal by the City of Whitehorse to change the bylaws to enable Gladiator Metals operations within the city limits.

I have lived in Whitehorse for over 20 years. I currently reside in the Riverdale neighbourhood and I feel this issue affects all Whitehorse residents. I am especially concerned about the lack of transparency in the planning process.

I recognize that Whitehorse is on the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dun First Nation and the Ta'an Kwach'an Council. I love this place because of the community and the access to wilderness and I feel fortunate that the city has been a healthy environment to raise my family.

I am asking Council not to proceed with Bylaw 2026-25 because:

a. Citizens of Whitehorse were extensively consulted through the multi-year process for the Official Community Plan 2040, which contains decisions the community has already made.

b. I do not agree that greenspace/green belt or environmentally sensitive

lands in the Official Community Plan 2040 be re-designated as “Future Planning” to facilitate more mining activity and disruption to our communities, recreation trails and areas, wildlife corridors, and watersheds.

c. This is not just about one project or one company. This is about protecting the City and City Council’s authority to decide what happens in our neighborhoods, green spaces, environmental sensitive areas, wildlife corridors and watersheds within city limits as determined by our Official Community Plan.

d. Past disturbance doesn’t mean the land should be mined continuously. Previously disturbed areas are living ecosystems, aided by reforestation and restoration efforts by multiple levels of government.

e. Furthermore, valid mineral tenure should not mean automatic land-use compatibility

f. These living ecosystems in the area of the expansive Whitehorse Copper Belt, are central to the community for mental health, family connectivity, cultural practices, climate resilience and recreation.

Please carefully consider the precedent of this situation, listen to the residents of the community and respect the existing approved Official Community Plan for Whitehorse.

Regards,
Jeni Rudisill
--

Jeni Rudisill
[redacted], *Whitehorse, Yukon*

From:	Executive Assistant
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: Bylaw 2026-25
Date:	Wednesday, July 15, 2026 8:39:53 AM
Attachments:	image.png

Casey Mojica (She/hers)
Executive Assistant, Corporate Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted]
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Mary Egan [redacted]
Sent: July 15, 2026 6:41 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Bylaw 2026-25

S[redacted]ved this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

To whom it may concern,

I am against bylaw 2026-25. I disagree with the expansion of mining in Whitehorse. Any mining within city limits is outrageous.

Short term profit (for the liking company only) is not worth the long term consequences.

Residents choose to live here for the wilderness. Please don't allow miners to ruin it. We already know we can't trust them.

Sincerely,

Mary Egan

From: Adam Morrison
To: publicinput@whitehorse.ca
Subject: Amendment !
Date: Thursday, July 16, 2026 9:03:28 PM

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello,

Why is this even happening ? The fact that a mining company is pushing our municipal government around is hard to believe ! Stand your ground and DO NOT ALLOW ANY KIND OF MINING WITHIN CITY LIMITS !!! It's a no brainer !

Adam Morrison
Whitehorse, Yukon

From:	Executive Assistant
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: MINING near Mary Lake/Cowley Creek
Date:	Thursday, July 16, 2026 2:16:17 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Casey Mojica (She/hers)
Executive Assistant, Corporate Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted]
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Jan Fozard [redacted]
Sent: July 16, 2026 1:34 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: MINING near Mary Lake/Cowley Creek

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]
Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Members of Whitehorse City Council,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Gladiator Mines' request to expand its operations into lands designated under the Official Community Plan OCP. I request that Council make NO bylaw amendments to the OCP based on any of the requests put forward by Gladiator mines nor the report of recommendations done by the city administration.

The Official Community Plan exists to provide long-term certainty, consistency, and transparency in land-use planning. It represents years of public consultation and careful consideration of the community's vision for Whitehorse. It should not be amended simply to accommodate the immediate interests of a single company.

Granting this request would establish a troubling precedent. If Council allows exceptions whenever a private developer or mining company seeks them, it weakens the integrity of the OCP and makes future policy decisions more vulnerable to similar requests. The OCP should remain the guiding document for land-use decisions until a comprehensive review is undertaken through the proper public process.

I, along with my family and friends, regularly use the trail network from Mary Lake to Mt Sima, and I am concerned

about any development that could affect this valued recreational connection. There has already been so many alterations to the area that any more only further hurt wildlife habitat and recreational trails. It becomes a very slippery slope if Greenspace designations can be overturned without due process for the consequences. Deciduous forest will grow in the fire break and so the now barren landscape will become a lush and lovely place to walk, ski and ride through for future generations.

I am also concerned about the timing of this proposal. It is being advanced during the summer months when many residents are travelling or otherwise unable to participate fully in public consultation. Decisions with significant long-term implications for our neighbourhoods and community deserve broad public engagement, not a process that many citizens may not even be aware is taking place.

Given the significance of this request, I believe Council should also consider whether it is appropriate for such an important policy decision to proceed while the City Administrator is serving in an acting capacity. This proposal has implications well beyond a single development application and deserves the benefit of stable administrative leadership and a thorough review.

Mining is an important contributor to the Yukon's economy, but it must operate within the planning framework established by the community. The Official Community Plan should not be altered at the whim of a mining company's demands or short-term business interests.

I respectfully urge Council to reject Gladiator Mines' request and uphold the integrity of the Official Community Plan until any future amendments are considered through the scheduled comprehensive review process, with full public participation.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to protecting the long-term interests of Whitehorse residents.

Sincerely,
Jan and Allan Fozard
Mary Lake

From:	Sebastian Jones
To:	publicinput@whitehorse.ca
Cc:	Sarah Juliet Nadler; Elizabeth Vickers-Drennan; Gerald
Subject:	Gladiator"s proposed amendment to the Whitehorse OCP
Date:	Thursday, July 16, 2026 1:10:58 PM

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Greetings,

I urge the Whitehorse Council to consider the full effects of acceding to this proposed change to zoning.
Fundamentally, we are faced with deciding if a particular parcel of land is suitable for a mine. Yes, the corporation behind the proposal says it only wants to do low level exploration, but it is important to remember WHY they want to do exploration- it is to decide if they can convince the Stockmarket to sponsor the development of a full fledged mine.
The problem facing Council is that it might feel comfortable with the level of activity proposed, but what if the tests turn up the results that the corporation hopes and expects?
In that case, the City will face extreme pressure to allow further development, beyond what it might feel comfortable authorizing in what is currently zoned Greenspace.

If the Council is comfortable with a mine in this location, then it should rezone the area as suitable for that level of industrialization. If not, then it should reject the proposal.

Regards,

Sebastian

Sebastian Jones
Fish, Wildlife and Habitat
Yukon Conservation Society
[redacted] Dawson City Yukon
[redacted]

Become a YCS member!
[redacted]

Grateful resident of the land of the Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in

From: Rising Sun Innovations
To: publicinput@whitehorse.ca
Subject: Mineral exploration amendment
Date: Friday, July 17, 2026 3:30:49 PM

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hi,

I would like to voice my thoughts on the proposed amendment to allow mineral exploration in designated green spaces.

This goes against the intent of the official community plan. Many hours were spent setting aside important areas for protection. Every amendment whittles this away.

The proponent points out the past uses but the areas proposed have not seen development that is proposed. The areas proposed are tiny compared to their overall scope of working area and would likely not result in significant changes to their outcome.

As these areas are already protected, the citizens of the city and surrounding areas have to have a say in what happens.
Times change.
Areas turn into residential and recreational lands.
Caribou and other wildlife use this area.
Whitehorse is called The Wilderness City for a reason. Whitehorse is no longer a resource extraction city and has not been for many decades.

Instead of expecting citizens to give way to allow exploration, the single company doing the exploration has to expect that they have to give way to the will of the citizens.
There is nothing to gain for the citizens of the city and surrounding areas. The only gains would be realized by a single out of territory corporation.

I oppose this amendment.

Andy Lera

From: Gerald Haase
To: Sebastian Jones
Cc: publicinput@whitehorse.ca; Sarah Juliet Nadler; Elizabeth Vickers-Drennan
Subject: Re: Gladiator"s proposed amendment to the Whitehorse OCP
Date: Saturday, July 18, 2026 9:01:53 AM

Gerald Haase reacted via Gmail

On Thu, Jul 16, 2026 at 1:08 PM Sebastian Jones [redacted] wrote:

> Greetings,
>
> I urge the Whitehorse Council to consider the full effects of acceding to this proposed change to zoning.
> Fundamentally, we are faced with deciding if a particular parcel of land is suitable for a mine.
> Yes, the corporation behind the proposal says it only wants to do low level exploration, but it is important to remember WHY they want to do exploration- it is to decide if they can convince the Stockmarket to sponsor the development of a full fledged mine.
> The problem facing Council is that it might feel comfortable with the level of activity proposed, but what if the tests turn up the results that the corporation hopes and expects?
> In that case, the City will face extreme pressure to allow further development, beyond what it might feel comfortable authorizing in what is currently zoned Greenspace.
>
> If the Council is comfortable with a mine in this location, then it should rezone the area as suitable for that level of industrialization. If not, then it should reject the proposal.
>
> Regards,
>
> *Sebastian*
>
> Sebastian Jones
> Fish, Wildlife and Habitat
> Yukon Conservation Society
> [redacted] Dawson City Yukon
> [redacted]
>
> Become a YCS member!
> [redacted]
>
> Grateful resident of the land of the Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in

From: Loretta Westman
To: publicinput@whitehorse.ca
Subject: Exploration on open spaces within city limits July 20/26
Date: Saturday, July 18, 2026 9:49:43 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Exploration

Please forgive my not attending in person, it is not feasible.

I have been made aware that on Monday July 20/26 the council will be discussing mining exploration in open space within the city of Whitehorse.
If exploration is allowed I can't imagine that a company would not have an expectation of mining to be allowed.
I DO NOT want boring rigs doing core samples and I definitely DO NOT want any kind of mining within our city!
I have seen short sighted and poor future vision with placement with an LNG plant in a built up valley, lithium battery power backup at the end of a runway!
Now we want to potentially disrupt or contaminate our most precious resource aquifers, and surface water and rip out boreal forests.
Underground or open pit mining have their drawbacks. The south McQuesten river and valley below Elsa contamination. Faro is still doing remediation work. How many years is it now? The Minto mine, when you fly out of Whitehorse you can still tell where Whitehorse Coppermine was, the tailing ponds in Dawson that have scarred the face of our earth soon for 200 years, the roads that are moving all the time as they do hydraulic mining and whole hills are gone or moved. I think you get the picture.
Every type of mining has its draw backs. Each company says they will do this and/or that but if they don't we pay the bill for clean up. Immediately and possibly for future generations with potentially ground contamination to health issues to tourism. Yes it can be a source of revenue but at what cost? I don't want future generations to have to pay for the poor decisions we make today. THIS is a poor decision if it is allowed to go ahead.
Our city leaders, we elected are wiser on how to protect our environment than to allow this to go ahead
Thank you for allowing me to participate.
Sincerely
Loretta Westman
Sent from my iPhone

From: Sue Greetham
To: Whitehorse Public Input
Subject: Minng in whitehorse
Date: Sunday, July 19, 2026 2:44:37 PM

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

We need a complete definition of “limited forms of mineral exploration” being considered for amendment.

Yukon is and has been a mineral resource centre in Canada. Mineral resources fund the territory if managed appropriately.

We await your reply with the official definition.

Regards
Sue Greetham
[redacted]

From:	Executive Assistant
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: Gladiator Mining
Date:	Monday, July 20, 2026 9:38:25 AM
Attachments:	image.png

Casey Mojica (She/hers)
Executive Assistant, Corporate Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted]
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Anna Avery [redacted]
Sent: July 20, 2026 9:33 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Gladiator Mining

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to express my opposition to the request from Gladiator Mining to expand their operations within City Limits.

Why not just stick to the Official Community Plan ? This plan took years to conceive, consult, and pass public approval. Amending the plan could become a political nightmare.

I recognize that mining is an important industry to the Yukon, but there are plenty of deposits outside of city limits. Allowing one company in opens the door to so many others. Our citizens in our subdivisions do not deserve mining in their backyard.

We advertise our city as "The Wilderness City". Let's keep it that way.

Annie Avery
Pine Ridge

From:	Executive Assistant
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: Mining Within City Limits?
Date:	Monday, July 20, 2026 9:54:11 AM
Attachments:	image.png

Casey Mojica (She/hers)
Executive Assistant, Corporate Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted]
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Autumn Chandler [redacted]
Sent: July 20, 2026 9:50 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Mining Within City Limits?

S[redacted]d this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello there,

I was curious as to what protections have been put in place for possible mining within city limits. Will our ground water be protected? Will noise pollution be regulated? How will this affect forrest fires? I am personally against this idea. I get that it could make whatever corporation a lot of money, but is it worth it? I would ask that you reconsider this proposal.

Thank you for your time,
-A.

From: Executive Assistant
To: Public Input
Subject: Fw: Opposition to the Gladiator Ridge Development
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2026 3:57:08 PM

From: Anju Perren [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2026 3:56 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Opposition to the Gladiator Ridge Development

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]
Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

Dear Mayor and Council,

I strongly oppose to the proposed Gladiator Ridge development and mineral exploration near Whitehorse. Our forests, wildlife, and clean water should be protected, not sacrificed for mining. I urge Council to listen to residents and put the long-term health of our community and environment first.

Sincerely,
Anju Perren

From: chad milford
To: publicinput@whitehorse.ca; Mayor and Council
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Proposed Bylaw 2026-25
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2026 3:55:39 PM

You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

My name is Chad Milford and I am a resident of the Spruce Hill neighbourhood.

I am writing today to express my complete opposition to the proposed Bylaw 2026-25 which would amend the Official Community Plan to allow mineral exploration in Land Use areas designated as Future Planning. I respectfully ask Mayor and Council to defeat the proposed Bylaw at Second Reading.

Approval of this Bylaw would set a problematic precedent that the Official Community Plan (OCP) is essentially an open document that can be modified at the request of corporate entities. The development of the OCP was a long and engaged process that set the community's priorities and intentions for land use within City boundaries. Areas of the municipality designated as Future Planning are to be reserved from development until such time as careful and deliberate consideration is given to adjust its designation. It is my argument that changing the allowable activities within a Future Planning designated area does not provide that careful and deliberate contemplation of long-term use and the consequences therein. In fact, this particular Bylaw would circumvent any meaningful planning in a rushed and improvised manner. The Bylaw would in effect, designate the described areas as Natural Resource Extraction. The phrase "Exploration is not mining" has been used in discussions on this topic, but in reality, it is a false statement. If commercially viable deposits of desirable minerals are discovered in the exploration phase, the pressure to extract those minerals would be intense and unrelenting. Legal challenges would be inevitable, and the City would be at a disadvantage for not being more deliberate in the Land Use designation. There is currently a Mineral Exploration and Development framework being developed by the City that should describe how such requests will be managed in a fair and transparent manner. Deliberate and legitimate Land Use re-designation can then be made after any required public consultation. I ask that this framework be completed and become the avenue for all requests for mineral exploration &/or development going forward.

Further, this particular Proponent's project presents many significant and unjustifiable risks. Specifically, but not exclusively:

- <!--[endif]-->Possible disruption &/or pollution of surface and ground water; either during exploration or potential mining.

- Irreparable damage to the landscape. The Yukon Government's fire break project cannot be used as justification because the fire break benefits all of Whitehorse and it's citizens and is therefore an acceptable compromise. Mineral exploration work will not benefit the entire City.
- <!--[endif]-->Damage to residential roadways. The subdivision roads were not built for heavy vehicles and many are already in rough condition. Increased traffic and parking on or near the roadways will accelerate the need for repair/replacement.
- <!--[endif]-->Increased traffic in residential areas present a danger to pedestrians and active transport users. It would also be a nuisance to all residents.
- <!--[endif]-->Resident quality of life would be impacted by all aspects of the work due to noise, traffic, vibrations, disruption to trails, and any number of other effects.
- <!--[endif]-->Property values could be negatively impacted, even in the short-term if a property owner is attempting to sell during exploration and certainly if an eventual mining development is proposed.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->

In closing, I am calling upon Mayor and Council to respect the due process that created the OCP, complete the Mineral Exploration and Development framework and avoid the unnecessary risks of this project. Please reject the proposed Bylaw 2026-25 and in so doing, protect the City's authority over land use.

Sincerely,

Chad Milford

From: Executive Assistant
To: Public Input
Subject: Fw: Gladiator Mine Expansion Opposition
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2026 9:58:42 AM

From: Reid Patterson [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2026 9:53 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Gladiator Mine Expansion Opposition

S[redacted]his message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello,

I am disappointed to learn about the approved expansion of mining exploration activities into the OCP of Whitehorse. The drilling locations are near to houses and throughout much of the nearest outdoor regions that Whitehorse residents can recreate and escape to including Chasàn Chùa Territorial Park (McIntyre Creek). This park is a legally designated 36-square-kilometre Natural Environment Park within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council. It has substantial cultural, ecological, recreational and watershed value. Although drilling occurs outside the park boundary the watershed and wildlife corridors will certainly be affected.

I understand the need for materials, but am continually concerned by the constant creep of industrial activities and am concerned by the precedent this project may set and sustain. We can support responsible resource development without opening municipal greenspace and environmentally sensitive lands to disturbance. The city should not give up control and I support the stance of rejecting the proposed police 15.4.8.

We all currently live in a time of profound ecological loss. I believe this weighs on the population psychologically and spiritually. Habitable zones for animals and plantlife are on the decline due to global human activities and this is exacerbated in a regional sense from projects like these. Destruction of the local forest, contamination of the water and air, and the displacement of fauna is short sighted.

Please consider:

- The rejection of Bylaw 2026-25 and maintaining existing greenspace designations
- Consider the cumulative effects of 'small' exploratory drilling; land clearing, equipment access, dust, noise, fragmented habitat, water contamination, etc.
- Ensure Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council are meaningfully involved in land-use decisions affecting the broader Chasàn Chùa landscape and their traditional territories.

Please continue to respect and protect these lands that make Whitehorse a truly special place to live.

Sincerely,
Reid Patterson

From: Executive Assistant
To: Public Input
Subject: Fw: Protect Whitehorse Greenspace and Chasàn Chùa — Reject Bylaw 2026-25
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2026 9:58:39 AM

From: Simon Geoffroy-Gagnon [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2026 9:41 AM
To: Mayor and Council <[redacted]
Cc: Kisa Elmer [redacted]; Mark Verhalle [redacted]
Subject: Protect Whitehorse Greenspace and Chasàn Chùa — Reject Bylaw 2026-25

S[redacted]ived this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,
I am writing to express my strong opposition to Bylaw 2026-25 and the proposed expansion of mineral exploration associated with Gladiator Metals' Whitehorse Copper Project.
The proposed amendments would redesignate approximately 0.81 square kilometres of land around Arctic Chief, Gem and Little Chief from Greenspace to Future Planning, allowing exploratory drilling to be considered through Temporary Use Permits. Although this proposal concerns exploration rather than approval of an operating mine, exploration is the first stage of potential mineral development. Changing the Official Community Plan to accommodate this activity would establish a troubling precedent for the gradual industrialization of greenspace around Whitehorse.
The forests, wetlands, waterways, wildlife corridors and trail systems surrounding Whitehorse are not vacant or unused lands. They support wildlife, recreation, traditional activities, community well-being and the ecological resilience of the city. Their value should not be dismissed simply because portions have been disturbed by historical mining or wildfire protection work. Previously disturbed land should be restored and allowed to recover, not treated as an appropriate location for repeated industrial disturbance.
The proposal must also be considered within the broader cultural and historical landscape of Chasàn Chùa, the Southern Tutchone name for the area also known as McIntyre Creek. Chasàn Chùa is part of the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council. Indigenous people have used and cared for these lands for thousands of years for travel, harvesting, hunting, fishing, gathering plants and maintaining cultural connections to the land and water. The area's history and value did not begin with the discovery of mineral deposits or the establishment of mining claims.
The designation of the 36-square-kilometre Chasàn Chùa Territorial Park in 2025 was an important commitment to protecting this cultural and ecological landscape. It recognized the leadership and long-standing stewardship of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, as well as the importance of the area to wildlife and Whitehorse residents.
I understand that the specific work areas identified in Bylaw 2026-25 are outside the formal boundary of Chasàn Chùa Territorial Park. However, cultural landscapes, watersheds and wildlife corridors do not end at a line on a municipal map. Activities on surrounding lands can still affect water, habitat connectivity, wildlife movement and the integrity of the larger Chasàn Chùa area. Protecting the park while allowing increasing industrial disturbance immediately outside it would undermine the purpose of establishing long-term protection.
I am also concerned that the applicant's proposed Policy 15.4.8 could reduce the City's discretion once territorial authorization has been issued. The City must retain the ability to decide whether mineral exploration is appropriate within municipal boundaries. Existing territorial permits should not oblige the City to approve activities that conflict with municipal greenspace protection, community priorities or responsible land-use planning.
On a personal level, the natural land surrounding Whitehorse is a major part of what makes this community special. I do not want to see the forests, trails, wetlands and recovering landscapes around the city incrementally cleared, drilled and industrialized. Once land is fragmented and repeatedly disturbed, its ecological and cultural functions may take decades to recover, if they recover at all. Each individual disturbance may appear limited, but their

cumulative effect can permanently change the character of the land.
I respectfully ask Council to:

- Reject Bylaw 2026-25 and retain the existing Greenspace designations;
- Complete the city-wide Mineral Exploration and Development Framework before considering project-specific redesignations;
- Protect recovering lands rather than using previous disturbance as justification for additional industrial activity;
- Consider cumulative impacts on water, wetlands, wildlife, habitat connectivity, recreation and the broader Chasàn Chùa landscape;
- Ensure that the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council have a central and meaningful role in decisions affecting their traditional territories; and
- Prioritize restoration, stewardship and long-term land protection over short-term mineral exploration.

Whitehorse should not sacrifice its surrounding greenspace one small amendment at a time. These lands have ecological, cultural and historical importance that extends far beyond their mineral potential. I respectfully ask Council to protect them and reject the proposed amendment.
Sincerely,
--
Simon Geoffroy-Gagnon, M. Eng-T, E.I.T
Research Professional, Northern Energy Innovation
YukonU Research Center
C [redacted]

From: Executive Assistant
To: Public Input
Subject: Fw: City Planning - Aug 3, 2026 agenda item, proposed OCP amendments
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 7:49:45 AM

From: cd lewis [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 2, 2026 5:01 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Cc: Brad Cathers [redacted] <[redacted]>; [redacted] <[redacted]>; [redacted]
Subject: City Planning - Aug 3, 2026 agenda item, proposed OCP amendments

S[redacted]ed this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello, we are writing to express our complete opposition to the proposed OCP amendments that would provide for mineral exploration in all areas currently land-zoned for Future Planning, as per the proposal to add a new OCP subsection and new policies 15.4.7 – 15.4.10. We also object to the proposal for the Glossary of the Official Community Plan being amended to modify the existing table by adding definitions for “Established Access”, “Disturbed Area”, “Mineral Exploration”, and “Temporary Equipment Access”.

We also want to express our support for those who objected, in writing and in person, re: the July 7, 2026 meeting of Council, where the initially proposed OCP amendments, including map changes, were first introduced to the public.

It is shocking that even before the minutes of the Council meeting on July 7, 2026 have been approved by Council and published for public information/awareness, that Council would even entertain any further revisions to the initially proposed OCP amendments, which received first reading on July 7th.

The OCP amendment proposals - both the initial ones, and these latest ones - are entirely inconsistent with the long and arduous process that was involved in getting the OCP 2040 to its final state. Administration and Council willingness and indeed, seeming eagerness, to move this OCP amendments package forward despite the strenuous objections of so many, and preceding conclusion of finalization of the Mineral Exploration and Development Framework, is both disturbing and highly concerning.

In our view, this rushed process aims to completely circumvent the Framework initiative, with the intent to jam the OCP amendments through - during the summer period when many City residents are attempting to enjoy the brief summer respite period or indeed, are 'away'. With only one business day's notice being given to the public to even become aware of Council agenda items, and respond to same, how can any reasonable person conclude otherwise, especially as minutes of the July 7th meeting have not even approved or published.

It is unacceptable that all Future Planning areas could now become subject to Mineral

Exploration. In our area (north end of the City) that would mean our neighborhoods would or could become surrounded with potential mineral exploration activities in close proximity to the neighborhood school (Hidden Valley School), and a considerable number of homes/residences. Residents fought long and hard (over 20 years) to successfully see the Stevens area no longer designated for Natural Resource extraction in OCO 2040. To now see the potential for this area and others close by to be opened to mineral exploration is egregiously disrespectful to the hundreds of people who clearly understood that once the door is opened to mineral/resource exploration, development or extraction, there is no closing of the door. Each incremental step becomes the basis for the next step, then the next step, and so forth.

And now we see a proposal to not only allow for this or enable this to occur, but to also consider all 'disturbed' lands - including those 'disturbed' solely for the initial purposes of community protection, such as firesmarted and fuel break areas - considered 'fair game' for mineral exploration. If the City Council approves this, it will effectively destroy ANY trust that many residents may have had about what firesmarting/fuel breaking efforts are really about. In effect, it will likely be seen by many that the City (and YG) are complicit in an effort to hoodwink the public into allowing firesmarted/fuel breaked areas to become the gateway to not only mineral exploration (and then development/extraction), but potentially other things as well.

We urge City Council to NOT give ANY consideration to the latest draft of the proposed OCP amendments, to defer any reading of this latest proposal, and to defer any further readings of the previously approved (first reading) proposals until:

- the public has had fair opportunity to consider what's transpired and is currently proposed;

- the August 24th scheduled public hearing on the matter has been held, a public report issued on same; and due process has been followed to allow for public input at subsequent Council meetings, and

- the Mineral Exploration and Development Framework initiative process itself has concluded.

Finally, we note that the new Administration report to Council, dated August 3, 2026, contains an error. First reading of the proposed OCP amendments/bylaw was held July 7th, not July 6th.

Please consider this joint email as constituting two separate submissions, on the same matters.

Cathleen and David Lewis
MacPherson Subdivision

From:	Executive Assistant
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: No OCP bylaw amendments for Gladiator Metals
Date:	Monday, August 3, 2026 7:49:32 AM

From: James W. [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 2, 2026 7:35 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: No OCP bylaw amendments for Gladiator Metals

S [redacted] this message don't often get email from
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Dear Mayor and Council,

As a Whitehorse Citizen, I am requesting that NO bylaw amendments be made to the OCP for Gladiator Metals.

Please protect McIntyre Creek Park

Thank you,
Concerned Whitehorse Citizen

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From: Executive Assistant
To: Public Input
Subject: Fw: Gladiator metals
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 7:49:59 AM

From: Lorrie Lech [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 2, 2026 1:16 PM
To: Mayor and Council <[redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Gladiator metals

S[redacted]eived this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to formally register my strong opposition to the proposed amendment to the Official Community Plan (OCP) that would permit Gladiator Metals to conduct mining exploration within the Mary Lake area.

Allowing industrial exploration inside city limits—especially within an established residential and ecologically sensitive area like Mary Lake—poses significant risks to our community's well-being. The potential disruption to local wildlife, risks to the watershed, increased industrial traffic, and degradation of quiet residential neighborhoods conflict directly with the foundational goals of our current OCP.

Furthermore, making a permanent amendment at this moment is entirely premature. I know you are all busy so using your time efficiently is important. Since the Yukon Government is currently in the process of completely rewriting the territory's mining regulations, why would the City of Whitehorse alter its long-term planning guidelines to accommodate industrial mining before these new overarching regulations are finalized.

The City should defer any decisions on this amendment. Waiting will allow Council to see how the new regulations are rewritten, evaluate their standards, and ensure municipal bylaws align with modern territorial frameworks.

I urge Council to prioritize the voices of local residents, protect our shared green spaces, and vote against this OCP amendment. Thank you for your time, consideration, and dedication to the future of Whitehorse

Lorrie Lech

From:	Misa Svoboda
To:	publicinput@whitehorse.ca
Cc:	Jennifer England
Subject:	Environmental destruction, non proffesionalism by the city, lost trust. Still Hope. On behalf of the Youth
Date:	Sunday, August 2, 2026 11:06:08 AM

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

To whom this may concern,

Hi, my name is Misa. I am 20 years old and have lived in the Mary Lake subdivision for 20 years. I grew up playing, learning, and becoming a Yukoner on the very land you now want to destroy. I now attend university while coming home as much as possible to spend even just a week in the amazing place we live, surrounded by mountains, friends, and fellow Yukoners. It is to my great disappointment in the city that I am writing to you today.

As you know, there are probably many emails coming your way about the issue at hand and the proposed open pit copper mine within city limits. As the Mayor continues to create elementary school-level excuses about why this is a good idea, it makes me so infuriated that, at 20 years old, I have to speak up, something I only thought I was going to do after retirement when I'm bored out of my mind. While you (City Council and the Mayor) are in "power" in roles that are supposed to support the people and the public, it seems to me that you all continue to push your own political agendas, ignoring the outcry of the public.

It doesn't take an educated person to know how destructive an idea this mine is. Putting it into perspective, you want to scare away the loyal people and residents of Whitehorse so you can have a mine within city limits, polluting the environment just for it to eventually close operations, and then spend all your money and the territorial government's money to clean it up for 100+ years. It amazes me that people believe it is a good idea to continue to put the burden of cleaning up our mistakes on future generations.

In a community that is so closely knit to its identity, you are single-handedly part of the destruction of what I thought to be the best city in Canada. An identity built around the outdoors, the cold of the North, and the continued persistence of people working together through every environmental condition possible, summer or winter. Your efforts to push this forward are not some little fairy tale; it's the beginning of a chapter book: how they destroyed Whitehorse.

I urge you to make the right decision, do your job, and listen to the public, not some mining company and a guy in a suit who has not even ever lived in our subdivision. Keep them out, please.

On behalf of the young people and children who were born and live in this neighbourhood, don't ruin it for the next family that wants to raise theirs in this incredible place.

Sincerely,

Misa

From:	Executive Assistant
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: Stop Gladiator Metals
Date:	Monday, August 3, 2026 7:49:50 AM

From: Werner Rhein [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 2, 2026 3:26 PM
To: Mayor and Council <[redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Stop Gladiator Metals

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

City Council of Whitehorse, Yukon.

Please get real; there are more and more people coming to the Yukon, mainly to Whitehorse.
We are running out of living space.

You can't open up mining in this living space; you already have an OCP that is regulating these issues.

I just had contact with Diamond Drillers, who do test drilling in the Skukum Mine area, way back in the Weaton Valley.
They are not just finding gold; they are finding rare earth minerals, maybe more worth than gold.
This is far away from people's living area; yes, it will probably bring more road traffic to my living area, but that is just road traffic, and it may bring improvement to our road.

Please cancel any business with Gladiator Mine.

Regards,

Werner Rhein

From: Executive Assistant
To: Public Input
Subject: Fw: Gladiator Mining and Opening The City Plan
Date: Monday, August 3, 2026 9:58:58 AM

From: Daniel Verhalle [redacted]
Sent: Monday, August 3, 2026 9:40 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Gladiator Mining and Opening The City Plan

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

I do not agree with the Mayor and City Council 's decision to open and change the official City Plan to accommodate the activities of Gladiator Mining. It appears that City worked closely and is complicit with Gladiator's plan to open the act.This is totally not acceptable. The changing of the act due the wants of the Gladiator sets a dangerous precedent. Whitehorse is now not only under threat from climate change, wildfire and overpopulation but now from the city's administration. The granting of a 3rd level exploration permit to Gladiator threatens our green spaces and quality of life is reckless and without vision.

I urge the City to revoke the permit and close the plan.

Daniel Verhalle
[redacted]
Whitehorse

From:	Executive Assistant
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: Gladiator Mining and Opening the City Plan
Date:	Monday, August 3, 2026 9:33:20 AM
Attachments:	image.png

Casey Mojica (She/hers)
Executive Assistant, Corporate Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted]
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Debbie Verhalle [redacted]
Sent: August 3, 2026 9:27 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Gladiator Mining and Opening the City Plan

S[redacted]ed this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

I do not agree with the Mayor and City Council 's decision to open and change the official City Plan to accommodate the activities of Gladiator Mining. It appears that City worked closely and is complicit with Gladiator's plan to open the act.
This is totally not acceptable.

Whitehorse is now not only under threat from climate change, wildfire and overpopulation but now from the city's administration. The granting of a 3rd level exploration permit to Gladiator threatens our green spaces and quality of life is reckless and without vision.

l urge the City to revoke the permit and close the plan.

Deborah Verhalle
[redacted]
Whitehorse

KWANLIN DÜN FIRST NATION
35 McIntyre Drive, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 5A5
Phone: [redacted] Fax: [redacted]

August 03, 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

Kwanlin Dün First Nation writes in strong support of the proposed Official Community Plan Map and Text Amendment – Mineral Exploration (Bylaw 2026-25).

Mineral exploration within Kwanlin Dün First Nation Traditional Territory is important. It helps improve our understanding of the land and its mineral potential, supporting informed decisions about the future of our Traditional Territory while creating opportunities for our citizens and the Yukon economy.

Since 2023, Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Gladiator Metals have worked to build a relationship founded on trust, respect, and open, transparent communication. That relationship has included meaningful engagement throughout the environmental assessment, permitting, and consultation processes for the Whitehorse Copper Project and has continued as the project has progressed.

Gladiator Metals has kept Kwanlin Dün First Nation informed as its plans have evolved and has been responsive when we have raised questions or concerns. We appreciate the company's willingness to engage early, listen, and work collaboratively, and that approach has helped build confidence in the exploration program and our ongoing working relationship.

Kwanlin Dün First Nation strongly supports responsible mineral exploration within our Traditional Territory that is conducted with genuine engagement and respect for our rights and interests. Our experience working with Gladiator Metals throughout this process has demonstrated that approach, and Kwanlin Dün First Nation therefore supports the proposed amendment and encourages Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

The City's draft Economic Development Strategy (Goal 4: Work Towards Economic Reconciliation) commits to involving First Nations early in planning and project development and to focusing on tangible outcomes rather than broad statements. Consistent with that commitment, Kwanlin Dün First Nation requests that the proposed Official Community Plan amendment and its implications for mineral exploration and resource development within our Traditional Territory be included as an agenda item for the Tri-Council meeting scheduled for September 2, 2026, between Kwanlin Dün First Nation, Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, and the City of Whitehorse.

Sincerely,

Chief Sean Smith

From:	Executive Assistant
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: Bylaw 2026-25 — Gladiator Metals" Request to Amend the Official Community Plan 2040
Date:	Monday, August 3, 2026 3:20:46 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Casey Mojica (She/hers)
Executive Assistant, Corporate Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted]
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: M Svoboda [redacted]
Sent: August 3, 2026 2:45 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Re: Bylaw 2026-25 — Gladiator Metals' Request to Amend the Official Community Plan 2040

S[redacted]ived this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Re: Mineral Exploration OCP Amendment, Area Adjustment (Bylaw 2026-25, revised Appendices A and B) August 3, 2026

First, credit where it's due. The applicant has pulled roughly two hectares back, added an 80-metre setback from Mary Lake, and removed two Environmentally Sensitive Areas from the work area. That's movement, and it came because residents showed up on July 7. I want that on the record.

But I'd ask the Committee to be precise about what that movement actually is. The proponent's own explanation is that the original boundary reflected the extent of their mineral tenure — not any operational intent. In plain terms: they asked for more land than they ever intended to work on.

That should not pass without comment. An application that proposed redesignating land right up to the shoreline of Mary Lake, including Environmentally Sensitive Areas, on the basis of tenure lines rather than any actual plan of work — that request should never have arrived at this Committee in the form it did. It was not a serious proposal. And because it wasn't, and because there was no meaningful engagement with residents before it landed, this City got exactly what it should have expected in July: a packed chamber, a community that felt blindsided, and a level of upset that could have been avoided entirely by a phone call and a map before first reading rather than after.

What has changed since July 7 is not that the concerns were unfounded. It is that they have been confirmed.

So the small adjustment in front of you tonight is welcome. But it does not restore confidence. It confirms that the original ask was over-broad, that the process moved before the file was ready, and that four members of Council advanced it anyway over those objections.

My comments are limited to two things: the mapping, and the policy gap the mapping reveals.

---

1. Mapping

The reduction does not make the proposal worse. Removing approximately two hectares, adding an approximately 80-metre setback from the Mary Lake shoreline, and excluding two Environmentally Sensitive Areas from the work area all narrow the proposal in ways that respond to what residents raised. This is a minimal accommodation to the concerns raised. Moreover, my concern is whether the public can actually see what changed.

The attachment shows the revised work area at a legible scale. Appendices A and B, however, are the instruments being amended, and both are city-wide maps at a far smaller scale. At that scale a two-hectare reduction and an 80-metre shoreline setback are not visually resolvable. A resident comparing the original and revised appendices side by side cannot confirm what was removed, or where the new boundary sits relative to the lake, the wetlands, or the ESA polygons.

There is a further problem. Residents have requested the underlying spatial data — shapefiles or equivalent — for the proposed boundaries, so that the proposal can be overlaid against the existing Greenspace and ESA layers, watercourses, wetlands, fuel breaks, and trail networks, and compared between the original and revised versions. Those requests were declined, on the basis that the City is not able to provide them.

I would ask the Committee to consider what that means in combination with the mapping now in front of you. The public is being asked to assess a boundary change of roughly two hectares, shown on city-wide maps where that change cannot be resolved, without access to the data that would allow it to be measured. The only party in this process able to perform that analysis is the applicant — not residents.

Mayor Cameron has been clear that the purpose of taking this application through a full public hearing process is so that materials and concerns can be assessed, vetted, and reviewed. That commitment is at risk if residents are given maps they cannot verify and refused the data that would let them verify anything. A stated technological limitation should not become, in practice, a limit on public participation — particularly on a file where the boundary has now changed after first reading and after public notice.

Request: that the Committee direct Administration to release the spatial data for the original and revised subject areas in any standard interoperable format, or, if that is genuinely not possible, provide a written explanation of the limitation and an alternative that allows residents to independently verify the boundaries before August 24.

2. Policy gap

The revision is being communicated as reassurance about Mary Lake. That reassurance rests entirely in mapping, not in policy text.

The proposed policies 15.4.7 through 15.4.10 contain no setback provision. The 80-metre setback exists only as the shape of a boundary on a map.

This matters because of what Director Schneider told Council on July 7: development officers can only impose and enforce conditions that are grounded in policy. If a setback is not written into the plan, it is not a condition a development officer can attach to a Temporary Use Permit. It is a line on a map that constrains where redesignated land begins — not what happens on it.

Related, and within the same scope:

- **Policy 15.4.9** requires reclamation "in accordance with applicable territorial authorization and City standards." I would ask Administration whether written City reclamation standards for mineral exploration currently exist. If they do not, the clause

has no municipal content.

The gap is wider than the setback

The setback is the clearest example, but it is not the only one. On July 7, residents put a specific and consistent set of concerns before Council — among them noise from drilling and equipment, hours of operation, dust, traffic and haul routes on residential and recreational roads, effects on groundwater and private wells, impacts on trail networks and public access, and the City's ability to respond to complaints about activity already underway.

Policy 15.4.8 states that a development officer "may impose conditions addressing land use matters in alignment with City bylaw." Every one of those concerns is only manageable if the alignment referred to actually exists. Applying Director Schneider's statement to each of them in turn, the question is not whether a condition would be desirable. It is whether there is anything in the OCP or the Zoning Bylaw for a development officer to point to.

Residents cannot answer that question. Administration can, and the Committee is entitled to have that answer before this bylaw reaches a public hearing.

Request: that the Committee direct Administration to prepare and publish, before or at the August 24 public hearing, a written policy gap analysis addressing the following:

1. **Setback and ESA exclusions** — whether the boundaries reflected in the revised mapping can be given corresponding expression in the policy text of Bylaw 2026-25, so that they are enforceable rather than cartographic.
2. **Noise** — whether the City's noise bylaw applies to mineral exploration drilling and associated equipment; what exemptions exist; whether hours of operation can be conditioned on a Temporary Use Permit; and which department is responsible for enforcement and response.
3. **Each remaining concern raised at first reading** — dust, traffic and access routes, groundwater and private wells, trail and public access disruption, and reclamation — identifying for each the specific existing OCP policy or Zoning Bylaw provision a development officer could rely on to impose a condition, or confirming plainly that none exists and city is unable to address concerns.

Where the analysis identifies that no policy basis exists, that should be stated plainly rather than left to inference. Residents are entitled to know, before they are asked to comment at a public hearing, which of their concerns this City is actually able to address and which it is not.

Neither request asks the Committee to reject the revision or to alter the public hearing timeline. Both ask that what the maps now show, the plan can actually enforce — and that residents preparing for August 24 are working from the same maps, and the same understanding of the City's authority.

I'll close with this. Trust is the basis for debate. For trust to exist, critical information has to be shared — not held by one party and withheld from the other. Please provide that information in a form residents can actually use and prepare with, and provide it before further debate is put upon us.

Without that, this is not a solution-finding process. At best it is a divisive experience, and this community has already had enough of those.

Thank you.

Michael Svoboda Whitehorse, Yukon

From: Patricia Nash
To: publicinput@whitehorse.ca; Mayor and Council
Subject: Proposed Bylaw 2026–25
Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2026 10:19:36 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

I am a senior citizen, 80 years old and unwell, but I feel compelled to write you —the Whitehorse mayor and council—on what might be the most important decision you make in your current term of office. I say this because your decision will impact not only the citizens of our beautiful city today, but future generations—your children, grand children and great grandchildren.

I was appalled when I first heard that a mining company was wanting to mine within Whitehorse. (Let my opinion be clear: mining has no place AT ALL within city limits. Surely that is plain common sense.) However, I had faith that all parties involved in the making of the OCP would understand what a horrific mistake this would be, and would develop the plan accordingly—which they did.

That is why I cannot understand the argument of some on council that Whitehorse citizens need time to have our opinions heard. We've already been given that time and have made our opinions clear. We overwhelmingly support the OCP.

And now we have Gladiator Metals working hard to try and amend this carefully developed and overwhelmingly supported plan. I would like to address one of their arguments— that what is being proposed is exploration, not mining. Surely it is clear that no company would go to the trouble they have unless they think there's a very good chance they will be hitting "pay dirt", and that mining within city limits will then have the go ahead. If so, our surface and ground water will be severely and negatively impacted, which is my biggest concern—not only for us, but for our future generations. I hope that is not the legacy this mayor and council want to leave.

I will not go into all the other reasons why amending this carefully developed OCP is a terrible idea, as many other concerned citizens have already stated the reasons clearly, concisely, and many times over. Instead, I will simply repeat this plea which you have heard from so many of us—please make NO bylaw amendments to the OCP based on any requests put forward by Gladiator Metals, nor the report of recommendations done by the city administration.

Or in my own words and even more succinctly—mining has NO PLACE within the limits of our beautiful city! There are no arguments that would make it right.

Respectfully,
I remain a very worried and concerned citizen,

Patricia Nash

From: Randy Clarkson
To: publicinput@whitehorse.ca
Subject: I fully support amendments regarding enabling limited mineral exploration
Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2026 11:21:16 AM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

Hello City of Whitehorse Council:

I fully support the proposed amendments to the official community plan bylaw 2026-205 enabling limited mineral exploration within the City of Whitehorse.

I lived in the Yukon from 1974-1975 and from 1980 go the present. We have lived in the Mary Lake subdivision since 1985.

I enjoyed worked at Whitehorse Copper Mines, the former underground mine operator. Almost all of its former employees and associated suppliers of goods and services would have nothing but positive things to say about copper mining in the City of Whitehorse.

The former Whitehorse Copper Mine had a very positive impact on the City of Whitehorse both socially and through revenues from municipal taxes.

The Whitehorse Copper Belt has been mined previously for decades with little impact on the environment, its rock is rich in calcium and relatively benign. It does not become acidic or create metal leachate. Any real or perceived impacts can be easily mitigated.

It would be great if mining exploration could be allowed to continue and possibly result in actual mining once again.

It would be a shame if a few nimbys are able to halt exploration and development of mineral resources in the vast area which is the City of Whitehorse.

I believe that Yukoners need to return to earning a living by developing our natural resources responsibly and not from relying on ever increasing handouts from Ottawa.

Regards,

Randy Clarkson P.Eng.

[redacted]

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This email has been checked for viruses by AVG antivirus software.
www.avg.com

From: Brenda Berezan
To: publicinput@whitehorse.ca
Subject: Reject Proposed Bylaw 2026-25
Date: Wednesday, August 5, 2026 1:50:45 PM

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Hello Mayor and Council,

My name is Brenda Berezan and I live in the Copper Ridge area of Whitehorse. I have lived in Whitehorse for 18 years and 26 years in total in the Yukon.

I want to state that I reject the proposed Bylaw 2026-25.

I do no want to see any alterations or amendments to the OCP that would give outside mining companies the ability to conduct any type of work. Giving just one mining company a green light sets a dangerous precedent for future companies to ask for similar changes to our community plan.

This proposal also makes me think about how mining in general has been carried out in the Yukon for many years, by well-intended companies who end up creating disasters, then walk away leaving us tax payers with massive clean-up bills.

I want to see Whitehorse and its environs clear and free of any mining whatsoever.

Thank you,

Brenda

From: Maria Gray
To: publicinput@whitehorse.ca
Subject: Bylaw 2026-25
Date: Wednesday, August 5, 2026 4:54:30 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Re: Public Hearing – Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

My name is Maria Gray. I am a Whitehorse resident, and I am writing to respectfully ask Council to reject proposed Bylaw 2026-25.

Like many residents, I value the long-term vision set out in the Whitehorse 2040 Official Community Plan. That plan was developed through extensive public engagement and reflects our community's shared priorities for responsible growth, environmental stewardship, recreation, and quality of life.

My concern is not simply about one exploration proposal, but about changing the Official Community Plan before the City's Mineral Exploration and Development Framework has been completed. It seems premature to weaken protections for designated greenspace and environmentally sensitive areas without first having a comprehensive framework in place to guide these decisions.

