

Northern Strategy Youth Workshop



2005



Seeking the Voice of NWT Youth



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Department of Municipal and Community Affairs
Sport, Recreation and Youth

Northern Strategy Youth Workshop

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Northern Strategy Youth Workshop

Executive Summary

On December 14, 2004, the Premier of the Northwest Territories (NWT) announced that the Government of Canada and the territorial governments have agreed to develop, in cooperation with Aboriginal governments, organizations and northern residents, the first-ever comprehensive strategy for the North.



The Northern Strategy Framework is intended to stimulate and focus discussion during extensive consultations with northerners. In developing a consultation plan for the Framework, the Premier and Minister Responsible for Youth initiated a workshop for young people from across the Northwest Territories to seek their views and input on the Northern Strategy.

The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs through Sport, Recreation, and Youth sent out an information package to all NWT high schools seeking nominations for youth to attend a workshop on the Northern Strategy. Seventeen youth between the ages of 15 to 19 were selected to attend the workshop on April 22, 2005 in Yellowknife.

The workshop began with a tour of the Legislative Assembly and an orientation to the Northern Strategy. Premier Joe Handley and the Minister Responsible for Youth, Honourable Michael McLeod, hosted a welcome lunch at the Prince of Wales Heritage Café. Following the lunch, Premier Handley and Minister McLeod spoke to the participants about the Northern Strategy and the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) desire to involve the views of youth in the process. The floor was opened up to the participants to ask the Premier and the Minister questions on the issues related to youth in the NWT.

A facilitated consultation session was held in the afternoon at the Northern Frontier Visitors Center. Each of the seven goals from the Northern Strategy was introduced and their relevance to youth and the NWT was discussed. The participants were encouraged to put forward their own individual suggestions under each of the goals. The suggestions were discussed to ensure all the participants understood their meaning and their relevance to the Northern Strategy. The youth then voted on the suggestions under each goal.



In total, 66 recommendations were generated by the youth participants for the seven goals of the Northern Strategy. The recommendations encompassed education for youth in the communities, substance abuse, protection of the environment, increased sporting activities/active living, career opportunities, new technology and better representation for youth in the NWT.

The recommendations from the Northern Strategy Youth Workshop were given to the Premier to be included in the overall NWT consultation process.

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The top three recommendations under each goal from the Northern Strategy were:

Strengthening Governance, Partnerships and Institutions

- Youth government – youth voting for youth
- More facilities for youth, more funding, more advanced education
- Ensure all education levels across the NWT are equal

Establishing Strong Foundations for Economic Development

- Have sport schools
- Better colleges and/or universities in the NWT (certificate and grad programs)
- Safety training for jobs

Protecting the Environment

- Rules for the environment that apply to all territories
- All business have a waste management plan approved by government in order to be allowed to conduct business
- Recycling in the North

Building Healthy and Safe Communities

- Better enforcement of laws
- Off school grounds – no smoking
- School counselors should become more active by scouting out kids with problems (drug prevention)

Reinforcing Sovereignty, National Security and Circumpolar Cooperation

- More surveillance technology present in areas such as remote controlled airplanes with video cameras
- Northern studies throughout all of Canada
- Partnerships with other countries (USA, Greenland)

Preserving, Revitalizing and Promoting Culture and Identity

- More aboriginal language options in high school
- Arctic sports lessons
- Promote northern languages and cultures in the South (Ontario, BC, Alberta)

Preserving, Revitalizing and Promoting Culture and Identity

- Have technology for the North developed in the North
- Create programs at Aurora College on developing technology in the North
- High speed internet for all schools and communities.

Northern Strategy Youth Workshop

Background

On December 14, 2004, the Premier of the Northwest Territories announced that the Government of Canada and the territorial governments have agreed to develop, in cooperation with Aboriginal governments, organizations and northern residents, the first-ever comprehensive strategy for the North.



As an initial step, the federal and territorial governments have developed a Northern Strategy Framework, which consists of an initial vision for the North, principles to guide the development of the strategy, and a set of possible goals and objectives to realize the vision.

