

Question:

How will your government expand access to culturally safe reproductive and sexual health services, including for Indigenous and LGBTQ2S+ communities?

Yukon Liberal Party Response:

Over the past nine years, the Yukon Liberal government has worked to expand access to culturally safe, inclusive reproductive and sexual health services across the territory. We introduced universal coverage for Mifegymiso, expanded midwifery services, supported Indigenous-led birthing initiatives, and improved access to gender-affirming care through updated health coverage and specialized training for providers. We have also partnered with organizations like Blood Ties Four Directions and the Yukon Sexual Health Clinic to enhance outreach, education, and care for 2SLGBTQIA+ and Indigenous communities. A limiting factor in service delivery, particularly in rural Yukon, can be the availability of qualified medical professionals to administer services. By bolstering culturally grounded reproductive care, increasing rural access through telehealth and mobile services, and guaranteeing that all Yukoners, irrespective of gender identity, culture, or geography, have access to safe, affirming, and high-quality sexual and reproductive health supports, a re-elected Liberal government will build on these gains.

Yukon New Democratic Party Response:

There are a number of recommendations in the Putting People First report and more importantly in the LGBTQ2IAS+ Inclusion Action Plan that are yet to be completed. We will act on all of these recommendations. For example, training through programs like WPATH is available to doctors but optional. We will make this more widely available, increase education about its importance, and provide incentives for those who complete it. We will expand the hours at the Yukon Sexual Health Clinic by providing additional funding to hire Nurse Practitioners and other staff, and make sure that abortion care is safe, accessible, and confidential across the Yukon, with a confidential space for the Opal Clinic at Whitehorse General Hospital.

Yukon Party Response:

The Yukon Party believes that all health services should be culturally safe for all individuals accessing them, including members of Indigenous and 2SLGBTQIA+ communities. We commit to working with those organizations who represent these communities to address any concerns that may arise with respect to health care services, and if required, to ensure that cultural training opportunities are offered to all healthcare providers. We will work with the Yukon Hospital Corporation to find an appropriate space for the Opal Clinic, so that it can continue to provide inclusive, welcoming and confidential care.