The natural areas around Mary Lake, Wolf Creek, Mount Sima, and surrounding neighbourhoods are an important part of what makes Whitehorse such a special place to live. They support recreation, wildlife, healthy ecosystems, and the wellbeing of our community. Decisions affecting these areas should be made cautiously, transparently, and only after a thorough planning process.

I respectfully ask Council to reject Bylaw 2026-25 and complete the Mineral Exploration and Development Framework before considering amendments to the Official Community Plan.

Thank you for your time and for considering the concerns of Whitehorse residents.

Sincerely,

Maria Gray
Whitehorse, Yukon

From:	Executive Assistant
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: Whitehorse geospatial data
Date:	Wednesday, August 5, 2026 3:36:27 PM
Attachments:	image.png

Casey Mojica (She/hers)
Executive Assistant, Corporate Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted]
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Tim Green [redacted]
Sent: August 5, 2026 3:16 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Whitehorse geospatial data

S[redacted]ceived this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

City Council,

I have just reviewed the discussion at the 3 Aug Council meeting that included some discussion about availability of mapping/geospatial data related to the OCP changes and mineral exploration.

As part of its online open data policy and portal, YG provides wonderful digital mapping data free of charge. Some of this is raster map data (picture of a map, satellite imagery, aerial photos); some of it is vector data (lines and polygons giving borders, outlines, and areas). I use this extensively in historical exploration and mapping in the Whitehorse area.

After the 7 July Council meeting, I asked Gladiator for vector data for the areas they are asking end up as Future Planning. They provided that data immediately and I used it to overlay on YG-provided raster map data. From that I easily created GPS maps so I could tell (and show others) where boundaries and areas are related to where I am actually standing on the ground. This makes understanding real impact of the OCP change clear.

Missing is the vector data from the City to give the outlines of various OCP areas to show on the ground the overlap (or not) of Greenspace and Future Planning with the Gladiator data. I find extremely strange and surprising that the City cannot provide such data for the OCP areas in reusable industry format (e.g., .shp, .kml, .kmz) that other organizations (and increasingly Whitehorse citizens, apparently) use and have been using for many years.

Anything you can do to bring the City into the geospatial 21st century would make everyone's life easier.

==Tim

Timothy C. Green, CD, PEng (Ret), MEng
exploring the future at [redacted]
complete spectrum of services at [redacted]

From:	Executive Assistant
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: I am totally against amending the the OCP to allow for Exploratory drilling activities within the Future Planning designation and the redesignation of select Greenspace areas to Future Planning under the City of Whitehorse OCP 2040.
Date:	Thursday, August 6, 2026 1:30:57 PM

From: Carol Ann Gingras [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2026 1:00 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: I am totally against amending the the OCP to allow for Exploratory drilling activities within the Future Planning designation and the redesignation of select Greenspace areas to Future Planning under the City of Whitehorse OCP 2040.

S[redacted]s message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

To Mayor and Council,
Please add my name and comment that I am totally against allowing for exploratory drilling activities within the Future Planning designation and the redesignation of select greenspace areas to Future Planning under the City of Whitehorse OCP 2040.
Mr Mayor, I remember you telling me once that mining has always been part of Whitehorse and in your opinion it would always be part of Whitehorse.
A lot of Yukoners think otherwise.
Council members, since you were elected, as the mayor was, in your positions to respect what Yukoners prefer and want, I am asking you to join the 3 councillors who voted against the changes that you and the Mayor wish to bring to Whitehorse's designation and redesignation of select greenspace areas.
Dear councillors Morris, Hamilton and Middler, thank you so much for stating clearly that you are against the proposed changes.

[redacted]
Please, do not change anything in the Plans to what this man wants.
Carol Ann Gingras
Whitehorse resident

From: heather milford
To: publicinput@whitehorse.ca; Mayor and Council
Subject: Re: Proposed Bylaw 2026-25
Date: Thursday, August 6, 2026 9:31:26 AM

> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

My name is Heather Milford and I am a resident of the Spruce Hill neighbourhood.

I am writing today to express my complete opposition to the proposed Bylaw 2026-25 which would amend the Official Community Plan to allow mineral exploration in Land Use areas designated as Future Planning. I respectfully ask Mayor and Council to defeat the proposed Bylaw at Second Reading.

Approval of this Bylaw would set a problematic precedent that the Official Community Plan (OCP) is essentially an open document that can be modified at the request of corporate entities. The development of the OCP was a long and engaged process that set the community's priorities and intentions for land use within City boundaries. Areas of the municipality designated as Future Planning are to be reserved from development until such time as careful and deliberate consideration is given to adjust its designation. It is my argument that changing the allowable activities within a Future Planning designated area does not provide that careful and deliberate contemplation of long-term use and the consequences therein. In fact, this particular Bylaw would circumvent any meaningful planning in a rushed and improvised manner. The Bylaw would in effect, designate the described areas as Natural Resource Extraction. The phrase "Exploration is not mining" has been used in discussions on this topic, but in reality, it is a false statement. If commercially viable deposits of desirable minerals are discovered in the exploration phase, the pressure to extract those minerals would be intense and unrelenting. Legal challenges would be inevitable, and the City would be at a disadvantage for not being more deliberate in the Land Use designation. There is currently a Mineral Exploration and Development framework being developed by the City that should describe how such requests will be managed in a fair and transparent manner. Deliberate and legitimate Land Use re-designation can then be made after any required public consultation. I ask that this framework be completed and become the avenue for all requests for mineral exploration &/or development going forward.

Further, this particular Proponent's project presents many significant and unjustifiable risks. Specifically, but not exclusively:

- Possible disruption &/or pollution of surface and ground water; either during exploration or potential mining.
- Irreparable damage to the landscape. The Yukon Government's fire break project cannot be used as justification because the fire break benefits all of Whitehorse and it's citizens and is therefore an acceptable compromise. Mineral exploration work will not benefit the entire City.
- Damage to residential roadways. The subdivision roads were not built for heavy vehicles and many are already in rough condition. Increased traffic and parking on or near the roadways will accelerate the need for repair/replacement.
- Increased traffic in residential areas present a danger to pedestrians and active transport users. It would also be a nuisance to all residents.

- Resident quality of life would be impacted by all aspects of the work due to noise, traffic, vibrations, disruption to trails, and any number of other effects.
- Property values could be negatively impacted, even in the short-term if a property owner is attempting to sell during exploration and certainly if an eventual mining development is proposed.

In closing, I am calling upon Mayor and Council to respect the due process that created the OCP, complete the Mineral Exploration and Development framework and avoid the unnecessary risks of this project. Please reject the proposed Bylaw 2026-25 and in so doing, protect the City's authority over land use.

Sincerely,

Heather Milford

From:	Executive Assistant
To:	Public Input
Subject:	Fw: please do not amend the OCP to promote drilling and exploration work by Gladiator
Date:	Thursday, August 6, 2026 10:56:14 AM

From: Paul Davis [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2026 10:54 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: please do not amend the OCP to promote drilling and exploration work by Gladiator

S[redacted]eived this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Your Worship, Councillors:
No way we should give up green space to Gladiator, they have not behaved well on the drilling they have done so far. Green Space is Green Space!
en solidarité,
Paul Davis
Whitehorse

From:	Nikita Bailey
To:	publicinput@whitehorse.ca; Mayor and Council
Cc:	[redacted]
Subject:	Letter of Support - Bylaw 2026 -25
Date:	Thursday, August 6, 2026 10:49:06 AM
Attachments:	image.png Support for Official Community Plan Amendement - Bylaw 2026-25.pdf

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> Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Good Morning,

On behalf of Chief Ruth Massie, please see attached letter of support for the Official Community Plan Amendment.

Best regards,

Nikita Sawrenko-Bailey
Executive Assistant
Ta'an Kwäch'än Council
[redacted]
Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada
[redacted]

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council

[redacted]

August 6, 2026

City of Whitehorse
2121 Second Avenue
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 1C2
Delivered via email: publicinput@whitehorse.ca; [redacted]

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council ("TKC") writes in support of the proposed Official Community Plan – Mineral Exploration (Bylaw 2026-25).

Mineral exploration within TKC's Traditional Territory is an activity that has been occurring for over 100 years. TKC reviews and comments on mineral exploration activities, supports the Yukon economy, and especially supports the development and creation of opportunities for our Citizens.

As we have been stewards of the land since time immemorial, TKC encourages and supports responsible mineral exploration. Since 2023, TKC and Gladiator Metals have worked to build a relationship founded on trust, respect, and open, transparent communication. We have been continuously informed of Gladiator Metals' plans, and they have been responsive when we have raised questions or concerns. Our relationship has included meaningful engagement throughout the environmental assessment, permitting, and consultation processes for the Whitehorse Copper Project and has continued as the project has progressed.

The City of Whitehorse and TKC have strengthened our relationship over the past few years by way of the City's commitment to our housing development, which included subdivisions, zoning amendments, and some creative thinking as both our governments ventured into the unknown. Mineral exploration within municipal boundaries is also a new venture, and TKC is in support of the City undertaking the economic opportunity for Whitehorse and all Yukoners, via the Official Community Plan Amendment – Bylaw 2026-25.

Sincerely,

Ruth Massie

Chief RuthMassie

CC: Gladiator Metals, [redacted]

Outlook

Opposition to Bylaw 2026-25 - No to Gladiator Metal

From [redacted]
Date Fri 8/7/2026 10:01 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

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Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing as a Whitehorse resident to express my strong opposition to Bylaw 2026-25 and to the expansion of mineral exploration it would enable within the Mary Lake, Cowley Creek, Wolf Creek and Mt. Sima area.

This is an extraordinary part of our city. It is wildlife habitat, watershed, greenspace and one of the places where Whitehorse residents experience the incredible privilege of having wilderness woven directly into our community. People ski, run, bike, paddle, walk, skate and spend time with their families throughout this area. It is home to caribou, moose, bears, wolves, eagles and many other species, and its waterways ultimately connect to the Yukon River.

I recognize the importance of mining to the Yukon and that mineral exploration and mining are subject to regulatory processes beyond the City. But I do not believe that means Whitehorse should change its Official Community Plan to facilitate expanded exploration in an area of such significant ecological, recreational and community value.

I am particularly concerned by what appears to be the longer-term trajectory of exploration in the Whitehorse Copper Belt. The question before Council may technically be about mineral exploration, not approval of a mine, but decisions made now can shape what becomes possible later. Once roads are built, drilling expands, habitat is fragmented and industrial activity becomes established, it becomes much harder to restore what was there or reconsider the direction we have taken.

Residents are already describing the impacts of exploration: drilling noise carrying into nearby neighbourhoods, disruption to trails, new roads and industrial infrastructure, and concerns about spills and impacts to water. To me, these are not minor inconveniences. They are signals that mineral exploration at this scale is fundamentally difficult to reconcile with the way this land is currently used and valued.

I also think there is a larger question here about what kind of city Whitehorse wants to become. Our proximity to intact land, wildlife, clean water and an extraordinary trail network is not an obstacle to economic development. It is one of Whitehorse's greatest assets. As our city grows, protecting those places becomes more important, not less.

I understand that Council's decision at First Reading allowed this proposal to proceed to public hearing rather than constituting final approval. I am therefore asking Council to listen carefully to the

[redacted]

considerable concern being expressed by residents and to vote against Bylaw 2026-25 when it returns for consideration.

Some places warrant a precautionary approach. I believe the Mary Lake, Cowley Creek, Wolf Creek and Mt. Sima area is one of them.

Thank you for considering my comments and for the work involved in weighing a difficult and consequential decision for our community.

Warmly,

Patrick Beille

[redacted]

[redacted]

Outlook

My thoughts on mining within Whitehorse limits

From Brenda Oulton [redacted]
Date Sat 8/8/2026 10:07 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

I stand firmly against this mining proposal.

Our land, water, air, and the health of our people are worth far more than short-term promises or political ambition. Decisions like this will affect generations to come, and they should be made with the long-term well-being of our communities and the environment as the priority.

The disruption from exploration activities is already having a significant impact on the land and on people in the area. Even at this early stage, the presence of industrial activity is being felt by residents, raising concerns about noise, disturbance to wildlife, and the overall change to the character and peace of the region. These early impacts are a clear warning of what expanded development could bring.

This proposal also raises serious concerns for current homeowners and many long-term residents who have invested their lives in this community. Many people worry that industrial mining near our community could negatively affect property values, impacting families who have worked hard for decades to build their homes and their futures here.

Leadership is about protecting what cannot be replaced—not chasing recognition or leaving behind a legacy of environmental damage. We have a responsibility to safeguard our land, respect the traditional territory and stewardship of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation and the Kwanlin Dün First Nation, and ensure that future generations inherit clean water, healthy ecosystems, and thriving communities.

Progress should never come at the expense of the very things that sustain life or the people who call this place home. We owe it to our children, our Elders, our neighbours, and everyone who has chosen to build a life here to stand up for responsible stewardship of our land and our future.

No mining. Protect our land. Protect our water. Protect our homes. Protect our future. I'm 100% against this project.

Respectfully
Brenda Oulton
Sent from my iPhone

[redacted]

Outlook

Input re: mining in Whitehorse from a member of the public

From Linnéa Rowlatt [redacted]
Date Sat 8/8/2026 11:15 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

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Hello.

I am a citizen of Canada who lives in the municipality of Whitehorse. I understand that my municipal government is developing a framework for legislation and regulation about mining within city limits, in a context where the Official Community Plan has already been adopted.

At issue is the City Council's ability to amend the Official Community Plan as new information becomes available and as the city change over time, or, to put it more bluntly, at will. That amendments are under consideration currently is due to the desire of mining companies, especially Gladiator Metals, to open a mine in the City of Whitehorse.

More nefariously, Gladiator Metals appears to be lobbying the City Council to remove three greenspaces from protection and to re-label them as Future Planning regions and then to permit mining exploration in ALL Future Planning regions.

My response to the short- and long-term threats to Whitehorse's greenspaces is a whole-hearted rejection of removing any protection from these incredibly valuable spaces. The City will only expand in the future and protecting these greenspaces is essential to the quality of life of people and animals in Whitehorse going forward. I find it incomprehensible that the City Council is entertaining the possibility of removing protection from our beloved greenspaces.

Along with continuing to prioritize the well-being of the people and animals who live in Whitehorse over the profits of a mining company - a type of corporation who have proven themselves irresponsible - I would ask that Whitehorse greenspaces be protected from future amendments to the Official Community Plan. We worked hard to achieve this plan and its vulnerability to greed is surprising.

Thank you,
Linnéa Rowlatt, PhD
Whitehorse

Outlook

Fw: Allowing Gladiator Mining to expand into lands designated OCP

From Executive Assistant [redacted]
Date Sun 8/9/2026 11:41 AM
To Public Input <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Michael Prowse
Manager • Legislative Services • Corporate
City of Whitehorse • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Judy Laird [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 9, 2026 9:23 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Allowing Gladiator Mining to expand into lands designated OCP

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Good morning Mayor & Council,
I am writing to you today to let you know I am opposed to Gladiator Mining expanding into lands designated under the Official Community Plan(OCP).
I have lived in Whitehorse since 1977 and I am presently an active senior who regularly uses the trails in Whitehorse. I do not want our city to lose its beauty area due to this mining company destroying our lands.
Thank you for your time and attention to this letter.
Sincerely,
Judy Laird
Concerned Whitehorse ratepayer

Outlook

Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 – Mineral Exploration

From Emily Halle [redacted]
Date Mon 8/10/2026 8:40 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted] Gladiator Community [redacted]

1 attachment (142 KB)
HGS Support for Bylaw 2026-25.pdf;

Dear Mayor and Council, City of Whitehorse

Please find attached my letter supporting Bylaw 2026-25, the proposed Official Community Plan Map and Text Amendment for mineral exploration. I would appreciate it being included in the public record ahead of the August 24 Public Hearing.

Best regards,

Emily

Emily Halle | PMP, BSc, BCom
Halle Geological Services Ltd
Halifax, Nova Scotia
[redacted]

hallegeologicalservices.ca

HALLE GEOLOGICAL SERVICES LTD
comprehensive mineral exploration

August 6, 2026

City of Whitehorse
2121 Second Avenue
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 1C2

RE: Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 — Temporary Mineral Exploration

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing in support of the proposed Official Community Plan Amendment (Bylaw 2026-25).

As the co-founder and Managing Director of Halle Geological Services Ltd. (HGS), established in the Yukon in 2008, I have served as Gladiator Metals' external regulatory permitting consultant throughout this application. Although I no longer live in Whitehorse, HGS remains registered in the Yukon and continues to support mineral exploration projects across the territory. This letter reflects my own professional opinion, informed by my direct involvement in this application, and is not submitted on behalf of Gladiator Metals.

Over the past two decades, my work has given me a practical understanding of mineral exploration permitting and regulation, and of the importance of regulatory clarity and predictability for companies operating in the territory, particularly smaller and Yukon-based businesses.

Mineral exploration in the Yukon already operates within a comprehensive territorial legislative and regulatory framework. For the Whitehorse Copper Project, exploration is authorized under a Class 3 Quartz Mining Land Use Approval issued following a YESAB environmental assessment and consultation with affected First Nations and government agencies. The approval includes 98 enforceable, project-specific operating conditions governing environmental protection, operational practices, and reclamation.

Having worked closely on this application, I have seen the proposal evolve through multiple rounds of review with City Administration, Council discussion, public input, and ongoing engagement with Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council. The proposed amendment was substantially refined through that process, including a significant reduction in the amendment area. I can attest that the review was substantive, not perfunctory.

Throughout that process, Gladiator Metals consistently maintained that participating in this OCP amendment process, identified by the City as the appropriate municipal pathway, did not concede that municipal authorization is a legal prerequisite for exploration otherwise authorized under territorial legislation. I believe preserving that position is important not only for this application, but for the mineral exploration industry more broadly.

In my view, the amendment before Council represents a reasonable compromise. It establishes a clear and predictable municipal planning process without requiring Council to resolve the underlying jurisdictional question. I respectfully encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Sincerely,

Emily Halle, PMP, BSc, BCom
Managing Director, Halle Geological Services Ltd.

[redacted]

Outlook

Re: OCP amendments re: mining within Whitehorse limits

From sara nielsen [redacted]
Date Mon 8/10/2026 11:28 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Re: OCP amendments re: mining within Whitehorse limits

I wish to reiterate that areas zoned green space should remain designated as such for the reasons they were originally designated. Protecting green spaces will become evermore critical as developed and future planning areas accommodate more people and uses into the indeterminate future. There will never be fewer people or pressures on our landscape.

- Please disallow mining and industrial use in future planning areas.
- Please maintain green space (and of course ecological zoning) as such.
- Also the broad definition of “disturbed” areas that includes areas with FireSmarting, fire breaks, and past mining should NOT automatically facilitate more mining exploration. These areas should be allowed to rehabilitate, again for the original purpose of greenspace.

Thank you for including my concerns.

Sara Nielsen
Whitehorse resident

[redacted]

Outlook

RE: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

From Ross [redacted]
Date Tue 8/11/2026 11:08 AM
To Gladiator Community [redacted] publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (45 KB)
Mercer Contracting Letter Gladiator.docx;

You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Please see attached letter of support for Community Planning Amendment.

Thank you

Ross Mercer

MERCER CONTRACTING

[redacted]
Whitehorse, Yukon
[redacted]
www.mercercontracting.com

Re: 2026-25: Official Community Plan (OCP) to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation.

Dear Mayor and Council:

As the owner of Mercer Contracting, I would like to offer both personal and corporate support for the proposed Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw 2026-25.

Mineral exploration, Mining and related activities are a crucial component of ours and many other Yukon companies' sustainable operations. These industries are also a huge part of the Yukon economy.

Because having a clear and straightforward process for municipal approval is critical, Mercer Contracting respectfully encourages Mayor and Council to support OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ross Mercer
Mercer Contracting

[redacted]

Outlook

Fw: Official Community Plan ("OCP") and Gladiator Mine

From Executive Assistant [redacted]
Date Tue 8/11/2026 8:43 AM
To Public Input <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

1 attachment (122 KB)
Letter to City of Whitehorse - Gladiator Mine.pdf;

Whitehorse
THE WILDERNESS CITY

Casey Mojica (She/hers)
Executive Assistant, Corporate Services
City of Whitehorse • executive.assistant@whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: [redacted] on behalf of Sharon Moar [redacted]
Sent: August 11, 2026 8:25 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted] Morris, Lenore [redacted]
Subject: Official Community Plan ("OCP") and Gladiator Mine

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]
Learn why this is important

Enclosed please find my letter regarding the above matter for your attention.

Many thanks,
Sharon Moar

CONFIDENTIALITY: This e-mail message (including attachments, if any) is confidential and is intended only for the addressee. Any unauthorized use or disclosure is strictly prohibited. Disclosure of this e-mail to anyone other than the intended addressee does not constitute waiver of privilege. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately and delete this. Thank you for your cooperation. This message has not been encrypted.

[redacted]

August 11, 2026

By Email

City of Whitehorse
2121 Second Avenue,
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 1C2

Re: the Official Community Plan ("OCP") and Gladiator Mine

Dear Mayor and Members of Whitehorse City Council:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Gladiator Mines' request to expand its operations and request that Council make NO bylaw amendments as requested by Gladiator Mine and by the report of recommendations done by the city administration.

The OCP represents years of public consultation and careful consideration for every community in Whitehorse and should not be amended simply to accommodate the immediate interests of a single company.

I have lived in Mary Lake for since 1984 and walk and ride the trails in an around the Lake and cannot imagine any more development that could affect these beautiful areas. If greenspace designations can be overturned without due process the consequences for our community would be disastrous.

I invite you to actually come to the lake at Mary Lake and see for yourselves the beauty and wildlife there and if you can then imagine the devastating impact that mining will have, especially on the beavers, water fowl and other wildlife.

Any decisions with significant implications for our neighbourhoods and community deserve broad public engagement at every level and not be disregarded at the request of the Mine.

This proposal by Gladiator has many implications well beyond a single development application and deserves the benefit of stable administrative leadership and a thorough review.

I realize that mining is an important to the Yukon's economy, but it should not be allowed within the City limit and the OCP should **not be altered** at the whim of a mining company's demands.

I respectfully urge Council **to reject** Gladiator Mines' request and do not amend OCP.

Thank you for your consideration and trust that you will keep the interest of our community in mind.

Sincerely,

Sharon Moar

[redacted]
Whitehorse, YT

[redacted]

[redacted]

Outlook

Changes to Bylaw 2026-25

From Sylvie Binette [redacted]
Date Tue 8/11/2026 11:29 AM
To Mayor and Council [redacted] publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Certaines personnes qui ont reçu cet e-mail ne reçoivent pas souvent de e-mail de la part de [redacted]
Pourquoi c'est important

Dear Mayor and Council,

I want to voice my opposition about the proposal to amend text and mapping of the Official Community Plan (OCP) to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation (Changes to Bylaw 2026-25).

I live in Valleyview and am a recreational user of the Mary Lake area. I ski, bike and hike and value and put faith in the processes, planning, decisions and vision for our neighborhoods and greenspaces that we as citizens and stakeholders (homeowners) have worked with the City at developing, in this case the OCP 2040- a plan that has taken several years in time and effort from the City and citizens, cost a lot of taxpayers money to develop and, reflects priorities of citizens and city assets.

Greenspaces should not be redesignated to allow mineral exploration. They are connected to watersheds, wildlife corridors, wetlands, recreational areas and neighborhoods. Disturbed areas past and present and fuel breaks are ecosystems in progress and serve an environmental & functional purpose in the life cycle of the boreal forest. The fuel break and abatement area is a functional living ecosystem for several species. As well, several level of governments have invested time and money into this project. To dismiss the planning toward and functions of/within our greenspaces and the fuel abattement is to carelessly handle the natural, social and financial assets and resources within the City jurisdiction.

The City has been working on the Mineral Exploration & Development Framework to determine how mineral exploration should be handled within city limits. This proposed amendment should not be moved before the framework is complete.

This proposal could affect the City's authority over future land use decision, like where mineral exploration is or is not appropriate is any part of the City. A mining claim is not a land-use plan. That in itself could have a major future implications.

I strongly encourage you Mayor and Council to not vote for this change and to not move any similar amendments or changes to amendments before the Mineral Exploration & Development Framework is complete.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my view.

Sincerely,
Sylvie Binette
Valleyview

[redacted]

Outlook

Bylaw 2026-25

From Cynthia Onions [redacted]
Date Wed 8/12/2026 9:12 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

August 12, 2026

Dear Mayor Cameron and Council,

I ask you to reject the proposed Bylaw 2026-25 application to amend the 2040 Whitehorse Official Community Plan.

I live in the **Wilderness City**, and I am proud of it. We chose to live here because of the mountains, fresh air, trails, wildlife, recreation and extraordinary quality of life.

My name is Cynthia Onions. My husband, David Black, and I have lived in Whitehorse and contributed to this community since 2001. We chose Pineridge and Whitehorse Copper because of the land, wildlife, quiet solitude and access to wilderness and trails. Alongside our neighbours, we have volunteered to maintain trails, remove invasive plants and clean up our shared environment.

We have been privileged to share that landscape with moose, lynx, wolves, bears, owls, kestrels and martens. We respect these animals and understand that living in the Wilderness City means making room for them.

The OCP was created through careful consultation with citizens and experts and informed by environmental assessment and identification of sensitive areas, wildlife corridors and greenspace. It should be the foundation for responsible, long-term decision-making—not a document rewritten when development pressure arises.

If we compromise that plan to accommodate the interests of a private, for-profit mining company, we set a dangerous precedent. We risk losing something that cannot be restored once it is gone: the integrity of our wilderness and the character of the city we chose to call home.

Yukoners have seen too often how the benefits of development can be short-lived while the environmental and financial consequences remain with the public.

Please protect the OCP, protect our wilderness, and reject Bylaw 2026-25.

Sincerely,

Cynthia M Onions
[redacted]
Whitehorse, YT

[redacted]

Outlook

Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

From Anne Copland [redacted]
Date Wed 8/12/2026 3:19 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

Mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. A member of my family works in the mineral exploration field in the Yukon, and that income contributes greatly to our family economy.

I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight, and I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Sincerely,

Anne Copland

[redacted]

Whitehorse YT [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Outlook

Gladiator Metals

From Connor Cooper [redacted]
Date Wed 8/12/2026 12:14 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc [redacted]

1 attachment (53 KB)
2304_001.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Here is a document showing my support for gladiator metals

Get Outlook for iOS

[redacted]

August 12th, 2026

Attention: Publicinput@whitehorse.ca

Connor Cooper

[redacted]

Whitehorse, Yukon

[redacted]

Dear Mayor and Council:

Re: Bylaw 2026-25: application to amend text and mapping of the Official Community Plan (OCP) to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation.

I support this amendment and encourage you to pass it. As someone who works in the construction and mining sector, a project to create more highly paid, skilled jobs in Whitehorse would benefit our city and the Yukon.

I also live in the area currently under exploration and have spent time hiking and exploring the area.

The Whitehorse Copper Project exploration is authorized under a Class 3 Quartz Mining Land Use Approval issued following a YESAB assessment process. The approval includes 98 enforceable operating conditions regarding environmental protection, operational practices, and reclamation.

This is an application to clarify the City OCP rules for exploration only at this stage. Exploration improves knowledge of the land and the mineral resource potential. That information supports decisions about the future of the community and our economy. This Gladiator exploration project is creating immediate jobs and local investment in the Whitehorse region ($40M spend in the next 18 months).
Copper is increasingly necessary. Our national government is working on Canadian security, resource independence, and broadening our economy so it is less reliant on one buyer. We have the critical minerals needed for growth and our city of over 400sq km has lots of room for mixed development including exploration and mining.

It is my understanding that both Ta'an and KDFN are supportive of the Gladiator exploration work underway in their traditional territories. I encourage the city to facilitate exploration, and potentially future mining, as one component of a strong, diversified economy for Whitehorse and the Yukon.

Sincerely,

ConnorCooper
Cc [redacted]

[redacted]

Outlook

Gladiator exploration

From Heidi Marion [redacted]
Date Wed 8/12/2026 8:47 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

1 attachment (6 MB)
Caribou on Dolly Varden pond_Heidi Marion 2026.jpeg;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello,
I would like to voice my objection to the exploration in the Copper Belt area in and beside Whitehorse.

This is an area where Southern Lakes Caribou reside. The KDFN, C/TFN, TKC have stopped hunting caribou for so long that some youth have never seen or tasted caribou. The recovery of the caribou population just became stable after over 30 years. Exploration and mining makes the area uninhabitable for these caribou.

Please find attached a photo I took in March of a caribou herd resting on the pond in the Cowley Creek subdivision, about a kilometre from Gladiator's claims.

What does the Southern Lakes Caribou Committee have to say about this removal of habitat from the caribou? Were they consulted?

From the Southern Lakes Caribou Relationship Plan, pg 29:
Another approach used during the planning process was consider those that have no voice when making deliberations. Those that have no voice may include the Dwellers on the landscape (caribou) or future generations that have not yet been born.

Thank you,
Heidi Marion
Whitehorse
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Outlook

Opposition to Bylaw 2026-25 - Please say no to to Gladiator Metal

From Lauren Manekin Beille [redacted]
Date Wed 8/12/2026 8:33 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Jennifer England [redacted]

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

I'm writing to ask you to vote against Bylaw 2026-25.

Wolf Creek Park has been "coming" since 2010, when the Official Community Plan first flagged it, alongside Fish Lake (now Chasan Chua), as land worth protecting. Fourteen years on, in 2014, the City built a Regional Parks framework around that promise. And here we are in 2026, still without the management plan needed to actually define and protect the park, while a bylaw moves to open nearby Greenspace and Environmentally Sensitive Area land to mineral exploration instead. The protection came first on paper. The follow-through never came at all.

That gap matters, because this bylaw isn't a minor procedural step. It changes the OCP itself, our top land use document, across three separate areas. And it does so before the Mineral Exploration and Development Framework, the very tool meant to guide this kind of decision, is finished. We'd be locking in the exploration piece and leaving the guardrails for later.

I use this land. My family and friends ski it, bike it, walk it in every season. It's part of daily life for a huge number of Yukoners, not a backdrop we admire from a distance. Once drill roads go in and exploration activity takes hold, that character doesn't come back easily, whatever gets decided down the line about an actual mine.

I am aware that mining has its own regulatory path separate from the City, and I'm not asking Council to weigh in on that. I'm asking Council not to hand over municipal protections early, on the strength of a framework that doesn't exist yet.

I also think it's worth saying plainly that Whitehorse is not short on reasons to grow carefully here. People already living near the Copper Belt are describing drilling noise reaching their homes, trails being disrupted, and new roads pushing further into land that was supposed to be sensitive rather than industrial. Those aren't abstract worries. They're what happens when exploration gets a green light ahead of the planning meant to contain it. As this city grows, I'd rather we hang onto what makes it worth living in than assume we can always protect it later.

First Reading wasn't a final decision, which is exactly why I'm writing now. Please reject Bylaw 2026-25 and wait for the Mineral Exploration and Development Framework before revisiting any OCP change in this area.

Thank you for the care this decision clearly deserves.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

Lauren Manekin Beille
Golden Horn

Outlook

Support Letter

From Mukesh Sharma [redacted]
Date Wed 8/12/2026 4:21 PM
To [redacted]; publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

1 attachment (1,016 KB)
Mine Support Letter.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hi,

Please see attached.

Thanks

Mukesh Sharma
Office Manager

Ph: [redacted]
C: [redacted]

August 12th, 2026

Attention: Publicinput@whitehorse.ca

Dear Mayor and Council:

Re: Bylaw 2026-25: Application to amend text and mapping of the Official Community Plan (OCP) to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation.

I support this amendment and encourage Council to pass it. As someone who works in the construction and mining sector, I believe a project that creates more highly paid, skilled jobs in Whitehorse would benefit both our city and the Yukon.

The Whitehorse Copper Project exploration is authorized under a Class 3 Quartz Mining Land Use Approval, issued following a YESAB assessment. That approval carries 98 enforceable operating conditions covering environmental protection, operational practices, and reclamation.

At this stage, the application does nothing more than clarify the City's OCP rules for exploration. Exploration improves our understanding of the land and its mineral resource potential, and that knowledge supports better decisions about the future of both our community and our economy. The Gladiator exploration project is already generating immediate jobs and local investment across the Whitehorse region, with roughly $40M in spending anticipated over the next 18 months.

Copper is increasingly essential. Our federal government is focused on Canadian security, resource independence, and broadening the economy so it depends less on any single buyer. We have the critical minerals needed to support that growth, and a city spanning more than 400 square kilometres has ample room for mixed development, including exploration and mining.

It is my understanding that both TKC and KDFN support the Gladiator exploration work underway in their traditional territories. I encourage the City to facilitate exploration, and potentially future mining, as one component of a strong and diversified economy for Whitehorse and the Yukon.

My congratulations to Council for working with a proponent and for making our OCP more reflective of our landscape and more flexible for our shared economic future.

Sincerely,

Mukesh Sharma (AUG.12/2026)

MUKESH SHARMA

[redacted]

[redacted]

Outlook

Bylaw 2026-25 Support Letter

From Nick Rodger [redacted]
Date Wed 8/12/2026 1:32 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc [redacted]

1 attachment (51 KB)
2305_001.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello,

Please find the attached letter of support for this amendment.

Thanks,

Nick Rodger P.Eng | *Chief Operating Officer*

PELLY CONSTRUCTION LTD. [redacted] WHITEHORSE, YT [redacted]
Email: [redacted] www.pelly.net

[redacted]

August 12th, 2026

Attention: Publicinput@whitehorse.ca

Dear Mayor and Council:

Re: Bylaw 2026-25: Application to amend text and mapping of the Official Community Plan (OCP) to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation.

I support this amendment and encourage Council to pass it. As someone who works in the construction and mining sector, I believe a project that creates more highly paid, skilled jobs in Whitehorse would benefit both our city and the Yukon.

The Whitehorse Copper Project exploration is authorized under a Class 3 Quartz Mining Land Use Approval, issued following a YESAB assessment. That approval carries 98 enforceable operating conditions covering environmental protection, operational practices, and reclamation.

At this stage, the application does nothing more than clarify the City's OCP rules for exploration. Exploration improves our understanding of the land and its mineral resource potential, and that knowledge supports better decisions about the future of both our community and our economy. The Gladiator exploration project is already generating immediate jobs and local investment across the Whitehorse region, with roughly $40M in spending anticipated over the next 18 months.

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It is my understanding that both TKC and KDFN support the Gladiator exploration work underway in their traditional territories. I encourage the City to facilitate exploration, and potentially future mining, as one component of a strong and diversified economy for Whitehorse and the Yukon.

My congratulations to Council for working with a proponent and for making our OCP more reflective of our landscape and more flexible for our shared economic future.

Sincerely,

Nick Rodger, P.Eng
[redacted]Whitehorse, Yukon

Cc [redacted]

[redacted]

Outlook

Oposition to Proposed OCP Amendment – Mineral Exploration in Greenspace

From Shannon Jones[redacted]
Date Wed 8/12/2026 5:22 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

I live in the **Whitehorse Copper subdivision** and am strongly opposed to the proposed amendment allowing mineral exploration in areas designated as Greenspace.

My property directly borders Greenspace. We paid a premium for our home in large part because of this designation, with the reasonable expectation that the land would remain protected from industrial activity. It is where my children play and where our family spends time outdoors. Changing what is permitted there raises serious concerns about our property value, environmental health, noise, land and water impacts, and the safety and quality of life of families living here.

My biggest concern is that this proposal **cannot be looked at in isolation**. Whitehorse Copper is already being asked to absorb an increasing amount of industrial activity and infrastructure:

- **Sidhu/163 Collins Lane** has expanded and is seeking further expansion into vacant Commissioner's Land. Residents have already raised concerns about increased industrial traffic, noise, trails, wetlands and impacts on the surrounding residential area.
- **Yukon Energy is considering Copper Haul Road and the Whitehorse Copper Mine for new power generation infrastructure.** I understand Whitehorse needs more power as it grows, but significant new residential development is occurring elsewhere, including Whistle Bend. It is difficult to accept that established families in south Whitehorse are being asked to absorb the impacts of growth occurring across the city.
- **Our roads are already under pressure.** In June 2026, a motorcyclist was tragically killed in a collision on Moraine Drive. Within days, the City installed additional pedestrian signage. Regardless of the circumstances of that collision, it highlighted the importance of road safety in a neighbourhood where families, children and cyclists increasingly share roads with commercial and other traffic.
- And now, **mineral exploration in our surrounding Greenspace** is being considered.

Individually, each of these may be treated as a separate application or process. **For the families who live here, they are not separate.** We experience their cumulative impact: more industrial activity, more traffic, more noise, greater environmental pressure and the gradual erosion of the residential and natural character of our neighbourhood.

This is particularly difficult to reconcile with the City's own Official Community Plan. Whitehorse 2040 says its guiding principles are **"intended to be considered when making decisions"** and identifies a **"Sustainable City," "Healthy City," and "Engaged City"** among those principles. The City also states that the OCP is intended to support growth in a **"responsible and sustainable manner."**

[redacted]

I believe those commitments require looking beyond whether each individual proposal can technically be approved and asking what the **combined effect of these decisions is doing to an established residential community.**

There is also a frustrating inconsistency for homeowners. We have repeatedly been told that **we cannot subdivide our own property because of the environmental impacts and additional pressure it would place on the land.** If residential subdivision is considered too environmentally impactful, how can mineral exploration in the neighbouring Greenspace be considered appropriate?

This comes at a time when other City decisions are also having economic impacts on families. The new **short-term rental regulations** restrict how homeowners can use their properties, with financial hardship for existing operators raised during the City's own consultation. At the same time, homeowners are now being asked to accept changes that could affect the value and character of the properties we invested in.

I also question **who benefits and who carries the long-term risk**. Exploration companies may be based outside Whitehorse, Yukon, or Canada. They can pursue profitable resources and ultimately move on. **The families who live here cannot.** We remain with any long-term impacts to our land, water, property values and quality of life.

Greenspace needs to mean something. Families make significant financial and life decisions based on the City's land-use designations. We should be able to rely on those designations.

Responsible growth should not mean concentrating the negative impacts of that growth in an established neighbourhood simply because land there is available.

I respectfully ask Council to **reject this amendment and protect the Greenspace surrounding Whitehorse Copper.**

Thank you for considering my concerns.

References: City of Whitehorse – Whitehorse 2040 OCP; 163 Collins Lane application/public submissions; Short-Term Rental Regulations; Vision Zero/Road Safety. Yukon Energy – Whitehorse Power Centres Project. Government of Yukon – Whistle Bend development.

Shannon Jones

[redacted]

Outlook

Yukon Women in Mining Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 – Mineral Exploration

From Yukon Women In Mining [redacted]
Date Wed 8/12/2026 5:44 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc [redacted] Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (345 KB)
2026-08-12 Yukon WIM Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 – Mineral Exploration.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council, City of Whitehorse,

Please see attached a letter in support of Bylaw 2026-25, the proposed Official Community Plan Map and Text Amendment for mineral exploration on behalf of the Yukon Women in Mining Board. We would appreciate this being included in the public record ahead of the August 24th Public Hearing.

Thank you kindly,

Lauren Humble

President, Yukon Women in Mining

[redacted]

August 12, 2026

Whitehorse City Council
2121 Second Avenue
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 1C2
publicinput@whitehorse.ca

Subject: Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 - Mineral Exploration

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing on behalf of Yukon Women in Mining to express our support for the proposed Official Community Plan (OCP) amendment associated with Gladiator Metals Corp.'s Whitehorse Copper Project, ahead of the Public Hearing on August 24, 2026.

Why we support this amendment

Gladiator already holds the required territorial Class 3 Quartz Mining Land Use Approval for temporary mineral exploration, issued following environmental assessment and First Nations consultation under YESAA. The proposed OCP amendment simply gives the City a clear, formal planning process — through the existing Temporary Use Permit process — to oversee that work locally. We appreciate that Gladiator worked collaboratively with City Administration to refine this proposal, reducing the map redesignation area from approximately 3.7 km² to less than 0.81 km² of already-disturbed brownfield land in response to City feedback.

It is also worth being clear about what this amendment does and does not enable. Temporary mineral exploration is limited to geological mapping, surface sampling, and drilling to collect rock samples — it does not involve mineral extraction, mineral processing, or permanent infrastructure. Gladiator's existing approval carries 98 enforceable operating conditions covering water protection, noise management, environmental protection, and progressive reclamation. Any future advanced exploration or mine development would require separate approvals, further environmental assessment, and additional public consultation.

Why this matters to Yukon Women in Mining

As an organization dedicated to supporting women working in and connected to the Yukon mining sector, we see this project as a meaningful opportunity for our members and the broader community:

- The project represents a planned investment of approximately $40 million in exploration and environmental work over 18 months.

- It supports 22 direct jobs, including 12 for Whitehorse residents, and engages 30+ local businesses across contracting, services, hospitality, retail, and community groups.
- Responsible exploration generates the geological information needed to make future evidence-based land-use decisions that can help attract further investment in Yukon infrastructure.
- Local, well-regulated exploration projects like this one provide valuable training, employment, and career-building opportunities for women entering or advancing in the trades, geosciences, and environmental fields here in the Yukon.

Regulatory certainty and a clear, predictable municipal process matter to our members and to the industry as a whole. This amendment establishes exactly that: a transparent pathway with strong oversight, developed collaboratively between Gladiator and the City.

For these reasons, Yukon Women in Mining respectfully asks Council to support OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

Lauren Humble
President, Yukon WIM

Cc: [redacted]

Outlook

Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 – Mineral Exploration

From Chris Arsenault [redacted]
Date Thu 8/13/2026 12:11 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (40 KB)
Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please find attached my letter supporting Bylaw 2026-25, the proposed Official Community Plan Map and Text Amendment for mineral exploration. I would appreciate it being included in the public record ahead of the August 24 Public Hearing.

Have a wonderful day,

--
Chris Arsenault, P.Geo
Plainview Geoscience Ltd.
[redacted]
Whitehorse, Yukon
[redacted]
www.plainviewgs.com

Chris Arsenault, P.Geo.
Owner, Plainview Geoscience Ltd.
[redacted]
Whitehorse, Yukon [redacted]

August 13, 2026

Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment, Bylaw 2026-25, which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

I am a professional geoscientist who has established a life and career here in the Yukon. Like all Yukoners, I benefit from the economic activity generated by the private industry in the territory, and we all depend on the production of metals and other natural resources in our everyday lives. Resource development occurs successfully in many jurisdictions that, like the Yukon, contain lands of significant ecological and aesthetic value.

The Yukon also benefits substantially from its place within Canada, including federal transfers that help support public services and infrastructure throughout the territory. In my view, this comes with a responsibility to contribute to the broader Canadian economy where we have the opportunity to do so. The responsible development of our natural resources is one important way the Yukon can make that contribution.

This requires compromise between our economic objectives, our approach to land management, and our goals for environmental conservation. These interests do not have to be mutually exclusive. We should continue working toward a framework that allows responsible private-sector resource development while maintaining appropriate environmental safeguards and public oversight.

If the Yukon wants to attract responsible mining and exploration companies with strong records of environmental stewardship and community engagement, governments must provide clear laws, regulations, and permitting processes. Those processes must address the legitimate concerns of residents while also providing companies with a clear and workable path to responsibly invest, explore, and operate.

Mineral exploration supports local jobs, contractors, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and throughout the Yukon. The Whitehorse Copper Belt also represents a significant part of the city's mining history and remains an area of legitimate mineral exploration interest.

I believe Bylaw 2026-25 provides a reasonable and balanced approach. It does not remove municipal oversight; rather, it establishes a process through which temporary mineral exploration can be considered in appropriate areas and under appropriate conditions.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25 and provide a clear path for responsible mineral exploration within the City of Whitehorse.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chris Arsenault, P.Geo.
Owner
Plainview Geoscience Ltd.

Outlook

Gladiator Metals

From Flo Foster [redacted]
Date Thu 8/13/2026 1:41 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

1 attachment (680 KB)
letter of support-Gladiator Metals.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Please see attached.

Flo Foster| *Safety Specialist*

PELLY CONSTRUCTION LTD. [redacted] Whitehorse, YT [redacted]
Email: [redacted] www.pelly.net

August 12th, 2026

Attention: Publicinput@whitehorse.ca

Dear Mayor and Council:

Re: Bylaw 2026-25: Application to amend text and mapping of the Official Community Plan (OCP) to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation.

I support this amendment and encourage Council to pass it. As someone who works in the construction and mining sector, I believe a project that creates more highly paid, skilled jobs in Whitehorse would benefit both our city and the Yukon.

The Whitehorse Copper Project exploration is authorized under a Class 3 Quartz Mining Land Use Approval, issued following a YESAB assessment. That approval carries 98 enforceable operating conditions covering environmental protection, operational practices, and reclamation.

At this stage, the application does nothing more than clarify the City's OCP rules for exploration. Exploration improves our understanding of the land and its mineral resource potential, and that knowledge supports better decisions about the future of both our community and our economy. The Gladiator exploration project is already generating immediate jobs and local investment across the Whitehorse region, with roughly $40M in spending anticipated over the next 18 months.

Copper is increasingly essential. Our federal government is focused on Canadian security, resource independence, and broadening the economy so it depends less on any single buyer. We have the critical minerals needed to support that growth, and a city spanning more than 400 square kilometres has ample room for mixed development, including exploration and mining.

It is my understanding that both TKC and KDFN support the Gladiator exploration work underway in their traditional territories. I encourage the City to facilitate exploration, and potentially future mining, as one component of a strong and diversified economy for Whitehorse and the Yukon.

My congratulations to Council for working with a proponent and for making our OCP more reflective of our landscape and more flexible for our shared economic future.

Sincerely,

Name FLO FOSTER
Address [redacted] WHITEHORSE Yukon.

Co[redacted]

Outlook

RE: Bylaw 2026-25 Application to the OCP to permit mineral exploration.

From Jennifer Byram [redacted]
Date Thu 8/13/2026 4:22 PM
To Publicinput@whitehorse.ca <Publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (87 KB)
Support Letter - Bylaw 2026-25.pdf;

You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hi
Please find the attached Gladiator Metals support letter for bylaw 2026-25 to amend mapping OCP to permit limited forms of mineral exploration within the future planning designation.