This Framework is intended to stimulate and focus discussion during extensive consultations with northerners. The final Strategy will include a shared vision, principles, goals and objectives. It will also include pan-northern and territory-specific sections in which jointly developed actions for the short, medium and long-term will be identified and prioritized consistent with individual governments' strategic plans.

In developing a consultation plan the Premier and Minister Responsible for Youth consulted with young people from across the Northwest Territories to seek their views and input on the Northern Strategy.

Selection of Youth

To recruit the youth for the workshop, a letter signed by Premier and Minister for Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA) was sent to all high schools inviting them to nominate youth. The letter outlined the workshop and invited youth from the NWT to be part of the Northern Strategy consultation process.

The nomination criteria included the following points:

- Ability to attend
- Parental permission
- Recommendation from a nominating organization or individual that confirms that the youth being nominated was interested in the process and would be an active contributor to the consultation process
- Balance of interests (sport, academic, volunteer, youth at risk etc.)

A selection committee from MACA and Executive reviewed the nominated youth against the above criteria. Additionally the selection committee assessed the nominations to ensure there was effective representation from the NWT.



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The committee further selected the workshop representatives using the following criteria.

- Representation from each region of the NWT.
- Demographic mix similar to the NWT population
- Equitable female and male representation
- Review of the written recommendations received from the nominating organizations or individuals

There were a total of 45 nominations received from across the NWT. The selection committee chose 17 youth participants from 11 communities for the Northern Strategy Workshop.

Youth Feedback

Cody was very excited after the workshop on Friday. He said it was great, that he enjoyed meeting other youth from the communities and that they had interesting discussions. The workshop made him feel like he was part of a team.

I don't know if he told you that he did a small survey of his Social Studies 30 class so he could get some ideas of what issues are important to youth.

Thank you for selecting Cody to be part of the workshop.

Mahsi.



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List of Participants

Youth Name	Age	Sex	Community
Adele Okheena	17	F	Holman
Jenna McDonald	14	F	Inuvik
Jerrita Thrasher	15	F	Paulatuk
Josh Teddy	16	M	Tuktoyaktuk
Crystal Vandermeer	21	F	Deline
Felix Kargegie	17	M	Deline
Jordon Tobac	15	M	Fort Good Hope
David Popko	16	M	Norman Wells
Taylor Fraser	16	M	Tulita
Twyla Etchinelle	14	F	Tulita
Betsy Mawdsley	16	F	Fort Smith
Kirsten Turvey	15	F	Hay River
Terrance Yendo	15	M	Wrigley
Cody Erasmus	18	M	Yellowknife
Kristen Tanche	19	F	Yellowknife
Sarah Topilikon	15	F	Yellowknife
Bonnie Rabesca	18	F	Rae-Edzo



Consultation Process

Seventeen youth, ages 15 to 19, were invited to Yellowknife for a facilitated consultation session with the Premier and Minister Responsible for Youth on April 22, 2005.

The format for the event was:

Day One – April 21, 2005:

- Youth and chaperons arrived in Yellowknife and were greeted by MACA staff.
- A MACA hosted dinner was held for the youth participants, chaperons, MACA personnel and the facilitator to meet each other and an orientation to the workshop process was presented.
- The evening was completed with the youth having free time at the Side Door Youth Center.

Day Two – April 22, 2005:

- An orientation session at the Legislative Assembly was conducted in the morning with the following activities:
 - A tour of the Legislative Assembly.
 - An orientation briefing on the Northern Strategy.