Kind regards

Jennifer Byram | *Chief Executive Officer*

PELLY CONSTRUCTION LTD. [redacted] Whitehorse, Yukon [redacted]
Email: [redacted] www.pelly.net

Pelly Construction Ltd.

Attention: Publicinput@whitehorse.ca

August 13,2026

Dear Mayor and Council:

Re: Bylaw 2026-25: Application to amend text and mapping of the Official Community Plan (OCP) to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation.

I am writing to express my strong support for this amendment and encourage Council to pass it.

As a heavy civil contractor operating in the Yukon mining sector, I see firsthand when exploration is conducted responsibly, it serves as the cornerstone for economic health and social well-being of our Territory. The benefits to the Community are tangible. This exploration project will provide high-quality employment, offer valuable training opportunities and create a steady stream of contracts for Northern businesses. It will generate consistent demand for Whitehorse based suppliers, logistics providers and service contractors. Beyond the direct jobs created, this project will drive steady demand for local companies including aircraft businesses, hotels, restaurants and retail stores. When these sectors are supported, they in turn provide the tax base and resources necessary to sustain our critical public services which keep our community healthy and resilient.

The Gladiator exploration project is already generating immediate jobs and local investment across the Whitehorse region, with roughly $40M in spending anticipated over the next 18 months.

The Whitehorse Copper Project exploration is authorized under a Class 3 Quartz Mining Land Use Approval, issued following a YESAB assessment. That approval carries 98 enforceable operating conditions covering environmental protection, operational practices, and reclamation.

On a personal note, I live in the Whitehorse Copper subdivision. I recognize the historical and economic context of the area where resource exploration and extraction have long been a foundational part of the local development of the area. For those living in subdivisions like Whitehorse Copper the very name of the neighborhood serves as a clear historical marker, indicating that mineral activity was an established feature of the landscape long before residential expansion. Our subdivision's backyard is full of our mining history, which has become integral to our daily recreation. The old open pits provide unique swimming spots while the former mine haul road serves a transportation link to the City. The landscape also supports a network of trails for off roading and the old tailings impoundment area has long served as a practical space where many of our kids first learned to drive.

The arrival of the renewed exploration in the area brings with it a diverse influx of professionals, skilled workers and families from various backgrounds, all of whom contribute to the social and

[redacted] Whitehorse, Yukon [redacted] Canada
Phone: [redacted]
Email: [redacted]
Web: www.pelly.net

Pelly Construction Ltd.

cultural vibrancy of our City. This growth attracts fresh perspectives and talent fostering a more dynamic community environment where local businesses and civic organizations can flourish.

The company's upcoming exploration activities represent a significant opportunity for us to build a stronger more self-sufficient future for our City.

I support this application and hope for a successful result.

Kind regards

Jennifer Byram
Chief Executive Officer

Cc [redacted]

[redacted] Whitehorse, Yukon [redacted] Canada
Phone: [redacted]
Email: [redacted]
Web: www.pelly.net

Outlook

I strongly urge Mayor and Council to reject Bylaw 2026-25.

From Maura.Sullivan [redacted]
Date Thu 8/13/2026 3:24 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

1 attachment (16 KB)
To Mayor and Council.docx;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see attached letter that urges you to reject Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you,
Maura Sullivan

Maura Sullivan
ILC Team Leader
Pronouns She/Her
Department of Education | Individual Learning Centre
TT [redacted]
ilc.yukonschools.ca

At the Individual Learning Centre (ILC), we acknowledge, recognize, and respect that we live and work within the traditional territory of Kwanlin Dun First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

To Mayor and Council, City of Whitehorse

Re: Bylaw 2026-25 – Proposed Amendment to the Official Community Plan

August 13, 2026

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing as a long-time resident of Whitehorse, having lived in this community for 25 years, and as a resident of Takhini North, to express my strong opposition to proposed **Bylaw 2026-25**.

As I understand it, the proposed bylaw would amend the Official Community Plan to permit mineral exploration within areas identified for future planning designations, including three specific areas that are currently designated as **Greenspace and Environmentally Sensitive Areas**. I am deeply concerned about the implications of this amendment for Whitehorse's environment, neighbourhoods, and long-term community planning.

The Official Community Plan reflects the values and priorities of our community. It was developed through extensive public engagement and establishes a framework for how we balance development with the protection of our natural environment. Allowing mineral exploration in areas that have been identified as greenspace and environmentally sensitive, including an area designated for the future **Wolf Creek Regional Park**, risks undermining that carefully developed framework without what I believe is a sufficiently robust analysis of the long-term consequences.

I am particularly concerned that this proposal places the interests of an individual company and a particular industry project ahead of broader, long-term community interests. If the City amends its planning framework to accommodate one project and one set of existing mineral claims, it risks setting an important precedent for how the City will deal with other historical mineral claims in the future.

This amendment is not simply about one project or three locations. It potentially affects the City's authority over decisions concerning **Whitehorse neighbourhoods, greenspaces, watersheds, trail networks, wildlife corridors, and environmentally sensitive areas**. Once these protections are weakened, it becomes much more difficult for the community to meaningfully influence what happens in these places.

Whitehorse is proud to call itself a **"wilderness city."** That identity is not simply a marketing slogan—it is an important part of what makes this community special and contributes significantly to our quality of life. Our access to surrounding wilderness, trails, wildlife habitat, watersheds, and natural spaces is something we should be protecting for future generations.

The timing of this proposal is also concerning. After a summer marked by devastating wildfires in British Columbia and across the Territories and increasingly frequent and severe natural disasters around the world, it seems particularly short-sighted to weaken protections for the precious and increasingly scarce wilderness we have left. Climate change and cumulative

environmental pressures should be prompting us to strengthen our protection of natural areas, not reduce it.

I also have serious concerns about the scheduling of the Public Hearing for **5:30 p.m. on Monday, August 24**, which is the first day back to school and one of the busiest days of the year for families in Whitehorse. A public hearing concerning a decision with potentially significant and city-wide implications should be scheduled in a way that maximizes meaningful public participation. The current timing makes it unnecessarily difficult for many residents, particularly families, to attend and participate. It does not give the impression that the City is seeking the broadest possible community discussion on this important matter.

I respectfully ask Mayor and Council to consider the long-term implications of this amendment rather than focusing narrowly on the immediate interests associated with mineral exploration. The City has a responsibility to protect the integrity of its Official Community Plan and to ensure that decisions about our natural areas are guided by comprehensive community interests, sound environmental analysis, and long-term planning.

I strongly urge Mayor and Council to reject Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for considering my concerns. I hope Mayor and Council will listen to the many residents who value Whitehorse's greenspaces, wilderness, wildlife, watersheds, trails, and environmentally sensitive areas, and will uphold the long-term vision reflected in our Official Community Plan.

Sincerely,

Maura Sullivan

Maura Sullivan
Resident of Takhini North
Whitehorse, Yukon

[redacted]

Outlook

Bylaw 2026-25 public input

From Patrick Egan [redacted]
Date Thu 8/13/2026 8:27 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

Good afternoon,

I live on Dolly Varden Drive in Cowley Creek Subdivision.

I have lived in this neighbourhood since 1997 and I strongly object to the proposed changes to the OCP. The current OCP is the product of extensive consultation with the public and subject matter experts. I think there needs to be broad based public consultation and a referendum before any further development of the Gladiator mining project. With upcoming changes to the Quartz Mining Act and the Placer Mining Act it seems that our Mayor and Council are getting ahead of themselves. Proposed work plans for the mine will not likely conform to the impending revisions to the legislation. Rushing these important decisions may benefit the personal goals of those on council but they do not have a demonstrated broad base of public support. Residents of the affected neighbourhoods purchased their properties in good faith and pay taxes dutifully. Allowing an operation like this is not beneficial to housing values, quality of life and a sense of community.

The Yukon is special because it it wild and free. Parking a mining operation on the back porch of country residential lots is ridiculous to say the least.

Please reject Bylaw 2026-25 and complete the Mineral Exploration and Development Framework before considering any request to change the OCP or any City Bylaw.

Respectfully,
Patrick Egan
Whitehorse, Yukon

[redacted]

Outlook

Reject Bylaw 2026-25

From Redd Knight [redacted]
Date Thu 8/13/2026 12:43 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Redd Knight [redacted]

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

To Whitehorse City Councilors & City Planning Committee.

Please reject Bylaw 2026-25 and please complete the Mineral Exploration & Development Framework before considering any requests to change the OCP or any City Bylaw.

I am a resident of Mary Lake subdivision and do not want to see any mining exploration in my area. I firmly believe that this type of work does not belong in any residential areas. We have spent too many years building a quiet community that will be disrupted by noise, influx of traffic, very real potential for harm to our well water and the same potential that the underground water route feeding our well could be altered affecting our well to continue working.

Please keep the Greenspace designation around Whitehorse including current and future designations. These spaces and areas are environmentally important to the residents and animals that share these spaces. We are proudly known as the "Wilderness City" and will not maintain that title if mining and other such explorations are permitted in the city.

Thx for considering my thoughts.

REDD KNIGHT

c: [redacted]
e: [redacted]
Pronouns: He / Him / His

I acknowledge that I work, play & live within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün & the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

"With courage you will dare to take risks, have the strength to be compassionate & the wisdom to be humble. Courage is a foundation of integrity." - Mark Twain

Outlook

Letter of Opposition to Mineral Activity within City Limits

From Sibell Hackney [redacted]
Date Thu 8/13/2026 7:59 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

1 attachment (56 KB)
Letter to the CIty re OCP and Mining.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please listen to your constituents.
We need you to protect what Whitehorse, the Wilderness City represents.
We are here.
You speak for us.
This is why we elected you.

Attached is my letter regarding mining activity within the city limits....the home of Whitehorse residents.

Sibell Hackney
[redacted]
[redacted] Whitehorse YT [redacted]
Cell: [redacted]

Re: Bylaw 2026-25

Amendment to the Whitehorse 2040 Official Community Plan

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to oppose Bylaw 2026-25 and to ask . . . . *"Who is representing Whitehorse citizens in deciding where mineral exploration belongs within our city?"*

I live in Cowley Creek's Country Residential area, where we accept higher taxes and fewer services (no bus, no garbage pickup, our own water/sewer) in exchange for wilderness, wildlife, and clean waterways at our doorstep. Whitehorse calls itself "The Wilderness City". This identity is not just an amenity, it is part of why residents chose to live here.

I recognize mining's importance to the Yukon's economy, and that the OCP itself supports the resource sector. This doesn't mean every location is appropriate for exploration. This is a land-use planning question, which is exactly why the OCP matters. This not only affects our country residential area, but most of the subdivisions of the City of Whitehorse. This is not a NIMBY issue… but one that will determine the future of Whitehorse OCPs. It will set a precedent, and make vulnerable these carefully planned, time consuming, and valuable compositions of every OCP in our City.

The Core Problem

Bylaw 2026-25 would remove the Gem-Keewenaw area and portions of Chiefs Trend and Arctic Chief-Grafter (about 0.81 km²) from Green-space/Environmentally Sensitive designation and reclassify them as Future Planning, solely because the current Green-space designation doesn't permit the proposed mineral exploration. That reasoning is backwards: the existence of mineral tenure should not be the reason to change land the OCP has designated for protection.

While the bylaw only enables temporary exploration (not mining) under a Temporary Use Permit, it sets a precedent that mineral tenure can override existing OCP designations. Today it's exploration; tomorrow it could likely be infrastructure or development.

Finish the Framework First

The City has already been developing a Mineral Exploration and Development Framework, with a "What We Heard" report released June 8, 2026, and final OCP zoning changes expected by early fall. Bylaw 2026-25 is being pushed through separately, with a public hearing on August 24, 2026, **before that broader framework is complete.** The City's own report acknowledges that this bylaw diverges from the draft framework by expanding Future Planning into current Green-space.

Council should finish the comprehensive framework before making project-specific OCP changes.

Mineral Tenure vs. Municipal Authority

A mineral claim grants rights under territorial legislation; it should not automatically dictate municipal land-use planning. The City's own April 2026 analysis confirms Whitehorse has

jurisdiction over land use within its boundaries through the OCP and Zoning Bylaw. The City should decide what land uses fit Whitehorse; **NOT** let an antique mineral claim decide for it.

The Whitehorse Copper Belt was mined from 1967–1982, and the 1999 Development Scheme already balanced mineral resources with residential and environmental uses in that area. The coexistence of mining and residential communities isn't new; what's needed is a consistent planning framework, not ad hoc OCP changes.

I'm not arguing against mining in Yukon; only that not every claim should automatically become an exploration site, and not every part of Whitehorse should be available simply because tenure exists there.

Requests to Council

- Reject the proposed Green-space/Environmentally Sensitive Area re-designations in Bylaw 2026-25.
- Complete and adopt the Mineral Exploration and Development Framework before making project-specific OCP changes.
- Protect the integrity of the existing OCP and its Green-Space policies.
- Establish clear, consistent, publicly understood limits on mineral exploration in residential and environmentally sensitive areas.

When the City designates land as Green-space, that designation should mean something. I ask Council to protect the character and values that make Whitehorse The Wilderness City.

Sincerely,

Sibell Hackney
Cowley Creek,
Whitehorse, Yukon

Outlook

Support Letter - OCP Bylaw 2026-25

From Stuart Murray [redacted]
Date Thu 8/13/2026 11:59 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted] Shawn Hamilton [redacted]

1 attachment (87 KB)
OCP Bylaw 2026-25 Support Letter.pdf;

You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

Mining and exploration have been and continue to be the largest sector in the Yukon outside of Government. ***Without exploration, there is no future.*** Tourism is largely based on our rich history of exploration and mining, beautiful landscapes to explore and the dream of opportunity – striking it rich on the trail of '98 or building a business that supports those efforts.

Mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Stuart Murray
President, COO
Small's Expediting & General Services Ltd.
TerrX Freight Lines Ltd.
[redacted]
Whitehorse, YT [redacted]
(p) [redacted]
(f) [redacted]
(c) [redacted]
[redacted]

SMALL'S
EXPEDITING LTD

Stuart Murray
Small's Expediting Ltd.
[redacted]
Whitehorse, YT [redacted]
13-August-2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

Mining and exploration have been and continue to be the largest sector in the Yukon outside of Government. Without exploration, there is no future. Tourism is largely based on our rich history of exploration and mining, beautiful landscapes to explore and the dream of opportunity – striking it rich on the trail of '98 or building a business that supports those efforts.

Mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Stuart Murray
President – Small's Expediting Ltd.

[redacted]

Outlook

Amendment to Greenspace near Mary lake

From terry Dyck [redacted]
Date Thu 8/13/2026 8:26 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

To whom it concerns,
I strongly disagree with adding more area for gladiator metals or any other mineral exploration company to use.
People have been using the trails and nature in that area for many years.
I think any amount of increased commercial activity in that area would have a negative impact on both Whitehorse residents and the environment.
I hope that there's enough feedback that the city reconsiders adding more area for mineral exploration.
Terry Reid

[redacted]

Outlook

Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25

From Allan Nixon [redacted]
Date Fri 8/14/2026 9:17 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (242 KB)
20260813_BMCM_ Gladiator OCP Amendment Support Letter.pdf;

You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

Attached please find BMC Minerals support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25.

Responsible exploration activity is a cornerstone of the mining industry, and we believe the amendment will provide clarity for all parties who have an interest in exploration within the Whitehorse community boundaries. Exploration is also a critical component in effective land use planning, which depends on as full an understanding as possible of the values associated with an area in order to allow fully informed decisions about potential uses to be made.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly.

Allan Nixon
Vice President – External Affairs
M: [redacted]
E: [redacted]

BMC MINERALS
[redacted] Vancouver, BC [redacted]
www.bmcminerals.com

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BY EMAIL

August 13, 2026

Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Council,

I am writing to express BMC Minerals support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

BMC Minerals has been active in the Yukon mineral exploration industry since 2015, and since 2017 have been advancing our ABM Mine proposal (part of our KZK Project in southeast Yukon) through the assessment and permitting process while continuing our exploration activities.

Responsible exploration plays critical role in our ability to understand the mineral resources of the Yukon and is an important component of land use planning. Mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. We believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

The proposed OCP amendment can provide more clarity and certainty for all parties. We encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Allan Nixon
VP – External Affairs

Outlook

COMMENT: Proposed OCP Amendment

From Cassidy McCarthy [redacted]
Date Fri 8/14/2026 9:15 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed amendment to the Whitehorse Official Community Plan that would enable mineral exploration activities within areas currently designated as Greenspace.

While I appreciate that Council has revised the proposal to increase the buffer between the exploration area and Mary Lake, I remain concerned about redesignating protected Greenspace to Future Planning for the purpose of facilitating mineral exploration. Greenspaces provide important environmental, recreational, and community benefits, and I believe these areas should continue to be protected rather than opened to industrial activities.

I am particularly concerned about the potential impacts on local ecosystems, wildlife habitat, water quality, and the long-term character of the area. Once protections for Greenspace are weakened, it may become increasingly difficult to preserve these lands for future generations.

I respectfully urge Council to reject this OCP amendment and maintain the current Greenspace designation. I believe the protection of natural areas should remain a priority in Whitehorse's long-term planning framework.

Please accept this email as my formal submission to the public input process and record my comments as being opposed to the proposed amendment.

Sincerely,

Cassidy McCarthy
[redacted]
Whitehorse, YT

[redacted]

Outlook

2nd version, please disregard 1st

From Doug Rutherford [redacted]
Date Fri 8/14/2026 5:01 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council:

I am writing to extend my disapproval for the intent to change the Whitehorse Official Community Plan to permit mining operations in greenbelt areas.

You often hear proponents speaking of the history of mining in the Yukon. However, mining is shown to be a cost, and one could add, a burden on the Yukon economy. For example, the Casino and Faro examples show the financial burdens on taxpayers. A recent audit (https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=https://climatejustice.ubc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/45/2026/02/Uncertain-Benefits-Known-Costs-Yukon-Mining-Audit-Wang-et-al.-2026.pdf&ved=2ahUKEwiUv8v4o6GWAxWUDzQIHRH-AJIQFnoECCMQAQ&usg=AOvVaw2djDbT1uxvJiX1ArJSgsVP) show s that while there are economic benefits, the associated costs and the failure to meet projected benefits should make council members reconsider allowing this to happen. "In a time of geopolitical uncertainty and growing emphasis on energy transition minerals, mining is being repositioned as a central development strategy for the territory. But the track record of previous Yukon mines raise significant doubt about this strategy. As documented in this brief, past projects, including Wolverine and Faro, have cost the territorial and federal governments far more than they delivered in economic returns, while imposing substantial burdens on communities and ecosystems."

Further, increased employment is not a reason to approve this. More than half of the mining workers in Yukon are not Yukoners, with the majority being fly-in, fly-out workers, generating no tax or employment benefits locally.

Mayor and Council may well have a different interpretation of this proposed change to the OCP. Therefore, I offer the following suggested option: postpone the next reading of the motion until November 2027 and press your opinion on the matter as a campaign promise. After all, if you are not willing to risk your seat on the outcome of this motion, you probably should not be voting on the motion.

Doug Rutherford
Whitehorse, YT, Canada

[redacted]

Outlook

Support for Bylaw 2026-25 Amendment

From Heather Burrell [redacted]
Date Fri 8/14/2026 11:16 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Heather Burrell [redacted] Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (116 KB)
CoW_Bylaw 2026-025 Letter of Support.pdf;

You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello,
Please see attached.
Thank you,
Heather

Heather Burrell, P.Geo
President and Managing Director

Archer, Cathro & Associates (1981) Limited
[redacted] Whitehorse, YT [redacted]
[redacted] Vancouver, BC [redacted]
Whitehorse: [redacted] | Vancouver: [redacted]

I respectfully acknowledge that I live and work within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

Heather Burrell
Archer, Cathro & Associates (1981) Limited
[redacted]
Whitehorse, Yukon

August 14, 2026

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which outlines the process for temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt. I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

I am a geologist and an owner of Archer, Cathro & Associates (1981) Limited (Archer Cathro), a 62-year-old mineral exploration company based in Whitehorse. Archer Cathro geologists work in the Yukon, NWT, BC, and Saskatchewan, and internationally in Chile, Brazil, Papua New Guinea, China, and Kazakhstan. Our favourite place to work is at home in the Yukon because here we can see the lasting impacts our industry has on employment, commerce, health and wellness and community.

As independent consultants, Archer Cathro is a small cog in the Yukon's economy; however, we currently employ over 160 people, over 70% of whom are Yukoners and 38% are First Nations. We are strong believers that the economic activity generated by mineral exploration and development in the territory positively changes lives within Yukon communities, including Whitehorse.

The Yukon's economy needs mineral exploration, development and mining and the Yukon needs those activities to be conducted responsibly and to be well regulated by Governments.

Thank you to the team that drafted Bylaw 2026-25. It is balanced and considerate.

Sincerely,

Heather Burrell

Heather Burrell
President and Managing Director
Archer Cathro

[redacted]

Outlook

Changes to Community Plan

From Stace Burnard [redacted]
Date Fri 8/14/2026 7:13 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>; Kate.White <[redacted]; Takhini Neighbourhood [redacted]

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Good day,

Please accept this letter as opposition to the proposed ´Changes to the Community Plan.'

We live in Whitehorse in Canada because, simply, it is the best city in Canada to live. We have made Whitehorse our home for over 20 years.

It is one place that is hugged by nature. Expanding mining within the City (Carcross cutoff to Mayo Rd in addition to the other areas designated by yellow ´blocks' in the distributed map) disturbs the tranquil quality of our nature-town.

Permitting mining or any type of exploratory research without public consultation contradicts the northern community spirit of what makes Whitehorse, Whitehorse.

Warmest Regards,
Heather Dundas & Stace Burnard

Stace Burnard
Co-Owner Cloudberry Wellness
[redacted]
www.cloudberrywellness.com

[redacted]

[redacted]

Outlook

Opposition to Bylaw 2026-25 — Official Community Plan Amendment for Mineral Exploration

From Sophia M[redacted]
Date Fri 8/14/2026 1:38 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to respectfully ask Council to reject Bylaw 2026-25 and maintain the existing Official Community Plan (OCP) framework rather than making mineral exploration automatically compatible with areas currently designated for Future Planning.

I am not opposed to responsible mineral development in the Yukon generally. My concern is specifically about whether mineral exploration and drilling are an appropriate land use within the City of Whitehorse, particularly in areas close to residential neighbourhoods, recreation areas, trails, watersheds and other community uses.

After reviewing the proposed bylaw, the Whitehorse 2040 Official Community Plan, the Municipal Act, the Quartz Mining Act, the Prohibition of Entry on Certain Lands (City of Whitehorse) Order, and the City's own administrative reports on mineral exploration, I believe there are strong reasons for Council to retain greater municipal control rather than broaden the circumstances in which exploration can proceed.

1. The Municipal Act gives Whitehorse clear authority to regulate — and prohibit — land uses

Section 289(1) of the Municipal Act, R.S.Y. 2002, c. 154 states that a zoning bylaw may "prohibit, regulate, and control the use and development of land and buildings in a municipality."

This is particularly significant because the Government of Yukon has now explicitly stated that Yukon mining legislation and the Municipal Act both apply within municipal boundaries and neither takes precedence over the other. Yukon further recognizes that municipalities make land-use decisions through official community plans, zoning bylaws and development agreements, including decisions concerning mineral exploration and development.

This means that the existence of a valid mineral claim does not eliminate the City's responsibility or authority to determine whether and how that land use fits within Whitehorse's land-use planning framework.

Indeed, the City's own February 2024 administrative report concerning mining activities stated that the Municipal Act gives the City jurisdiction over land uses including mining and exploration and includes the ability to prohibit such activities.

[redacted]

That same report was prepared in response to a proposal to prohibit mineral exploration and extraction within city limits.

This is important context for the current decision: Council is not being asked to choose between regulating mining and having no legal authority over it. Council has that authority. The question is how strongly it chooses to exercise it in the public interest.

2. The City's own previous work demonstrates that a prohibition is legally and administratively viable

In 2024, the City prepared proposed Bylaw 2024-14, which would have amended OCP Policy 13.3 to state:

"Mineral exploration and mine development within the City of Whitehorse is prohibited."

The proposed wording specifically preserved an exception for remediation of environmental impacts from past mining activities.

The City also prepared proposed Bylaw 2024-15 concerning the Zoning Bylaw as part of the same initiative.

I recognize that Council ultimately did not adopt a complete prohibition. However, these bylaws and the accompanying administrative report demonstrate that municipal prohibition of mineral exploration and mine development was previously considered within the City's statutory authority.

I therefore respectfully ask Council not to treat the proposed Bylaw 2026-25 as though the City has no meaningful alternative. It does.

3. Territorial authorization should not be treated as a substitute for municipal land-use approval

The proposed Bylaw 2026-25 would establish policies under which mineral exploration on valid mineral tenure in Future Planning areas may be considered a permitted temporary use.

Policy 15.4.8 goes further by stating that where a valid authorization has been issued under the Quartz Mining Act, the activity shall be considered consistent with the OCP policy for the purposes of a Temporary Use Permit.

This raises an important planning concern.

The Government of Yukon itself states that the Quartz Mining Act and Municipal Act operate concurrently. A Yukon mining authorization answers questions under the territorial mining regime; it does not answer the separate question of whether a particular land use is appropriate within the City's community planning framework.

The City should therefore be cautious about creating an OCP policy that effectively presumes compatibility once a territorial authorization has been obtained.

A municipal land-use decision should remain an independent decision based on the City's own objectives, policies, infrastructure, environmental considerations, neighbouring land uses and

community interests.

4. The proposed amendment moves in the opposite direction from good land-use planning

The stated purpose of an OCP is to establish a long-term vision for how land within the municipality should be used.

The existing Whitehorse 2040 OCP contains specific Future Planning policies that recognize the need for additional study before areas are developed. In particular, existing policy 11.1.2 provides that areas designated Future Planning may be redesignated where future studies demonstrate that they can accommodate broader uses safely and without environmental damage. Policy 11.1.3 recognizes that areas may instead be redesignated where studies demonstrate significant environmental or recreational values.

That is a sensible planning approach: study the land first, then determine the appropriate use.

Bylaw 2026-25 reverses that logic for mineral exploration on valid claims by establishing that certain exploration activities are compatible with the Future Planning designation without requiring a site-specific OCP amendment.

The City's own April 2026 administrative report acknowledged this concern. Administration stated that a geographically defined map amendment would allow the City to evaluate whether exploration is appropriate in a specified area based on land-use considerations and would allow the City to request studies of proposed work areas.

That is precisely the approach I believe Council should retain.

5. The amendment would remove environmental and greenspace protections from specific areas

The proposed bylaw does not merely establish rules for drilling.

It also proposes changes to the OCP's Greenspace Network Plan and land-use designation map, including changing portions of Gem-Keewenaw, Chiefs Trend and Arctic Chief-Grafter from Greenspace to Future Planning, while removing those areas from the Greenspace or Environmentally Sensitive Areas mapping.

This is a significant planning decision.

It should not be treated as a technical adjustment simply because the areas contain existing mineral tenure.

The existence of a mineral claim is a mineral-rights issue. It does not, by itself, establish that mineral exploration is the most appropriate land use for the surface of that area.

If these areas have ecological, recreational, wildlife, watershed, trail, cultural or community values, those values should be evaluated independently of the mineral tenure beneath them.

6. "Disturbed land" should not become a blanket justification for industrial exploration

I understand the rationale behind focusing exploration on previously disturbed areas.

However, the proposed definition of "Disturbed Area" is extremely broad. It includes land previously disturbed by mineral exploration or mining, wildfire management and fuel breaks, quarry or aggregate operations, utility construction, and other activities involving ground disturbance or vegetation removal.

This creates a potential circular problem: historical industrial disturbance can become the justification for additional industrial activity.

Past disturbance should certainly be considered. But it should not automatically determine future land use.

A former mining area may have recovered ecological, recreational or community value. Conversely, a disturbed area may still contain contamination, unstable ground, drainage issues, wildlife habitat or other constraints.

The appropriate question should therefore be whether the proposed activity is compatible with the area's current and planned land uses — not simply whether someone disturbed the land in the past.

7. Mineral exploration is not necessarily a low-impact endpoint

I appreciate that Bylaw 2026-25 expressly states that it does not authorize mining or permanent development.

However, exploration is not unrelated to eventual mining.

The City's own April 2026 report describes mineral exploration as one of the first steps in determining whether natural-resource extraction is viable.

The Government of Yukon similarly describes exploration — including drilling core samples — as the process used to determine whether mineral resources are commercially viable before a mine is constructed.

For that reason, Council should consider not only the immediate impacts of drilling, but also the longer-term land-use implications of establishing mineral exploration as a compatible use in areas of the city.

A responsible planning system should consider the trajectory of a land use, not merely the smallest initial phase of it.

8. Environmental assessment does not eliminate the need for municipal planning

I recognize that exploration projects may also be subject to the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act and territorial authorizations.

Those processes are valuable, but they should not be treated as a substitute for municipal land-use planning.

The Government of Yukon itself states that the Municipal Act and Yukon mining legislation operate concurrently.

The City's role is different from that of the territorial mining regulator.

The City's responsibility is to determine whether a proposed use fits within the community's land-use plan, infrastructure, neighbourhoods, recreational systems, environmental objectives and long-term vision.

That distinction is particularly important in Whitehorse because mineral claims can overlap with residential, recreational, greenspace and future development areas.

9. Whitehorse already has an extraordinary example of territorial recognition that mining restrictions are appropriate within the city

The Prohibition of Entry on Certain Lands (City of Whitehorse) Order, O.I.C. 2012/145, made under the Quartz Mining Act, prohibits entry onto specified municipal lands for the purpose of locating a claim, prospecting or mining for minerals.

Importantly, section 4 of the Order protects existing recorded claims.

This demonstrates that the Yukon government itself has recognized that certain lands within Whitehorse warrant special protection from mineral activity because they are required for municipal purposes.

I believe that principle remains relevant today.

The existence of grandfathered claims should not be interpreted as a reason for the City to weaken its land-use planning. Rather, it provides a strong argument for preserving municipal control over where and under what conditions those legacy rights may be exercised.

10. Council should not solve uncertainty in the mining regime by weakening the OCP

The Yukon government is currently developing new minerals legislation that will replace the Quartz Mining Act and Placer Mining Act.

This is a significant moment of regulatory transition.

Given that the territorial government is actively working with Yukon First Nations on new minerals legislation covering the entire mining lifecycle — from prospecting through closure and remediation — I question whether it is prudent for Whitehorse to make a broad, long-term change to its OCP that makes mineral exploration more entrenched before that new regime is established.

If anything, regulatory uncertainty is a reason for the City to retain its land-use authority and proceed cautiously.

11. The City has already identified legitimate concerns with a broad text amendment

Perhaps most importantly, these concerns are not merely theoretical.

In its April 2026 administrative report, City staff identified concerns that a broad text amendment could allow exploration within greenspace without sufficiently defined parameters. Staff also noted that environmental and heritage considerations would normally be evaluated when specific areas are proposed for redesignation.

The report further identified potential challenges with access management and the possibility that Copper Haul Road could require upgrading to support extended year-round use.

Those are precisely the kinds of location-specific issues that a municipal planning process is intended to examine.

I therefore believe Council should heed its own administration's earlier preference for geographically defined amendments and site-specific consideration.

12. A reasonable alternative exists

I am not asking Council to ignore existing mineral rights or to prohibit remediation of historical mining impacts.

I am asking Council to maintain a planning framework in which mineral exploration is not automatically presumed to be compatible with Future Planning or other community land-use designations.

At minimum, I ask Council to:

1. Reject Bylaw 2026-25 as currently proposed.
2. Maintain the existing OCP designations and Greenspace/Environmentally Sensitive Areas mapping.
3. Require mineral exploration proposals to be evaluated through the City's land-use planning and zoning framework rather than presuming compatibility based primarily on the existence of a valid mineral claim and a territorial authorization.
4. Require site-specific consideration of environmental, recreational, residential, infrastructure, access, heritage and cumulative impacts before allowing exploration.
5. Preserve meaningful municipal discretion to refuse a proposed land use where it is incompatible with the City's OCP and community objectives.
6. Continue work on a comprehensive mineral exploration and development framework before making piecemeal OCP changes.
7. Consider revisiting the approach contemplated by the City's 2024 proposed Bylaws 2024-14 and 2024-15, including a prohibition on new mineral exploration and mine development within the City, while preserving appropriate exceptions for remediation and reclamation of historical mining impacts.

Whitehorse is a growing city. Land within our municipal boundary is not simply an undeveloped extension of the Yukon wilderness available for whatever use happens to be supported by an underlying mineral claim. It is land that is increasingly needed for housing, recreation, transportation, greenspace, wildfire resilience, ecological connectivity and future community development.

The purpose of municipal planning is to balance these competing interests and decide which uses are appropriate in which places.

I believe Council should use the authority provided to it under the Municipal Act to protect that planning function rather than diminish it.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask Council to vote against Bylaw 2026-25 and retain the City's ability to make independent, location-specific land-use decisions about mineral exploration and development.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Sincerely,

Sophia Merritt
Mary Lake

Outlook

Bylaw 2026-25

From Georg Saure [redacted]
Date Sun 8/16/2026 1:28 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

To the Whitehorse City Council

Please reject Bylaw 2026-25. The OCP is long term legislation and should not be changed to accommodate the business interest of one party. It is important to reserve land for green space in a growing city. I own a house in Ingram and concerned about mining activities and their effects within the city.
Regards
Georg Saure
Sent from my iPad

Outlook

Support for Bylaw 2026-25

From Paul Wray [redacted]
Date Sun 8/16/2026 9:30 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor Cameron and Council,,
I support the proposal which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.
I came to the Yukon in 1965 to work at Keno Hill. From there I went on to work at Whitehorse Copper until 1981 and then various other mines. I have spent most of my life here and raised a family.At present, I operate a small tourist operation, Yukon Rock Shop on the South Klondike Highway.
Mining and exploration supports local jobs and businesses. We need a broader tax base and more non government jobs.
I hope that the Council adopts 2026-25.
Thank you.
Paul Wray, [redacted] Whitehorse, [redacted]

[redacted]

Outlook

Bylaw 2026 - 25 Amendment

From Angela Drainville [redacted]
Date Mon 8/17/2026 1:41 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>; Mayor and Council [redacted]
Cc [redacted]

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Attention: Publicinput@whitehorse.ca, [redacted]

Dear Mayor and Council:

Re: Bylaw 2026-25: Application to amend text and mapping of the Official Community Plan (OCP) to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation.

I support this amendment and encourage you to pass it.

The Whitehorse Copper Project exploration is authorized under a Class 3 Quartz Mining Land Use Approval issued following a YESAB assessment process. The approval includes 98 enforceable operating conditions regarding environmental protection, operational practices, and reclamation.

This is an application to clarify the City OCP rules for exploration only at this stage. Exploration improves knowledge of the land and the mineral resource potential. That information supports decisions about the future of the community and our economy. This Gladiator exploration project is creating immediate jobs and local investment in the Whitehorse region ($40M spend in the next 18 months).

Copper is increasingly necessary. Our national government is working on Canadian security, resource independence, and broadening our economy so it is less reliant on one buyer. We have the critical minerals needed for growth and our city of over 400sq km has lots of room for mixed development including exploration and mining.

It is my understanding that both Ta'an and KDFN are supportive of the Gladiator exploration work underway in their traditional territories. I encourage the city to facilitate exploration, and potentially future mining, as one component of a strong, diversified economy for Whitehorse and the Yukon.

Congratulations to Council for working with a proponent and for making our OCP more reflective of our landscape and more flexible for our shared economic future.

Sincerely,

Angela Drainville
[redacted]

Cc [redacted]

[redacted]

Outlook

2026-25: Official Community Plan (OCP) Amendment

From Fraser Roberts [redacted]
Date Mon 8/17/2026 10:57 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (50 KB)
20260816 My support letter.pdf;

You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

I attach my support letter for the OCP amendment proposed by Gladiator Metals.
Regards,
Fraser Roberts

August 17, 2026

Attention: publicinput@whitehorse.ca

Re: 2026-25: Official Community Plan (OCP) Amendment to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation.

Dear Mayor and Council:

I am writing to express my strong support for OCP Amendment 2026-25 and to encourage Mayor and Council to also support it.

I am employed in the resource sector, and I know firsthand the value and benefits that responsible mineral exploration can bring to our community in terms of well-paying private-sector jobs and business opportunities for local contractors and businesses in almost every sector. I believe it is critical to our future that we have a strong, diversified and more resilient local economy to pay for the services we need without relying on government handouts.

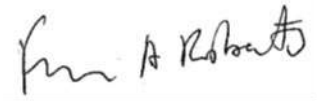
I am also pleased that both my sons have chosen to return to Whitehorse for work and this is only possible with a diversified economy where Yukoners have a range of options to build successful careers close to home. One of my sons is studying geology at university and has now had three summers of work at mineral exploration projects in Yukon. Not only has he benefited from well-paying summer work to support him financially at university, but he has also gained excellent and varied field experience which will serve him well in his future career.

As a senior manager in the resource sector, I read almost everyday about the importance of copper and other critical metals and minerals. The Government of Canada has been increasingly public in its support for responsible exploration and mining of the country's critical minerals as a way of developing a more resilient economy able to meet the demands of the future and resist the global geopolitical challenges that are now a fact of life.

Whitehorse has a fantastic opportunity to benefit from a world class copper resource located close to existing infrastructure and services. I believe it is in the City's best long-term interest to allow responsible exploration of this resource using modern environmental standards and practices while ensuring appropriate oversight and consideration of surrounding communities.

I strongly encourage Mayor and Council to support Amendment 2026-25 and recognize responsible mineral exploration and the broader resource sector as important contributors to a strong, diverse, and sustainable economy for Whitehorse and the Yukon.

Sincerely,



Fraser Roberts
[redacted]
Whitehorse

Cc: [redacted] and [redacted]

Gladiator Metals Application to
Amend Whitehorse OCP

Greg Hare
[redacted]
Whitehorse, Yukon
[redacted]

To Whitehorse Mayor and Council

I am writing to voice my concern and opposition to the proposed amendment to the Official Community Plan that would allow Gladiator Metals to conduct exploration on quartz claims with city limits that are currently zoned greenspace and/or environmentally sensitive.

Recognizing that Gladiator has extensive legitimate mining claims that encompass virtually the entire and vast western boundary of the City of Whitehorse, including the known resources of the Whitehorse Copper Belt, I feel that Gladiator's application to amend the OCP in order to capture the few small claim blocks currently protected by the OCP is both misguided and short sighted.

Area residents and community associations have been aware of Gladiator's exploration activities in recent years without widespread opposition, but this application to amend the OCP in order to access these small blocks has galvanized residents and community groups in opposition to the exploration activities of Gladiator in and around our neighbourhoods.

I acknowledge the potential value of the Whitehorse Cooper Belt to the local and national economy and respect the legitimacy of the existing claims, but Gladiator has failed to read the room. While they hold tenured mining claims which may, or may not, be subject to the Whitehorse OCP, what they now risk is the loss of social licence needed for their exploration activities and future mine development to move forward.

Gladiator representatives are try to soft-sell their activities as "exploration only" not mine development, but this is a disingenuous position. Gladiator is a junior mining operation whose primary goal is to prove the mineral potential in order to sell to a major mining developer. However, these claims will inevitably lose much of their value to potential purchasers if social licence is squandered through pursuing exploration on greenbelts and environmentally sensitive areas.

At this point Gladiator would be best advised to drop the application to amend the OCP and hope they can perhaps earn some degree of social approval.

I would also like to point out that the City of Whitehorse bears some responsibility for the tangled mess we find ourselves in today. In 1971 the COW expanded its municipal boundaries

in order to capture the potential tax benefits afforded by the Whitehorse Copper mine and the copper belt. But later that same decade the city began to allow development of country residential subdivisions and significant recreation facilities within the copper belt area. Again, in order to significantly expand its tax base at little or no cost to the city's operating budget. Conflict was inevitable.

In order to allow for the development of the copper belt in the vicinity of long established residential subdivisions to co-exist, the COW must protect the rights and quality of life of its resident and to that end substantial buffers and boundaries must be established and protected. Greenspaces and environmentally sensitive areas must be observed.

Finally, city staff should be taken to task for the inadequate and confusing information packages that have been made available to the residents. The maps are ambiguous and almost deliberately misleading and consequences of the OCP amendments are obscure and impenetrable. In fact, I think many residents along the western portion of the city are unaware that this proposed amendment to the OCP will have any impact on them, when it almost certainly will.

Thank you for this opportunity

Greg Hare

Outlook

Fw: Gladiator Mining

From Executive Assistant [redacted]
Date Tue 8/18/2026 8:31 AM
To Public Input <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Casey Mojica (She/hers)
Executive Assistant, Corporate Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted]
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Keith Byram [redacted]
Sent: August 17, 2026 5:08 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Cc: Keith Byram [redacted]
Subject: Gladiator Mining

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]
Learn why this is important

I am writing this letter in support of the exploration being performed within the Whitehorse City limits. This activity is badly needed if Whitehorse is to prosper in the future. It is noted that the claims involved, predate the Cities interest the area. The total land area of Whitehorse is in the order of two hundred square miles and surely both industry and housing can be accommodated.

My wife and I, for health reasons have spent some time in Vancouver this summer and have been living in a condo on the shoreline of False Creek. We have a fascinating view. Immediately below us is a yacht club, the waterway has continuous boat traffic coming and going, the two lane sea wall on both sides of the water has hundreds of pedestrians on it every day. On the far side, Granville Island market, restaurants, theaters etc. are located, as is a concrete plant with a huge tug and barge that brings in gravel every second day from up the coast and on week days a large fleet of mixer trucks are coming and going.. Paddlers and rowers are everywhere.. It is a busy scene with a very high density of residents, but the integration with commerce really works very well.

It is early days to speculate, but a major mine within the city limits, if planned properly, would be a huge asset.

Respectively

Keith Byram P.Eng; OC; OY; FEC

ppppp

[redacted]

Outlook

VOTE AGAINST proposed amendment to OCP!!

From Marian Geary [redacted]
Date Mon 8/17/2026 2:00 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to formally register my strong opposition to the proposed amendment to the Official Community Plan (OCP) that would permit Gladiator Metals to conduct mining exploration within the Mary Lake area.

Allowing industrial exploration inside city limits—especially within an established residential and ecologically sensitive area like Mary Lake—poses significant risks to our community's well-being. The potential disruption to local wildlife, risks to the watershed, increased industrial traffic, and degradation of quiet residential neighborhoods conflict directly with the foundational goals of our current OCP.

Furthermore, making a permanent amendment at this moment is entirely premature. I know you are all busy so using your time efficiently is important. Since the Yukon Government is currently in the process of completely rewriting the territory's mining regulations, why would the City of Whitehorse alter its long-term planning guidelines to accommodate industrial mining before these new overarching regulations are finalized?

The City should defer any decisions on this amendment. Waiting will allow Council to see how the new regulations are rewritten, evaluate their standards, and ensure municipal bylaws align with modern territorial frameworks.

I urge Council to prioritize the voices of local residents, protect our shared green spaces, and vote against this OCP amendment. Thank you for your time, consideration, and dedication to the future of Whitehorse.

Sincerely,
Marian Geary

[redacted]

Outlook

Re: Bylaw 2026-25: What's at Stake?

From Nancy Hughes [redacted]
Date Mon 8/17/2026 7:28 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello,

I do not believe that city greenspaces are places for mineral exploration. I believe these spaces are for residents and the wildlife that use these spaces.

I believe the OCP must be respected.

Please reject Bylaw 2026-25 and complete the Mineral Exploration and Development Framework before considering any request to change the OCP or any City Bylaw.

Kind regards,

Nancy Hughes
Whistlebend resident

Outlook

Concerns about Bylaw 2026-25- amend the Whitehorse 2040 Official Community Plan

From Stéphanie Nobécourt[redacted]
Date Mon 8/17/2026 4:51 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello,

My name is Stephanie Nobecourt and I have been living in Whitehorse for the past 14.5 years, first in Riverdale and now in Whistle Bend. The City of the Wilderness and Yukon - Larger Than Life have been the top reasons why I decided to make this place home. A place where human beings can live close to nature. A place where there is hope that a community can grow and flourish in communion with nature. A place that has the potential for life to happen differently than in most parts of the world, where there is still room to make different choices. And this is why I care about this issue.

I am writing to share my concerns about the proposed application to amend text and mapping of the Whitehorse 2040 Official Community Plan (OCP) to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation and to **ask Mayor and Council to please reject the proposed Bylaw 2026-25 and complete the Mineral Exploration and Development Framework before considering any request to change the OCP or any City Bylaw.**

I have a lot of concerns about this initiative and this decision and I am only going to expand on a few of them. My concerns includes:

- The decision-making process that does not feel sound.
- The impact on the OCP which reflects a lot of Whitehorse voices.
- The impact on environmentally-sensitive areas.
- The impact on the day to day life of Whitehorse residents living in these areas.
- The impact of Whitehorse residents living in other neighbourhoods and getting out there for their recreational and wellness activities.
- The level of studies conducted to assess this proposed change and the short and long-term socio-economic and environmental impact of such a change.
- The readiness of the City of Whitehorse and its policy infrastructure to implement such as change. For instance, policies about the noise level, distance of activity from a neighbourhood and Whitehorse residents houses, water contamination/ preventative measures/ inspection/ accountability/ expectation in case of incident.

My primary concerns about the proposed bylaw are even heightened by the fact that Mayor and Council are considering proceeding with it before the Mineral Framework has been finalized and adopted. Developing a mineral framework and working toward framing successful business and community initiatives is to me paramount to allowing starting any form of mining business and ensuring long-term success for everybody, Whitehorse residents and businesses.

Also, I am very concerned about the decision-making process our elected Mayor and Council are proceeding with on such a sensitive and impacting matter for the people living in this city and for our environment.

Instead of following a sound, sustainable and representative process, it feels like the process is rushed. This makes me question whether the interests of private companies are put before the interests of the people of Whitehorse, and whether short-term interests are put before long-term interests. This sounds to me repeating models that have proven to be failing around the world for decades and maybe even centuries. To me, it is time to act differently and create new and sustainable ways of approaching how we live and develop economies. We have an opportunity to rely on a strong process, so let's dare to do it.