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- The workshop objectives, format and the consultation process were introduced to the youth participants.
- A brainstorming session was held for the youth to develop questions and suggestions for an afternoon meeting with the Premier and the Minister Responsible for Youth.
- Premier Joe Handley and the Minister Responsible for Youth, Honourable Michael McLeod hosted a welcome lunch at the Prince of Wales Heritage Café. Also in attendance for the lunch was Debbie DeLancey, Deputy Minister for Municipal and Community Affairs.
- Following the lunch, Premier Handley and Minister McLeod spoke to the participants about the Northern Strategy and the territorial government's desire to involve the views of youth in the process. The floor was opened up to the participants to ask the Premier and the Minister questions on issues related to youth in the NWT.
- A facilitated consultation session was held in the afternoon at the Northern Frontier Visitors Center
- Each of the seven goals from the Northern Strategy was introduced and their relevance to youth and the NWT was discussed.
- The session with the youth followed the "workshop" method.
- The participants were encouraged to put forward their individual suggestions under each of the goals using their own thoughts and reflections.
- The youth wrote their suggestions on a "sticky" pad and posted them onto a discussion board.
- The suggestions were each discussed to ensure all the participants understood their meaning and their relevance to the Northern Strategy goal being discussed.
- Each participant had three votes to help in determining the priority recommendations under each goal.
- The voting was emphasized as an important process in assisting the GNWT to determine the priorities for youth under the Northern Strategy.
- Once the brainstorming and discussion was finished, the youth then voted on the suggestions under each goal.
- The day was finished with a hosted dinner at Boston Pizza and an evening of swimming and a movie.



Day Three – April 23, 2005:

- The youth participants and their chaperons traveled back to their communities.

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Workshop Outcomes

The Workshop generated 66 recommendations from the youth participants for the seven goals of the Northern Strategy. The recommendations from the Youth Workshop were given to the Premier and the Minister Responsible for Youth for inclusion in the overall territorial consultation process for the Northern Strategy.

The workshop provided a two-pronged approach for youth. It accomplished its primary goal of providing the GNWT with its consultation process with youth on the Northern Strategy. The Workshop also provided the Minister Responsible for Youth with important information necessary for the future of youth programming in the NWT.

This information included:

- What is important to youth.
- Future frameworks for consultation with youth.
- The direction and priorities for GNWT youth programming.
- The focus and format of future youth workshops.



Youth Feedback

A message on behalf of the youth and the community of Paulatuk.

Thank you for making this trip possible for one of our youth to attend this workshop.

This indeed is an event that shows the community of Paulatuk, that our youth are not as isolated as previously perceived. Jerrita in turn will be attending the Education board and the Recreational committee to update this workshop to the community and the youth.

Our gratitude to you and all who made this possible.

*Respectfully,
The Students of Angik School,
Youth of Paulatuk.*



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Workshop Observations

The Youth Workshop proved to be an important process in obtaining consultation from youth on the Northern Strategy. It also was a positive learning experience on developing an effective consultation process with youth on issues that are important to them.

Several lessons were learned on the process of consulting with youth:

- Continue the consultation process with youth as it has multiple benefits for the GNWT.
- The participants felt positive about the consultation process and openly stated their appreciation that the GNWT was willing to listen to the needs and concerns of youth.
- The selection criteria should include a commitment for leadership or a demonstrated example of leadership from the youth participants.
- The workshop should be over a two-day period as the one-day consultation process was very demanding for the participants.
- Focus the workshop format to three major issues for youth as the discussion around the seven goals of the Northern Strategy proved to be tiring for the participants.
- Maintain and expand the session on briefing the participants on the process and background information for the consultation subjects. It was noted that many of the participants did not have the same information and background knowledge.

The key point learned from the workshop is that talking to and consulting with youth in a formal process about their education, needs, concerns and futures, is a critical component to developing effective youth programs.



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Strengthening Governance, Partnerships and Institutions

Ranking	Youth Consultation	Summary/Comments
18	Youth Government - voting allowed for youth	<p>Youth of the NWT are allowed to vote for representation in the legislative assembly.</p> <p>Candidates may be youth or adults representing the voices and needs of youth.</p>
9	More facilities for youth, more funding, more advanced education	<p>More facilities to support youth and their activities are needed in all communities across the NWT.</p> <p>More funding is needed to support youth related programming and activities in the NWT.</p> <p>More education beyond high school is needed in the NWT so youth do not have to travel to southern Canada to take advanced education.</p>
7	Ensure all education levels across the NWT are equal	<p>Education levels vary from region to region and community to community.</p> <p>All education should be based on the same standards and delivery methods instead of location.</p>
5	Sport North and the Government should become better friends	<p>Enhance the relationship between Sport North and the GNWT.</p> <p>The delivery of sport related activities in the NWT are considered critical to youth.</p> <p>Improving the relationship between Sport North and the GNWT would improve the delivery and support of sports, which would better support youth in the NWT.</p>
4	We should have a "UN" simulated government where they all meet together and discuss issues as a whole	<p>The GNWT should pursue a "United Nations" style of discussion and decision-making.</p> <p>All communities could participate along with the various levels of governments.</p>

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Strengthening Governance, Partnerships and Institutions (cont'd)

Ranking	Youth Consultation	Summary/Comments
1	Create a better relationship with the Dene Nation and other aboriginal groups and have a healthier partnership with them – work on the past	<p>The future depends on healthy and positive relationships with all aboriginal organizations. The GNWT should enhance its relationships with the Dene Nation and other aboriginal groups.</p> <p>Work on some of the past issues to ensure they are addressed and contribute to a beneficial relationship between the GNWT and aboriginal people.</p>
1	More Aboriginal people in Government	Increase the number of aboriginal people employed in the GNWT.
No ranking given by the participants	Communications information sharing	<p>All levels of government (community, NWT & Federal) need to better share information.</p> <p>Create new systems or improve existing communications between the various levels of government.</p> <p>Increase the amount of communication and information sharing within the departments of the GNWT.</p>
No ranking given by the participants	Single representative from each community instead of multiple representatives from Yellowknife	<p>Change the representation in the Legislative Assembly from its current format to a more traditional system.</p> <p>One elected representative from each community – one community, one vote.</p>
No ranking given by the participants	Honesty and trust, also develop ideas about future leaders	<p>The GNWT should foster honesty and trust as key values for the Legislative Assembly and the civil service.</p> <p>The GNWT should present ideas and concepts about leadership to future leaders.</p>

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Establishing Strong Foundations for Economic Development

Ranking	Youth Consultation	Summary/Comments
14	Have sport schools	<p>Introduce more sports and physical activities into NWT schools.</p> <p>The issue of keeping youth in school was discussed and seen as a central theme to a strong foundation for economic development in the NWT. One major way to keep youth in schools was to create “sport schools.”</p> <p>In addition to keeping youth in school, the sport school concept was seen as an important way to keep youth out of trouble.</p>
13	Better colleges and/or universities in the NWT (certificate and grad programs)	<p>Post secondary education is an essential focus to a strong foundation to the north’s economic development.</p> <p>Increased access to post-secondary institutions was central to educating northerners for their career futures and creating a strong economic foundation for the NWT.</p> <p>The youth participants strongly felt that leaving the NWT to go to school in southern Canada was not a positive process, which increased dropout rates for northern students attending post-secondary institutions.</p>
6	Safety training for jobs	<p>The participants saw the construction of a NWT pipeline as being a major reality for the North.</p> <p>They felt that an important prerequisite for working in the pipeline construction and other major industries in the NWT was safety training.</p> <p>The safety training would be delivered to all communities in the NWT with an emphasis on the small smaller communities where employment was more limited.</p>
6	More courses for people who are not really on the academic stream, etc. hairdressing, cooking...choices	<p>Expand the courses that are available for students that do not wish to pursue an academic stream in high school.</p> <p>Expand the non-academic courses beyond the trades and into other career areas such as cooking, hairdressing, etc.</p> <p>An example was given of a program in Fort Simpson that gave youth the chance to explore job skills and become certified river guides.</p>

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Establishing Strong Foundations for Economic Development (cont'd)