One of my other key concerns is that the OCP2040 is the result of extensive public engagement and many Whitehorse voices that reflect our community values and priorities. I too contributed to it by reviewing the extensive documents shared and provided input on parts that were important to me. The proposed change to the OCP would override the voices of the people. Such a change requires in my opinion a strong engagement process which includes identifying an appropriate time (not during the summer), getting input from key stakeholders groups including youth and supporting various engagement methods and tools allowing information to flow to residents and people to share their views using the methods that work best for them.

Another of my concerns related to the OCP is about the change of classification of some areas. The proposed changes don't align with the Future Planning areas policies 15.4, 15.4.1 and 15.4.2, and such as change to the OCP will alter the vision developed for Whitehorse. The impact of this proposal and mining activities on the greenspace, environmentally sensitive areas including the vision of the Wolf Creek Regional Park, and the watershed surrounding this area is very concerning. Land needs to be able to recover and it is not because activity happened in the past that activity should continue. The impacted areas are places where many Whitehorse citizens - and not only the ones living close by - spend a lot of time immersing themselves in nature, walking their dogs, biking, hiking, skiing, and more. I do too. I enjoy hiking, biking and skiing in these areas and this is a big part of my wellness.

I could go on and on.

I am asking that the interests of the people and our planet are put first. Any major change to the OCP requires a strong democratic process.

I am asking that Mayor and Council reject the proposed Bylaw 2026-25 and complete the Mineral Exploration and Development Framework before considering any request to change the OCP or any City Bylaw. A strong framework is key to a flourishing economy and life in the City of Whitehorse.

Sincerely,

--

Stéphanie Nobécourt

[redacted]

Outlook

My opposition to Bylaw 2026-25

From Susan Alton [redacted]
Date Mon 8/17/2026 3:09 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

1 attachment (581 bytes)
Card for "Susan Alton" [redacted]vcf;

Dear City Council,

I have read the entire Bylaw 2026-25
I oppose all tenets of its adoption, and specifically call for to the Council to do the following

Make NO amendment of the OCP Section 15 and specifically direct there be NO Mineral Exploration within Futire Planning Designated areas

Make NO change of the current outlined map areas from Greenspace or Environmentally- Sensitive Areas to Future Planning

Ensure that the current Firebreak is not labelled a Disturbed Area (the firebreak was established after significant neighbourhood consultation and your maps show it to be Grey in colour whereas it is actively being re- vegetated and is on the way to being an establishe Aspen forest)

I am a Mary Lake resident but my interest is not simply "NIMBYISM"--
City Council should have principled approach not to alter our well - researched OCP meant to last from 2020 to 2040.

In addition Council should not proceed before a more comprehhensive Mineral Framework is completed. What is the rush?

City Council should not put the interests of a private corporation before those of city residents.

On a local level, my human neighbours are being disturbed by exploration noise at all hours of the day. My non human neighbours -- nesting Red necked Grebes and Common Goldeneye (producing clutches of 1 and 3 successful nestlings respectively this year) as well as numerous beavers are also vulnerable to disturbance. Mary Lake (ie the lake itself) and surrounding areas are a thriving local ecosystem that deserve protection and no acknowledgement of this is being made by City council.

Thank you,
Susan Alton MD

Outlook

letter to mayor and council regarding Gladiator Mines request

From Wynne Krangle [redacted]
Date Mon 8/17/2026 10:10 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>; Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (41 KB)
letter regarding Gladiator Mines request.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Attached is my submission to Mayor and Council.

Wynne

Wynne Krangle
[redacted]
[redacted] in Canada
[redacted] in UK

August 17, 2026

publicinput@whitehorse.ca, [redacted]

Dear Mayor and Members of Whitehorse City Council,

I have lived in Whitehorse for 47 years. Today, I am writing to strongly oppose the request that Gladiator Mines has made to expand mining exploration activities into areas designated as Greenspace and Environmentally Sensitive (ESA) under the Official Community Plan (OCP) 2040.

It took years of public consultation to develop the OCP. The document represents the community's vision for Whitehorse. This document was intended to provide long-term certainty, consistency and transparency for future land-use planning.

I believe that the OCP should not be changed to accommodate a private company's request. This would set a very concerning precedent, weakening the strength of the OCP and making it more vulnerable to similar requests in the future. If Greenspace and ESA designations were to be overturned without due process, it becomes a slippery slope with unknown consequences.

The trail network within the area behind Mary Lake and Cowley Creek is very well used – year-round – by a wide variety of individuals and groups. It is home to numerous species of birds and wildlife. The area was – and is – temporarily compromised by the South Whitehorse fuel break, yet earlier treated areas are already regenerating with less flammable deciduous species. It may have been disturbed, but it is recovering quickly as intended.

The timing of this proposal is terrible. It is being pushed forward during the summer when many residents are away and unable to participate fully in any public consultation, that is, if citizens are even aware it is happening. Decisions with significant long-term implications for residents and community deserve broad public engagement and a demonstrated broad base of public support. Any amendments to the OCP must be undertaken through the scheduled comprehensive review process, with full public participation.

Mining is an important contributor to the Yukon's economy, but it must operate within the planning framework established by the community. The OCP should not be altered at the whim of an exploration company's demands or any other short-term business interest.

With upcoming changes to the Quartz Mining Act and the Placer Mining Act, considering this proposal is putting the cart before the horse. It is unlikely that any eventual mine would conform to the new legislation.

I ask Council to respect the integrity of the OCP and make NO amendments to it based on any requests put forward by Gladiator Mines or related recommendations from City administration.

Please uphold your commitment to protecting the long-term interests of Whitehorse residents. No currently elected official ever campaigned on this issue. If you allow Gladiator to dictate this change, you might as well change Wilderness City to Mining City!

Sincerely,

Wynne Krangle

Outlook

Fw: Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25

From Executive Assistant [redacted]
Date Tue 8/18/2026 8:32 AM
To Public Input <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

1 attachment (15 KB)
OCP Bylaw 2026-25 Support Letter-Chris.docx;

Casey Mojica (She/hers)
Executive Assistant, Corporate Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted]
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Chris Penner [redacted]
Sent: August 18, 2026 7:13 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Good day,

Attached is my letter of support for the rezoning of OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25

Thank you,

Chris Penner

Chris Penner
[redacted], Whitehorse
Aug 18, 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt. As a geologist in the Yukon, I support development of local industry.

Mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chris Penner
Graduate Geologist, Gladiator Metals

Outlook

Gladiator Metals

From Derek Sokolan [redacted]
Date Tue 8/18/2026 1:34 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@ te rs
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (16 KB)
OCP Bylaw 2026-25 Support Letter.docx;

You don't often get email from [redacted] why this is important

Derek Sokolan | Owner
C: [redacted] | [redacted]
Head Office | [redacted] - Williams Lak [redacted]
Yukon Office | [redacted] - Whitehorse, Y [redacted]

MUELLER ENTERPRISES LTD.
Exceeding Expectations, Delivering Results

Derek Sokolan, Mueller Enterprises Ltd
[redacted] *Whitehorse YT*
August 18, 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse
Email: publicinput@whitehorse.ca
CC: [redacted]

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

Mining has been a cornerstone of the Yukon economy for generations, providing high-quality employment, supporting local businesses, contributing to government revenues, and helping build the communities that make the Yukon a great place to live and work. Responsible mineral exploration is essential to identifying the future projects that will sustain these economic benefits for decades to come.

As Mueller Enterprises Ltd., we have proudly supported Yukon mining and exploration projects for many years through our electrical, power generation, and industrial services. The mining industry has played a significant role in our growth as a Yukon-based company, creating opportunities for our employees, Indigenous partners, suppliers, and communities throughout the territory.

Mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Derek Sokolan
Owner / Mueller Enterprises Ltd.

Outlook

Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 – Mineral Exploration

From Eric Ogris[redacted]
Date Tue 8/18/2026 3:14 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted]; [redacted]

1 attachment (230 KB)
Bylaw 2026-25.pdf;

Some people who receive [redacted]sage don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Please see attached.

Eric Ogris

Eric Ogris | Director of Marketi[redacted]60 Petro Ltd
[redacted], Whitehorse,

NORTH 60° PETRO PetroOne

"Fine Fuels, Super Service, Q[redacted]pricants"

This e-mail may contain infor[redacted]that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise exempt from disclosure under applicable laws. Unauthorized use, repr[redacted]n or dissemination of this e-mail is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact us immediately.

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NORTH 60° PETRO LTD.
PETROLEUM MARKETING TO YUKON AND NORTHERN B.C.

North 60 Petro Ltd.
[redacted] *Whitehorse, YT*
Y1A 2V1

August 18, 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express our support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

As a member of the KPMA and primary fuel supplier to countless Yukon mining operations, North 60 Petro believes the mining industry plays a vital role in the Yukon and represents the bedrock of our economy. We owe our very existence in this region of Canada to this specific industry stemming back to the 1890's Klondike Gold Rush.

North 60 Petro is in strong favour of this amendment. We feel the City of Whitehorse should also view this amendment favourably while being cognizant of the need to foster environmental responsibility and involve First Nations interests.

Mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

Once again, we encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Eric R. Ogris
Director of Marketing, North 60 Petro Ltd.

Outlook

Gladiator

From Frank Wilps[redacted]
Date Tue 8/18/2026 10:58 AM
To Publicinput@whitehorse.ca <Publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

Bylaw 2026-25 Gladiator
I support this amendment and encourage you to pass it .
Thank you
Frank Wilps

Sent from my iPhone

Outlook

Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 - Mineral Exploration

From greg keitel[redacted]
Date Tue 8/18/2026 7:33 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc [redacted]Mayor and Council
[redacted]

1 attachment (131 KB)
OCP Bylaw 2026-25 Support Letter - G Keitel.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Please see attached letter in support of OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 - Mineral Exploration.

Regards
Greg Keitel

Greg Keitel
[redacted].
Whitehorse YT, [redacted]
August 18, 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse
Email: publicinput@whitehorse.ca
CC: [redacted]

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

For 30 years I have recreated in the Copperbelt area via utv, snowmobile, motorcycle, with my dogs on foot and just as a general get away from the city life. I have also published a rock climbing guidebook that empowered people to get out and enjoy a unique sport. Access to climbing areas has been supported by the mining and exploration industry in many ways.

Mining and exploration have also been a mainstay in my income for 20 years and I am grateful for the opportunities these industries have allowed me to attain. The Yukon would not be what it is today without Mineral Exploration.

Mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Greg Keitel
RocknRaven ClimbingWorks

Outlook

Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 - Mineral Exploration

From greg keitel [redacted]
Date Tue 8/18/2026 7:16 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc [redacted] Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (131 KB)
OCP Bylaw 2026-25 Support Letter -Example.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Please refer to the attached letter in support of the OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 - Mineral Exploration.

Thanks,
Greg Keitel

Greg Keitel
[redacted].
Whitehorse YT, [redacted]
August 18, 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse
Email: publicinput@whitehorse.ca
CC: [redacted]

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

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I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Greg Keitel
RocknRaven ClimbingWorks

August 12th, 2026

Attention: Publicinput@whitehorse.ca

Dear Mayor and Council:

Re: Bylaw 2026-25: Application to amend text and mapping of the Official Community Plan (OCP) to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation.

I support this amendment and encourage Council to pass it. As someone who works in the construction and mining sector, I believe a project that creates more highly paid, skilled jobs in Whitehorse would benefit both our city and the Yukon.

The Whitehorse Copper Project exploration is authorized under a Class 3 Quartz Mining Land Use Approval, issued following a YESAB assessment. That approval carries 98 enforceable operating conditions covering environmental protection, operational practices, and reclamation.

At this stage, the application does nothing more than clarify the City's OCP rules for exploration. Exploration improves our understanding of the land and its mineral resource potential, and that knowledge supports better decisions about the future of both our community and our economy. The Gladiator exploration project is already generating immediate jobs and local investment across the Whitehorse region, with roughly $40M in spending anticipated over the next 18 months.

Copper is increasingly essential. Our federal government is focused on Canadian security, resource independence, and broadening the economy so it depends less on any single buyer. We have the critical minerals needed to support that growth, and a city spanning more than 400 square kilometres has ample room for mixed development, including exploration and mining.

It is my understanding that both TKC and KDFN support the Gladiator exploration work underway in their traditional territories. I encourage the City to facilitate exploration, and potentially future mining, as one component of a strong and diversified economy for Whitehorse and the Yukon.

My congratulations to Council for working with a proponent and for making our OCP more reflective of our landscape and more flexible for our shared economic future.

Sincerely,

Name Jason Abel
Address [redacted], Whitehorse, Yukon, [redacted]

Cc [redacted]

Outlook

Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

From Jason Wilneff [redacted]
Date Tue 8/18/2026 11:40 AM
To Publicinput@whitehorse.ca <Publicinput@wh
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (178 KB)
OCP Bylaw 2026-25 Support Letter.pdf;

You don't often get email from [redacted] y this is important

Please see attached.

Jason Wilneff | Director of Business Developm
C: [redacted] | Email: [redacted]
Head Office | [redacted] - Williams Lak [redacted] | [redacted]
Yukon Office | [redacted] - Whitehorse, Y [redacted]

MUELLER ENTERPRISES LTD.
Exceeding Expectations, Delivering Results

Jason Wilneff, Mueller Enterprises Ltd
[redacted] *Whitehorse YT*
August 18, 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse
Email: publicinput@whitehorse.ca
CC: [redacted]

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

Mining has been a cornerstone of the Yukon economy for generations, providing high-quality employment, supporting local businesses, contributing to government revenues, and helping build the communities that make the Yukon a great place to live and work. Responsible mineral exploration is essential to identifying the future projects that will sustain these economic benefits for decades to come.

As Mueller Enterprises Ltd., we have proudly supported Yukon mining and exploration projects for many years through our electrical, power generation, and industrial services. The mining industry has played a significant role in our growth as a Yukon-based company, creating opportunities for our employees, Indigenous partners, suppliers, and communities throughout the territory.

Mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jason Wilneff
Director of Business Development / Mueller Enterprises Ltd.

Outlook

Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

From Karen Sokolan[redacted]
Date Tue 8/18/2026 11:47 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@w >
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (176 KB)
OCP Bylaw 2026-25 Support Letter.pdf; [redacted]

You don't often get email from [redacted] n why this is important

Thank you.

Karen Sokolan | Accounting
C: [redacted]
Head Office | [redacted] - Williams Lake, [redacted] | [redacted]
Yukon Office | [redacted] - Whitehorse, YT [redacted]

MUELLER ENTERPRISES LTD.
Exceeding Expectations, Delivering Results

Karen Sokolan, Mueller Enterprises Ltd
[redacted] *Whitehorse YT*
August 18, 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse
Email: publicinput@whitehorse.ca
CC: [redacted]

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

Mining has been a cornerstone of the Yukon economy for generations, providing high-quality employment, supporting local businesses, contributing to government revenues, and helping build the communities that make the Yukon a great place to live and work. Responsible mineral exploration is essential to identifying the future projects that will sustain these economic benefits for decades to come.

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Mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Karen Sokolan
Director / Mueller Enterprises Ltd.

August 12th, 2026

Attention: Publicinput@whitehorse.ca

Dear Mayor and Council:

Re: Bylaw 2026-25: Application to amend text and mapping of the Official Community Plan (OCP) to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation.

I support this amendment and encourage Council to pass it. As someone who works in the construction and mining sector, I believe a project that creates more highly paid, skilled jobs in Whitehorse would benefit both our city and the Yukon.

The Whitehorse Copper Project exploration is authorized under a Class 3 Quartz Mining Land Use Approval, issued following a YESAB assessment. That approval carries 98 enforceable operating conditions covering environmental protection, operational practices, and reclamation.

At this stage, the application does nothing more than clarify the City's OCP rules for exploration. Exploration improves our understanding of the land and its mineral resource potential, and that knowledge supports better decisions about the future of both our community and our economy. The Gladiator exploration project is already generating immediate jobs and local investment across the Whitehorse region, with roughly $40M in spending anticipated over the next 18 months.

Copper is increasingly essential. Our federal government is focused on Canadian security, resource independence, and broadening the economy so it depends less on any single buyer. We have the critical minerals needed to support that growth, and a city spanning more than 400 square kilometres has ample room for mixed development, including exploration and mining.

It is my understanding that both TKC and KDFN support the Gladiator exploration work underway in their traditional territories. I encourage the City to facilitate exploration, and potentially future mining, as one component of a strong and diversified economy for Whitehorse and the Yukon.

My congratulations to Council for working with a proponent and for making our OCP more reflective of our landscape and more flexible for our shared economic future.

Sincerely,

Name KARENN PONGCO
Address [redacted] WHITEHORSE, YT [redacted]

Cc [redacted]

Outlook

Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25

From Kurt Neunherz [redacted]
Date Tue 8/18/2026 8:51 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted] Ron Bonnycastle [redacted]

1 attachment (583 KB)
Castle Rock Letter of Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25.pdf;

You don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Good morning, please see the attached Letter of Support from Castle Rock for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25. Please let me know if you have any questions or need further information.

Thank you for y e and consideration.

Castle Rock
ENTERPRISES LI NERSHIP
A DAKWAKA PANY

Kurt Neunherz | evelopment Manager
p [redacted]
Whitehorse, Yuko
Canada

Castle Rock
ENTERPRISES LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
A DAKWAKADA COMPANY

August 18, 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

Founded in 1995, Castle Rock Enterprises is a proud, local Yukon First Nation business. During our peak construction season, we employ over 100 staff members, providing stable, high-quality jobs within our community. Our core services—spanning heavy civil, earthworks, site preparation, and mine reclamation are tied closely to the success of the regional mining sector. A predictable regulatory environment for mineral exploration directly impacts the longevity of our operational season and our ability to sustain positive local livelihoods.

Mineral exploration directly supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. This amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight and environmental standards.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kurt Neunherz
Business Development Manager

[redacted] Whitehorse | YT | [redacted]
T. [redacted] F. [redacted]
castlerockent.com

Outlook

Bylaw 2026-25 support

From Larry Pennock [redacted]
Date Tue 8/18/2026 12:35 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@wh >; Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (101 KB)
OCP Bylaw 2026-25 Support Letter.pdf; [redacted]

You don't often get email from [redacted] why this is important

Good afternoon,

Please see attached letter of support for O[redacted]munity Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Regards

Larry Pennock | General Manager
C: [redacted] Email: [redacted]
Head Office | [redacted] - Williams Lake, B[redacted] | [redacted]
Yukon Office | [redacted] - Whitehorse, YT Y[redacted]

MUELLER ENTERPRISES LTD.
Exceeding Expectations, Delivering Results

Larry Pennock, Mueller Enterprises Ltd
[redacted] *Whitehorse YT*
August 18, 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse
Email: publicinput@whitehorse.ca
CC: [redacted]

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

Mining has been a cornerstone of the Yukon economy for generations, providing high-quality employment, supporting local businesses, contributing to government revenues, and helping build the communities that make the Yukon a great place to live and work. Responsible mineral exploration is essential to identifying the future projects that will sustain these economic benefits for decades to come.

As Mueller Enterprises Ltd., we have proudly supported Yukon mining and exploration projects for many years through our electrical, power generation, and industrial services. The mining industry has played a significant role in our growth as a Yukon-based company, creating opportunities for our employees, Indigenous partners, suppliers, and communities throughout the territory.

Mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Larry Pennock
General Manager / Mueller Enterprises Ltd.

Outlook

Gladiator Metals

From [redacted]
Date Tue 8/18/2026 9:46 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hi,
I am writing to object to the City approving any land use amendments to facilitate Gladiator Metals. I think it will be a disaster to the neighbourhoods in the vicinity.

Regards,
Richard Annett
[redacted]

Outlook

Fw: Bylaw 2026-25

From Executive Assistant [redacted]
Date Tue 8/18/2026 12:22 PM
To Public Input <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

1 attachment (25 KB)
CMS Support Letter Bylaw 2026-25.docx;

Casey Mojica (She/hers)
Executive Assistant, Corporate Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted]
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: [redacted]
Sent: August 18, 2026 12:19 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Bylaw 2026-25

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,
Please see attached letter of support w.r.t. the above.
Thank-you,
Roy J. Gleason
[redacted]

CMS Construction Management Services
(a division of Hess River Holdings Ltd.)
[redacted]
Whitehorse, Yukon [redacted]
[redacted]

August 18, 2026

To: City of Whitehorse, Mayor and Council

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment – Bylaw 2026-25

I am writing on behalf of CMS Construction Management services, and personally, to indicate support for the above referenced proposed Official Community Plan Amendment (Bylaw 2026-25) as it pertains to mineral exploration within select areas of the City of Whitehorse.

As a born and raised Whitehorse resident for >60 years, and a consultant and business owner for >30 years, I feel it's important to support and promote responsible mineral exploration and resource development in the City and the Yukon. We should all be mindful of the historical relevance these activities have had in the development of the North.

I respectfully request Council adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any questions.

Sincerely,

Roy J. (Jamie) Gleason, CET CBA
CMS Construction Management Services
[redacted]
Whitehorse, Yukon
[redacted]

Outlook

Gladiator Support Letters

From Shayla Bierlmeier [redacted]
Date Tue 8/18/2026 1:47 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc [redacted]

3 attachments (613 KB)
20260812-1336_260812_133836.pdf; Gladiator - OCP Letter of Support.pdf; 2310_001.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] earn why this is important

Good afternoon,

Please see attached support letters from myself and a couple employees.

Thank you,

Shayla Bierlmeier | Operations Assistant

PELLY CONSTRUCTION LTD. [redacted] Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A
Email: [redacted] **| Head Office:** [redacted] **www.pelly.n**

August 12th, 2026

Attention: Publicinput@whitehorse.ca

Dear Mayor and Council:

Re: Bylaw 2026-25: Application to amend text and mapping of the Official Community Plan (OCP) to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation.

I support this amendment and encourage Council to pass it. As someone who works in the construction and mining sector, I believe a project that creates more highly paid, skilled jobs in Whitehorse would benefit both our city and the Yukon.

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My congratulations to Council for working with a proponent and for making our OCP more reflective of our landscape and more flexible for our shared economic future.

Sincerely,

Name Shayla Bierlmeier SBierlmeier
Address [redacted] Whitehorse YT

Cc [redacted]

Outlook

Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

From Tim Beacock [redacted]
Date Tue 8/18/2026 1:15 PM
To Mayor and Council [redacted]
Cc publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehor

1 attachment (16 KB)
OCP Bylaw 2026-25 Support Letter.docx;

You don't often get email from [redacted] why this is important

Good day,
Please find attached letter of support regardi[redacted]ct line above.

Cheers and have a great day!

Tim Beacock | Project Manger
C: [redacted]
Head Office | [redacted] - Williams Lake, B.C [redacted]
Yukon Office | [redacted] - Whitehorse, YT Y1A [redacted]

MUELLER ENTERPRISES LTD.
Exceeding Expectations, Delivering Results

Tim Beacock, Project Manager Mueller Enterprises Ltd
[redacted] *Whitehorse YT*
August 18, 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse
Email: publicinput@whitehorse.ca
CC: [redacted]

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

Mining has been a cornerstone of the Yukon economy for generations, providing high-quality employment, supporting local businesses, contributing to government revenues, and helping build the communities that make the Yukon a great place to live and work. Responsible mineral exploration is essential to identifying the future projects that will sustain these economic benefits for decades to come.

As Mueller Enterprises Ltd., we have proudly supported Yukon mining and exploration projects for many years through our electrical, power generation, and industrial services. The mining industry has played a significant role in our growth as a Yukon-based company, creating opportunities for our employees, Indigenous partners, suppliers, and communities throughout the territory.

Mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jason Wilneff
Director of Business Development / Mueller Enterprises Ltd.

Outlook

Public input written submission in support of bylaw 2026-25, hearing on 24 August 2026

From Tim Green [redacted]
Date Tue 8/18/2026 8:59 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

I support bylaw 2026-25 for these reasons.

1. **Gladiator's exploration is short term.** If someone has an issue with noise now, that will shortly disappear as drills change location and as exploration moves to completion. (I have visited Cowley Creek and Mary Lake when multiple drills are operating. I can't hear the drills in the residential areas although other noises such as the highway or airplanes are quite noticeable. The drills only become audible within about 200 m of their operating locations.)

2. **Gladiator's exploration is low impact.** It leaves no lasting trace on the land and does not change conditions for some other future use of the areas involved. YG's 90+ conditions and oversight ensure that exploration takes place in an environmentally protective manner.

3. **Gladiator's exploration will provide information about mineral volumes and locations.**

3.1. This information will be useful to the City for land-use planning in the medium and long term. The City will get this information essentially for free.

3.2. If exploration reveals that Whitehorse has mineable deposits of copper, Whitehorse citizens will decide whether to exploit those deposits and how to do that based on the priorities and values of the day. Those priorities and values might be much different in a climate-changed world than those of 2026.

4. **Facilitating Gladiator's exploration now eliminates the need for any other company to do it again in the future.** The City might be able to dispense with the whole mineral development framework exercise and expense by exploiting synergies with the YG regulation process in the short term to harmonize YG's authorization with the City's OCP areas.

5. **Whitehorse has significant environmental and climate-change advantages as a production centre for copper compared to other locations in Yukon.** These include reduced greenhouse gas emissions for transportation, chemically simpler/safer extraction and remediation, and simpler/cheaper power considerations, among others. Because copper is extremely important for decarbonization of our economy to mitigate climate change, we need to know sooner rather than later the extent and location of copper reserves to start appropriate long-range planning, or not.

6. **The areas under consideration are quite small and well defined.** In some cases, they probably

should not have been designated greenspace given their actual degree of prior disturbance. Exploration in these areas will not affect their potential for public recreation. Where these areas overlap the firebreak, exploration will not affect the firebreak function.

7. **The bylaw respects the City's climate emergency declaration and the OCP's aim to consider climate change impacts.** This is important for future generations.

==Tim Green
Porter Creek

Timothy C. Green, CD, PEng (Ret), MEng
exploring the future at timmit.ca
complete spectrum of services at timx.ca
[redacted] CA [redacted] (toll free)

TimmiT

Outlook

Support for Community Plan Amendment - Bylaw 2026-25

From Amanda Harris [redacted]
Date Wed 8/19/2026 12:46 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>; Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (490 KB)
OCP Bylaw_20260819_0001.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Please find attached my letter of support.

Amanda Harris
Discovery Yukon Lodgings
[redacted]Alaska Highway
Koidern
Beaver Creek
YT Y0B [redacted]

Toll Free: [redacted]

[redacted]

www.discoveryyukon.com

Discovery YUKON LODGINGS

August 19th 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.
I have recently sold this business, which I have owned for the last 19 years and have benefited from a business perspective from mineral exploration companies staying here. Personal daily benefit is derived from using products that would not be possible without mining companies, such as my computer, phone, water bottle, not to mention vehicles, road surfaces & my home.
Mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Amanda Harris

Amanda Harris

DISCOVERY YUKON LODGINGS
CABINS, RV + TENT SITES : [redacted] YUKON [redacted] GPS [redacted]
SUMMER TELEPHONE (MAY–OCTOBER) [redacted] WINTER TELEPHONE (OCTOBER–MAY) [redacted]
MAILING ADDRESS : [redacted] BEAVER CREEK, YUKON [redacted]

YUKON LARGER THAN LIFE

DISCOVERYYUKON.COM

Outlook

Support for Official Community Plan Amendment - Bylaw 2026-25

From amanda harris [redacted]
Date Wed 8/19/2026 12:43 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>; Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (241 KB)
Bylaw 2026-25 Support letter.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Please find my letter of support attached

Amanda Harris

[redacted]
Beaver Creek
YT [redacted]

August 19th 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

I owned Discovery Yukon Lodgings for 19 years and appreciated the support I received from the numerous mineral exploration companies that have stayed here during that time. Mineral exploration provides critical support for local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon, and needs to be encouraged.

I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Amanda Harris

Outlook

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment - Bylaw 2026-25

From Chad Niddery [redacted]
Date Wed 8/19/2026 3:02 PM
To Mayor and Council [redacted] publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

2 attachments (147 KB)
Chandler Niddery_OCP Bylaw 2026-25 Support Letter.pdf; Chad Niddery_OCP Bylaw 2026-25 Support Letter.pdf;

You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello,

Please see letters attached.

Thanks,

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing as a local resident to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan Amendment, Bylaw 2026-25, which would establish a municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration activities in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

Mining and mineral exploration have long been an important part of Whitehorse and the Yukon's history and economy. I believe there is value in allowing responsible exploration to continue within the Whitehorse Copper Belt, provided that appropriate environmental, regulatory, and municipal requirements are followed.

I am supportive of the exploration activities being undertaken by Gladiator Metals and believe companies should have a reasonable pathway to evaluate mineral potential in areas where exploration can be conducted responsibly. Exploration is temporary in nature, while the information generated from these programs can help determine whether mineral resources exist that could provide longer-term economic opportunities for Whitehorse and the Yukon.

Mineral exploration also provides direct benefits to our local economy. Exploration programs support local employees, contractors, suppliers, hotels, restaurants, equipment providers, transportation companies, and many other Whitehorse businesses. The investment associated with these programs is particularly meaningful when much of that spending remains within the community.

I believe Bylaw 2026-25 represents a reasonable and balanced approach. It does not simply allow unrestricted exploration; rather, it provides a clear municipal process through which proposed activities can be considered while maintaining appropriate oversight. This allows Council to balance responsible mineral exploration with the interests of residents, land users, and the broader community.

Whitehorse is fortunate to be located within a historically significant mineral district, and I believe we should continue to support responsible efforts to better understand its mineral potential while ensuring exploration is conducted to an appropriate standard.

For these reasons, I respectfully encourage Mayor and Council to support and adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chad Niddery

[redacted], Whitehorse, Yukon Territory

August 10, 2026.

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

As a resident of Whitehorse, I am writing to voice my support for Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 and for the opportunity it would provide to consider temporary mineral exploration within designated areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

The mineral industry has been an important contributor to the Yukon for generations and continues to create employment, business opportunities, and investment throughout our community. I believe responsible mineral exploration can continue to play an important role in Whitehorse's future while coexisting with other land uses and community priorities.

I support the exploration work being carried out by Gladiator Metals within the Whitehorse Copper Belt. In my view, responsible exploration companies should be given an appropriate and clearly defined process to investigate the mineral potential of these areas, provided their activities meet the environmental, regulatory, and municipal standards that are in place.

The benefits of exploration extend well beyond the companies conducting the work. Exploration programs require local workers, contractors, equipment, accommodations, transportation, supplies, and professional services. As a result, a significant amount of exploration spending supports Whitehorse businesses and contributes directly to our local economy.

I also recognize the importance of ensuring that activities occurring within municipal boundaries are properly managed. For that reason, I believe the approach proposed through Bylaw 2026-25 is appropriate. Establishing a process for Council to consider exploration proposals individually provides an opportunity for mineral exploration while still allowing for municipal review and oversight.

The Whitehorse Copper Belt is an important part of our region's history and has known mineral potential. I believe it is reasonable to allow responsible, temporary exploration to continue so that this potential can be better understood, while ensuring the interests of the community and other land users are respected.

I encourage Mayor and Council to approve Bylaw 2026-25 and provide a practical pathway for responsible mineral exploration within the City of Whitehorse.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my comments.

Sincerely,

Chandler Niddery

[redacted], [redacted], Whitehorse, Yukon Territory

August 10, 2026.

Outlook

Rejection of City of Whitehorse Bylaw 2026-25

From Heather Alton [redacted]
Date Wed 8/19/2026 9:48 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council

As a Yukon resident for 44 years, I have had the privilege of living in and raising a family in Pineridge since 1990. Whether berry picking, walking, cross country skiing, or biking, the Mary Lake neighbourhood has been an integral part of that experience in both summer and winter.

I understand the importance of mining to our city and territory. However, I see no place for mining within the city limits of Whitehorse.

I believe the City should not amend the Official Community Plan (OCP) for the interests of a private company especially when citizens have contributed to this plan in good faith.

The completion of the City's Mineral Exploration and Development Framework would assist in guiding any future OCP amendments

I strongly urge Whitehorse City Council to show responsible leadership by rejecting Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you.

Heather Alton

Outlook

Opposition to proposed Bylaw 2026-25

From Jackie Zinger [redacted]
Date Wed 8/19/2026 7:43 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc [redacted]

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] earn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to formally submit my strong opposition to proposed Bylaw 2026-25. As a resident of Raven Ridge, I urge Mayor and Council to protect our community's planning vision and reject this amendment to the Official Community Plan (OCP) Whitehorse 2040.

While Raven Ridge is not one of the three designated areas being immediately down-zoned in this specific amendment, this bylaw sets a dangerous precedent that threatens the long-term stability and security of our neighbourhood. Raven Ridge has a unique, contentious history with subsurface mining claims overlap. Our community relies entirely on the strength of the OCP and municipal land-use authority to guarantee that residential peace and environmental safety take priority over historical mining interests. By passing Bylaw 2026-25, the City signals a willingness to erode its own authority, weakening the exact planning barriers that keep industrial activity out of our backyards.

I am deeply concerned about this proposed bylaw for the following reasons:

- **A Dangerous "Zoning on Demand" Precedent:** Downgrading protected greenspaces to "Future Planning" to accommodate outside corporate exploration sets a pattern of applicant-driven OCP amendments. If the City is willing to strip protections from Mary Lake or Copper Ridge today, there is no longer any certainty that the greenspaces and environmental designations safeguarding Raven Ridge will be respected in the future.
- **Destruction of the McIntyre Creek/Mt. McIntyre Corridor:** Opening up the "Chiefs Trend" area near Copper Ridge impacts the broader multi-use network surrounding Chasan Chua (McIntyre Creek) Territorial Park. As Raven Ridge residents, we heavily utilize the Mt. McIntyre trail networks for recreation, skiing, and mental well-being. Allowing heavy industrial exploration here means trail fragmentation, drill noise, and heavy equipment traffic in the corridors we share.
- **Fragmentation of Key Wildlife Corridors:** The contiguous ecosystems connecting McIntyre Creek, Mount Sima, and the surrounding ridges are vital paths for regional wildlife. Industrializing nearby Future Planning zones will displace wildlife, disrupting these critical corridors and increasing the risk of human-wildlife conflicts on the edges of our residential neighborhood.
- **Erosion of Local Decision-Making Authority:** Proposed policies 15.4.7 and 15.4.8 risk reducing city approval to a rubber-stamp formality once a territorial Quartz Mining Act authorization is issued. A mining claim is not a land-use plan. Council must maintain its

meaningful, independent authority to decide what happens within Whitehorse municipal boundaries, ensuring that resident values and neighborhood integrity always come first.

- **Bypassing the Promised Framework:** Pushing this OCP amendment through while the comprehensive Mineral Exploration and Development Framework remains unfinished is entirely premature. The City should complete the city-wide framework first—incorporating the extensive public feedback already collected—rather than making piecemeal changes that compromise our highest-level planning document.

This is a city-wide land-use decision that alters the landscape for all Whitehorse residents. Future Planning areas should be preserved for critical community needs like housing, schools, and local infrastructure, not long-term industrial projects.

For these reasons, I request that Mayor and Council protect the integrity of our OCP, stand up for municipal authority, and reject proposed Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your time and for protecting the future of our neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

Jackie Zinger [redacted]
Whitehorse Yukon [redacted]

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Outlook

NO to Bylaw 2026-25

From Jennifer Massie [redacted]
Date Wed 8/19/2026 6:25 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

We do not want BYLAW 2026-25 going through. NO mineral exploration or mining within Whitehorse City Limits.
Signed,
Jennifer Massie of Whitehorse, Yukon

Outlook

Fw: Bylaw 2026-25

From Executive Assistant [redacted]
Date Wed 8/19/2026 11:59 AM
To Public Input <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Casey Mojica (She/hers)
Executive Assistant, Corporate Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted]
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Keith Clarke [redacted]
Sent: August 19, 2026 11:46 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Bylaw 2026-25

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

August 19, 2026

Mayor and Council and Whitehorse Residents:
I have been a Yukon resident since 1984 and have lived in the subdivision of Mary Lake since 1992. I witnessed the birth of the Whitehorse Official Community Plan (OCP) and have heard the debates over the years as changes have been sought to the plan. However, the current Bylaw amendment titled Bylaw 2026-25 as proposed by city administration should have all Whitehorse citizens concerned. At the July 7th city council meeting, Council decided to move the process along to a second reading and in so doing brought on the process to have a public hearing on August 24th. To be clear this is what Bylaw 2026-25 is about:

- Bylaw 2026-25 is an application to amend the Whitehorse OCP. The proposed Bylaw would change the OCP to allow mineral exploration in all lands within the city limits of Whitehorse designated as Future Planning.
- Bylaw 2026-25 would also allow mining exploration in three specific areas of currently designated Green Space and Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA) in the Mary Lake subdivision area. These areas are roughly 500 by 500 square metre areas. To get a size comparison, picture 35 professional soccer pitches on one 500 metres by 500 metre area. Gladiator wants to access three of these areas (105 soccer pitches) in designated Green Spaces and ESA lands.
- With the passing of Bylaw 2026-25 any Greenspace or ESA in our city can be seen as open for mineral exploration. Currently, it is of concern to Mary Lake residents. But consider Whitehorse

Copper, Wolf Creek, Copper Ridge and further North to Crest View and MacPherson. What about the proposed Lobird country residential lots?

- How can the city support urban development and propose new subdivisions when potential developments can be undermined by mineral exploration and drilling rigs?
- Some may say this is alarmist but if an OCP land designation can be changed against the will of the residents then any future exploration is a Bylaw amendment away from reality.

By accepting Bylaw 2026-25 City Council and Mayor will create a dangerous precedent. The city is saying the OCP can be disregarded based on the requests of a corporate citizen (Gladiator Minerals) and that a corporate citizen carries more weight and has more influence over our Mayor and Council than all citizens of the city combined. Consider the following points:

- At the July 7th council meeting, where the proposed bylaw 2026-25 received first reading, there were 13 delegates who spoke against the Bylaw. One person spoke in favour of the Bylaw, Marcus Harden, President of Gladiator. The vote to proceed to second reading was passed 4-3 with Mayor Kirk Cameron casting the deciding vote in favour.
- For over two years, the City of Whitehorse has been in the process of developing a draft Mineral Exploration and Development Framework for within Whitehorse. Two surveys have been completed and the overwhelming responses indicate that residents throughout the city want more restrictions on mineral exploration – not less. 62% of respondents said mineral exploration should be banned outright within the city. A further 15% said restrictions needed to be increased. This information is available to the public on the Whitehorse city website through the Engage Whitehorse page and under the link "What we Heard". Gladiator Minerals has dismissed the city's efforts calling the two surveys "…feel good…" endeavours. Gladiator Minerals has said the Framework as it exists now is not good for them and would not be able to work within its framework. Currently, all work on the draft Mineral Exploration and Development Framework is on hold.

The city administration, Mayor and Council all could have exerted their authority and represented the people of Whitehorse so much better on the entirety of this issue:

- The city should have intervened in the YESAB process when Gladiator was asking for a Level 3 permit. The city could have said stay out of all lands designated as Green Space or ESA. They could have mentioned the Mineral Exploration and Development Framework being developed and asked that Gladiator operate according to that strategy when completed. There is no guarantee that YESAB would have acknowledged these points but at least the city could have been making a stand representing its citizens.
- The Mayor and Council should have recognized the concerns and comments of residents who participated in the surveys the city asked them to participate in.
- Our Mayor, Kirk Cameron has repeatedly stated at council meetings, he wants to take the time to fully review the materials, get all the facts and hear from all the stake holders. So why is our mayor not letting the development of the Mineral Exploration Strategy Framework go through to completion? Why is he not recognizing the results of two surveys? Our Mayor, Kirk Cameron wants an operating mine within our city limits. He has said so publicly.
- As a result of the YESAB decision and the Yukon Government granting of the Level 3 permit to Gladiator, Whitehorse residents can expect Gladiator Minerals to be drilling and exploring within Whitehorse city limits for the next five years. The only protection for residents is our Official Community Plan and our Mayor and Council are currently poised to throw that protection away.
- Within the Strategic Priorities document presumed to guide this Mayor and Council's term through 2028 there is no mention of enhancing mineral exploration but there is an abundance of

points made to protect our City's natural environment and enhanced recreation activities.

The Whitehorse OCP is the guiding document for land use and development within the city of Whitehorse. The Bylaw change that the city administration is proposing can extensively alter all future land use and development in our city. This is not just a Mary Lake subdivision issue. Any Future Planning designation could become open for drilling and mineral exploration. Any Green Space or Environmentally Sensitive Area can become irrelevant to future city councils. Leaving residents with no certainty regarding the environment they are surrounded in.

Residents, I encourage you to show up for the public hearing on August 24 at Council Chambers. Speak or send your position to council by email mayorcouncil@whitehorse.ca

Mayor and Council, please reconsider your position on Bylaw 2026-25 and vote against the amendment.

Keith Clarke

Outlook

Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

From Kevin Sokolan [redacted]
Date Wed 8/19/2026 3:48 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (201 KB)
OCP Bylaw 2026-25 Support Letter.pdf;

You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

See attached,

Thankyou.

Kevin Sokolan | Owner
C: [redacted]
Head Office | [redacted] - Williams Lake, [redacted] | [redacted]
Yukon Office [redacted] Whitehorse, YT [redacted]

MUELLER ENTERPRISES LTD.
Exceeding Expectations, Delivering Results

Kevin Sokolan, Mueller Enterprises Ltd
[redacted], *Whitehorse YT*
August 18, 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse
Email: publicinput@whitehorse.ca
CC: [redacted]

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

Mining has been a cornerstone of the Yukon economy for generations, providing high-quality employment, supporting local businesses, contributing to government revenues, and helping build the communities that make the Yukon a great place to live and work. Responsible mineral exploration is essential to identifying the future projects that will sustain these economic benefits for decades to come.

As Mueller Enterprises Ltd., we have proudly supported Yukon mining and exploration projects for many years through our electrical, power generation, and industrial services. The mining industry has played a significant role in our growth as a Yukon-based company, creating opportunities for our employees, Indigenous partners, suppliers, and communities throughout the territory.

Mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kevin Sokolan
Owner / Mueller Enterprises Ltd.

Kevin. S.

Outlook

Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 - Mineral Exploration

From Michelle Dawson-Beattie [redacted]
Date Wed 8/19/2026 10:31 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted] Gladiator Community [redacted]

1 attachment (54 KB)
MDB Letter.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Please see attached letter in support of OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 - Mineral Exploration.

Michelle Dawson-Beattie
Community Relations Manager
Gladiator Metals
[redacted]
gladiatormetals.com

I respectfully acknowledge that I work within the Traditional Territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

August 19, 2026

Attention: publicinput@whitehorse.ca

Re: 2026-25: Official Community Plan (OCP) to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation.

Dear Mayor and Council:

I am writing to express my support for OCP Amendment 2026-25 and to encourage Mayor and Council to continue working collaboratively with Gladiator Metals.

As someone employed in the resource sector, I see firsthand the value that responsible mineral exploration can bring to our community. Projects that create well-paying private-sector jobs, support local contractors and businesses, and generate opportunities for Yukon workers contribute to a stronger and more resilient local economy.

I want to continue building my life and career in Whitehorse while earning a reliable living in an industry that provides meaningful training, professional development, and opportunities for long-term career growth. Maintaining and expanding employment opportunities outside of the public sector is important to creating a balanced and diversified economy where Yukoners have a range of options to build successful careers close to home.

The benefits of mineral exploration also extend beyond those directly employed by the industry. Exploration projects require goods and services from local businesses, contractors, equipment suppliers, tradespeople, accommodations, transportation providers, and many others. This creates economic activity that is felt throughout the broader community.

Copper has been identified by the Government of Canada as one of the country's critical minerals. It is essential for electrical transmission, telecommunications, electronics, plumbing, batteries, renewable energy technologies, and many of the products and infrastructure that support modern life and the transition to a lower-carbon economy.

Whitehorse is in a unique position to benefit from a copper resource located close to existing infrastructure and services. I believe there is an opportunity to responsibly explore this resource using modern environmental standards and practices while ensuring appropriate oversight and consideration of surrounding communities.

Supporting Amendment 2026-25 does not mean choosing between economic development and responsible land use. It provides an opportunity for the City to establish a thoughtful path forward that recognizes both.

I encourage Mayor and Council to support Amendment 2026-25 and recognize responsible mineral exploration and the broader resource sector as important contributors to a strong, diverse, and sustainable economy for Whitehorse and the Yukon.

Sincerely,

M.Dawson-Beattie

Michelle Dawson-Beattie

[redacted]
Whitehorse, YT

Cc: [redacted] and [redacted]

Outlook

Mining in the City of Whitehorse

From Rob & Mary Ann Lewis [redacted]
Date Wed 8/19/2026 3:41 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Members of Whitehorse City Council,

I believe, given a modernization of our minerals legislation, true Government oversight and a realistic royalty regime, that mining could play a positive role in the economy of the Yukon.

I am, however, opposed to any form of mining within the boundaries of the City of Whitehorse.

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Gladiator Metals' request to expand its operations into lands designated under the Official Community Plan (OCP). I request that Council make NO amendments to the OCP based on any of the requests put forward by Gladiator Metals nor the report of recommendations done by the city administration.

Sincerely,

Rob Lewis

[redacted] Whitehorse

[redacted]

Outlook

Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 – Mineral Exploration

From Steve Israel [redacted]
Date Wed 8/19/2026 5:24 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (15 KB)
OCP Bylaw 2026-25 Support Letter.docx;

You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,
Please find attached my letter supporting Bylaw 2026-25, the proposed Official Community Plan Map and Text Amendment for mineral exploration. I would appreciate it being included in the public record ahead of the August 24 Public Hearing.
Thank you for your consideration.