Ranking	Youth Consultation	Summary/Comments
6	Encourage people to stay in school	<p>The participants identified that the dropout rate of youth from school was an issue in the NWT especially in the smaller communities.</p> <p>New programs or processes should be put in place that reduces the dropout rate of northern youth, as the existing systems are not working.</p>
2	Increase the tax base	<p>Increase the government's ability to tax land and create new tax revenue.</p> <p>Enhancing the tax base of the communities and the GNWT was seen as a way to increase revenue for funding youth programs.</p>
No ranking given by the participants	Get royalties	<p>The GNWT get stronger resource royalties from the Federal government.</p> <p>The revenue from the increased royalties could be directed to youth programming in the NWT.</p>
No ranking given by the participants	Offer more CTS courses for future use	<p>Increase CTS programming in high schools for youth to take over academic learning.</p> <p>Increasing "trades" and commercial/industry occupation learning creates more opportunities for youth to enter the workforce.</p> <p>The increased work force means a stronger workforce on the NWT lessening the demand for fly in/fly out workers.</p>



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Protecting the Environment

Ranking	Youth Consultation	Summary/Comments
13	Rules that apply to all territories	<p>Each territory has its own environmental regulations despite all three jurisdictions having the same environmental/geographical considerations.</p> <p>The three territorial governments adopt the same rules/regulations for the environment to make enforcement similar.</p> <p>Businesses/industry only have to adopt and follow one set of rules to protect the environment.</p>
10	All businesses have a waste management plan approved by government in order to be allowed to conduct business	<p>The participants believed that many issues related to environmental contamination were linked to waste from NWT businesses and industry.</p> <p>The GNWT enforce or expand existing enforcement of waste management plans for business and industry.</p>
9	Recycling	<p>Recycling in the NWT needs to be expanded in all NWT communities, including the smaller municipalities.</p> <p>Consistent involvement by all businesses and community residents was seen as a critical factor for the success of territorial wide recycling programs.</p>
4	More garbage bins on the highways	<p>Much of the litter on NWT highways was due to a lack of regularly spaced garbage bins.</p> <p>Participants suggested increasing the number of bins on all NWT highways and regularly cleaning them out to prevent littering from motorists.</p>
3	Wind energy	<p>The GNWT look at generating power from wind energy.</p> <p>The participants saw this source of electricity as a viable alternative to fuel fired power generators in the communities.</p>

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Protecting the Environment (cont'd)

Ranking	Youth Consultation	Summary/Comments
3	Post-secondary institutions should research the land and water to figure out how much damage is in the environment here	<p>Research should be conducted to determine the scope of environmental pollutants and the amount of damage done to the land.</p> <p>The participants felt that the amount of pollution in the NWT was not clear to the residents.</p> <p>The newly acquired information could be shared with all NWT residents to promote a new awareness on protecting the environment.</p>
2	Other countries come together and help out with pollution	<p>The results of pollution in the North were a shared issue amongst the circumpolar countries.</p> <p>Shared dialogue and information between northern countries was seen as a solution to preventing pollution in the NWT.</p>
2	Reduce car use - public transit and get active	<p>Reduce the use of motor vehicles and the pollution they cause to the environment.</p> <p>Expand public transit and promote getting "active."</p>
1	Solar panels	<p>Promote the use of solar panels for generating power for residential homes.</p> <p>Participants noted the presence of some homes using solar panels for power in their communities. This type of electricity was seen an alternative for existing power generation for individual homes.</p>
1	Help to protect our land from litter and pollution and it should be illegal to litter	<p>Many of the youth participants felt that the existing environmental protection programs were not effective at preventing pollution and littering.</p> <p>New awareness and enforcement programs were needed to better protect the environment.</p>
No ranking given by the participants	Monitoring of long range air pollution from the Great Lakes area – 90% of the pollution in the oceans and air in the North is from the south – more northern participation	<p>The GNWT engage in aggressive environmental monitoring in the NWT to determine the impact of pollution from the Great Lakes area and southern Canada.</p> <p>The North has more say and a stronger regulatory voice in pollution prevention in southern Canada.</p>

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Building Healthy and Safe Communities