Steve

Steve Israel, PhD, MSc
Senior Geologist and Partner

Archer, Cathro & Associates (1981) Limited
[redacted], Whitehorse, YT [redacted]
[redacted], Vancouver, BC [redacted]
Whitehorse: [redacted] | Vancouver: [redacted]

Steve Israel, Archer, Cathro & Associated (1981) Limited
[redacted]*. Whitehorse, Yukon]*
August 17, 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

I am a member of the Whitehorse community and have lived here for 25 years. I worked 15 years with the Yukon Geological Survey, and the past eight years have worked with Archer, Cathro & Associates (1981) Limited. I am a part owner of AC and know directly the benefits of the mineral exploration industry. We employ many Yukoners, both from Whitehorse and the smaller communities. I have seen firsthand the benefits of exploration on the people of Whitehorse and the Communities of Yukon.

I sincerely believe that mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Steve Israel
Senior Geologist, Partner
Archer, Cathro & Associates (1981) Limited.

Outlook

Fwd: Bylaw 2026-25

From stuart w schmidt [redacted]
Date Wed 8/19/2026 2:23 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Mayor and Council <MayorCouncil@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council:

Re: Bylaw 2026-25: Application to amend text and mapping of the Official Community Plan (OCP) to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation.

I support this amendment and encourage you to pass it.

The Whitehorse Copper Project exploration is authorized under a Class 3 Quartz Mining Land Use Approval issued following a YESAB assessment process. The approval includes 98 enforceable operating conditions regarding environmental protection, operational practices, and reclamation.

This is an application to clarify the City OCP rules for exploration only at this stage. Exploration improves knowledge of the land and the mineral resource potential. That information supports decisions about the future of the community and our economy. This Gladiator exploration project is creating immediate jobs and local investment in the Whitehorse region ($40M spend in the next 18 months).

Copper is increasingly necessary. Our national government is working on Canadian security, resource independence, and broadening our economy so it is less reliant on one buyer. We have the critical minerals needed for growth and our city of over 400sq km has lots of room for mixed development including exploration and mining.

It is my understanding that both Ta'an and KDFN are supportive of the Gladiator exploration work underway in their traditional territories. I encourage the city to facilitate exploration, and potentially future mining, as one component of a strong, diversified economy for Whitehorse and the Yukon.

Congratulations to Council for working with a proponent and for making our OCP more reflective of our landscape and more flexible for our shared economic future.

Sincerely,

Stuart Schmidt. Schmidt Mining Corp

Outlook

Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 - Mineral Exploration

From Chilkoot Geological Engineers Ltd. [redacted]
Date Wed 8/19/2026 1:00 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc [redacted] Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (154 KB)
OCP Bylaw 2026-25 Support Letter - Chilkoot Geological Engineers Ltd - August 19, 2026.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Good day,

Please find attached my letter in support of OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 – Mineral Exploration.

Have a great day,
Tares

Chilkoot Geological Engineers Ltd.
Tares Dhara, P.Eng. – Sr.Geotechnical Engineer
[redacted]

Chilkoot Geological Engineers Ltd.
[redacted]
Whitehorse, Yukon – Y1A 5Z4

August 19th, 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse
Email: publicinput@whitehorse.ca
CC: [redacted]

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

As a geological engineering company which has provided professional consulting services to the mining and construction industry in the territory for more than twenty-five years, we understand the importance of establishing a clear framework upon which these industries can responsibly plan for future development which will provide our workforce and youth with good job opportunities.

I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage the City of Whitehorse Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tares Dhara, P.Eng. – Principal/Sr.Geotechnical Engineer

Outlook

Proposed Bylaw 2026-25 and amendment to the Whitehorse 2040 Official Community Plan to permit mineral exploration in Future Planning areas

From Adil Darvesh [redacted]
Date Thu 8/20/2026 11:40 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

1 attachment (125 KB)
CPAWS Yukon Comments to Gladiator Metals OCP Amendments.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Dear City of Whitehorse,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed Bylaw 2026-25 and amendments to the Whitehorse 2040 Official Community Plan to permit mineral exploration in Future Planning areas.

Attached are CPAWS Yukon's comments on the proposed amendments.

Thank you,
Adil Darvesh (he/him)
Communications Manager, CPAWS Yukon
Traditional territory of the Kwanlin Dün and the Ta'an Kwäch'än
[redacted] in Whitehorse.
P: [redacted]

CPAWS
CANADIAN PARKS AND WILDERNESS SOCIETY
YUKON CHAPTER

To: Mayor and Council, City of Whitehorse
Re: Proposed Bylaw 2026-25 and amendment to the Whitehorse 2040 Official Community Plan to permit mineral exploration in Future Planning areas
From: CPAWS Yukon
Date: August 19, 2026

The Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - Yukon Chapter (CPAWS Yukon) advocates for Yukon's wild spaces, wildlife and their habitats while actively supporting Indigenous-led stewardship. As a conservation organization, we carry a responsibility to ground our actions within a commitment to reconciliation and recognize that the lands and waters we advocate for are also the Traditional Territories of Yukon First Nations, the Inuvialuit, and transboundary First Nations in British Columbia, the Northwest Territories, and Alaska.

We fully acknowledge that the City of Whitehorse and surrounding area has been stewarded by Ta'an Kwäch'än Council and Kwanlin Dün First Nation, long before the arrival of settlers to the area, and that it continues to be of deep importance.

CPAWS Yukon appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed amendment to the Whitehorse 2040 Official Community Plan (OCP). Whitehorse is nationally recognized as a "wilderness city," where residents' quality of life, community identity, biodiversity, and climate resilience are closely tied to intact greenspaces, wetlands, forests, trails, and wildlife corridors within and around city limits.

For many residents, access to nature is the reason we live here. Just three years ago, we celebrated the release of the city's adoption of the Official Community Plan 2024 (OCP 2040), which is structured and intended to ensure that the priorities of residents and local First Nations are consistently reflected in city planning, for the short- and long-term future.

Careful planning is key to balance the needs of people, the health of the land, and the health of the economy. It has been encouraging to see how the city has faced balancing this with all of the work and engagement with residents on the Mineral Exploration and Development Framework, with the intent of ensuring "*exploration and development progress in a manner consistent with local planning objectives and community values*." from page 1 of the 2025 City of Whitehorse Engage Whitehorse What We Heard Report. The expressed intent of the OCP 2040 and Mineral Exploration and Development Framework should be at the forefront of all proposed changes to the OCP 2040.

CPAWS Yukon has no issue with amendments being made to the OCP and recognizes that the OCP should be able to adapt as the needs of Whitehorse residents change. It is

important to note very specifically though, **that amendments should be serving the public interest, residents, local businesses, and long-term community needs.** In this instance, the amendment being proposed is not only falling short on all of the aforementioned, but it is in direct conflict with the well-being of local residents.

Even more concerning to us was hearing at the July 7, 2026, City Council meeting that this proposed amendment postponed progress on the draft Mineral Exploration and Development Framework. The city had set the summer or fall of 2026 to release the draft, however, city staff told Council in the July 7 meeting that that work on completing the draft was set aside to work closely with the proponent on addressing their proposal. We commend city staff on their diligent work, but we are curious about the reason it would be prioritized over the draft Mineral Exploration and Development Framework. This draft Framework will would be a positive step to address the numerous concerns expressed by residents on current and future exploration activities and their impacts on wellness, the environment, and provide clear direction on mineral exploration in Whitehorse. *"The draft framework is intended to provide clear guidance to claims holders and the public while reflecting community values and goals."* https://www.whitehorse.ca/mineral-exploration-and-development-engagement/

CPAWS Yukon urges City Council to:

- Reject proposed Bylaw 2026-25.
- Complete the Mineral Exploration and Development Framework before any amendments to the OCP or other policies are made in relation to mineral exploration and development activities or permitting.
- Retain Future Planning areas for community needs and long-term public priorities such as residences, schools, community facilities, transportation, parks, and civic infrastructure, not for mineral exploration and development which would comprise the city's ability to meet these high-priority public needs.
- Take special care to collaborate and engage with Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council and Whitehorse residents if, and when, the city is defining a "disturbed area".

Human activity has been prevalent on these lands since time immemorial, and silviculture practices such as fire smarting, or other human activities, have not denigrated that land to being automatically open for higher-impact longer-lasting transformation such as mining and exploration. CPAWS Yukon opposes the notion that all areas that have ever been disturbed should automatically be treated as suitable for mineral tenure.

We encourage the City to continue to work proactively with First Nations and residents and ground all decisions in meaningful collaboration with Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an

Kwäch'än Council, as well as the experiences, concerns, and priorities of Whitehorse residents.

CPAWS Yukon urges Mayor and Council to put people, planning, and the protection of Whitehorse's natural spaces first. **The City should reject proposed Bylaw 2026-25 and should not amend the OCP in a way that enables mineral exploration before completing the broader policy framework and public engagement needed to guide these decisions responsibly.** Whitehorse residents will live with the long-term outcomes of these choices; their needs, voices, and future must come first.

Joti Røsholt
Acting Executive Director, CPAWS Yukon

Outlook

Fw: Final comment to the OCP changes and comment to second survey results

From Executive Assistant [redacted]
Date Thu 8/20/2026 2:17 PM
To Public Input <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

2 attachments (2 MB)
To mayor and council.docx; Survey results.pdf;

From: Angela Sabo [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2026 2:14 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Re: Final comment to the OCP changes and comment to second survey results

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

To MaYOR AND cOUNCIL:

Please find attached my final comment to the proposed OCP changes.

I am also attaching the second survey results. The presentation of the results is very confusing, and whoever wrote up these survey results has obviously no idea how to present percentages.
The bar charts are not showing percentages as effectively as pie charts. The pie charts used to show results of the answers 11,12 and 16 are much clearer, but adding to the confusion because numbers are presented as percentages. And therefore the percentages add to 167- which is impossible.

Yours truly,

Angela Sabo
long-term Copper Ridge resident
[redacted]

August 20th, 2026

To Mayor and Council:

The results of the second survey concerning the OCP amendment to allow mining activities within city limits should reveal a clear message from the public. Is a third survey necessary?

My concerns are not targeting ecological sensitive section, but the land close to residential areas. I am concerned and always have been that indoor radon gas will increase adjacent to drilling activities. I have tried to explain this to mayor and council repeatedly, backed it up with recent research published by the Calgary University. On request I also forwarded Marcus Harden Dr Goodarzi's latest research paper about drilling close to private properties. Dr Goodarzi is the leading radon gas researcher in Canada, and I don't believe his knowledge should be dismissed -unless we have evidence that his research does not apply to the Yukon. The findings of testing 40,000 private properties show clearly that a buffer of 600 m from a residential building is adequate. In the second survey the majority participants did not agree with a 200 m from a wetland or 500 m buffer from a dwelling are sufficient. Will these results be considered?

Another concern is the impact on our groundwater and drinking water supplies. Yukon University in collaboration with Carleton University have taken well water and groundwater samples in the Copperbelt within and outside of city limits. The majority of families on residential properties rely on well water to avoid the costs of water delivery. The results of this study have not been published, but it would enable us to see the type and amount of naturally occurring contaminants. We would have the baseline data, but only years down the road we could evaluate if the drilling activities increased toxins. I was grateful to hear that this project will include the area around the ancient copper tailings, the relict of the Whitehorse Coppermine which existed until 1982. It took over 40 years to pay attention to what could contaminate our drinking water.

Besides affecting the water quality, the available water quantity close to private properties can be impacted as well. Private water wells are fed by groundwater aquifers. The proposed activities are creating hundreds of drill holes reaching accumulated ten thousand of metres into the ground. And since aquifer mapping around Whitehorse has not been completed- or the results are unknown- any exploration company cannot be expected to know where these aquifers are located and how much water they hold.

Over the course of an exploration program great risk could be posed on altering the quality and quantity of available well water, and a heightened potential to increase indoor radon gas on residential properties. A decision about a potential OCP change should not be discussed before the results of ongoing groundwater studies are published. In addition, I am asking mayor and council to vote for a 600 m buffer zone around private properties to minimize potential impact of any exploration drilling activities. Some impacts are not reversible, and short-term gain should not override long-term values for generations of local Yukoners and future citizens outside of downtown Whitehorse.

Angela Sabo

[redacted]

[redacted]

Lived at Copper Ridge for 24 years

Mineral Exploration and Development Framework

What We Heard Report

City of Whitehorse

June 2026

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1. Introduction

In early 2025, the City of Whitehorse began work on a project that would consider potential updates to the Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw to clarify how mineral exploration and development are regulated within the municipal boundary. In summer 2025, the first round of engagement was undertaken. This included conversations with representatives from Kwanlin Dün First Nation (KDFN) and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council (TKC), discussions with industry and environmental representatives, and a public survey. The focus of this early engagement was to gather general community insights and feelings on mining and its perceived impacts within the City.

Using this feedback and industry best practices, City staff created a draft Mineral Exploration and Development Framework to guide mining activity within the municipal boundary. A second round of engagement was completed in January and February 2026 to share the draft Framework and gather feedback before moving forward with updates to City bylaws. Specific engagement sessions included meetings with representatives from KDFN and TKC, discussions with industry and environmental representatives, a public survey, and two public open houses.

This What We Heard Report provides a summary of the feedback gathered through the second round of engagement.

GUIDING LEGISLATION

To provide context for how mineral exploration and development is regulated in Whitehorse, it is important to understand the legislative framework that applies at both the territorial and municipal levels. The Yukon *Quartz Mining Act* governs mineral exploration and development in the Yukon Territory and provides a framework for staking claims, permitting and regulations. The *Municipal Act* governs land use and surface activities associated with mineral exploration and development. The *Quartz Mining Act* and the *Municipal Act* both apply within the Whitehorse municipal boundaries and neither piece of legislation takes precedence.

Municipalities in the Yukon cannot restrict where mineral staking occurs but they can influence where and how mineral exploration and development happen through their planning and bylaw processes. The *Whitehorse 2040 Official Community Plan* provides land use and development guidance and indicates where and under which conditions mineral exploration and development are permitted. The Zoning Bylaw provides further regulations on land development and land uses within the municipal limits. Through the Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw, the City of Whitehorse can guide land use, set conditions for activities and help ensure that mineral exploration and development progress in a manner consistent with local planning objectives and community values.

BACKGROUND

In 2012, an Order-in-Council (OIC) was put in place by the Government of Yukon that prohibits mineral staking in most of the City of Whitehorse. New mineral claims are allowed in limited areas outside of the OIC, mainly in the Copper Belt, along the western boundary of the municipality. Existing claims, whether within the OIC or not, are grandfathered and do not expire if they are kept

in good standing. Since it was created, the timelines and details of this OIC have been revised several times.

In 2023, a resident submitted Official Community Plan (OCP) and Zoning Bylaw (ZBL) amendment applications to prohibit mineral exploration and mining within the municipal boundary. The proposal went through Council and a public hearing, revealing strong and mixed community views. The City launched a review of local mining regulations and best practices from other jurisdictions. The draft Mineral Exploration and Development Framework was developed as a result, to add further structure to how the municipal planning processes may work to guide varying levels of mining activities within the municipal boundary.

On June 19, 2025, the Government of Yukon announced the establishment of the Chasàn Chùa (McIntyre Creek) Territorial Park, and all mineral staking is now prohibited within the park boundary.

PROJECT ENGAGEMENT TIMELINE

June – July 2025

- Online survey
- Meetings with KDFN and TKC representatives
- Meetings with stakeholders

January – March 2026

- Online survey
- Meetings with KDFN and TKC representatives
- Meetings with stakeholders
- Host Open Houses:

February 23, 2026
4:00-7:30pm
Shipyards Park - Frank Slim Building

February 26, 2026
4:00-7:30pm
Canada Games Centre Green Room

March – June 2026

- Provide public updates on Engagement Round 2
- Release What We Heard Report
- Identify next steps

2. Round 2 engagement process

The second round of engagement was carried out to provide an opportunity for open dialogue and help the City better understand diverse perspectives on this issue, and to gather detailed feedback on the draft Mineral Exploration and Development Framework. The City also took this opportunity to assess how well participants understood the purpose and application of the Framework and to identify any remaining concerns.

MEETINGS WITH KWANLIN DÜN FIRST NATION AND TA'AN KWÄCH'ÄN COUNCIL

During this round of engagement, two meetings were held, one with KDFN and one with TKC to gather information on the draft Framework and to identify any major concerns.

INTERESTED AND IMPACTED PARTIES MEETINGS

Two separate meetings were held with the mining industry and environmental organizations to gather further feedback on the draft Framework. A total of 12 industry professionals were in attendance at the two separate meetings.

- **February 9th, 2026** – 2:00pm – 3:00pm
  - Virtual and in-person
- **February 13th, 2026** – 2:00pm – 3:00pm
  - Virtual and in-person

OPEN HOUSES

Two community open houses were held to gather feedback and information on the draft Framework. The open houses hosted over 50 participants over the two sessions.

- **February 23rd, 2026** – 4:00pm – 7:30pm
  - *Shipyards Park – Frank Slim Building*
- **February 26th, 2026** – 4:00pm – 7:30pm
  - *Canada Games Centre – Green Room*

The open houses allowed residents to ask questions about how the Framework would be applied and to provide comments. The open house display boards were designed to provide project background information, explain why the project is happening, summarize key themes from round #1 engagement, and set out the draft Mineral Exploration and Development Framework. Three draft maps were produced to inform community members of the types of operations allowed in specific zones within the City. The display boards can be found in Appendix B of this document.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

As part of this engagement process, several written comments were sent to City staff directly via email. These were from mining related businesses and groups, as well as from interested residents.

PUBLIC SURVEY

The online survey, which ran from February 9 to March 9, 2026 and received 167 responses, collected input on participants' understanding of the Framework and thoughts about the Framework in general.

It included 16 questions related to mining and exploration, and was design to gather feedback on residents' general knowledge, buffer distance preferences, tier applications, public engagement expectations, areas of the draft Framework needing clarification, and perspectives on how mining and exploration should be managed within the municipal boundary. The survey was also available in paper form if requested. The survey questions can be found in Appendix A of this document.

3. Key themes and insights

This section of the report summarizes key themes gathered through input received from all sources, including during meetings with interested and impacted parties, the public open house sessions, the survey, and written submissions.

DIVERGENT VIEWS ON MINERAL EXPLORATION

Engagement revealed a clear divide in perspectives:

- Many residents favour prohibiting mineral exploration and development within municipal boundaries
- Others accept exploration only if subject to strong limits, large buffers, and close oversight
- Industry participants generally view exploration as temporary and low-impact, and expressed concern that the draft Framework would effectively prevent it

This tension reflects differing values related to land use, risk tolerance, and the role of the City in regulating mineral activities.

> "Residents of Whitehorse should be able to live, work and play within the municipal boundaries without fear of exploration being undertaken in recreational areas and in their backyard."
>
> *– Survey respondent*

WATER PROTECTION AS A PRIMARY CONCERN

Protection of groundwater, wetlands, surface water, and drinking water emerged as the most consistent concern, particularly among residents and survey respondents. Many expressed low confidence in monitoring, compliance, and remediation based on past experience and emphasized that water protection should take precedence over exploration and development within the municipal boundary.

Priority areas

Participants emphasized the need to protect:

- Wetlands and watercourses
- Aquifers and groundwater recharge areas
- Private wells and drinking water sources

Many requested clearer definitions and guidance related to well capping, aquifer encounters, water withdrawals, and remediation expectations.

COMPLEXITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF THE FRAMEWORK

Many participants found the Framework, tier structure, and supporting materials difficult to understand. While some appreciated the intent to add structure, others felt the number of tiers, technical language, and mapping limited meaningful participation.

Participants consistently called for:

- Simpler language and fewer technical terms
- Clearer visuals and more intuitive and informative maps
- Plain-language explanations of how decisions are made and how the Framework would be applied in practice

Need for clearer justification

Participants asked for clearer explanation of the evidence, sources, and reasoning behind specific requirements, including drilling practices, backfilling expectations, and radon-related provisions.

Value of technical expertise

Some participants encouraged the City to involve a broader range of industry and technical professionals to help refine standards and implementation details, particularly where requirements differ from current practice.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK

Many participants shared comments about how the Framework would be implemented.

Operational expectations

Suggestions for operations included:

- Limits on overnight work near residential areas
- Clear setback standards near sensitive features
- Seasonal noise considerations
- Consistent site restoration practices, such as drillhole capping and replanting

Cumulative effects

Some participants raised concerns about cumulative and long-term impacts, particularly if higher-tier activities are permitted over time, and asked how these effects would be tracked and addressed. It was noted that this is particularly important in the absence of a clear policy tool for cumulative effects assessment.

Integration with planning tools

Participants requested clearer explanation of how the Framework works alongside the Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw, and when KDFN and TKC review is required.

Perceived versus actual impacts

Some felt the draft Framework and engagement materials did not accurately reflect current industry practices. Examples included:

- Use of images that did not reflect typical equipment

- Restricting activity to winter months rather than allowing work during snow-covered conditions

Alignment of tiers with real-world practice

Across engagement streams, participants questioned whether the tier system reflects how exploration and development occur in practice. Common concerns included:

- Limited distinction between lower tiers
- Unclear progression between tiers
- Perception that allowing low-tier activity signals future approval of mining
- Misalignment with existing Yukon exploration classes

Many suggested fewer tiers or closer alignment with territorial systems.

Modern exploration and reclamation practices

Participants noted that exploration methods and reclamation practices have evolved, with temporary access and pads often restored quickly. They suggested these practices be more clearly reflected in lower-impact tiers.

Buffers and mitigation

Views on buffers varied. Some noted proposed setbacks, such as the 200-metre watercourse buffer, were more restrictive than current Yukon practice. Others supported larger buffers near homes due to concerns about noise and water quality. Several participants suggested focusing on site-specific mitigation rather than uniform exclusions.

> "…A realistic criterion would be to set the physical conditions when certain types of work is allowed or not, instead of setting dates. The type of ground cover could also be considered, whether it's vegetated or not, etc."
>
> *– Email submission*

Sequencing and feasibility

Participants identified a procedural challenge where drilling or subsurface work may be needed to inform rezoning decisions, yet the Framework limits that work before rezoning occurs.

Tier thresholds and progression

Some viewed Tier four and Tier five triggers as occurring earlier than warranted by on-the-ground impacts. Others felt the differences between Tier one through Tier four were minimal and could be better aligned with territorial exploration classes.

PRESCRIPTIVE VERSUS FLEXIBLE APPROACHES

Residents generally supported clear, prescriptive limits, including defined buffers, duration limits, and approved methods. In contrast, industry and technical respondents advocated for outcome-based standards that consider site conditions, existing disturbance, seasonality, and

current practices. This highlights a core tension between certainty and flexibility in the Framework's design.

PERCEIVED DUPLICATION OF EXISTING REGULATION

Industry representatives, technical professionals, and some survey respondents felt the Framework duplicates or exceeds existing territorial regulation without clear added value. Others felt municipal controls are necessary due to perceived gaps in territorial oversight.

Overlap with territorial systems

Some participants felt the Framework addresses issues already managed through federal or territorial processes, which may create confusion or redundancy.

Need for clearer purpose

Participants asked for a clearer explanation of the role and value of municipal involvement, and how the Framework differs from or complements existing regulatory systems.

Alignment with broader policy direction

Participants asked that the Framework align with territorial and federal legislation, including critical minerals policy, and remain adaptable to future regulatory changes.

LEGAL UNCERTAINTY AND MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Some participants raised concerns about the legal relationship between Yukon's mineral rights regime and municipal land use controls. From this perspective, limits that significantly constrain the use of existing claims raise questions about jurisdiction, potential legal conflict, and compensation risk.

These participants emphasized that environmental regulation and impact assessment should remain evidence-based and aligned with established territorial processes, rather than driven primarily by public opposition to mining.

Managing overlapping jurisdictions

Participants noted that municipal, territorial, and First Nation authorities intersect within the municipal boundary and asked for clearer process flows, roles, and decision-making parameters.

TRUST, ENFORCEMENT, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Many participants expressed skepticism about whether rules would be followed or enforced. Confidence in the Framework was closely tied to confidence in enforcement and long-term accountability.

Common requests included:

- Clear inspection authority and enforcement roles

- Meaningful penalties and financial securities
- Public reporting on compliance and outcomes

FIRST NATIONS RIGHTS, KNOWLEDGE, AND PARTICIPATION

During engagement meetings, Kwanlin Dün First Nation (KDFN) and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council (TKC) representatives emphasized jurisdiction over Settlement Lands, the importance of heritage protection, and the need for early and meaningful involvement in application review.

Recognition of jurisdiction and governance

During meetings with KDFN and TKC, representatives raised questions about how the Framework applies to Category A and Category B Settlement Lands, and emphasized their authority over land use and subsurface rights under self-government agreements.

Protection of heritage resources

Stewardship of cultural and heritage values was identified as a priority, with emphasis on using First Nations knowledge to identify heritage assets, particularly in undeveloped areas.

Early and meaningful involvement

Some representatives from KDFN and TKC expressed interest in being involved in reviewing mineral exploration applications, including low-tier activities, to support informed decision-making and oversight.

Accurate and complete mapping

Participants asked for mapping that clearly shows Settlement Lands and areas such as Chasàn Chùa (McIntyre Creek), noting that incomplete or inaccurate mapping could lead to misunderstanding or unintended impacts.

ENGAGEMENT PROCESS AND DESIGN

Engagement breadth and influence

Some participants questioned whether survey results were sufficiently representative to inform the draft Framework. Others noted that written submissions were not clearly reflected and suggested revisiting the input dataset.

Opportunities for continued dialogue

Participants asked for additional opportunities to engage, particularly those directly affected, and for clearer pathways to influence revisions before the Framework advances.

Use of qualitative input

Several participants suggested pairing survey results with qualitative submissions to better reflect technical knowledge and lived experience.

MAPPING AND SPATIAL CERTAINTY

Participants asked for clearer, more accurate maps showing where activities may or may not occur. There is a strong desire for spatial certainty to support transparency, informed participation, and realistic expectations for both residents and proponents.

Access to spatial information

Requests included:

- City-wide tier maps
- Inclusion of Settlement Lands, parks, buffers, and underlying zones
- Integration with the City's GIS
- A plain-language guide explaining where activities may occur and how decisions are made

4. Industry-specific feedback

The concerns raised by mining industry representatives are reflected throughout **Section 3 Key themes and insights**; this section does not repeat those themes. Instead, it highlights which themes were of particular importance from an industry perspective and how they were framed by industry respondents.

Overall, industry representatives emphasized the need for a framework that supports clear, impact-based management of mineral exploration, aligns with established regulatory systems, and reflects how exploration is carried out in practice.

KEY THEMES OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO MINING INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES

Alignment of tiers with real-world practice

Industry respondents consistently raised concerns that the tier structure does not reflect how exploration progresses on the ground, particularly at early stages. They emphasized the need for thresholds based on physical disturbance and risk, rather than time-based triggers.

Prescriptive versus flexible approaches

Respondents advocated for outcome-based standards that allow mitigation to respond to site conditions, existing disturbance, and modern exploration methods, rather than fixed limits and uniform exclusions.

> "We hope the City will refine and modify the draft policy to avoid unnecessarily discouraging mineral exploration and mining. It would be beneficial to have industry expertise in technical working groups as the proposed policy is refined."
>
> – *Yukon Prospectors Association*

Perceived duplication of existing regulation

Industry representatives questioned the added value of municipal controls where similar matters are addressed through territorial processes, and asked for clearer articulation of how the Framework complements Yukon regulation.

Legal uncertainty and recognition of mineral rights

Participants expressed concern about how the Framework interacts with existing mineral tenure and privately held surface and subsurface rights, particularly where land use controls could limit access without clear pathways or compensation considerations.

Setbacks, buffers, and access constraints

Industry respondents viewed proposed buffers, especially near watercourses, as potentially limiting access to mineral-prospective lands regardless of site-specific conditions or mitigation measures.

Clarity, certainty, and discretion

Respondents highlighted the need for clearer definitions, predictable decision pathways, and reduced reliance on discretionary approvals to support planning, sequencing of work, and investment decisions.

Technical foundation and engagement timing

Industry participants emphasized the importance of early involvement by industry, territorial regulators, and technical professionals to support evidence-based standards and practical implementation.

5. Online survey results

The issues raised through the online survey are reflected throughout **Section 3 Key themes and insights**; this section does not repeat those findings. Instead, it identifies the themes that survey respondents emphasized most strongly, based on the overall distribution of responses.

Survey input reflects a broad cross-section of public perspectives and highlights priorities related to clarity, protection, and transparency.

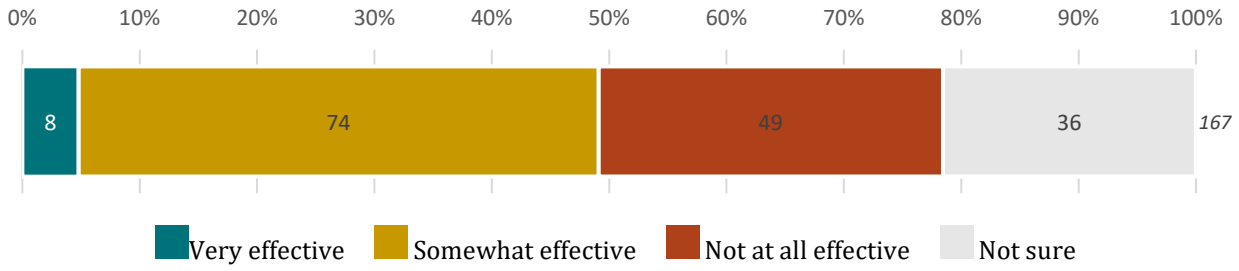
TOP ISSUES

Survey respondents placed particular emphasis on the following themes, as described in **Section 3 Key themes and insight**:

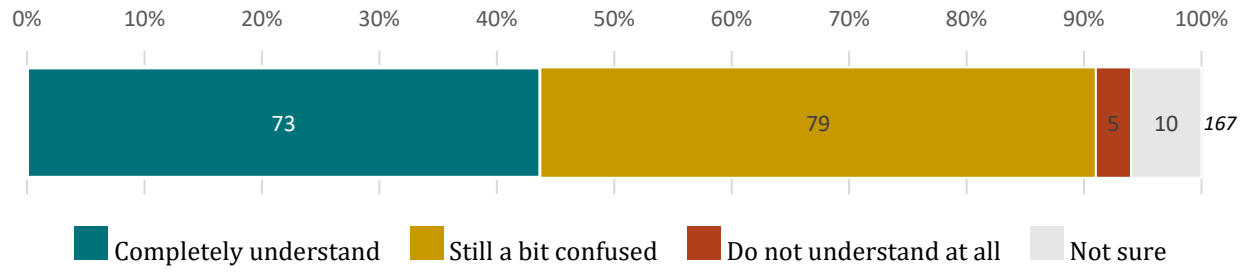
- Clarity of roles and decision-making
- Support for municipal involvement, with emphasis on precaution
- Need for clearer rules, definitions, and thresholds
- Understanding and usability of the tiered framework
- Support for public notice and engagement
- Environmental protection and buffers
- Mapping and accessibility of information

SURVEY RESPONSES BY QUESTION

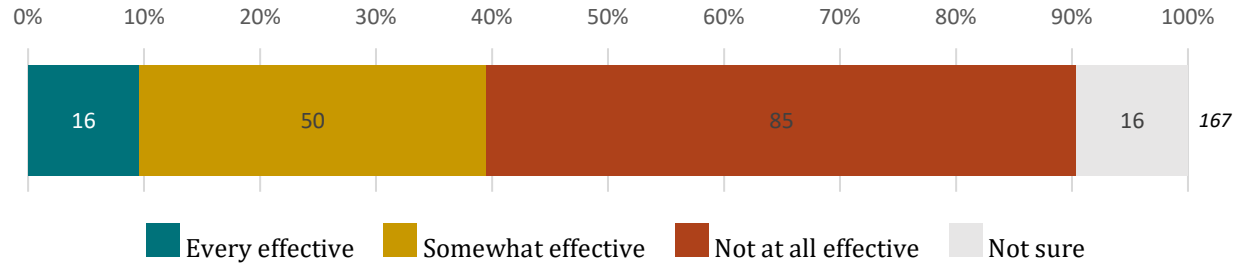
Q1. So far, how effective do you think this engagement process has been in gathering the feedback needed to inform Council about a decision on this topic?



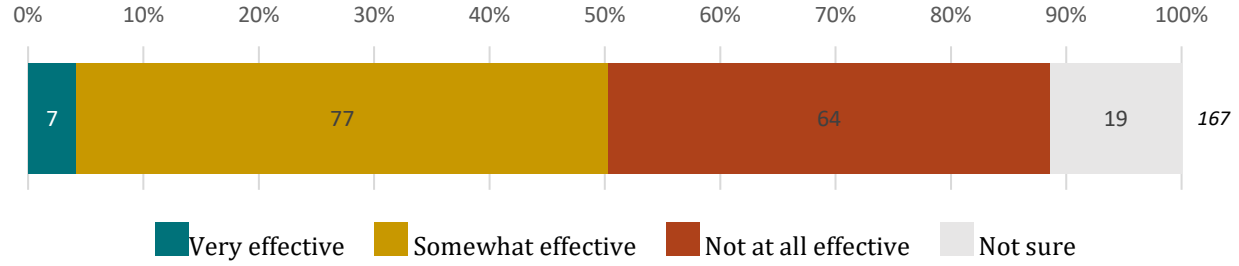
Q2. How well do you understand the role and authority of the City of Whitehorse in regulating mineral exploration and mining in the city?



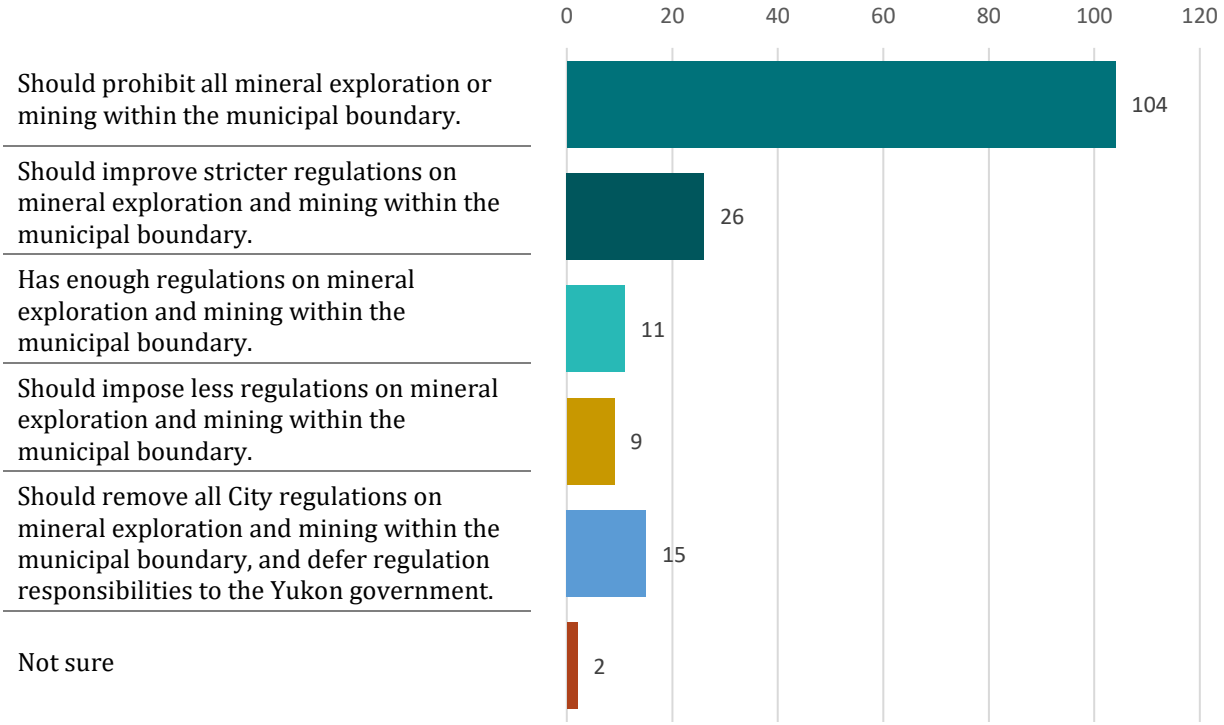
Q3. How would you describe the Government of Yukon's mining legislation when it comes to regulating mineral exploration within municipal boundaries?



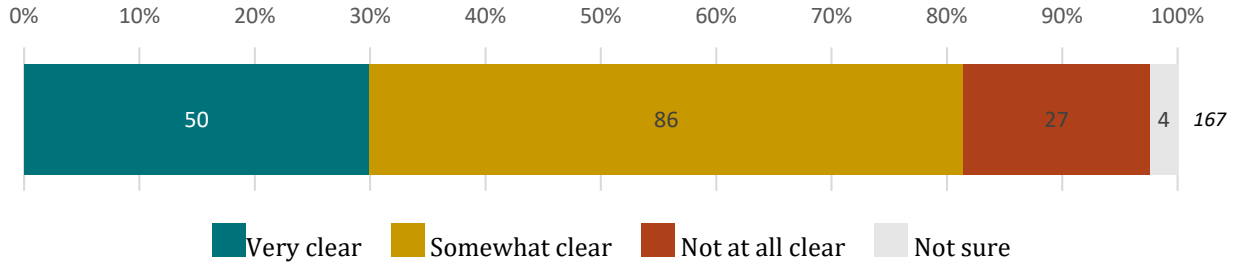
Q4 How would you describe the City of Whitehorse's Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw when it comes to regulating mineral exploration within municipal boundaries?



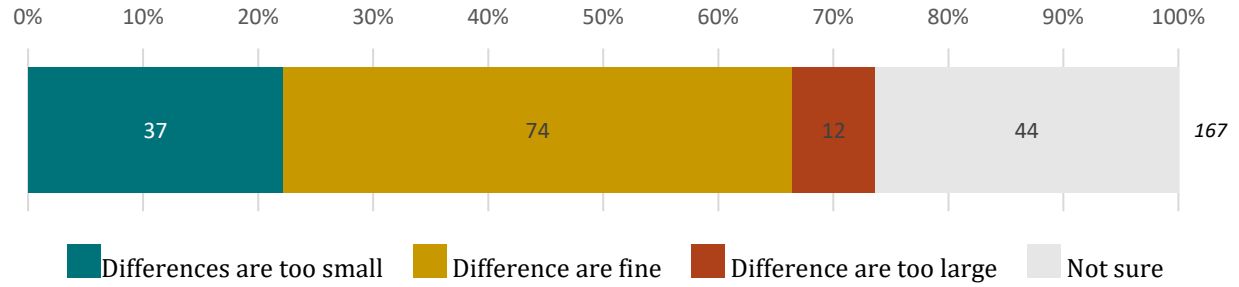
Q5. Which of the following statements do you most agree with? I think the City…



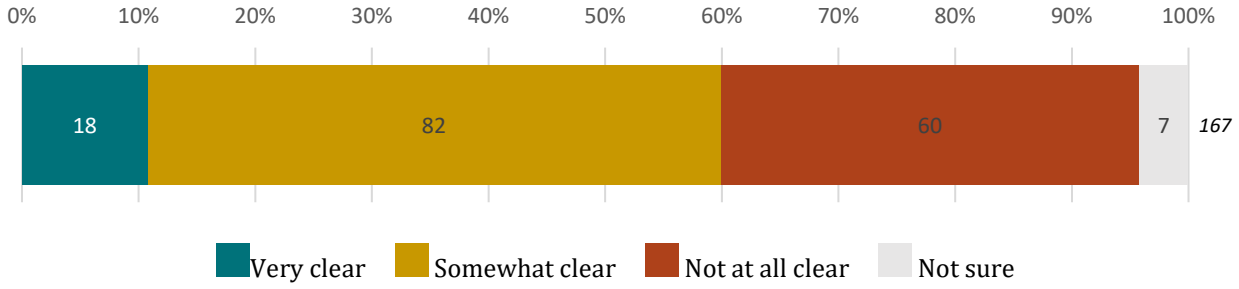
Q6. How clear do you think the tiered Framework (Tier 1–5) is in explaining the increasing levels of impact and required oversight necessary for different types of mineral exploration and mining activities in municipal limits?



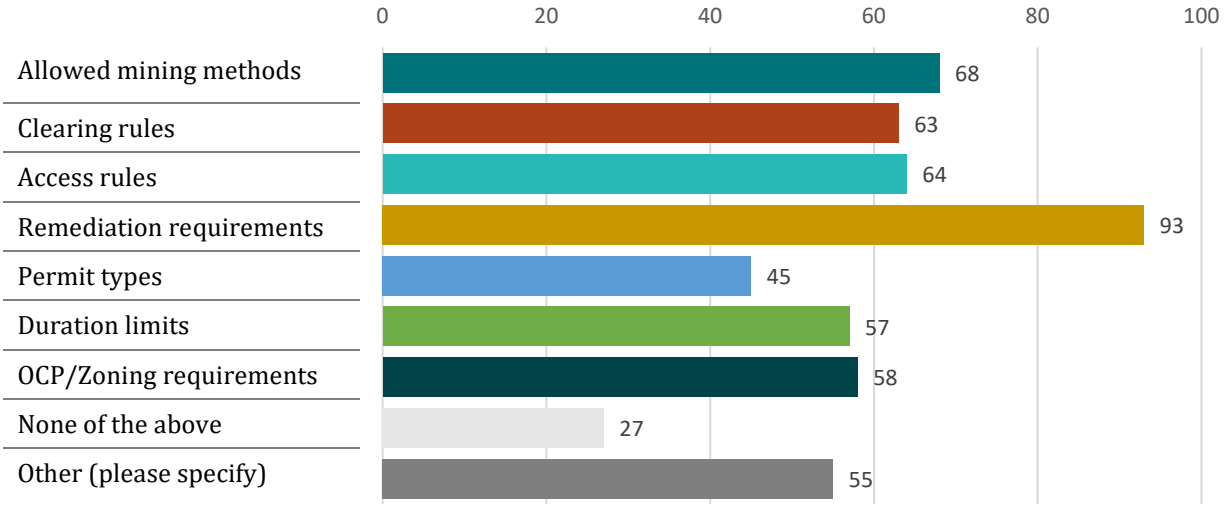
Q7. Do you think the differences between each of the Tiers are meaningful enough?



Q8. How clear do you think the Framework is in explaining how impacts from mineral exploration and mining would be managed and mitigated within municipal limits?



Q9. Are there any parts of the Framework that you think need more clarification? Please check all that apply.

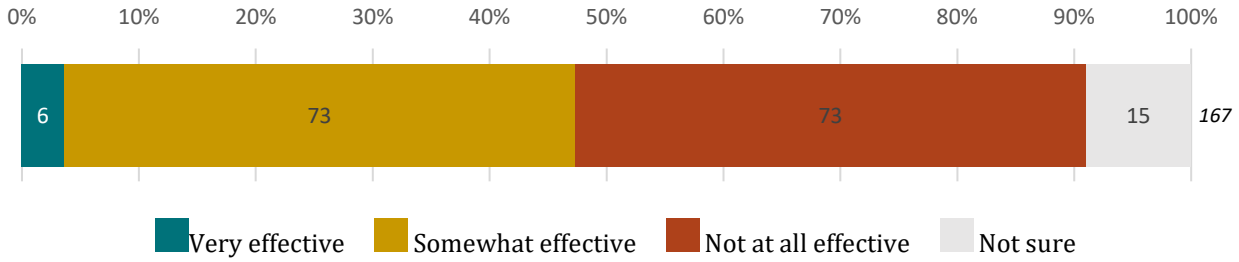


Key themes mentioned in "Other" comments

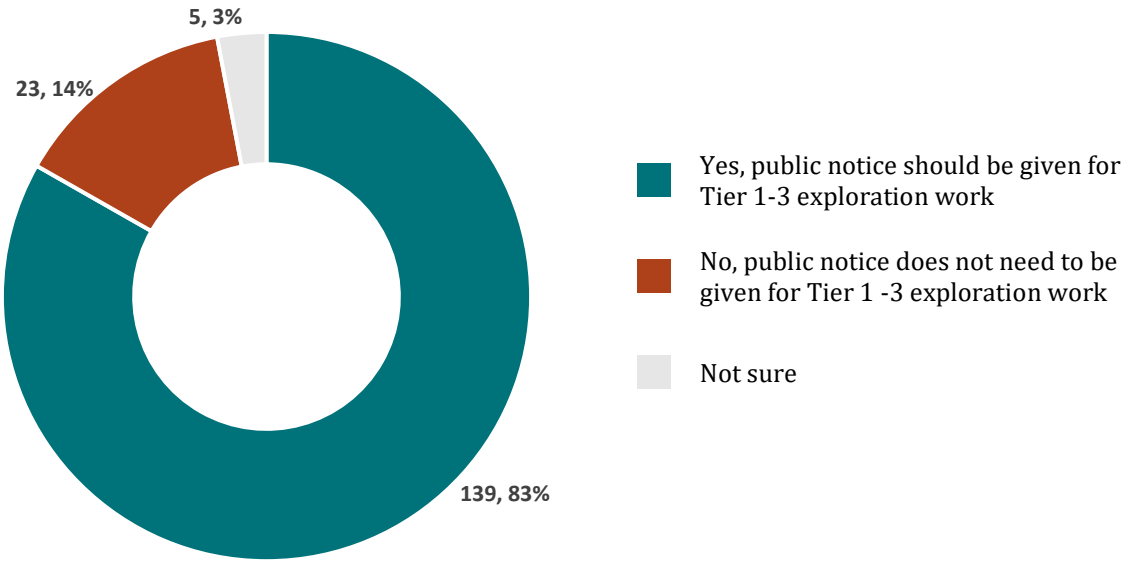
Full comments are included in Appendix B.

- **Environmental protection and climate considerations**
  Strong focus on protecting groundwater and drinking water, clear setbacks near homes and sensitive areas, and better controls on noise and pollution. Some respondents noted the absence of explicit climate and greenhouse gas considerations.
- **Monitoring, enforcement, and accountability**
  Low confidence in compliance and cleanup, with calls for stronger inspection authority, meaningful penalties, financial securities, and transparent public reporting.
- **Remediation, reclamation, and community risk**
  Concerns about unclear remediation standards, particularly for access routes and trails, and uncertainty about how environmental damage or property impacts would be addressed.
- **Opposition to mineral exploration within the city**
  Some respondents opposed any exploration or mining within municipal boundaries, citing community values, land-use compatibility, and skepticism about oversight.
- **Tiered framework clarity and decision-making**
  Feedback highlighted confusion about the number of tiers, how activities move between tiers, and whether lower-tier approvals signal support for future mine development.
- **Jurisdiction, alignment, and land-use certainty**
  Comments raised concerns about overlap with Yukon regulation, municipal authority, and the need for clearer land-use direction, outcome-based standards, and coordination with Yukon First Nations.

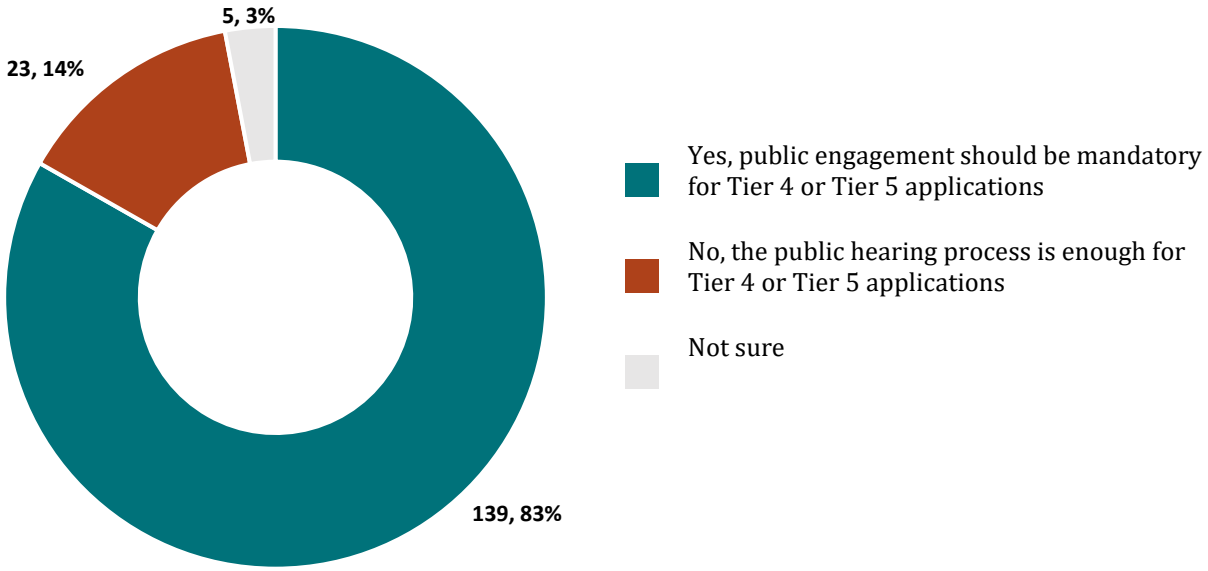
Q10. How effective do you think this Framework will be as a tool to help the City balance the community's vision, values, and priorities as they related to mineral exploration and mining in Whitehorse?



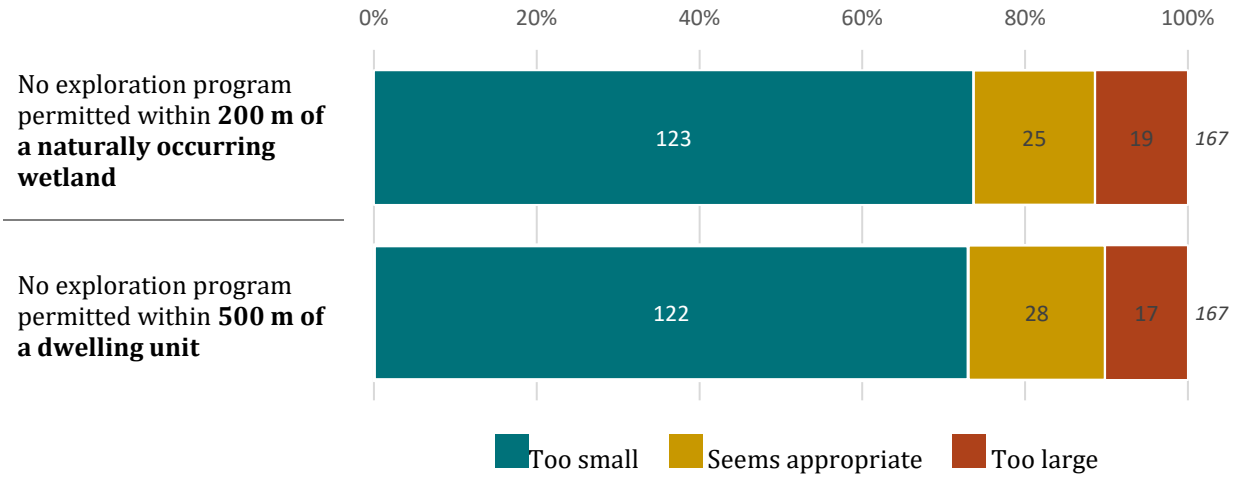
Q11. Do you think public notice of exploration work should be required for low intensity exploration applications (Tier 1, 2 or 3 activities)?



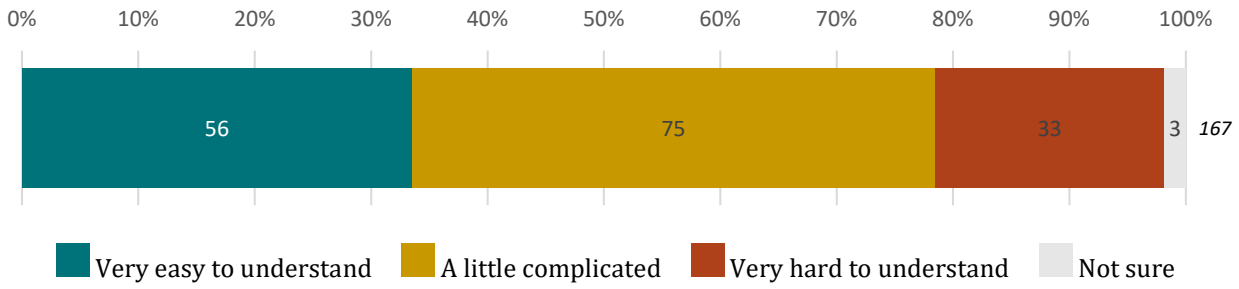
Q12. Do you think applicant-led public engagement should be mandatory for Tier 4 or Tier 5 applications in addition to the required Public Hearing needed to support the rezoning application?



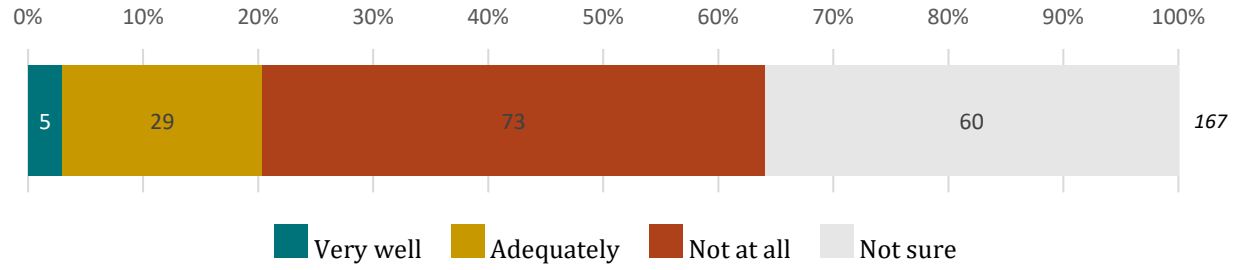
Q12 & Q13. Please indicate your level of support for each of the following buffers.



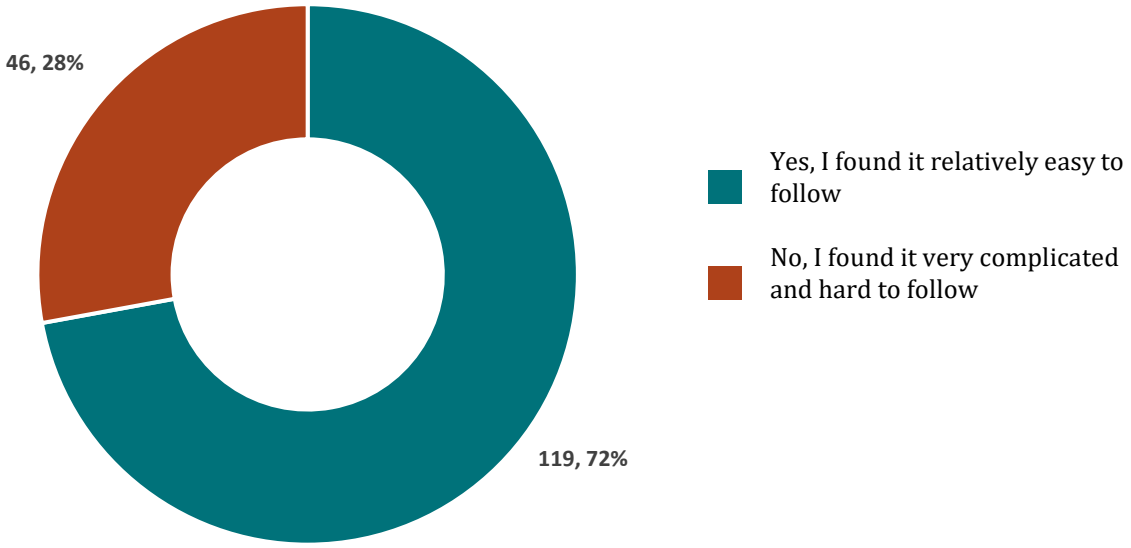
Q14. Based on the provided maps, how easy was it to understand where potential exploration areas and buffers apply for each of the tiers?



Q15. How well do you think the proposed Framework and associated maps reflect the community priorities heard during Engagement Round 1?



Q16. Throughout this survey, do you think the project information was presented in a manner that helped you understand the content and provide meaningful feedback?



6. Considerations moving forward

This report summarizes what was heard during Round 2 engagement, including public open houses, the online survey, meetings with interested and impacted parties, and written submissions. As noted previously, the online survey results are not statistically representative of all Whitehorse residents. Instead, they reflect the views of respondents who chose to participate and are best considered alongside other engagement inputs.

Across engagement streams, perspectives remain divided on whether and how the City should regulate mineral exploration and development within the municipal boundary. Some participants support prohibiting these activities entirely, while others support a municipal role that is clearly defined, coordinated with territorial systems, and responsive to site-specific conditions. Mining industry representatives, in particular, raised concerns about feasibility, certainty, and the impacts on existing mineral rights.

Drawing on the Key Themes and Insights heard, the following considerations have been identified to reflect areas where participants identified the greatest need for refinement as the City reviews potential updates to the draft Framework.

SIMPLIFY THE TIER STRUCTURE

Feedback from survey respondents, open house participants, and industry representatives suggests that the number of tiers adds complexity without always improving clarity or outcomes. Tiers one and two were frequently described as similar in practice.

Moving forward, the City may wish to consider whether lower tiers could be combined or redefined to simplify the Framework while maintaining appropriate distinctions based on activity type, scale, and risk.

IMPROVE CLARITY AND ACCESSIBILITY

Many participants found the Framework difficult to understand when reviewed independently. Open house participants noted that their understanding improved after discussing the Framework with City staff and reviewing visuals together.

Moving forward, clearer plain-language explanations, improved visuals, and more intuitive maps could help make the Framework easier to understand without requiring in-person explanation.

UPDATE AND EXPAND MAPPING

Participants emphasized the importance of clear and complete mapping to understand where activities may or may not occur. Requests included identifying First Nations Settlement Lands and clearly named regional parks.

Moving forward, updating maps to include these features and improving labels and readability could provide greater spatial certainty and reduce misunderstanding.

REVIEW TIME-BASED THRESHOLDS

Tier one limits drilling to ten days per pad. Industry representatives and some technical respondents indicated this limit may result in unnecessary movement of equipment without a corresponding reduction in impacts.

Moving forward, the City may wish to review whether time-based thresholds effectively manage impacts or whether alternative approaches based on physical disturbance or mitigation would better align with current practices.

REASSESS BUFFERS AND SETBACKS

Buffers, particularly around waterbodies, generated strong and divergent views. Many residents supported precautionary setbacks, while industry representatives questioned whether proposed distances are justified based on environmental risk and existing regulation.

Moving forward, the City may consider whether buffer distances appropriately balance environmental protection with access, and whether clearer provisions for site-specific conditions or mitigation would improve outcomes.

STRENGTHEN PUBLIC NOTICE AND ENGAGEMENT EXPECTATIONS

Many participants expressed a desire to be informed about mineral exploration at all levels, not only higher-tier activities. There was broad support for public notice and applicant-led engagement, scaled to activity intensity.

Moving forward, the City may wish to consider whether engagement requirements should apply across all tiers, with expectations proportionate to potential impacts.

Appendices

Appendix A Engagement Round 2 Open House Display Boards

City of Whitehorse

Mineral Exploration and Development Framework Project

Background

- The Government of Yukon regulates mining activities under the *Quartz Mining Act* and *Placer Mining Act*.
- The City of Whitehorse manages where activities can occur through the Official Community Plan (OCP) and Zoning Bylaw.
- These tools determine where mineral exploration and development should or should not be allowed.

Why is this happening?

- In 2023, a resident asked the City to prohibit mineral exploration and mining within City limits.
- The proposal went through Council and a public hearing, revealing strong and mixed community views.
- The City launched a full review of local mining regulations and best practices from other jurisdictions.
- A draft **Mineral Exploration and Development Framework** was developed based on this review and *Engagement Round 1*.
- A second round of engagement is now underway to share this draft Framework and gather further feedback.

City of Whitehorse Authority

2012 ORDER IN COUNCIL

In 2012, an OIC was put in place by Yukon government that **prohibits the staking of mineral claims** in most of the City of Whitehorse.

New mineral claims are allowed in limited areas outside of the OIC, mainly along the western boundary of the municipality, in an area that generally overlaps with the copper belt.

Existing claims, whether within the OIC or not, are grandfathered and do not expire if they are kept in good standing.

2040 OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN AND ZONING BYLAW

The City controls surface activities, land use, and environmental considerations through the OCP and Zoning Bylaw.

Mineral exploration or mine development are **currently allowed** in the Natural Resource Extraction designation.

- **The Natural Resource Extraction** designation includes several regulations to manage the impacts of mining and exploration. Mineral exploration or mine development have also been accommodated allowed in the Industrial designation.

Mineral exploration and mining are allowed in the current Zoning Bylaw in the Industrial-Quarries zone as a Principal Use and in the Industrial – Heavy zone as Conditional Use.

The City is currently considering a new Zoning Bylaw, which, if adopted, would **change the uses allowed in different zones**.

Engagement Process

TIMELINE

June – July 2025

- Online survey
- Meetings with First Nations
- Meetings with Stakeholders

January – February 2026

- Review Engagement Round 1 feedback
- Publish Mineral Exploration and Development Framework
- Open Houses:
  February 23rd 4-7:30pm
  Shipyards Park - Frank Slim Building
  February 26th 4-7:30pm
  Canada Games Centre - Green Room
- Review Engagement Round 2 feedback

March – April 2026

- Provide public updates on Engagement Round 2
- Create What We Heard Report and identify next steps

Learn more and provide your feedback at **engagewhitehorse.ca/mining**

Whitehorse

What We Heard Engagement Round 1

PURPOSE

Engagement Round 1 gathered early input from key stakeholders and the community to inform the City's Mining Policy.

Focus was on understanding **community values**, **concerns**, and **expectations** related to mineral exploration within City limits.

Input was collected through meetings with representatives from the exploration and mining industry, local Environmental Organizations and a public survey.

The goal was to identify priorities, uncertainties, and themes needing further attention as the policy is refined.

SURVEY

- An online survey was open from June 24 to July 28, 2025 and was completed by **430 people**.
- The survey had **14 questions** with a mix of multiple choice, open ended and ranking questions.
- The Engagement Round 1 What We Heard Report can be found on the Engage Whitehorse website.

KEY THEMES	
General Thoughts	• Community opinion is divided on mineral exploration within City limits. • Over half the respondents want no mineral exploration or mineral development allowed at all within City limits. • Almost half of respondents feel that exploration and mineral development are important to the local economy. • Over half of respondents felt that permitting should vary in intensity based on the mining or development activity proposed. • Some respondents would prefer to see activity only in existing claims or previously disturbed areas. • Many respondents want strong protection for environmentally sensitive areas, waterbodies, residential areas, and recreation spaces.
Role of the City	• There were mixed views on which government should take the lead on mining regulations. Some respondents want the City to take the lead. • Others say that Yukon government should take the lead on regulating exploration and mineral development activities.
Mitigating Impacts	• Respondents shared concerns about water quality, natural systems, habitat, noise, dust, traffic, and risk of spills or contamination. • Respondents shared a desire for a permitting process that clearly explains how impacts will be managed and mitigated. • Respondents wanted to see strong enforcement and proper resources to back up regulations.
Clarity	• Responses highlighted requests for clearer zoning definitions, stronger engagement requirements, and better alignment with territorial laws. • Some respondents support flexible zoning that allows exploration with strict conditions.
Where activities are permitted	• In general, participants would like to see mineral exploration and mining activities permitted in previously mined areas, remote or undeveloped areas, and industrial areas. • In general, participants would not like to see mineral exploration and mining activities near neighbourhoods, parks, trails, or environmentally sensitive areas

Context

TERRITORIAL AUTHORITY

Quartz Mining Act

- This Act sets the rules for staking mineral claims, exploring, and developing minerals in the Yukon.
- It provides the framework for how companies get permits, what activities are allowed, and how claims are kept in good standing.
- The Act still applies within City limits, meaning mineral rights and subsurface exploration remain a territorial responsibility.

Municipal Act

- While the City cannot decide where staking happens, it can regulate how exploration happens on the surface, and can regulate things like access, land use, and development impacts through OCP policies and Zoning Bylaw regulation.
- Under this Act, drilling and similar activities count as development, and therefore may require City permits and must follow local bylaws.

How the Acts work together

- Both Acts apply at the same time. One does not override the other.
- The territorial government controls mineral rights and subsurface exploration while the Municipal Act controls land use within municipal boundaries.

Draft Framework

HOW THE DRAFT FRAMEWORK WAS DEVELOPED

The City has prepared a **draft Mineral Exploration and Development Framework** influenced by legislation, experience in permitting current exploration operations, and feedback from the Engagement Round 1.

This draft Framework outlines a **five-tiered approach** to regulating mineral exploration and development based on intensity of operations and potential impacts. This draft Framework is in line with the current Whitehorse Official Community Plan, which supports some exploration and mineral development, while also protecting the environment and quality of life.

Mineral Exploration and Development Framework

Tier	Impact	Key Components
1	Very low	No new road or trail access; minimal disturbance
2	Low	More equipment and duration, but no new trails
3	Moderate	Limited new trail construction
4	High	Major vegetation clearing, heavy equipment
5	Very High	Full mine development and operations

Tier 4 and 5 Activity Maps

Mining and exploration activities in Tier 4 and Tier 5 are allowed in the Natural Resource Extraction land use designation under the Official Community Plan. However, the current Zoning Bylaw does not include zones that permit these activities, so, **Tier 4 and Tier 5 activities are not currently permitted within the municipal boundary today.**

The new Zoning Bylaw introduces two new zones for these activities:

- **OME – Mineral Exploration** for Tier 4 activities
- **OME – Mine Development** for Tier 5 activities

If the bylaw is adopted, anyone planning Tier 4 or Tier 5 activities will need to apply for a rezoning. This process includes: a detailed review of the application, a public hearing, and a decision by Council. This approach helps the community see how potential impacts will be managed and gives Council a clear path to evaluate each proposal.

Do you have any comments about the Draft Framework?

City of Whitehorse DRAFT Mineral Exploration and Development Framework

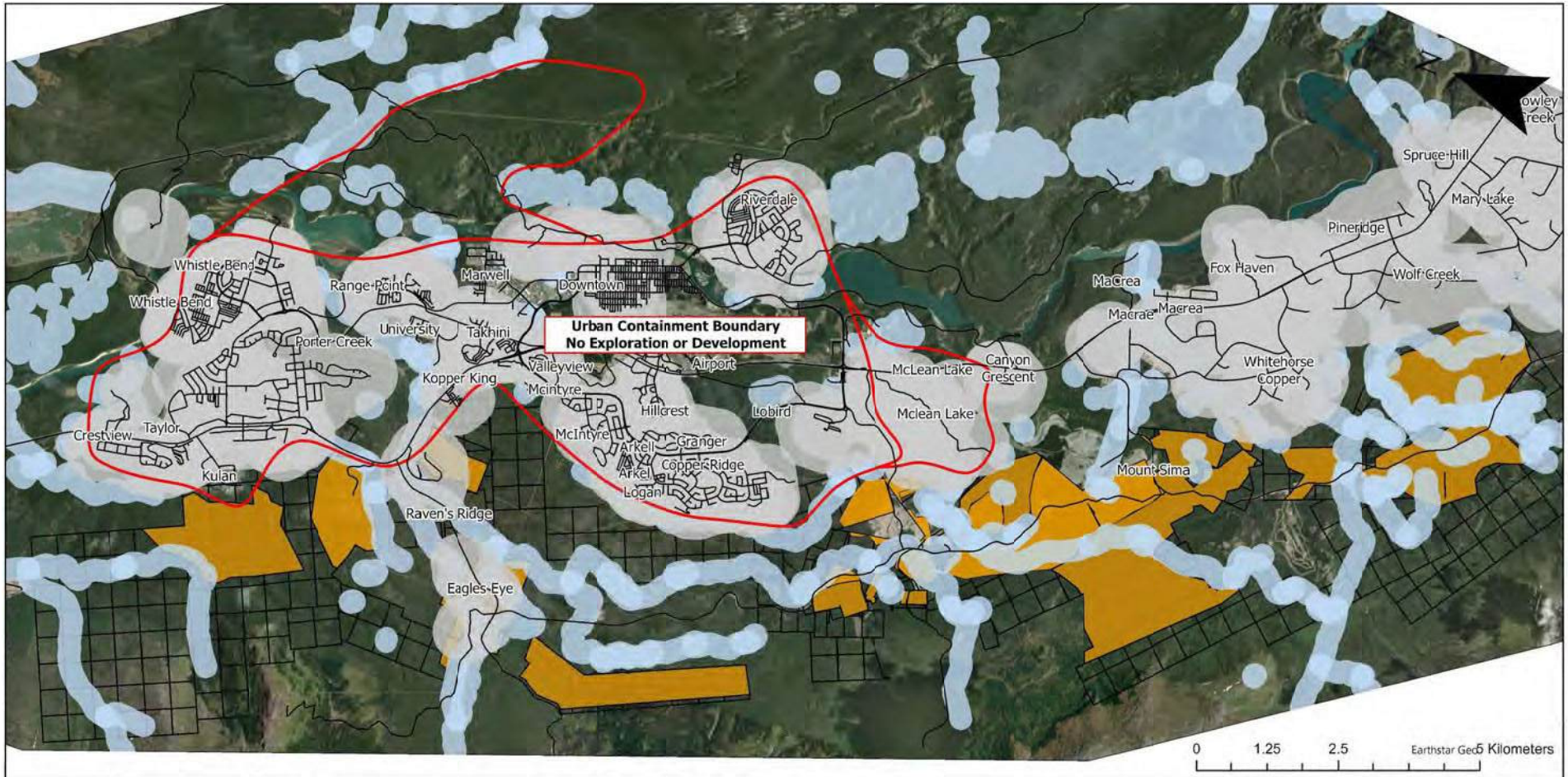
	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5
Intent	**Low Impact Exploration** **No trail or road construction**	**Low Impact Exploration** **No trail or road construction**	**Medium Impact Exploration** **Some trail or road construction**	**High Impact Exploration**	**Mine Development**
Approved Project Methods	• Low-impact drilling techniques only • Less than 10 days per pad • Drilling equipment must be mounted on a rubber-tracked vehicle • Supporting vehicles and equipment must be rubber-tracked or, if wheeled, remain on the road • ATVs, UTVs, and snowmobiles may be used for access	• Low-impact drilling techniques only • Less than 20 days per pad • Drilling equipment may be skid-mounted, track -mounted, or truck-mounted • Supporting vehicles and equipment must be track -mounted or remain on the road or pre-existing trails	• Low-impact drilling techniques only • Less than 20 days per pad • Drilling equipment may be skid-mounted, track -mounted, or truck-mounted • Supporting vehicles and equipment must be track -mounted or remain on the road or pre-existing trail	• Exploratory drilling of any form may take place by any means, provided the method complies with Yukon Territorial laws	• Mining (the removal and processing of rock or minerals) is allowed, provided the operations comply with Yukon Territorial laws
Cutting	• Limbing and brushing permitted • No cutting of trees with a stump diameter over 10 cm	• Limbing and brushing permitted • No cutting of trees with a stump diameter over 10 cm	• Limbing and brushing permitted • No cutting of trees with a stump diameter over 20 cm	• Cutting and clearing permitted up to 2 hectares	• Determined by the Development Permit
Permitting Requirements	• Pre- and Post-Site Inspection Reports must be completed by the applicant and submitted to a Development Officer	• Pre- and Post-Site Inspection Reports must be completed by the applicant and submitted to a Development Officer	• Pre- and Post-Site Inspection Reports must be completed by the applicant and submitted to a Development Officer • Inspections required on a bi-weekly basis throughout the drilling project	• Pre- and Post-Site Inspection Reports must be completed by a Development Officer • Inspections required on a bi-weekly basis throughout the drilling project	• To be determined
Development Permit Requirements	• Temporary Use Permit	• Temporary Use Permit	• Temporary Use Permit	• Official Community Plan amendment • Zoning Bylaw amendment	• Official Community Plan amendment • Zoning Bylaw amendment
Official Community Plan Land Use Designation	• All designations outside of the Urban Containment Boundary, except Greenspace	• All designations outside of the Urban Containment Boundary, except Greenspace and Future Planning	• Industrial • Natural Resource Extraction	• Natural Resource Extraction	• Natural Resource Extraction
Zoning Bylaw	• All zones	• All zones	• All zones	• Only in a new, proposed zone: "OME – Mineral Exploration"	• Only in a new, proposed zone: "OMD – Mine Development"
Exploration Permit Requirements	• Minimum: Class One Permit	• Minimum: Class One Permit	• Minimum: Class One Permit	• Minimum: Class Three Permit	• Minimum: Class Four Permit
Project Duration Maximum	• 3 months	• 6 months	• 1 year	• 4 years	• Determined by the Development Permit
Development Review and First Nations Review	• Not required	• Required	• Required	• Required	• Required
Additional Requirements: Tier-Specific	• The site shall be remediated to its pre-site condition • Test pits shall be filled in to their preexisting grades, and checked for slumping the following year • Tier 2 methods may be used under a Tier 1 notification, provided drilling takes place between December 1 and February 28	• The site shall be remediated to its pre-site conditions • Test pits shall be filled in to their preexisting grades, and checked for slumping the following year	• The site shall be remediated to its pre-site condition, unless otherwise directed by the City Engineer • Test pits shall be filled in to their preexisting grades, and checked for slumping the following year • Trail construction may be permitted, on a case-by-case basis by the City Engineer	• Trail construction may be permitted, on a case-by-case basis by the City Engineer	

Additional Requirements for All Tiers

1. All drilling activities must comply with all applicable Yukon Territorial laws.
2. No exploration activities shall be permitted within:
   a. 500 m of a permitted dwelling unit
   b. 200 m of a naturally occurring watercourse
3. A spill response plan must be submitted if onsite fueling is taking place
4. All holes drilled to a depth of 25 m or more shall be backfilled to the bottom of the hole, or to a depth of 100 m, whichever is less.
5. Holes shall be filled with a suitable cement, grout, concrete, bentonite, or equivalent commercial slurry, or slay slurry, impervious water well cuttings, or impervious overburden materials. Fill must be introduced at the bottom of the hole and placed progressively upwards, unless it is designed and manufactured for the purpose of being introduced into the water well from the ground surface.
6. The City may inspect any permitted exploration program without prior notice given to the proponents.

Definitions

- Low impact:
  A program that does not require any alteration of the landscape
- Medium impact:
  A program that requires tree clearing, and significant occupation of land
- High impact:
  A program that requires earth-moving, tree clearing, and significant occupation of land
- Exploratory drilling:
  A form of drilling with the intent of discovering the mineral potential of a given area
- Skid-mounted:
  Equipment mounted on a skid intended to be pushed or pulled
- Rubber-tracked:
  A vehicle with self-propelled rubber tracks that produces no more than 28 Kilopascals
- Pre-existing trail:
  A trail that was in place prior to the application being made, that is not otherwise slated for deactivation
- A trails classification shall be the discretion of the manager of parks



Whitehorse

Date:02/04/2026

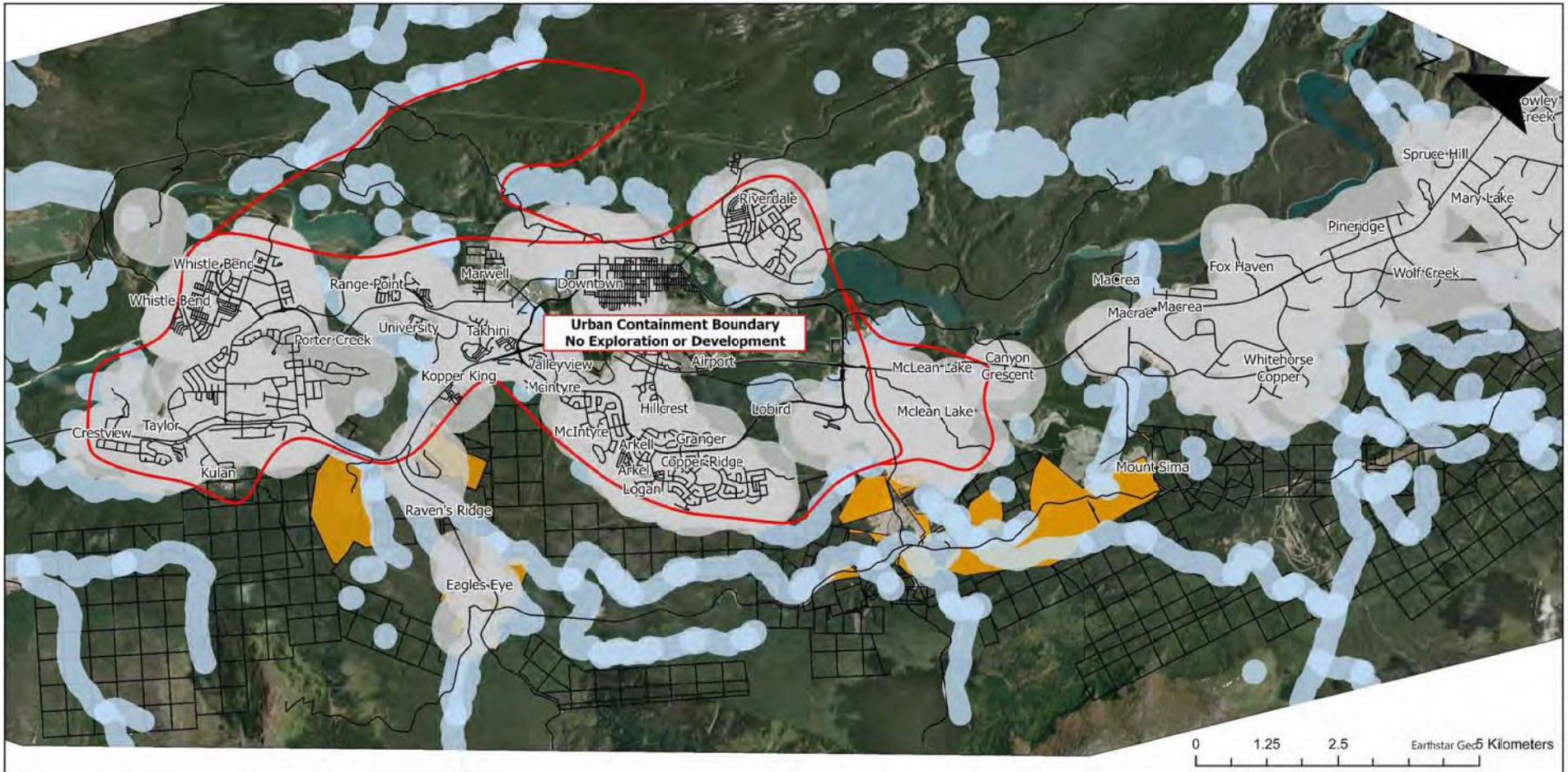
Mineral Exploration and Development Framework

Description of Map Features:

- Exploration programs shall not be permitted within 200 meters of a naturally occurring watercourse
- Exploration programs shall not be permitted within 500 meters of a permitted dwelling unit
- Areas designated orange, may be approved for tier one exploration activities

Legend

- Tier 1 - Approvable Areas
- Roads
- Urban Containment Boundary
- Claims/Crown Grants
- Water Buffer - No Development
- Residential Buffer - No Development



Whitehorse

Date:02/04/2026

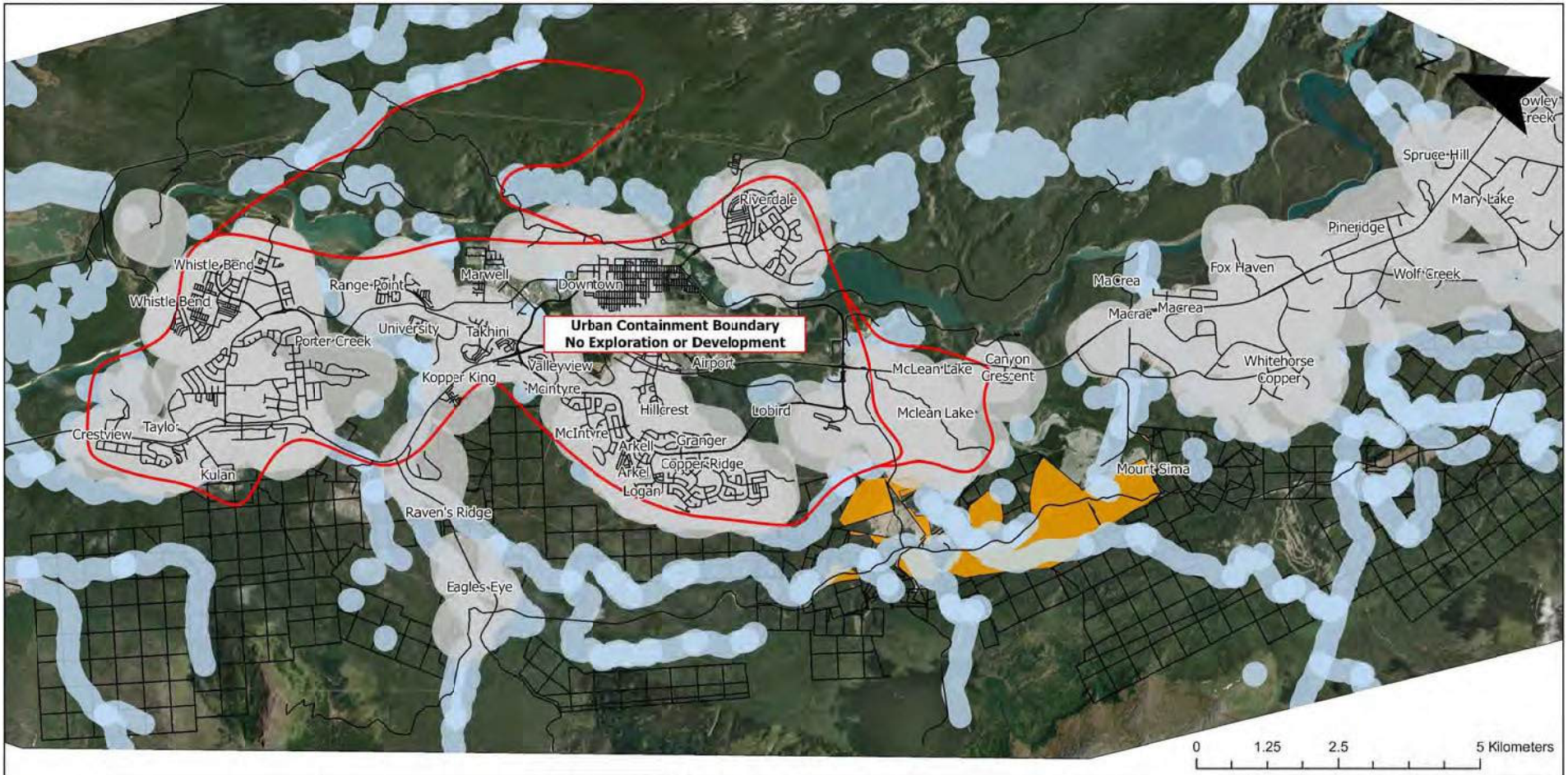
Mineral Exploration and Development Framework

Description of Map Features:

- Exploration programs shall not be permitted within 200 meters of a naturally occurring watercourse
- Exploration programs shall not be permitted within 500 meters of a permitted dwelling unit
- Areas designated orange, may be approved for tier two exploration activities

Legend

- Tier 2 - Approvable Areas
- Roads
- Urban Containment Boundary
- Claims/Crown Grants
- Water Buffer - No Development
- Residential Buffer - No Development



Whitehorse

Date:02/04/2026

Mineral Exploration and Development Framework

Description of Map Features:

- Exploration programs shall not be permitted within 200 meters of a naturally occurring watercourse
- Exploration programs shall not be permitted within 500 meters of a permitted dwelling unit
- Areas designated orange, may be approved for tier three exploration activities

Legend

- Tier 3 - Approvable Areas
- Roads
- Urban Containment Boundary
- Claims/Crown Grants
- Water Buffer - No Development
- Residential Buffer - No Development

Appendix B Engagement Round 2 Survey

Mineral Exploration and Development Survey

Background

Regulating mineral exploration and development in Whitehorse is complex. While the Government of Yukon regulates mining activities through the *Quartz Mining Act* and *Placer Mining Act*, the City can guide land use through its *Official Community Plan* (OCP) and *Zoning Bylaw*. This includes identifying areas where certain activities—like mineral exploration and development—should or should not be allowed.

The City is engaging with residents, stakeholders and other governments to collect input on how mineral exploration and development should be regulated within city limits. The feedback received will be used to develop draft amendments to the *OCP* and *Zoning Bylaw* that will be brought forward for adoption through the regular Council process.

Why is this happening?

In late 2023, a member of the public applied to amend the City's *Official Community Plan* and *Zoning Bylaw* to prohibit mineral exploration and mining within city limits. This proposal went through the regular City Council process, including a public hearing. During and after that hearing, the City heard many comments from residents and local groups, showing that mining in Whitehorse is a complex and often controversial issue.

In 2024, the City decided to undertake a comprehensive review of the current regulatory framework for mining and exploration, how other jurisdictions across Canada manage mining activities, and municipal best practices that could help guide local decision-making. A first round of engagement to gather feedback from the public and interested and impacted parties, was completed on this project in summer of 2025. Based on a review of best practices, Government of Yukon processes, and experience with permitting for current exploration activities in Whitehorse, City staff developed a draft Mineral Exploration and Development Framework. The draft Framework was then refined to reflect comments from the first round of engagement.

A second round of engagement is now underway to share this draft Framework and gather further feedback.

Question:

So far, how effective do you think this engagement process has been in gathering the feedback needed to inform Council about a decision on this topic?

(Choose any 1 options) (Required)

- ☐ Not at all effective
- ☐ Somewhat effective
- ☐ Very effective
- ☐ Not sure

What We Heard - Engagement Round 1

Purpose

The purpose of the Engagement Round 1 was to gather early input from key stakeholders and the broader community to help inform the development of the City's Mineral Exploration and Development Framework. This initial round of engagement focused on understanding community values, concerns, and expectations related to mineral exploration in city limits.

Through meetings with representatives from the exploration and mining industry, local Environmental Organizations and through a public survey, the project team sought to identify priorities, areas of uncertainty, and themes that require further attention as the policy is refined.

Survey

The survey was open from June 24 to July 28, 2025, and was completed by 430 people. The survey had 14 questions with a mix of multiple choice, open ended and ranking questions. The Engagement Round 1 *What We Heard Report* can be found on the Engage Whitehorse website.

Key Themes

What we heard from Engagement Round 1 was:

General Thoughts

- Community opinion is divided on mineral exploration within city limits.
- Some residents want no mineral exploration or mineral development allowed at all within city limits.
- More than half of the Engagement Round 1 participants felt that permitting should vary in intensity based on the mining or development activity proposed.
- Almost half of respondents feel that exploration and mineral development are important to the local economy.
- Some respondents would prefer to see activity only in existing claims or previously disturbed areas. Many respondents want strong protection for environmentally sensitive areas, waterbodies, residential areas, and recreation spaces.

Role of the City

- There were mixed views on which government should take the lead on mining regulations. Some respondents want the City to take the lead, others say that the Government of Yukon should take the lead on regulating exploration and mineral development activities.

Mitigating Impacts

- Respondents shared concerns about water quality, natural systems, habitat, noise, dust, traffic, and risk of spills or contamination.
- Respondents shared a desire for a permitting process that clearly explains how impacts will be managed and mitigated.
- Respondents wanted to see strong enforcement and proper resources to back up regulations.

Clarity

- Responses highlighted requests for clearer zoning definitions, stronger engagement requirements, and better alignment with territorial laws.
- Some respondents support flexible zoning that allows exploration with strict conditions.

Context

Territorial Authority

Quartz Mining Act

- This *Act* sets the rules for staking mineral claims, exploring, and developing minerals in the Yukon.
- It provides the framework for how companies get permits, what activities are allowed, and how claims are kept in good standing.
- The *Act* still applies within city limits, meaning mineral rights and subsurface exploration remain a territorial responsibility.

Municipal Act

- While the City cannot decide where staking happens, it can regulate how exploration happens on the surface, and can regulate things like access, land use, and development impacts through *OCP* policies and *Zoning Bylaw* regulation.
- Under this *Act*, drilling and similar activities count as development, and therefore may require City permits and must follow local bylaws.

How they work together

- Both *Acts* apply at the same time. One does not override the other.
- The territorial government controls mineral rights and subsurface exploration while the *Municipal Act* controls land use within municipal boundaries.

City of Whitehorse Authority

2012 Order in Council

- In 2012 an OIC was put in place by Yukon government that prohibits the staking of mineral claims in most of the City of Whitehorse. New mineral claims are allowed in limited areas outside of the OIC, mainly along the western boundary of the municipality, in an area that generally overlaps with the copper belt. Existing claims, whether within the OIC or not, are grandfathered and do not expire if they are kept in good standing.

2040 Official Community Plan

- The City controls surface activities, land use, and environmental considerations through the *Official Community Plan* (OCP) and *Zoning Bylaw*.
- In the City's *OCP*, mineral exploration or mine development are currently allowed in the *Natural Resource Extraction*. The *Natural Resource Extraction* designation includes several regulations to manage the impacts of mining and exploration. Mineral exploration or mine development have also been accommodated in the *Industrial* designation.

City of Whitehorse Zoning Bylaw

- Mineral exploration and mining are allowed in the current *Zoning Bylaw* in the Industrial-Quarries zone as a Principal Use and in the Industrial – Heavy zone as Conditional Use.
- The City is currently considering a new *Zoning Bylaw*, which, if adopted, would change the uses allowed in different zones.

Questions:

How well do you understand the role and authority of the City of Whitehorse in regulating mineral exploration and mining in the city?

(Choose any 1 options) (Required)

- ☐ Do not understand at all
- ☐ Still a bit confused
- ☐ Completely understand

- [ ] Not sure

How would you describe the Government of Yukon's mining legislation when it comes to regulating mineral exploration within municipal boundaries?

(Choose any 1 options) (Required)

- [ ] Not at all effective
- [ ] Somewhat effective
- [ ] Very effective
- [ ] Not sure

How would you describe the City of Whitehorse's OCP and Zoning Bylaw when it comes to regulating mineral exploration within municipal boundaries?

(Choose any 1 options) (Required)

- [ ] Not at all effective
- [ ] Somewhat effective
- [ ] Very effective
- [ ] Not sure

Which of the following statements do you most agree with?

I think the City…

(Choose any 1 options) (Required)

- [ ] should prohibit all mineral exploration or mining within the municipal boundary.
- [ ] should impose stricter regulations on mineral exploration and mining within the municipal boundary.
- [ ] has enough regulations on mineral exploration and mining within the municipal boundary.
- [ ] should impose less regulations on mineral exploration and mining within the municipal boundary.
- [ ] should remove all City regulations on mineral exploration and mining within the municipal boundary and defer regulation responsibilities to the Yukon Government.
- [ ] Not sure

Draft Framework

How the Draft Framework was developed

The City has prepared a Draft Mineral Exploration and Development Framework influenced by legislation, experience permitting current exploration operations, and feedback from the Engagement Round 1.

City of Whitehorse DRAFT Mineral Exploration and Development Framework

	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5
Intent	**Low Impact Exploration** **No trail or road construction**	**Low Impact Exploration** **No trail or road construction**	**Medium Impact Exploration** **Some trail or road construction**	**High Impact Exploration**	**Mine Development**
Approved Project Methods	• Low impact drilling techniques only • Less than 10 days per pad • Drilling equipment must be mounted on a rubber-tracked vehicle • Supporting vehicles and equipment must be rubber-tracked or, if wheeled, remain on the road • ATVs, UTVs, and snowmobiles may be used for access	• Low impact drilling techniques only • Less than 20 days per pad • Drilling equipment may be skid-mounted, track-mounted, or truck-mounted • Supporting vehicles and equipment must be track-mounted or remain on the road or pre-existing trails	• Low impact drilling techniques only • Less than 30 days per pad • Drilling equipment may be skid-mounted, track-mounted, or truck-mounted • Supporting vehicles and equipment must be track-mounted or remain on the road or pre-existing trail	• Exploratory drilling of any form may take place by any means, provided the method complies with Yukon Territorial laws	• Mining (the removal and processing of rock or minerals) is allowed, provided the operations comply with Yukon Territorial laws
Cutting	• Limbing and brushing permitted • No cutting of trees with a stump diameter over 10 cm	• Limbing and brushing permitted • No cutting of trees with a stump diameter over 10 cm	• Limbing and brushing permitted • No cutting of trees with a stump diameter over 20 cm	• Cutting and clearing permitted up to 2 hectares	• Determined by the Development Permit
Permitting Requirements	• Pre- and Post-Site Inspection Reports must be completed by the applicant and submitted to a Development Officer	• Pre- and Post-Site Inspection Reports must be completed by the applicant and submitted to a Development Officer	• Pre- and Post-Site Inspection Reports must be completed by the applicant and submitted to a Development Officer • Inspections required on a bi-weekly basis throughout the drilling project	• Pre- and Post-Site Inspection Reports must be completed by a Development Officer • Inspections required on a bi-weekly basis throughout the drilling project	• To be determined
Development Permit Requirements	• Temporary Use Permit	• Temporary Use Permit	• Temporary Use Permit	• Official Community Plan amendment • Zoning Bylaw amendment	• Official Community Plan amendment • Zoning Bylaw amendment
Official Community Plan Land Use Designation	• All designations outside of the Urban Containment Boundary, except Greenspace	• All designations outside of the Urban Containment Boundary, except Greenspace and Future Planning	• Industrial • Natural Resource Extraction	• Natural Resource Extraction	• Natural Resource Extraction
Zoning Bylaw	• All zones	• All zones	• All zones	• Only in a zone, proposed zone "CMR – Mineral Exploration"	• Only in a zone, proposed zone "CMD – Mine Development"
Exploration Permit Requirements	• Minimum: Class One Permit	• Minimum: Class One Permit	• Minimum: Class One Permit	• Minimum: Class Three Permit	• Minimum: Class Four Permit
Project Duration Maximum	• 3 months	• 6 months	• 1 year	• 4 years	• Determined by the Development Permit
Development Review and First Nations Review	• Not required	• Required	• Required	• Required	• Required
Additional Requirements: Tier-Specific	• The site shall be remediated to its pre-site condition • Test pits shall be filled in to their pre-existing grades, and checked for slumping the following year • Tier 2 methods may be used under a Tier 3 notification, provided drilling takes place between December 1 and February 28	• The site shall be remediated to its pre-site conditions • Test pits shall be filled in to their pre-existing grades, and checked for slumping the following year	• The site shall be remediated to its pre-site condition, unless otherwise directed by the City Engineer • Test pits shall be filled in to their pre-existing grades, and checked for slumping the following year • Trail construction may be permitted, on a case-by-case basis by the City Engineer	• Trail construction may be permitted, on a case-by-case basis by the City Engineer	
Additional Requirements for All Tiers	1. All drilling activities must comply with all applicable Yukon territorial laws. 2. No exploration activities shall be permitted within: a. 500 m of a permitted dwelling unit b. 200 m of a naturally occurring watercourse 3. A drill response plan must be submitted if onsite fuelling is taking place 4. All holes drilled to a depth of 20 m or more shall be backfilled to the bottom of the hole, or to a depth of 300 m, whichever is less. 5. Holes shall be filled with a suitable cement, grout, concrete, bentonite, or equivalent commercial slurry, or clay slurry, impervious water well cuttings, or impervious cuttings materials. Fill must be introduced at the bottom of the hole and placed progressively upwards, unless it is designed and manufactured for the purpose of being introduced into the water well from the ground surface. 6. The City may impact any permitted exploration program without prior notice given to the proponents.				
Definitions	• Low impact: A program that does not require any alteration of the landscape • Medium impact: A program that requires tree clearing, and significant occupation of land • High impact: A program that requires earth-moving, tree clearing, and significant occupation of land	• Exploratory drilling: A form of drilling with the intent of discovering the mineral potential of a given area	• Skid-mounted: Equipment mounted on a skid intended to be pushed or pulled • Rubber-tracked: A vehicle with self-propelled rubber tracks that produces no more than 28 kilopascals	• Pre-existing trail: A trail that was in place prior to the application being made, that is not otherwise slated for deactivation • A trails classification shall be the discretion of the manager of parks	

This draft Framework outlines a five-tiered approach to regulating mineral exploration and development based on intensity of operations and potential impacts. This draft Framework is in line with the current Whitehorse *Official Community Plan*, which supports some exploration and mineral development, while also protecting the environment and quality of life.

Temporary Use Permits

Temporary Use Permits (TUP) allow a specific use for only a fixed period of time, with the intent to discontinue the activity after the fixed period is over. The City may issue a TUP provided the use is compliant with the OCP.

Development Permits

A Development Permit authorizes development on land within the City of Whitehorse. “Development” means any new use, change of use, or change of intensity of use on any land within the city.

Different Types of Rigs

Rubber Track Mounted Drill	**Skid Mounted Drill**	**Truck Mounted Drill**
Designed to be lower impact as tracks spread the weight of the equipment out.	A skid mounted drill can be manoeuvred along trails but has more impact than track mounted drills.	A truck mounted drill can vary in size. A road is required to access sites, and some truck mounted drills are quite large.

Explaining the Five Tiers

Mineral Exploration and Development Framework		
Tier	**Impact**	**Key Components**
1	Very low	No new road or trail access; minimal disturbance
2	Low	More equipment and duration, but no new trails
3	Moderate	Limited new trail construction
4	High	Major vegetation clearing, heavy equipment
5	Very High	Full mine development and operations

Tier 1 - Low impact exploration

- Requires low impact rubber tracked drill mounted rigs
- Short duration operations
- Limited access and vegetative clearing allowances
- Permitted outside the Urban Containment Area in the *OCP* except in the areas designated Greenspace
- Permitted in all zoning districts contingent on *OCP* alignment
- Implemented through a Temporary Use Permit

Tier 2 - Low impact exploration

- Slightly broader equipment allowances
- Extended duration of operations
- Permitted outside the Urban Containment Area in the *OCP* but not allowed in areas designated Greenspace or Future Planning
- Implemented through a Temporary Use Permit

Tier 3 - Medium impact exploration

- Similar equipment allowance to Tier 2
- Relaxed allowances for vegetative clearing
- Further extended duration of operations
- Permitted in areas designated Industrial and Natural Resource Extraction in the *OCP*
- Implemented through a Temporary Use Permit

Tier 4 - High impact exploration

- Broad allowances for drilling techniques
- Significant allowances for access and vegetative clearing
- Permitted in Natural Resource Extraction *OCP* designation
- Requires rezoning into new “Mineral Exploration” zone
- Development Permit is required

Tier 5 - Mine development

- Broad allowances for extraction and processing of minerals on site
- Potential for significant impact on landscape
- Permitted in Natural Resource Extraction *OCP* designation
- Requires rezoning into new “Mine Development” zone
- Development Permit is required
- Subject to rigorous Territorial regulation

Additional requirements

- All holes drilled to a depth of 25 metres or more shall be backfilled to the bottom of the hole, or to a depth of 100 metres whichever is less. Holes shall be filled with a suitable cement, grout, concrete, bentonite or equivalent commercial slurry, or clay slurry, impervious water well cuttings or impervious overburden materials
- The City may inspect any permitted exploration program without prior notice given to the proponents
- No exploration program shall be permitted within 500 metres of a permitted dwelling unit
- Exploration programs shall not be permitted within 200 metres of a naturally occurring watercourse
- Tier 2 methods may be used under a Tier 1 notification provided drilling takes place between December 1st and February 28th

It is important to note that the regulations in the Framework would not apply to water well or monitoring well drilling. These regulations will also not apply to any geotechnical investigations provided they are within the site of an approved Master Plan.

Questions:

How clear do you think the tiered Framework (Tier 1–5) is in explaining the increasing levels of impact and required oversight necessary for different types of mineral exploration and mining activities in municipal limits?

(Choose any 1 options) (Required)

- [ ] Not at all clear
- [ ] Somewhat cleat
- [ ] Very clear
- [ ] Not sure

Do you think the differences between each of the tiers are meaningful enough?

(Choose any 1 options) (Required)

- [ ] Tier differences are too small
- [ ] Differences are fine
- [ ] Tier differences are too large
- [ ] Not sure

How clearly do you think the Framework is in explaining how impacts from mineral exploration and mining would be managed and mitigated within municipal limits?

(Choose any 1 options) (Required)

- [ ] Not at all clear
- [ ] Somewhat clear
- [ ] Very clear
- [ ] Not sure

Are there any parts of the Framework that you think need more clarification? Please check all that apply.

(Choose all that apply) (Required)

- [ ] Other (please specify)
- [ ] Allowed mining methods
- [ ] Clearing rules
- [ ] Access rules
- [ ] Remediation requirements
- [ ] Permit types
- [ ] Duration limits
- [ ] OCP/Zoning requirements
- [ ] None of the above

How effective do you think this Framework will be as a tool to help the City balance the community's vision, values, and priorities as they related to mineral exploration and mining in Whitehorse?

(Choose any 1 options) (Required)

- [ ] Not at all effective
- [ ] Somewhat effective
- [ ] Very effective
- [ ] Not sure

Application of the Framework

If implemented, this Framework applies to any mineral exploration and mining activities that take place within the City of Whitehorse Municipal Boundary.

A City of Whitehorse development officer would review applications and consider compliance with the *OCP* and *Zoning Bylaw*. If the application meets requirements as set out in the Framework, a TUP would be issued. For Tier 4 and 5 activities, a rezoning would be required, and a public hearing and council approval would be part of this process.

More information about where each tier would be permitted is provided in the next section.

Questions:

Do you think public notice of exploration work should be required for low intensity exploration applications (Tier 1, 2 or 3 activities)?

(Choose any 1 options) (Required)

- [ ] Yes, public notice should be given for Tier 1-3 exploration work
- [ ] No, public notice does not need to be given for Tier 1 -3 exploration work
- [ ] Not sure

Do you think applicant-led public engagement should be mandatory for Tier 4 or Tier 5 applications in addition to the required Public Hearing needed to support the rezoning application?

(Choose any 1 options) (Required)

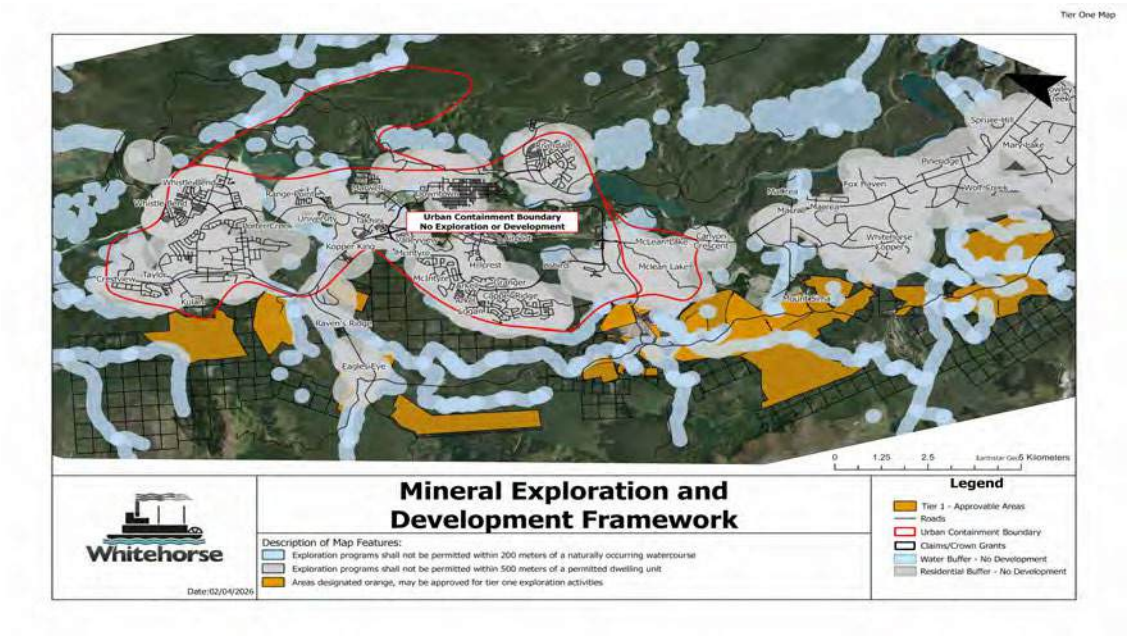
- [ ] Yes, public engagement should be mandatory for Tier 4 or Tier 5 applications
- [ ] No, the public hearing process is enough for Tier 4 or Tier 5 applications
- [ ] Not sure

Location - Where are these activities being considered?

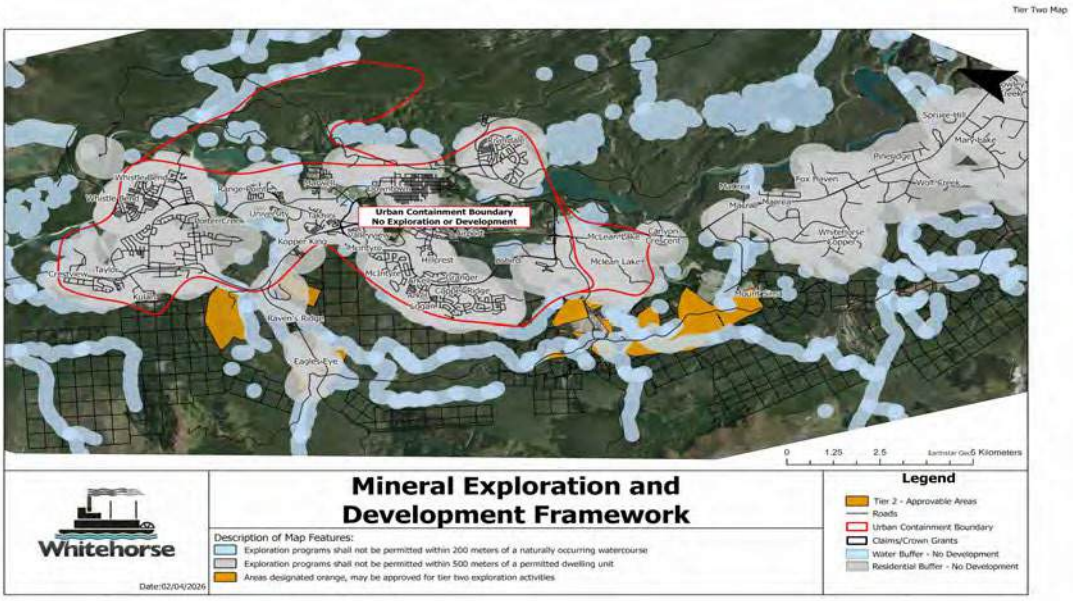
Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 activities

The maps below show where Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 activities may be considered within the municipal boundary. To see larger maps, please click here.

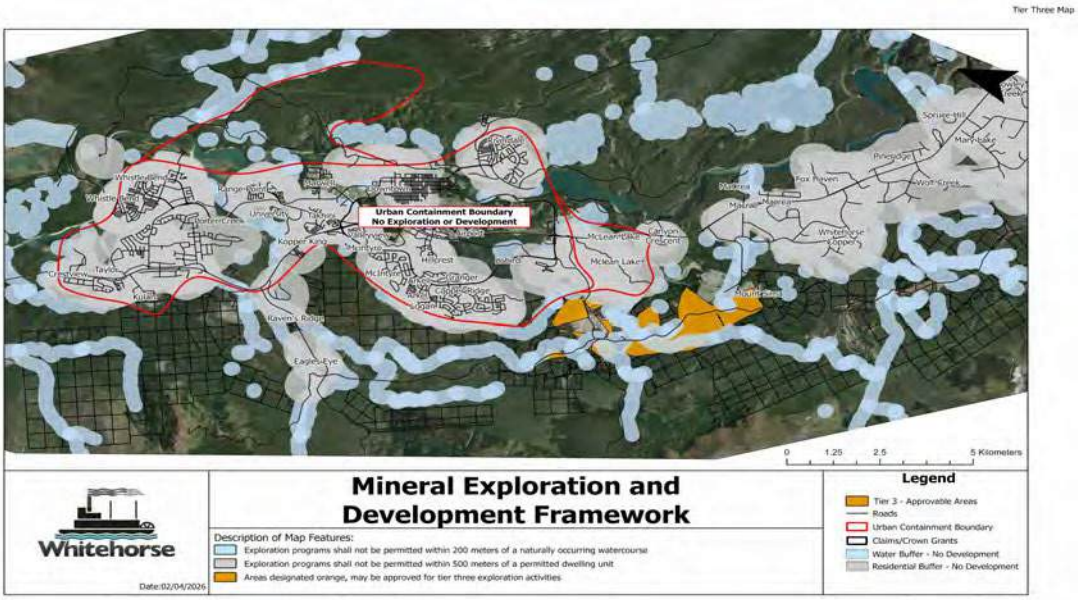
Tier 1



Tier 2



Tier 3



Tier 4 and Tier 5 activities

Mining and exploration activities in Tier 4 and Tier 5 are allowed in the Natural Resource Extraction land use designation under the *Official Community Plan*. However, the current *Zoning Bylaw* does not include zones that permit these activities. As a result, Tier 4 and Tier 5 activities are not currently permitted within the municipal boundary.

The new *Zoning Bylaw*, which is being considered for adoption, introduces two new zones for these activities:

- OME – Mineral Exploration for Tier 4
- OMD – Mine Development for Tier 5

When the new *Zoning Bylaw* comes into effect, anyone wanting to carry out Tier 4 or Tier 5 activities will need to apply for a rezoning. This process includes a detailed review, a public hearing, and Council approval.

All activities

Urban Containment Boundary

- No exploration and mineral development activities will be permitted within the Urban Containment Boundary.

Buffers

- An exploration program shall not be permitted within 200 metres of a naturally occurring wetland
- An exploration program shall not be permitted within 500 metres of a permitted dwelling unit

Questions:

Please indicate your level of support for each of the following buffers.

Questions	Too small	Seems appropriate	Too large
No exploration program permitted within 200 m of a naturally occurring wetland			
No exploration program permitted within 500 m of a dwelling unit			

Based on the provided maps, how easy was it to understand where potential exploration areas and buffers apply for each of the tiers?

(Choose any 1 options) (Required)

- ☐ Very hard to understand
- ☐ A little complicated
- ☐ Very easy to understand
- ☐ Not sure

How well do you think the proposed Framework and associated maps reflect the community priorities heard during Engagement Round 1?

(Choose any 1 options) (Required)

- ☐ Not at all
- ☐ Adequately
- ☐ Very well
- ☐ Not sure

Thank You!

Thank you for taking the time to learn about the Draft Mineral Exploration and Development Framework.

Throughout this survey, do you think the project information was presented in a manner that helped you understand the content and provide meaningful feedback?

(Choose any 1 options) (Required)

- ☐ Yes, I found it relatively easy to follow

- [ ] No, I found it very complicated and hard to follow

Appendix C Survey responses to open-ended Q9

Groundwater, well water protection and water licensing

- "Some acknowledgment or discussion around access to and effects on groundwater resources? I'm sure these will require water licenses, but I guess I just wondered if there will be efforts to monitor effects on groundwater nearby operations?"
- "No industrial activity should be allowed which potentially can impact groundwater quality and quantity since any reduction or pollution of this groundwater will impact the citizens' well water."
- "Impacts on groundwater and well water in adjacent areas must be included"
- "Rules and impacts for mining near or on private property/homes. Noise levels. Pollution levels ex. dust in air, ground pollution, well water pollution, etc."
- "threshold distances from water"
- "They've never followed any of the rules so they're all pointless. … they're lying about noise and where the water table is my well is at 25 feet easily within the area that they're drilling into and yes ever time they drill a hole it [redacted] my water I test it myself I know what's going on!!! … revoke their permits and immediately ban mining within city limits!!!!"
- "Some elements that I feel are missing: 1) consideration of impacts of drilling/exploration on ground water sources, since many properties closest to potential mineral exploration sites rely on wells for drinking water; 2) any restrictions on work for specific time periods, such as times of year that see high recreation use, wildlife migrations, potential extreme weather events such as wildfires, landslides or floods; times of day when activity would be prohibited due to human and wildlife need to sleep; 3) any consideration of greenhouse gas emissions generated by exploration activities, which can have both short-term effects on human health in the form of air pollution, as well as the longer term impacts on accelerating climate change; 4) clear restrictions on activities around wetlands, since these are important ecosystems that trap carbon, assist in flood mitigation, and are important wildlife habitats"
- "How the Mining companies will clean their mess: chemical and petroleum spills because it is happening all the times. … Please look around Faro, Elsa, Dawson, Whitehorse… Wake up you guys, decision makers at the city!"

Environmental protection and wildlife impacts

- "Environmental impact assessments and surveying for impact to wildlife in the area"
- "environmental protections Water Pollution Mining activities can lead to water contamination through the release of toxic chemicals and heavy metals into nearby water bodies. This pollution can harm aquatic life and disrupt entire food chains. For instance, the use of hazardous substances like cyanide and mercury in gold mining can result in severe contamination of rivers and lakes, making water unsafe for consumption and affecting local fisheries"
- "Water licence.. Wildlife Animal study. No Gas (LNG) licences . 10 years study impact on Local distric housing & Lifestyle. ***Noise level Study beford Hand (impact on Residential)

no permit for that ... nope ... ex; ask [redacted] no permit Noise Level...they don't CARE... First Nation Land ?"
- "noise and pollution violations"

Monitoring, enforcement, penalties and compliance

- "I think everyone will try to start in the lowest tier possible. How will ongoing activities be monitored to ensure work is being done in accordance?"
- "Reinforcement of existing regulary authority. There is no follow up, no checking that what is authorized is what is being completed. This in fairness is not necessarily limited to the city but the Yukon which I realize is somewhat tainting in this scenario but for mines, the failure to meet requirements has no lasting consequence."
- "What happens when companies do not comply with the Framework? Are there any penalties that are meaningful? Since there is no other comment field, here is some feedback: Residents of Whitehorse should be able to live, work and play within the municipal boundaries without fear of exploration being undertaken in recreational areas and in their backyard. Mining exploration companies in the Yukon do not have a good track record on protecting the land"
- "The effectiveness of any, indeed all, of the requirements depend on effective monitoring by qualified inspectors (i.e. those with experience and knowledge of mining AND environmental concerns). experience and knowledge of mining AND environmental concerns). are meaningless. Where the Draft Mineral and Exploration Framework states, "The City may inspect any permitted exploration program without any prior notice given to the proponents", it undermines its own commitment to enforcement. Instead, the draft should replace "may" with "reserves the right to".
- "These Frameworks and steps to mitigate will never be monitored. Private business will not compile , look at the record of mining environmental disasters in Yukon. All were approved by YSEB all provided scientifically backed mining submissions that would provided scientifically backed mining submissions that would mitigate any potential dangers. None followed through."
- "1) Ability for Joe Citizen to see a problem and report it using the City Trouble Line or similar to get quick action from inspectors 2) significant penalties for non-compliance -- not just a fine but a suspension of work (which is likely pricier) 3) Relatively quick way to amend/update the tiers, especially if/when the territorial legislation is updated."
- "Enforcement - How will CoW ensure that programs are following the conditions of their permits and what sort of actions can CoW take when Operators are failing to comply? Cumulative effects - how will CoW consider the cumulative effects of project footprints?"
- "There needs to be clear fines associated with each tier. At the court case for gladiator metals the environment fines… were a joke at best."
- i've worked in mining and lands for 20+ years. every company abandons the projects and leaves environmental clean up and management costs to the public. get serious about collecting securities. yukon does not have a strong enough economy to support broken hopes and promises from mining and exploration when times are good

Desire to prohibit mining/exploration within the municipal boundary

- “No mining within city limits. No conflicts of interest necessary. Yukon is a big place”
- “People live in these areas and mining is always a boom or bust situation. Now with this new goverment that is pro mining the city needs to step up and cancel all mining activities and claims in the city. It is 2026 not 1910. I believe the Yukon economy should focus on tourism and don’t put so much faith in mining in the end us citizens end up pay the price for a mining company that doesn’t care citizens end up pay the price for a mining company that doesn’t care what happens because the government lets them just walk away”
- “I don’t want any of these activities to occur within city limits so this Framework does not apply to my concerns…”
- “Framework is very confusing so I can't comment. Plus I don't support mining in the municipal city boundary”
- “No mining at all on city limit. Also mining is only linked with profit with reducing as much as possible the cost, so environment and health problem aren't really part of any mining project.”
- [redacted]. most people aren’t going to understand the information you’ve given them. I live near where these [redacted] are drilling I have to hear them every day they’re [redacted] about noise and where the water table is my well is at 25 feet easily within the area that they’re drilling into and yes ever time they drill a hole it [redacted] up my water I test it myself I know what's going on!!! WE WILL NEVER ALLOW ANY MINING ACTIVITIES IN THE AREAS LISTED ON THE MAPS The only reason you do exploratory mining is to open a mine Full stop revoke their permits and immediately ban mining within city limits!!!!

Tiered Framework structure: clarity, readability, and whether tiers are the right approach

- “Tier 5- Mine development. Its not possible to develop a mine with only a Class 4 exploration license. It requires a major mine license from YESAA. The differences between Tier 1 and Tier 4 are too small and should only reflect the differences between a Class 1 small and should only reflect the differences between a Class 1 grass roots exploration project and a class 3/4 exploration license. So likely you only need 3 tiers, one that matches Class 1, one that matches class 3/4 exploration, and one that matches opening a mine for production. It will simplify things”
- Not clear - the likelihood of one tier leading to the next tier without enough due process and consideration of the impact. Example you allow Tier 1 and 2 development but don’t consider or the public doesn’t necessarily consent to the fact that this could lead to Tier 5. By allowing tier 1 we are essentially saying that we are open to allowing tier 5. And that is not necessarily what people want in their backyard”
- “If Tier 1 or 2 are allowed, then Tier 5 must also be acceptable. Permitting exploration and then not allowing possible mining is not appropriate.”
- “All of the above”
- “None of this is clear. Even your questions are deceiving.”

Communications, engagement quality and accessibility

- “If you are going to provide a tiered Framework diagram then you have to make it big enough to read. This is basic visual communications principles. Additionally this

engagement is lacking Public Engagement design knowledge such as those taught in the IAP2 certification for PE."

- "because this is the only place to offer real, meaningful feedback, just wanted to say, you need a comms person to create a more accessible survey for the average lay person unless, this is lip service to push the [redacted] through, in which case, you're nailing it. just do better, city of whitehorse. or try. i hope the other engagement was more accessible to the general public and First Nations
- "Finally, the fact that this survey does not provide space for comments on the general proposal but only curated select questions is very disappointing. I expect better from my local government."

Remediation standards, reclamation, and long-term liabilities

- "remediation of access routes is not addressed in the plan.... in past experiences, there has been significant impacts to trail systems and user groups from activities related to exploration access."
- "Clarity around the definition of remediation… essentially a gravel pit is remediated. I think we need higher standards, especially within city boundaries."
- "Defining a process to appropriately compensate home owners for destroying and/or toxifying the landscape, property values and water resources around their house when the inevitable disaster occurs ala Eagle Gold Mine (except no one had a $1M house impacted by that disaster). CoW is 420km2 of 480,000km2 to leave alone for residents should not be a big ask. 99.9% of the Yukon is open to mining, please leave this 0.1% alone so we don't destroy our environment, not to mention the houses we spent a lifetime paying for just to grab a few extra dollars for the short term"
- How the Mining companies will clean their mess: chemical and petroleum spills because it is happening all the times. It happened through the last century as least in the Yukon. Please look around Faro, Elsa, Dawson, Whitehorse and also most every communities in the Yukon. Wake up you guys, decision makers at the city!
- If any mining exploration or development is permitted within City limits (and it should not be), a substantial deposit from the company should be deposited with the city. There is too long a track record of mining companies making a mess and absconding with the profits, leaving the pollution to the taxpayer to clean up. Also, since this is the only opportunity I have to offer comments, I want to say: the population of Whitehorse will do nothing but expand in the coming years. It is foolish to allow mining within City limits when it is very likely that housing development will take place.
- "i've worked in mining and lands for 20+ years. every company abandons the projects and leaves environmental clean up and management costs to the public. get serious about collecting securities."

Jurisdiction, duplication with Yukon rules and overreach concerns

- "Scrap these altogether and defer to the Quartz Act Class 1, 3 ... definitions and process."
- "This is clearly a duplication of existing YG regulation. Mineral exploration is well regulated and is a temporary use of land that can be returned to previous state once exploration is completed. Most areas explored have no mineable deposits so the process of areas explored

have no mineable deposits so the process of exploration specifically drilling is needed to determine if mineral values exist."

- As for whether the tier differences are meaningful or not, I fail to see the need to redefine levels of exploration when this has already been done by YTG with exhaustive consultation Although the different tiers clearly show an increasing level of impact, the fields are populated with features that assume that the current technology and knowledge base are fixed. Instead of the city prescribing the type of equipment to be used (ex: rubber-tracked equipement), it would be better to specify the end goal, for example little or no disturbance of vegetative mat. This would allow the use of skid mounted equipment in the winter, which should be considered based on the snow cover and not an arbitrary date like end of February. We are almost mid-march and have a solid snow cover that would allow operating under winter conditions for quite some time. Considering that exploration is a temporary use of the land, I find the 10 cm diameter threshhold for tree cutting too strict. The duration limits seem irrelevant and just put additional and needless constraints. The duration of the YTG permit is more relevant.
  Mineral exploration requires access and although this needs to be managed, the YTg rules are very strict. We should not be afraid of creating access. Although remediation regulations are in place at the territorial level, we should be honest and remember that access created by the mining industry is what created the high recreation values of the Copperbelt. In general I find that this Framework needlessly duplicates the Mining Lamd Use Regulations. First Nations are already consulted at Class 1 level under MLUR. I'm not sure that backfilling of all drill holes is effective (at what?) or practical. Where is the justification for such a requirement?
- The Framework appears as a poor duplication of the Yukon Government quartz exploration classes [redacted] which are already legislated and governed by the Quartz Mining Act and YESAA. This points to the entire exercise being a duplication of process and a very likely overstep by the municipal government into an area that is under territorial, federal, and Yukon First Nation co-governance jurisdiction. The draft Framework reveals an apparent lack of knowledge of the current regulatory regime in the territory as well as a lack of understanding of mineral exploration more generally. I do not support this draft legislation as presented as it concerns me that as currently laid out, it both duplicates territorial procedures and legislation, and may open the municipality to legal action due to the apparent conflict between city jurisdiction and territorial jurisdiction. Finally, the fact that this survey does not provide space for comments on the general proposal but only curated select questions is very disappointing. I expect better from my local government.
- "Restrictions and requirements unnecessarily restrictive. Relatively low impact exploration is needed to determine the relatively few and specific locations deserving more advanced exploration."
- "Not sure how to reply, but it seems to me that the City is over regulating exploration activities."
- "As for whether the tier differences are meaningful or not, I fail to see the need to redefine levels of exploration when this has already been done by YTG with exhaustive consultation… [suggests outcome-based requirements vs prescribing equipment; argues

Framework duplicates MLUR; questions backfilling drill holes; notes access created recreation values of Copperbelt]"

Land-use specifics: zoning exclusions, buffers, recreation and cumulative effects

- "Keep activity in municipal boundary to areas that were previously mined with exception to Ravens Ridge that now has residential development"
- "What would happen if a new dwelling permit was issued after a legacy drill hole with mineral potential was identified?"
- "Max width of rubber track/disturbance tier 1 & 2 to match existing min width of allowed access on existing trail (to prevent habitat damage) - define min width of existing trails they can use. I.e.: no single track. Minimum width and define it clearly with photo examples. - re zoning add "except green space and EZ". Exclude those zones to all
- "The focus on exploration, without CLEARLY delineating where the surface footprint of future mining, waste, and disruption, is allowed within city limits is misleading to mining proponents and residents. Ifthis is not clearly delineated, it is misleading to allow any exploration. Why would a company invest in exploration if the nearest allowable footprint is not commercially viable in relation to where a surface footprint is allowed? Allowing them to explore without establishing allowable mining footprint zones first is disingenuous for all involved. As it currently stands, if they find a good prospect, then they need to lobby for support of access to that ore, and the preassure upon citizens to allow random mine footprints to be developed will be endless. The "framework" for allowable exploration is a distraction from the ultimate downstream question of: where surface mine/waste/disruption footprint is allowable. Answer that first, and then the exploration can be addressed in a more informed and intelligent framework. End this bait and switch approach.

Climate / greenhouse gas emissions

- "Given the City's commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from within the City's boundaries why is this important impact not included for consideration? See answer below as well as this applies."
- "all mining triggers climate impacts ie greenhouse gas emissions. why is this not included for consideration? why has the City's Climate Action Plan not been included with the Official Community Plan for consideration?"

Political or economic framing

- "This is a make work project for bureaucrats, not an economic enabler that protects residents"
- "When you allow explorations the decision about allowing a mine is already made. So dont allow it in terms of land use. Force YG to actually implement the treaties for land use planning. The Yukon Party version of YG is already pulling back on co developing mining legislation w YFN, and they will be beholden to their funders, ie mining lobby. So circumvent this YP behavior by working with KDFN and TKC much more closely and get proper, legal land use planning done. This piece meal stuff creates one fait acompli after another.

- “bordering on expropriation and no doubt the City will brought into line by the EMR”

Outlook

Support letter for Official Communitay Plan Amendment

From Chris Minvielle [redacted]
Date Thu 8/20/2026 10:19 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>; Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (16 KB)
OCP Bylaw 2026-25 Support Letter.docx;

You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello,

Please see the attached support letter

Thank you

Chris Minvielle | Project Manager | C: [redacted]
Head Office | [redacted] – Williams Lake [redacted] | O: [redacted]
Yukon Office | [redacted] Whitehorse, YT - [redacted]
MUELLER ENTERPRISES LTD.
Exceeding Expectations, Delivering Results

Chris Minvielle, Mueller Enterprises Ltd
[redacted], *Whitehorse YT*
August 20, 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse
Email: publicinput@whitehorse.ca
CC: [redacted]

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

Mining has been a cornerstone of the Yukon economy for generations, providing high-quality employment, supporting local businesses, contributing to government revenues, and helping build the communities that make the Yukon a great place to live and work. Responsible mineral exploration is essential to identifying the future projects that will sustain these economic benefits for decades to come.

As Mueller Enterprises Ltd., we have proudly supported Yukon mining and exploration projects for many years through our electrical, power generation, and industrial services. The mining industry has played a significant role in our growth as a Yukon-based company, creating opportunities for our employees, Indigenous partners, suppliers, and communities throughout the territory.

Mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chris Minvielle
Project Manager, Mueller Enterprises Ltd

Outlook

Fw: no amendment to gladiator mines

From Executive Assistant [redacted]
Date Thu 8/20/2026 8:41 AM
To Public Input <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Casey Mojica (She/hers)
Executive Assistant, Corporate Services
City of Whitehorse • [redacted]
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: claudia alge [redacted]
Sent: August 19, 2026 7:26 PM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: no amendment to gladiator mines

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

As a Whitehorse Citizen, I am requesting that NO bylaw amendments be made to the OCP for Gladiator Metals.

Please protect McIntyre Creek Park

Thank you,
Concerned Whitehorse Citizen

Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

Outlook

Mineral exploration and development in the city of Whitehorse

From collyn lovelace [redacted]
Date Thu 8/20/2026 9:34 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Hi there,

I'm writing to strongly oppose changes to the OCP to allow for mineral exploration and development in city limits.

As a longtime resident of Riverdale south, our neighbourhood and quiet enjoyment of our homes has been hugely impacted by development. This includes the 24/7 use of diesel generators by Yukon Energy October to May and sometimes throughout the summer months, the water level alarm installed by Yukon Energy, the float planes that take off and land right above our homes, and the expansion of the airport.

The amount of noise pollution generated in our neighbourhood has never been considered holistically. The City and Government of Yukon don't have any clear plans or seem to work together on ensuring safe noise levels for human health in neighbourhoods.

As a result, I oppose changes to the OCP as it will likely result in other residents losing the quiet enjoyment of their properties.

Please consider integrating noise pollution considerations into any of your city planning. My neighbours and I have struggled immensely with putting lots of money and effort into our homes only to feel as though they are no longer livable because of year round noise pollution.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Collyn Lovelace

Outlook

Bylaw 2026-25 Concerns-Mining within city limits

From Debbie Gohl [redacted]
Date Thu 8/20/2026 3:51 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I'm writing as a Whitehorse resident of almost 40 years, who has been trying to learn more about Bylaw 2026-25, the proposed change that would open up parts of Mary Lake, Wolf Creek, and other green space areas to mineral exploration.

I don't have a technical background in planning, but the more I read, the more concerned I've become, and I wanted to share that with you before the August 24 public hearing.

My first concern is about the land itself. Green space and environmentally sensitive areas are protected for a reason. The concerned area includes watersheds, wetlands, and wildlife corridors. Once land like this is re-designated and disturbed, it’s very hard to undo, even if the exploration itself is meant to be temporary.

My second concern is about process. The Official Community Plan is supposed to be the city's long-term, big-picture plan, made through careful public input, not something that gets reopened and adjusted for one company's request. I understand the city has been working for over a year on a broader set of rules for mineral exploration across Whitehorse, and that work still isn't finished. It doesn't feel right to change the OCP for this one project before the general rules are even done. If there's a proper process underway to figure out how mineral exploration should work in this city, that process should be allowed to finish, and its results should apply evenly to everyone, rather than making a one-off exception now and figuring out the general rules later.

I am also concerned about what this means regarding how much say the City actually has going forward. From what I've read, the company even asked for wording that would let a territorial mining permit count as automatic approval under city rules, no matter what the city's own bylaw said. Thankfully, city staff pushed back on that idea. I’m surprised this was even asked for. And I wonder what else might get chipped away at down the road if this amendment goes through?

It is my understanding that this bylaw could change the rules in a way that could apply anywhere in the city where there's a mining claim on land zoned in a similar way. That feels like a more significant decision than it's being treated as, and one that could affect other subdivisions, and well beyond the ones currently being talked about.

I am requesting that Council slow down this process. Wait until the broader mineral exploration rules are finished before deciding on this one company's request. Do not open the OCP without following your own procedures on this. Please ensure that nothing in the bylaw lets a mining permit override the city's own rules.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. I plan to attend the public hearing on August 24 to learn more.

Kind regards,

Deb Gohl

[Riverdale resident]

[redacted]

Outlook

Bylaw 2026-25 Application to the OCP to permit mineral exploration.

From Jennifer Byram [redacted]
Date Thu 8/20/2026 4:16 PM
To Publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted]; Gladiator Community [redacted]

You don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

See the email listed below in support of bylaw 2026-25 from Gwen Byram

---

From: Gwen Byram [redacted]
Sent: August 20, 2026 3:48 PM
To: Jennifer Byram [redacted]
Subject:

Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

I believe the city needs more industry. With proper planning, a mine within city limits would be an asset

Yours truly
Gwen Byram

Outlook

Written Submission Regarding Bylaw 2026-25 (OCP Amendment – Mineral Exploration)

From james hamel [redacted]
Date Thu 8/20/2026 6:12 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to formally state my opposition to Bylaw 2026-25, which proposes to amend the Official Community Plan (OCP) to allow mineral exploration within the "Future Planning" designation. I strongly urge Council to defeat this bylaw and instead prioritize the completion of the comprehensive Mineral Exploration Development Framework before considering any changes to the OCP or related municipal bylaws.

Amending our highest-level planning document to permit mineral exploration prematurely creates several significant risks:

- Lack of Policy Guidance: Changing the OCP without an established framework leaves the City without clear criteria to evaluate environmental, social, and infrastructure impacts.
- Undermining the Planning Process: The Mineral Exploration Development Framework was intended to guide these exact types of land-use decisions. Bypassing it compromises public trust in municipal planning.
- Irreversible Precedents: Allowing exploration activities in "Future Planning" areas before defining community boundaries or environmental protections may permanently impact lands needed for future housing, recreation, or conservation.

The sensible, responsible path forward is to finish the framework first. This will ensure that any future resource development occurs under a structured, balanced, and community-backed strategy.

Thank you for considering this feedback. I request that this letter be included in the official Public Hearing Report for Council's review.

Sincerely,
James Hamel
Wolf Creek

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Outlook

Fw: Public Input — Support for Bylaw 2026-25

From Prowse, Michael [redacted]
Date Thu 8/20/2026 7:57 AM
To Public Input <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

1 attachment (136 KB)
JRH Support Letter 2026-25.pdf;

Michael Prowse
Manager • Legislative Services • Corporate
City of Whitehorse • whitehorse.ca

Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Jesse Halle [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2026 4:24 AM
To: Legislative Services [redacted]
Cc: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: Public Input — Support for Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor and Council, City of Whitehorse

Please find attached my letter supporting Bylaw 2026-25, the proposed Official Community Plan Map and Text Amendment for mineral exploration. Please include it in the public record for the August 24 Public Hearing.

Best regards,

Jesse

Jesse R. Halle | P.Geo
Halle Geological Services Ltd.
Halifax, Nova Scotia
[redacted]

HALLE GEOLOGICAL SERVICES LTD
comprehensive mineral exploration

August 19, 2026

City of Whitehorse
2121 Second Avenue
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 1C2

RE: Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 — Temporary Mineral Exploration

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

As a Professional Geoscientist registered with Engineers and Geoscientists BC and President of Halle Geological Services Ltd., **I am writing in support of the proposed Official Community Plan Amendment (Bylaw 2026-25)**. Since 2005, I have supported numerous exploration companies in the Yukon, including Gladiator Metals since 2023. This letter reflects my own professional opinion.

I want to address a question that has arisen in public discussion of the amendment: Why are exploration areas broader than specific drill sites or current work plans? The answer is that mineral exploration is an investigative process where geological mapping, geophysics, drilling and sampling progressively refine the geological understanding of an area and determine where subsequent work may be warranted. At an early stage, it is therefore neither possible nor appropriate to define every location that may warrant investigation months or years in advance.

Mineral tenure provides a definite boundary within which mineral exploration may occur. Mineral tenure boundaries should not be interpreted as proposed disturbance footprints or as an indication that work is planned throughout the entire area. Specific targets and work locations are progressively refined as geological information develops. Where an area can reasonably be excluded based on that information, as occurred with the recent adjustment around Mary Lake, refining the boundary is entirely consistent with that approach.

The mineral potential of the Whitehorse Copper Belt is well established. Copper was identified in the area in the late 1800s, followed by more than a century of exploration and mining. Previous City planning has also recognized the mineral potential of these lands. In 1998, Danièle Héon and Craig Hart of the Yukon Geology Program prepared the Mineral Potential Map of the City of Whitehorse to help incorporate mineral resource values into City land-use planning. The areas subject to this OCP amendment overlap the map's highest mineral potential category, termed "established resources." The 2010 OCP separately included provisions addressing mineral exploration in Future Planning areas, although the current OCP does not contain equivalent language.

From a geological perspective, retaining sufficient flexibility to investigate prospective areas as new information develops is fundamental to effective mineral exploration. The amendment before Council provides that flexibility while establishing a municipal planning process for considering temporary mineral exploration.

I respectfully encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Sincerely,

Jesse Halle, P.Geo.
President, Halle Geological Services Ltd.

Outlook

Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

From Lauren Haney [redacted]
Date Thu 8/20/2026 10:20 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (113 KB)
2026-08-20 Letter of Support LHaney.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Please find attached my letter of support for the above-mentioned bylaw.

Lauren Haney
[redacted]

Lauren Haney
[redacted]
Whitehorse, YT [redacted]

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

I have spent my career working in environmental management, assessment, permitting, and Indigenous relations in the exploration and mining industry in the Yukon and across the North. Through that experience, I have seen first-hand the important role that responsible mineral development can play in diversifying our economy, building local capacity, supporting local businesses, and creating meaningful employment opportunities.

I am a strong supporter of responsible mineral exploration and development, and I also know from experience that it can and should be done well—with appropriate environmental management, government oversight, and meaningful participation and collaboration with local First Nations. In my view, mineral exploration and development represent an important economic diversification opportunity for Whitehorse and the Yukon, particularly when the benefits and opportunities are shared locally. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Outlook

Support for OCP Amendment - Bylaw 2026-25.

From Marcus Harden [redacted]
Date Thu 8/20/2026 12:17 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (149 KB)
M Harden Letter in Support of OCP Ammendment.pdf;

You don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

Please find attached a letter expressing my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

Regards,

Marcus Harden
President
Gladiator Metals
[redacted]
gladiatormetals.com

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

When people hear the words "mineral exploration", it is easy to think only about drill rigs and rock samples. But in Whitehorse, exploration means much more than that.

It means local jobs. It means work for contractors, environmental specialists, suppliers, hotels, restaurants, transport companies and professional services. It means private investment flowing into our community. And, importantly, it means discovering what resources may exist beneath a region that has been associated with copper for generations.

Over the past three years, Gladiator Metals has grown from a company valued at approximately $20 million to around $400 million. That growth has not happened somewhere else. Much of the work creating that value is happening here in Whitehorse.

Today, Gladiator directly employs 22 people, including 12 Whitehorse residents, while supporting hundreds of local contractors, consultants and businesses. Over the next 18 months, we expect to invest approximately **$40 million in exploration and environmental work in Whitehorse**.

For Whitehorse, that represents meaningful private-sector investment and economic activity. And exploration has a multiplier effect. Every drilling program requires people, equipment, accommodation, transport, environmental work, fuel, food, professional services and supplies. Whitehorse has historically been the Yukon's commercial and service centre for mineral exploration, and continued investment supports businesses throughout the community.

Whitehorse has seen before what the development of its copper resources can mean for a community. The historic **Whitehorse Copper operation, including the Little Chief Mine, operated between 1967 and 1982** and became one of the most significant industrial developments in Whitehorse's history.

It created economic prosperity, skilled employment, training opportunities and a strongly connected community. At its peak, average mine wages were approximately **two times the Canadian national average**. Those wages supported families, local businesses and economic activity throughout the broader Whitehorse community.

The scale of what was produced was also remarkable. Expressed in today's values, the historic operation produced close to **$5 billion of copper-equivalent resource value** during its operating life. Behind that number were jobs, careers, skills, families and businesses.

Importantly, Whitehorse also has **more than four decades of real-world experience since the operation closed** through which to assess its long-term legacy.

That legacy is not simply something recorded in historical production figures. Infrastructure developed to support the former operation — including roads, access routes and trails — has remained part of the landscape and, in many cases, continues to provide value and access for the community today.

This gives Whitehorse something many communities considering resource development do not have: a long history from which to judge both the economic contribution of a major mineral operation and its legacy after closure.

The community can look back on the jobs, skills, training, wages and economic prosperity created during the operating years, while also having more than four decades of experience with the land and infrastructure that remained after operations ceased.

That history is worth remembering because the opportunity being explored today exists along the same extraordinary copper belt. But perhaps the greatest immediate value of exploration is the information it creates.

We know there is copper beneath the Whitehorse Copper Belt. What we do not yet know is how much, where the most significant resources are located, or what opportunities those resources may ultimately create for future generations. That is what exploration is designed to determine.

Exploration is not mining. It generally involves mapping, surface sampling and drilling to collect geological information. It does not involve mineral extraction, processing or permanent mine infrastructure.

Most exploration targets never become mines. But without exploration, communities and governments are left making long-term land-use decisions without knowing what resources may exist. Better geological information allows better decisions to be made.

Copper is also increasingly important to the modern economy. Electricity networks, renewable energy, transportation, data centres, defence and new infrastructure all require enormous quantities of copper. That creates an opportunity for the Yukon. The discoveries being made in the Whitehorse Copper Belt are already opening conversations that go well beyond Gladiator's exploration program.

Gladiator is in discussions with Yukon Energy about opportunities to help facilitate funding for two much-needed power stations for Whitehorse through public equity markets, while maintaining ownership with Yukon and First Nation governments.

The identification of significant critical-mineral resources can also strengthen the case for Whitehorse and the Yukon to attract federal investment for infrastructure such as power, transmission, roads and other regional development.

These are the kinds of opportunities that can emerge when private exploration capital identifies strategic resources. We also recognise that exploration must occur responsibly and with appropriate oversight.

Gladiator's existing Class 3 Quartz Mining Land Use Approval followed environmental assessment and First Nations consultation under YESAA and contains **98 enforceable operating conditions**, including requirements relating to environmental protection, monitoring and progressive reclamation. Financial security is held by the Yukon Government until reclamation obligations are completed. We have also demonstrated that economic development and environmental responsibility do not have to be opposing ideas. Gladiator has voluntarily agreed to relinquish approximately **6.3 square kilometres of mineral claims** as a contribution toward the Chasàn Chùa territorial park.

And when the City asked us to pursue an Official Community Plan amendment to provide a clear municipal pathway for temporary exploration, we agreed to do so. We worked collaboratively with City Administration and substantially reduced the proposed redesignation area from approximately **3.7 square kilometres to less than 0.81 square kilometres**.

The proposed amendment does not approve a mine or permanent development. It simply establishes a municipal planning process through which temporary exploration may be considered under the City's existing Temporary Use Permit system.

That is an important distinction. Whitehorse does not have to choose between protecting the qualities that make this community special and supporting responsible economic development. We should be capable of doing both. The Yukon has extraordinary natural advantages. It has a long mining history, significant mineral potential, skilled people, established businesses and, increasingly, access to capital seeking critical minerals such as copper.

Responsible exploration can turn those advantages into opportunity. It can create jobs today, support local businesses today and provide governments and communities with the knowledge needed to make better decisions about tomorrow.

Whitehorse's own history demonstrates what responsible resource development can contribute: **prosperity, skills, training, strong wages, successful local businesses, useful infrastructure and a community built around opportunity.**

If significant copper resources are ultimately identified again, they have the potential to help attract the infrastructure, investment and economic activity that Whitehorse will need as it continues to grow. For Gladiator, being part of Whitehorse carries a responsibility to work constructively with governments, First Nations and the community.

We intend to continue doing that. The Whitehorse Copper Belt has created extraordinary value for this community before. **Whitehorse has also had more than four decades to understand that history and its legacy.** We believe the Copper Belt has the potential to create substantial value again — and responsible exploration is the first step in understanding what that opportunity could become.

Mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marcus Harden
President
Gladiator Metals.

[redacted] Crestview, Whitehorse. YT [redacted]

Outlook

Bylaw2026-25

From Terice Reimer-Clarke [redacted]
Date Thu 8/20/2026 11:37 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc [redacted]

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Mayor and Council,

If I was in town on the evening of Aug. 24 I would be speaking to you in person, but this email will have to suffice.

I am requesting that you reject Bylaw 2026-25 and complete the Mineral Exploration Development Framework before considering any request to change the OCP or any City Bylaw.

I would suggest that this is a very important decision with long term ramifications if you choose to change the Bylaw, basically opening mining exploration up to Gladiator Minerals or any other request.

The OCP was established with sound scientific research and much work and consultation. The ecosystems are in place and thriving. Wolf Creek remains a salmon bearing stream. The firebreak is not in place to enable mineral exploration but is to convert to deciduous forest. I will feel duped if the argument holds that it is disturbed land now and thus should support mining exploration.

All city residents should be made aware of the potential change to the OCP. All of this is happening during the summer, when people are away, and less present to hear about and respond to this huge, significant possible change in the OCP.

I don't need to tell you the numbers but residents have responded with feedback to you, entrusting you to act according to the public opinion, that most residents oppose mining within the city limits. Calling Whitehorse a Wilderness City is in jeopardy. I also ask myself, " where else in Canada would minding exploration be allowed within city limits, close to neighborhoods and residences?" It sounds bizarre to people I try to explain it to. We need our mining legislation updated!!!

I have lived in Mary Lake for 35 years. I am aware of the ongoing complaints about the noise from mining exploration. I see the creation of trails and roads and destruction and mess left behind. I hear and witness increased traffic in the area. This is only the thin edge of the wedge if the proposed bylaw is successful. I am also aware of how this area is increasingly used for recreation by residents within and outside of City of Whitehorse boundaries.

Mr. Kirk Cameron. I quote you: " I think there's a package in here that allows a company to forward an exploration program that may have some impact on the neighborhood but I'm not so sure it's so dramatic". That is so NOT true. And easy to say when your home and neighborhood are not affected. I

find that comment very disingenuous. I would strongly suggest that all councillors need to consider what it would be like to have mining exploration occurring close to your home.

Please complete the Mineral Exploration Development Process. To do otherwise is a disservice to every city of Whitehorse resident.

Respectfully,
Terice Reimer-Clarke

Outlook

Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 – Mineral Exploration

From Graeme Hopkins [redacted]
Date Thu 8/20/2026 4:47 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (203 KB)
OCP Bylaw Amendment Support Letter TIG.pdf;

You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please find attached Triumph Gold Corp.'s letter of support for the proposed OCP Amendment.

Regards

Graeme

Graeme Hopkins
Chief Technical Officer
Triumph Gold Corp.
[redacted]
Vancouver, BC
D. [redacted]
C. [redacted]

TRIUMPH GOLD

Triumph Gold Corp.
[redacted]
Vancouver, BC Canada [redacted]
[redacted]
www.triumphgoldcorp.com

August 15, 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

Triumph Gold Corp, formerly Northern Freegold Resources, has been operating in Yukon since 2006 and understands how important mining is to the local economy and people of the area and we therefore support this OCP amendment.

Many mineral exploration projects are located far from communities resulting in a lot of remote work and shift work for Yukon locals. Having projects closer to larger communities will help foster the industry as well as provide jobs that are close to home, that have more regular hours; this will reduce the burden on families and help the community overall by keeping families together.

Mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight. I believe existing processes through YESAB and the MLU will help protect the environment even if in close proximity to Whitehorse.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Graeme Hopkins

Graeme Hopkins
CTO, Triumph Gold Corporation

Outlook

Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 – Mineral Exploration

From Jonas Smith [redacted]
Date Thu 8/20/2026 5:15 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>; Mayor and Council [redacted]
Cc Gladiator Community [redacted]

1 attachment (108 KB)
2026-08-20 - YCM letter to COW re Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 – Mineral Exploration.pdf;

You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello,

Please see attached letter of support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 – Mineral Exploration.

Thank you,

Jonas Smith
Executive Director | Yukon Chamber of Mines
[redacted] · Whitehorse, YT · [redacted]
(p) [redacted] · (f) [redacted]
www.yukonminers.ca

Whitehorse, YT [redacted]
PH. [redacted]
FX. [redacted]

August 20, 2026

Whitehorse City Council
2121 Second Avenue
Whitehorse, YT
Y1A 1C2

Dear Mayor and Council,

RE: Support for OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 – Mineral Exploration

On behalf of the Yukon Chamber of Mines, I am writing to express our organization's support for the proposed City of Whitehorse Official Community Plan (OCP) Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 – Mineral Exploration.

The Yukon Chamber of Mines (YCM) is based in Whitehorse and represents over 500 exploration, mineral development and service and supply members working in the territory. The Whitehorse Copper Project, being a brownfield site that has already successfully completed existing federal and territorial assessment and regulatory processes, has been key to the territory's social and economic success in the past, and can be again in the future.

Of note and interest, Whitehorse city limits were intentionally expanded over 50 years ago to incorporate the Whitehorse Copper Belt and the tax revenues generated by what was then Whitehorse Copper, an operating mine. Rewarding, well-paying, private sector employment career options that are close to home are necessary to support City coffers in order for our city to grow and thrive. Exploration activities, which are temporary and low impact in nature, contribute significantly to the municipal economy through local hiring and procurement. The YCM supports the benefits and opportunities the Whitehorse Copper Project can provide the city's swelling population, as demand for municipal services continues to increase.

Exploration is also an essential tool for planners in public administrations, as it provides the data required to make well-informed decisions. As the world transitions away from petroleum towards electrification, exploration for critical minerals - especially copper - is of paramount importance to ensure future supply chains are adequately resourced. Global demand continues to rise, the Whitehorse copper belt is a known high-grade deposit, and the Yukon is a world leader in environmental assessment and Indigenous partnerships. By developing our resources responsibly, Yukoners can help displace supply that is currently being met by less ethically responsible jurisdictions.

YCM greatly appreciates the collaborative approach undertaken by the City of Whitehorse (COW) to provide COW oversight of mineral exploration within city limits. We also appreciate the manner in

Whitehorse, YT
PH.
FX.

which our membership has responded to the planning pathway recommended by COW administration, and this proposed amendment was revised via multiple rounds of review and in response to COW administration feedback.

As the voice of responsible exploration in the Yukon, the YCM stands firmly for certainty for our industry and this amendment to the OCP can help achieve this goal to the benefit of all Yukoners.

Thank you for including the Yukon Chamber of Mines' support for COW's recommended OCP Amendment Bylaw 2026-25 – Mineral Exploration.

Sincerely,

Jonas Smith
Executive Director
Yukon Chamber of Mines

CC: Gladiator Metals

Outlook

Bylaw 2026-25

From Brad Bell [redacted]
Date Thu 8/20/2026 6:23 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

Whitehorse Mayor and City Council,

I am writing in response to the Bylaw 2026-25 to amend the city's Official Community Plan as requested by Gladiator Minerals. I live in Wolf Creek and have concerns about rezoning specific areas from Green Space and Environmental Sensitive Areas to Future Planning, which would change the definition of Future Planning to allow for mineral exploration.

Mineral Exploration involves new roads, increased traffic, disturbance to plant animals and water. Living on a rural acreage we are reliant on a well for our drinking water and any activity that would adversely affect this is of a great concern.

I am requesting that Mayor and City Council reject Bylaw 2026-25 and complete the Mineral Exploration and Development Framework before considering any request to change the Official Community Plan or any City Bylaw.

Regards,

Brad Bell

Outlook

Opposition to Bylaw 2026-25

From Gleb Krotkiy [redacted]
Date Thu 8/20/2026 10:00 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Hi,

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen, in opposition to bylaw 2026 25. My name is Gleb Krotkiy, and I am a resident of Porter Creek North. I am generally opposed to allowing any mineral exploration to occur within city limits. Although this is currently being proposed as exploratory work only. The exploratory work can only serve a purpose for future mineral extraction and mining.

I am against any changes to the OCP that aim to reclassify green belt, park or environmentally sensitive areas allowing mineral exploration and mining.

The only exception to my opposition would be to allow the expansion of permissible mineral exploration zones for the limited purpose of additional gravel pits. As the current supply of aggregates is nearing exhaustion, I believe additional gravel pits should be allowed. This would hopefully prevent the unnecessary rising of aggregate pricing and maintain lower construction project costs for both the private and public sectors.

Regards,

Gleb Krotkiy.

Outlook

Bylaw 2026.25

From James Minifie [redacted]
Date Thu 8/20/2026 6:57 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Hello Council,

My name is James Minifie. Myself and my wife, Samantha Samuelson, have lived with our four children in Mary Lake since 2008. For over 3 years, we have watched with stress and worry as Gladiator Metals have set up drill rigs, pushed roads, felled trees, run pumps and generators, and destroyed recreational trails less than 1km from our back door. There have been many evenings when we have listened to the drone of a drill rig while trying to enjoy our yard. And this is just the "exploration phase"

You have received countless emails detailing how the CoW lacks an appropriate process for making a decision such as amending bylaw 2026.25 at this time. The CoW lacks the technical tools, policies, and existing bylaw protections to vote Yes on this amendment at this time. At First Reading this was made very clear after the very thoughtful and insightful commentary made by delegates and the questions asked by council themselves.

If you allow this bylaw amendment you are allowing Gladiator Metals one step closer to developing large scale, open pit mining on the fringes of and potentially within city limits. This carries with it enormous risk such as the following:

1) Air quality concerns with strong prevailing winds from the south bringing fine particles of dust that could contain Arsenic which we know is contained within the geology of the area

2) Well water contamination from tailings piles exposed to rain and spring run off

3) Residents of villages in Africa located less than 2km from open pit gold and copper mines were at higher risk of radon gas exposure to blasting and quarrying activities. Radon is already a huge problem in this area.

4) Loss of recreational areas used by all of Whitehorse

5) Loss of wildlife habitat

6) Negative impacts on property values due to proximity to mining activities. We have seen this in many small communities in BC and Ontario

7) Loss of quality of life for residents of rural residential neighbourhoods.

These are very real risks proven in many other areas within Canada and around the world. When casting your vote, please remember that if you allow this amendment, you are exposing all of us to these risks and you will bear the responsibility of that decision.

Mayor Cameron. You campaigned on a promise of "light industrial activity". A multi decade open pit mining operation only hundreds of meters from hundreds of rural residential properties in not light industrial activity.

Please vote No on this proposed amendment.

Best regards,
James Minifie

--
James Minifie
Association of Canadian Mountain Guides - Ski Guide/Hiking Guide
Canadian Avalanche Association - Professional Member
Skookum Backcountry Adventures - Owner/Lead Guide
www.skookumbackcountry.com
Tombstone Moto Adventures - Owner
www.tombstonemoto.com
[redacted]
Whitehorse, YT, Canada

Outlook

Bylaw 2026-25

From Mandy McClung [redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 4:09 PM
To Publicinput@whitehorse.ca <Publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

Re: Bylaw 2026-25

I am writing to express my horror that a city council would support mining within the city limits. In considering a change to bylaw 2026-26, the city is favouring the interests of a few over the common good of the citizens it represents. This certainly seems contrary to the mandate given to the council.

The OCP was a carefully considered plan and should not be amended and manipulated for the benefit of mining companies and to the detriment of local residents. This is not really about one mining company or project, but the setting of a dangerous precedent that could be set by this decision

The City of Whitehorse's Draft Mineral Exploration Framework was meant to guide mineral exploration within the city. I understand that according to the What We Heard Report 2026, 62% of respondents said that mineral exploration within the city should be eliminated. A further 15% said that mineral exploration regulations within the city should be more restrictive. At the very least, I request that the city refocus its efforts on establishing an overarching mineral policy framework before considering any proposals on city lands.

Mineral exploration involves roads, trails cut, traffic, noise, disturbance to plants, animals and water. For the long term health of the community, its citizens and the special natural environment that makes our city special, I am against any changes to the bylaw and support working to eliminate mining within the city borders completely. What happened to the notion" Whitehorse, the wilderness city".

Thank you for your attention,
Amanda McClung
Whitehorse, Yukon.

Outlook

Bylaw 2026-25

From Mandy McClung [redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 4:16 PM
To Publicinput@whitehorse.ca <Publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

I am writing to express my opposition to proposed changes to the bylaw 2026-25 by city council that would allow expansion of mining within city limits. I believe that the city should be working towards eliminating mining within the city limits in the long term.

Thank you for your consideration,
Anthony Painter
Whitehorse Yukon

Outlook

OCP amendment public hearing aug 24

From Bethany Paquette [redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 1:56 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Hi,

I am opposed to the amendments gladiator metals has proposed for the OCP.

I believe this is not a decision that should be made lightly and is one that can affect future generations and communities across the Yukon. I strongly encourage the city of Whitehorse to first finish working on the mining framework needed for guiding how decisions are made in regard to mining in the future both within and outside city limits. To put these guidelines on hold in order to appease gladiator metals request seems irresponsible to yukon citizens amd their wellbeing.

Most people that moved to whitehorse did so because of their love for the place known as the wilderness city. To have close access to greenspaces and trails and clean water. They did not move her to live in a mining town, listening to the sounds of drilling year round and having the greenspaces turned into open pits.

So please do not take this decision lightly, as it has the potential to open a can of worms that can not easily be put back once opened. For this reason I am opposed to the OCP amendment that Gladiator Metals is proposing.

Bethany Paquette
[redacted]

Outlook

Bylaw 2026-25 Application to the OCP to permit mineral exploration.

From Jennifer Byram [redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 12:14 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Gladiator Community [redacted]

1 attachment (52 KB)
2314_001.pdf;

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Support letter from Brent Cooper

August 12th, 2026

Attention: Publicinput@whitehorse.ca

Brent Cooper

[redacted]

Whitehorse, Yukon

[redacted]

Dear Mayor and Council:

Re: Bylaw 2026-25: application to amend text and mapping of the Official Community Plan (OCP) to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation.

I support this amendment and encourage you to pass it. As someone who works in the construction and mining sector, a project to create more highly paid, skilled jobs in Whitehorse would benefit our city and the Yukon.

I also live in the area currently under exploration and have spent time hiking and exploring the area.

The Whitehorse Copper Project exploration is authorized under a Class 3 Quartz Mining Land Use Approval issued following a YESAB assessment process. The approval includes 98 enforceable operating conditions regarding environmental protection, operational practices, and reclamation.

This is an application to clarify the City OCP rules for exploration only at this stage. Exploration improves knowledge of the land and the mineral resource potential. That information supports decisions about the future of the community and our economy. This Gladiator exploration project is creating immediate jobs and local investment in the Whitehorse region ($40M spend in the next 18 months).
Copper is increasingly necessary. Our national government is working on Canadian security, resource independence, and broadening our economy so it is less reliant on one buyer. We have the critical minerals needed for growth and our city of over 400sq km has lots of room for mixed development including exploration and mining.

It is my understanding that both Ta'an and KDFN are supportive of the Gladiator exploration work underway in their traditional territories. I encourage the city to facilitate exploration, and potentially future mining, as one component of a strong, diversified economy for Whitehorse and the Yukon.

Sincerely,

Brent Cooper

Brent Cooper

Cc [redacted]

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

Mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Charles Demers
Cowley Creek Resident

Outlook

Mineral Exploration Bylaw 2026-25

From Corinne Tetreault [redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 10:41 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

I am asking the City Council to reject Bylaw 2026 25 or at a minimum to defer until the draft Mineral Exploration Framework is complete.

Sincerely,
Corinne Tétreault

Outlook

Proposed Change to Official Community Plan: Gladiator Minerals

From elizabeth hanson [redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 1:06 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Cameron, Kirk [redacted] Boyd, Dan [redacted] Morris, Lenore [redacted]; Gallina, Paolo [redacted] Middler, Anne [redacted]; Hamilton, Jenny [redacted]

1 attachment (21 KB)
August 20 Letter to City Council .docx;

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

Attached is my input on proposed Bylaw 2026-25.

Elizabeth Hanson

August 20, 2026

Re: Official Community Plan (OCP) Amendment as proposed in Bylaw 2026-25

My name is Elizabeth Hanson, I currently reside in downtown Whitehorse.
I first moved to Whitehorse in 1978, and have resided in the downtown, Takhini, and Hillcrest areas of our city.

Over the course of the last number of years I watched as various Councils have struggled to deal with sporadic bursts of mining related activity within our city boundaries. From the sudden and disruptive staking in Spruce Hill, the failed attempt to remine the Whitehorse Copper tailings for magnetite, to the last few years with the Australian-Canadian, Vancouver based, Gladiator Metals exploration activity in the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

The decision by Council to initiate a Mineral Exploration and Development Framework based on extensive consultation and research was an appropriate and welcome, proactive step. Having an agreed upon framework with which to assess the implications of requests to change the Official Community Plan (OCP) or City Bylaws with respect to mining exploration related activities within city boundaries would remove the ad hoc, and confusing, nature of requests such as those being made by Gladiator Metals.

Like many residents of Whitehorse, I expected that City Council would defer any decisions regarding proposals to change the OCP or, city bylaws, with respect to matters to be covered by the Mineral Exploration and Development Framework.

Absent an agreed upon framework Council is inviting upon itself, and in turn residents of Whitehorse, continued pressure to make changes to the OCP,

I have attended open house meetings, city council meetings, and gatherings where matters related to these proposals have been discussed, and noted that over the past couple of years the Gladiator proponents have become more sophisticated in their efforts to convince elected City Council members, the Councils of Kwanlin Dun First Nation and Ta'an Kwachan Council, the general public, along with the many mining investment podcasters etc., of the importance

of their exploration plans. As a junior mining company that is their job. As a junior mining company, they are building a case to sell the claims they have acquired to the highest bidder who in turn may or may not be the final owner/ builder of a mine within the 35 km long, 5 km wide stretch of land within Whitehorse City boundaries covered by claims.

As a citizen, I take seriously the role of public government at all levels and that of citizens to try to be informed and engaged.

The challenge for citizens, including in this situation, is often that the process is not a level playing field.

For example: a citizen trying to research the complexity of various pieces of legislation applicable to mining, and trying to keep abreast of developments can find it challenging: because it is.

The Proposed Bylaw 2026-25 is a case in point.

After a lengthy and complex process related to the development of the Whitehorse 2040 Official Community Plan, I like many others who participated in various stages of its development, believed that the vision as articulated in the plan i.e. : " (it) is intended to provide direction for the plan including its goals, policies and subsequent decision-making".

The plan sets out 7 Principles "intended to be considered when making decisions". When considering Gladiator Metals request to amend the OCP, Councillors may wish to ask themselves how, or if, what is being requested fulfills these Principles:

"Sustainable City: Whitehorse is a modern wilderness city with continued world class access to natural spaces through trails, greenbelts and local and regional parks. The City's services, policies and programs support sustainable community development and make it a leader in climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Engaged City: Whitehorse residents are meaningfully engaged in City decision-making and their contributions are valued.

Healthy City: Natural greenspaces, social connection, appropriate programs and high quality of life support the mental and physical health of residents."

Having listened to various representatives of Gladiator at public meetings and at City Council meetings, the impression given is that they are simply asking for minor changes to a bylaw.

Framing the proposed Bylaw amendment as anything other than a fundamental breach of the Principles set out on the OCP is , at best , disingenuous.

Council has a duty to respect the existing principles and guidance set out in the OCP.

Council has a duty to be clear in its rejection of the proposed By Law amendment that despite the proponents' assertions to the contrary, the proposed Bylaw 2026-25 is not restricted to 3 areas only. Bylaw 2026-25 if adopted with affect all future temporary use permit applications especially as they apply to Greenspace, Environmentally Sensitive and Future Planning designations.

And I would urge Council not to fall in line with the argument put forward by Gladiator that the fire break area should not be treated as "green space".
The work to create a fire break reflects decades of planning by both the City and Yukon governments along with first Nations assisted by significant federal funding, to address the real risks of fire in the aged boreal forest stands surrounding our neighbourhoods. The fire break area is not analogous to the Whitehorse tailings , ie " disturbed". The area is transitioning to deciduous (ie green) stands of trees through a planned approach to replacing the conifers with aspen.
This work has significant social license built up by, again, extensive public engagement and active involvement by all levels of government.

In conclusion, I reiterate my request that Council reject the proposal to pass Bylaw 2026-25. I also urge Council to complete the Mineral Exploration and Development Framework prior to entertaining any future requests to expand the scope of, and activities related to, mineral exploration in Whitehorse.

Outlook

Opposition to gladiatior metals expansion

From Emma Seward [redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 9:38 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hi there,

I'm writing to express my opposition to further operations of Gladiator metals in the Whitehorse area. Our natural spaces that make Whitehorse so special should be protected for future generations. Water, land and wildlife that is already vulnerable due to proximity to Whitehorse shouldn't have additional development pressure applied.

Thank you,
Emma Seward

Outlook

Public in put OCP mineral exploration City of Whitehorse letter

From John Small [redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 4:00 PM
To Publicinput@whitehorse.ca <Publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted]

1 attachment (95 KB)
Public in put OCP minteral exploration City of Whitehorse letter.pdf;

You don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Hi
Please see attached letter for support for limited mineral exploration within the City of Whitehorse Limits.
Regards
John Small
[redacted]

Attention: Publicinput@whitehorse.ca

[redacted]

Aug 21 2026

Dear Mayor and Council:

Re: Bylaw 2026-25: Application to amend the text and mapping of the Official Community Plan (OCP) to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation.

I support this amendment and encourage you to pass it.

The Whitehorse Copper Project exploration is authorized under a Class 3 Quartz Mining Land Use Approval issued following a YESAB assessment process. The approval includes 98 enforceable operating conditions regarding environmental protection, operational practices, and reclamation.

This is an application to clarify the City OCP rules for exploration only at this stage. Exploration improves knowledge of the land and the mineral resource potential. That information supports decisions about the future of the community and our economy. This Gladiator exploration project is creating immediate jobs and local investment in the Whitehorse region ($40M spend in the next 18 months).

Copper is increasingly necessary. Our national government is working on Canadian security, resource independence, and broadening our economy so it is less reliant on one buyer. We have the critical minerals needed for growth and our city of over 400sq km has lots of room for mixed development including exploration and mining.

It is my understanding that both Ta'an and KDFN are supportive of the Gladiator exploration work underway in their traditional territories. I encourage the city to facilitate exploration, and potentially future mining, as one component of a strong, diversified economy for Whitehorse and the Yukon.

Congratulations to Council for working with a proponent and for making our OCP more reflective of our landscape and more flexible for our shared economic future.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

Whitehorse Yukon

[redacted]

Outlook

Bylaw 2026-25

From Karen McColl [redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 10:14 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Hello,

I am asking Whitehorse City Council to reject Bylaw 2026 25 or at minimum to defer a decision until the draft Mineral Exploration Framework is complete.

Thank you.

[http:///]Karen McColl

Outlook

Bylaw 2026-25

From Kathy Elliot [redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 11:04 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

I'm writing to state my opposition to the proposed amendments to the Official Community Plan.

As a property owner in Whitehorse (Ingram), I find it unacceptable that City Council and the Mayor would consider amending the well established and critical OCP to reduce protection for Greenspace and Environmentally Sensitive Areas, especially at the behest of a private company.

Earlier this year, the City of Whitehorse surveyed the public for input into the development of a mineral framework. To proceed with major decisions enabling mineral exploration particularly Bylaw 2026 25 before the mineral framework has been completed and implemented is irresponsible, and disrespectful of the trust that residents of Whitehorse have placed in you as elected officials.

Changing the OCP to allow mineral exploration within the proposed areas would have broad implications for future land use planning within the City of Whitehorse. The city has grown to encompass many claims that were staked decades ago and will certainly attract renewed interest in the future. Do you, Mayor Cameron and Council Members, envision and endorse the development of actively operating mines within the City of Whitehorse? In or adjacent to residential areas? If that is not your intention, then why compromise "The Wilderness City" by allowing mineral exploration and its permanent impacts in city limits?

I urge Mayor and Council to honour and prioritize the interests of residents and property owners who have entrusted you to act on their behalf to uphold and ensure the environmental integrity of our home and the quality of life of Whitehorse residents now and in the future. Do not place higher value on the (purely profit driven) request of a mineral exploration company over your electorate. Do not permit industry to dictate the future of the City of Whitehorse. Do not enact Bylaw 2026 25.

Sincerely,
Kathy Elliot

Outlook

Gladiator Minerals

From Kyle Cameron [redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 8:46 AM
To Mayor and Council [redacted]; publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

To City of Whitehorse Mayor & Council,

As a constituent and City of Whitehorse Rate-Payer, I am in support of Gladiator Minerals' proposed development in the Whitehorse Copperbelt.

Hopefully it gets approval and that they make a success out of it.

To oppose the project because we don't want mining in our backyard is a shortsighted stance; I will also contend, hypocritical and selfish.

The transition to clean energy sources is on its way to the world. The Yukon will be both the benefactor of a world run on cleaner energy, (remember the '*state of climate emergency*' we are in?), and the supplier of the needed minerals; a boon to local employment.

A safely run, sensible mine at that site (a historic mine site already), poses almost all benefit and nearly no downside to the Territory and to the City of Whitehorse.

The Yukon needs more industry. A development such as Gladiator Minerals' proposal will naturally bring much needed direct-employment, considerable positive economic spin-off and a significant injection to the tax base.

I support Council approving the changes to zoning and zoning bylaws as will be required to see the project go ahead.

Best Regards,

Kyle G. Cameron
Whitehorse, Yukon

--

Kyle G. Cameron
[redacted]

Outlook

Bylaw 2026-25

From LM[redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 2:33 PM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Mayor and Council

I OPPOSE the application to amend text and mapping of the Official Community Plan (OCP) to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation, known as Bylaw 2026-25.

I encourage you to oppose it too.

I am a tax paying resident of the City of Whitehorse. I request acknowledgement of receipt of my submission.

LMarkle

Outlook

Bylaw 2026-25

From Nicole Densmore [redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 4:00 PM
To Publicinput@whitehorse.ca <Publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

I am writing to ask that you reject Bylaw 2026 25 or at the very least defer this until the Mineral Exploration Framework is complete. this sets a dangerous precedent for land use and it does not fit with what Whitehorse and the surrounding community wants.
Thank you
Nicole Dhillon

Outlook

Fw: concerned about violations of OCP to support Gladiator exporation, cannot attend meeting

From Prowse, Michael [redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 7:52 AM
To Public Input <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Michael Prowse
Manager • Legislative Services • Corporate
City of Whitehorse • whitehorse.ca
Working and living within the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.

From: Paul Davis [redacted]
Sent: Friday, August 21, 2026 4:38 AM
To: Mayor and Council [redacted]
Subject: concerned about violations of OCP to support Gladiator exporation, cannot attend meeting

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Mayor + Council:

Sadly, I am travelling and cannot attend the public meeting. Still, I think the OCP and Parks plan must be honoured and the Gladiator exploration plans must be quashed.

en solidarite,
Paul Davis

Outlook

Bylaw 2026-25

From Richard Mueller [redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 11:29 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Hello City of Whitehorse Council and Administration,

I am not a resident of the city, but I cannot live in the Yukon without Whitehorse, so this city is also important to me.

Hence I comment on this proposal to amend the present (August 21. 2026) Official Community Plan.

The Official Community Plan (OCP) took a lot of time, effort and taxpayers' funding to complete. This alone is enough reason not to change it until a new OCP is passed in due time.

And the new one ought to be passed only after new Quartz and Placer mining laws have been passed by the Yukon Government (- hurry this up!)

Also there is a new Draft Mineral Exploration Framework in the works in the City of Whitehorse (COW), which ought to be in effect before any new exploration/mining activity is to be approved.

For just these reasons I say that **there ought not to be an amendment to the OCP at this vulnerable time!**

I recreate with friends within the city boundaries but with additional industrial noise and rumblings I will spend less time and money in Whitehorse.

I also considered moving to Whitehorse, The Wilderness City! But the added air pollution from mining exploration and associated activities (i.e. transportation) would affect my health as a cyclist. The City of Whitehorse has become less attractive to me with this threat of dirty industry affecting the city's environment: air, water, escaping radiation, noise, and increased costs of municipal operations (municipal taxes).

Changing the present OCP would also make Whitehorse less attractive to new housing endeavours in the Copper Belt because of industrial vibrations in air, water, ground and spirit.

Also, any construction and operation of exploration and mining activity within and nearby the City of Whitehorse would likely include taking advantage of nearby electrical services; Whitehorse and The Yukon already have electricity shortages during cold spells in winter, and we do not need to subsidize yet another increase of mining profiteering with cheap electricity. Residents are first in line for electricity; temporary mining endeavours ought to produce their own electricity, share any excess with the grid, and leave the operational generation station with The Yukon after proper mine closure.

I say NO to the proposal to change the present Official Community Plan.

Richard Mueller
The Yukon.

Outlook

Letters of support for Gladiator Metals in Amendment Bylaw 2026-25

From Sami [redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 7:39 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>; Mayor and Council [redacted]

2 attachments (31 KB)
OCP Bylaw 2026-25 Support Letter Template.docx Kris .docx; OCP Bylaw 2026-25 Support Letter Template.docx Sami.docx;

You don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

To whom to may concern,

Please see attached two letters for support in Amendment Bylaw 2026-25

Cheers,

Castle Rock
ENTERPRISES LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
A DAKWAKADA COMPANY

Sami Wurfbaum | **Yard Supervisor**
p. [redacted]
Whitehorse, Yukon, [redacted]
Canada
www.castlerockent.com
Y8

Samara Wurfbaum, Supervisor at Castle Rock Ent.
[redacted]
August 21, 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt. Having once worked in exploration myself, I know the long-term value of their work, and the work possibilities they generate.

Mineral exploration supports local jobs, businesses, and investment in Whitehorse and across the Yukon. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Samara Wurfbaum
Supervisor with Castle Rock Ent.

Kristopher Rilcoe, Superintendent at Castle Rock Ent.
[redacted]
August 21, 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment (Bylaw 2026-25), which would establish a clear municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

Having worked in the Yukon construction industry, I have seen firsthand the important role that resource development plays in creating work and supporting local businesses, tradespeople, contractors, and communities. My experience in construction has given me a practical understanding of how closely connected exploration, mining, infrastructure, and construction really are.

Mining does not simply create jobs at a mine site. The economic benefits extend well beyond the operation itself. Exploration and development require roads, access, camps, buildings, equipment, fuel, transportation, heavy machinery, maintenance, electrical work, welding, mechanical work, concrete, earthworks, environmental services, and countless other trades and services. These are all areas where Yukon businesses and workers can benefit.

From my experience working in the Yukon, I have seen how projects of this nature can provide opportunities for local contractors and skilled workers while also contributing to the development and maintenance of infrastructure that benefits the territory more broadly. Resource projects can provide meaningful employment for people in the trades and create opportunities for businesses to grow, invest in equipment, hire additional employees, and build long-term capacity. I believe this amendment provides a reasonable and balanced approach to considering temporary mineral exploration while maintaining appropriate municipal oversight.

I encourage Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kristopher Rilcoe
Superintendent with Castle Rock Ent.

Outlook

Support for Including Mineral Development in the City of Whitehorse Official Community Plan

From Sandra MacDougall [redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 8:25 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>; Mayor and Council [redacted]

Mayor and Members of Council,

As a Whitehorse-south resident, I am writing to express my support to include mineral exploration and potential mine development within the Official Community Plan. The Yukon regulates mineral tenure and mine activities through the Quartz Mining Act, while the City manages land use through the OCP and Zoning Bylaw and this means the City cannot dictate mineral claim tenure, it *can* influence how surface activities are planned, permitted, and managed. Updating the OCP to clearly recognize mineral development as a compatible land use where valid mineral tenure exists would provide clarity for residents, First Nations, Canada and industry, and reduce uncertainty about how municipal and territorial authorities interact and this is of utmost importance to ensure Whitehorse is participating in the energy economy.

Drawing on the long history of copper mining in Whitehorse, Whitehorse has an opportunity to position itself within Canada's emerging critical minerals and energy economy as copper is essential for electrification, renewable infrastructure, transmission expansion, and the national energy transition. Canada lists copper as a critical mineral and is integral to the components of the Haeckel Hill wind turbines, contributing to the energy economy. Responsible exploration within city limits supports Yukon's long-term economic development and aligns with Canada's strategy to build a modern energy system and reinforce the economy.

This discussion is occurring at a time when Yukon's energy system faces significant strain with unfunded upgrades required on hydro assets and new thermal generation, to meet peak winter load. Population growth and electrification have contributed to territory-wide energy constraints, yet Yukon lacks the capital to build the firm generation and transmission capacity required for long-term reliability let alone future industrial growth. The reality is access to capital is burdened by the current debt cap however, responsible critical mineral development can strengthen Yukon's fiscal position, support public infrastructure, and reduce reliance on fragile, long-distance energy supply lines.

For these reasons, I support amending the Official Community Plan to clearly include mineral development as a recognized land use. This would provide predictability for exploration companies, establish public communication and safety expectations, support structured engagement with First Nations, and align municipal planning with territorial legislation and Chapter 22 of the Umbrella Final Agreement. Without this clarity, exploration will continue under territorial authority but without the municipal policy framework needed to manage land-use planning in Whitehorse.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

Sandra Macdougall

Whitehorse, Yukon

Outlook

2026-25: Official Community Plan (OCP) Amendment to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration

From Sara Paquet [redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 5:45 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc [redacted] Mayor and Council
Jim Coyne [redacted] Fraser Roberts

1 attachment (440 KB)
2026.08.20.Support letter Amendment 2026-25.Kluane drilling.pdf;

You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please find attached our letter of support for OCP Amendment 2026-25.

We would welcome the opportunity to answer any questions and remain open to hosting Mayor and Council at our drilling operations.

Sincerely,

KLUANE DRILLING LTD.

August 19, 2026

Attention: publicinput@whitehorse.ca

Re: 2026-25: Official Community Plan (OCP) Amendment to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation.

Dear Mayor and Council:

We are writing on behalf of Kluane Drilling Ltd. to express our strong support for OCP Amendment 2026-25 and to encourage Mayor and Council to pass it.

As senior executives of Kluane Drilling Ltd., we have firsthand knowledge of the work being done by Gladiator Metals and the significant contribution they make to the local economy through the purchase of local goods and services as well as their own direct employment.

In our case, Gladiator has contracted our drilling services which provides highly paid employment for a crew of up to 25 drillers, drill helpers and support staff, many of whom are local Whitehorse residents. In addition, Gladiator buys its core boxes and rents equipment and vehicles from our sister company, H. Coyne & Sons Ltd. Our core box operation employs people with disabilities while the vehicle and equipment rentals provide employment for our mechanics and administrative staff. We in turn make significant purchases of drill parts and equipment, supplies, groceries, travel and other services from many local businesses and tradespeople, creating a multiplier effect that supports the broader business community and contributes strongly to the economy of Whitehorse and the Yukon as a whole.

As the drilling contractor for Gladiator, we would like to reassure Mayor and Council that the drilling and other exploration activities being carried out are done so with the utmost responsibility and respect for the environment and the local community. We are proud to state that we perform our drilling services to the highest international

[redacted] Whitehorse Yukon, Canada Y[redacted] Tel. [redacted]
www.kluanedrilling.ca

standards in safety and environmental care. We are one of the largest international drilling companies in the world, providing services for many major exploration and mining companies, often in environmentally sensitive areas. The standards applied at the Gladiator project are comparable to the strict environmental and safety standards applied by our major mining clients. In addition to our standard controls, we have implemented additional measures at Gladiator's project, such as installing all drilling equipment on tracks to minimize ground disturbance and using centrifuges to recycle water and collect drill cuttings. Due to our proximity to Whitehorse, our activities are subject to more frequent and stringent inspections by the authorities than any other project we have in the Yukon, and we ensure that any recommendations or observations are dealt with promptly.

We suspect many opponents of the Amendment have a misconception about the impact of the limited exploration activities contemplated under the Amendment, especially drilling. Our drills have a small footprint and a minimal environmental impact. Once a drill hole is completed, the site is cleaned up and quickly returns to its previous natural state. We have drilled all over the Whitehorse Copper Belt for the last 20 years or so and anyone who frequents the area knows there is very little, if any, remaining trace of our previous drilling activities. We would welcome the opportunity to provide any additional information that may be required by City and Council regarding our drilling services and are happy to extend an open invitation to Mayor and Council to visit our drilling operations anytime to see them firsthand.

We understand it is difficult to balance economic development and land use, but we firmly believe the right decision for Whitehorse is for Mayor and Council to **support Amendment 2026-25** and help create a strong, diverse, and sustainable economy for Whitehorse and the Yukon by allowing responsible mineral exploration with appropriate levels of oversight.

Sincerely,

Sara Paquet
CEO

Fraser Roberts
CFO

Cc: [redacted] and [redacted]

[redacted] Whitehorse Yukon, Canada [redacted] Tel. [redacted]
www.kluanedrilling.ca

Outlook

Re: Bylaw 2026-25 - Support for Ammendment

From Valerie Royle [redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 11:03 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>
Cc Mayor and Council [redacted]; [redacted]

Some people who received this message don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor and Council,

Re: Bylaw 2026-25: Application to amend text and mapping of the Official Community Plan (OCP) to permit limited forms of Mineral Exploration within the Future Planning designation.

I am writing to express my support for this amendment and to encourage Council to pass it.

I personally believe in protecting the environment while advancing economic opportunities for Canadians. Given that the Whitehorse Copper Project exploration is authorized under a Class 3 Quartz Mining Land Use Approval issued following a YESAB assessment process AND given that this approval includes 98 enforceable operating conditions regarding environmental protection, operational practices, and reclamation, I believe this project is the best of both worlds.

This application clarifies the City OCP rules for exploration only at this stage. Exploration improves our knowledge of the land and mineral resource potential, which supports informed decisions about the future of our community and economy. Furthermore, the Gladiator exploration project is creating immediate jobs and local investment in the Whitehorse region, with a projected $40 million spend over the next 18 months.

Copper is increasingly necessary as our national government works toward Canadian security, resource independence, and economic diversification. We possess the critical minerals needed for growth, and our city has ample room across its 400 square kilometers for mixed development, including exploration and mining.

It is my understanding that both the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council and the Kwanlin Dün First Nation support the Gladiator exploration work currently underway in their traditional territories. I encourage the city to facilitate exploration as part of a strong, diversified economy for Whitehorse and the Yukon.

Thank you to Council for working with the proponent to make our OCP more reflective of our landscape and more flexible for our shared economic future.

Sincerely,

Val

Valerie Royle
[redacted]
Whitehorse. YT. [redacted]

Outlook

Support for Amendment Bylaw 2026-25

From Kell Nielsen [redacted]
Date Fri 8/21/2026 9:20 AM
To publicinput@whitehorse.ca <publicinput@whitehorse.ca>; Mayor and Council [redacted]
Cc Gladiator Community [redacted]

1 attachment (117 KB)
OCP Bylaw 2026 25 KN.pdf;

You don't often get email from [redacted]. Learn why this is important

Dear Mayor & Council,

Please find attached my letter in Support of Amendment Bylaw 2026-25

Kind regards,

K. Nielsen
[redacted]
Downtown

20th August 2026

To: Mayor and Council
City of Whitehorse

Re: Support for Official Community Plan Amendment — Bylaw 2026-25

Dear Mayor Cameron and Members of Council,

As Vice President of Exploration for Gladiator Metals Corp., and as someone who lives and works in Whitehorse, I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed Official Community Plan amendment, Bylaw 2026-25, which would establish a clear and practical municipal process for considering temporary mineral exploration in select areas of the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

The Whitehorse Copper Belt is an important part of the Yukon's mining history and remains a meaningful opportunity for renewed exploration, investment, and economic activity. Responsible exploration can help identify future mineral resources while supporting local employment, contractors, service providers, accommodations, transportation, and other businesses in Whitehorse and the broader Yukon economy.

In my view, Bylaw 2026-25 represents a balanced approach. It does not remove oversight or public accountability; rather, it creates a defined pathway for Council to consider exploration-related applications on their merits, subject to appropriate conditions, regulatory requirements, and community considerations.

Temporary mineral exploration is fundamentally different from mine development. Exploration activities are limited in scope and duration, and they provide the information required to make informed decisions about whether further work is warranted. Establishing a transparent municipal process for such work gives the City, residents, and proponents greater clarity and predictability.

Gladiator Metals is committed to conducting exploration responsibly, safely, and in a manner that respects municipal processes, environmental requirements, and the interests of the community. A clear framework under the Official Community Plan will help ensure that any future exploration proposals are assessed openly and consistently.

Mining and mineral exploration have long contributed to opportunity in the Yukon. With appropriate oversight, the City of Whitehorse can support responsible exploration while preserving its ability to evaluate site-specific considerations and protect community interests.

Looking further ahead, if exploration were ultimately successful and a future mine were ever proposed, the potential benefits could be significant. A responsibly developed mine could create long-term employment, support Yukon contractors and suppliers, generate local business activity, and contribute taxes, royalties, and other revenues that help fund public services and infrastructure. This is especially important at a time when Yukon's fiscal position is under increasing pressure and government spending has outpaced revenue growth. Building a stronger private-sector economic base, including responsible resource development, can help reduce reliance on transfer funding from Ottawa and support a more resilient territorial economy.

Responsible exploration and potential future mine development also provide important opportunities for job training and skills development. Projects of this nature can create pathways for local residents, young people, Indigenous citizens, tradespeople, technicians, environmental monitors, equipment operators, geologists, and other professionals to gain practical experience and transferable skills. Over time, these opportunities can support apprenticeships, safety training, technical certification, and career development in fields that remain valuable across the broader Yukon economy, including construction, environmental management, logistics, engineering, and resource development.

For these reasons, I respectfully encourage Mayor and Council to adopt Bylaw 2026-25 and support a clear process for responsible mineral exploration within the Whitehorse Copper Belt.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Name: Kell Nielsen
VP Exploration
Gladiator Metals

Address:__ [redacted]
Downtown