Ranking	Youth Consultation	Summary/Comments
12	Better enforcement of laws	<p>The participants felt that many of the existing laws (such as seat belts, speed limits) were not being enforced adequately and consistently in the smaller communities.</p> <p>The RCMP and other agencies with enforcement responsibilities enforce the existing laws in all communities, regardless of the size of the community.</p>
8	Off school grounds – no smoking	<p>The participants felt that smoking is still a major issue in the North especially with youth.</p> <p>Smoking should be banned off school property and other areas where youth and children are present.</p> <p>Youth and role models for youth (teachers, parents, elders) that smoke set the wrong example for children.</p>
7	School counselors should become more active by scouting out kids with problems (drug prevention)	<p>Counselors were seen as a resource for intervening with troubled youth that were still attending school.</p> <p>New programs and training for counselors would assist them in being more proactive in helping troubled youth.</p>
3	Have drug dogs in public places (schools, bars, stores)	<p>Drug dogs doing checks in public areas would have a strong deterrent effect on illegal drugs in the communities.</p>
3	Better drug prevention classes in schools	<p>Drug prevention and awareness programs (beyond the DARE classes for Grade Six) for high school students would be beneficial.</p>
3	Better drug detection programs	<p>The GNWT and the RCMP implement newer and better drug detection programs.</p> <p>Drugs entering the communities, including the smaller municipalities, were seen as very real problem by the youth participants.</p>

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Building Healthy and Safe Communities (cont'd)

Ranking	Youth Consultation	Summary/Comments
3	More optional classes on health issues	Introduce new health classes that focus on issues relevant to youth, such as self-esteem, drug awareness & prevention.
3	Youth court panel	<p>The participants noted the use of youth court panels in several communities was of benefit to promoting healthy communities.</p> <p>They felt that youth involved in the sentencing of youth for criminal activity in the communities was important.</p> <p>The roles of youth panels were seen as a crime deterrent for youth.</p>
2	Instead of sports have cultural activities as well	<p>Cultural activities, both in and out of school, were discussed as being as important as sports.</p> <p>These events were seen as essential in the small communities and would engage youth in maintaining their culture as well as reducing their participation in negative activities.</p>
1	Support groups – Help Line	<p>Develop NWT based support groups specifically for youth.</p> <p>This could include peer group assistance or a help line for youth.</p>
No ranking given by the participants	Make a law that requires snowmobilers to wear a helmet.	Implement a law for the wearing of helmets while operating snowmobiles in the same manner as what has been done for ATV's.
No ranking given by the participants	More sports – role models – lots of activities	<p>Introduce more sports and related activities into schools and the communities with the help of role models.</p> <p>In addition to helping youth avoid trouble and to stay in school, the sports and activities would promote a healthy lifestyle.</p>



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Reinforcing Sovereignty, National Security and Circumpolar Cooperation

Ranking	Youth Consultation	Summary/Comments
13	More surveillance technology present in areas such as remote controlled airplanes with video cameras	<p>The participants discussed taking advantage of technology to reinforce sovereignty in the North.</p> <p>Remote sensing and surveillance could help address Canada's protection of all three territories.</p>
12	Northern studies throughout all of Canada	<p>Much of the NWT school curriculum promotes the development of southern Canada with little to no reference to the development of the North.</p> <p>Discussion ensued over southern students studying the development of the northern territories and promotion of the people, the environments and the cultures.</p>
9	Partnerships with other countries (USA, Greenland)	<p>Create or enhance partnerships with other circumpolar countries.</p> <p>These partnerships would be directly between the other countries and the GNWT and not necessarily with the Canadian federal government.</p>
4	More aboriginal in the Armed Forces and Search & Rescue	Increase the number of aboriginal people enlisted the military and search and rescue.
3	Contract out task of patrolling	Patrolling the north to reinforce sovereignty could be contracted out to the private sector.
1	Satellite photos	Utilize satellite imagery to monitor the north and decrease costs of patrolling and reinforcing sovereignty.



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Preserving, Revitalizing and Promoting Culture and Identity

Ranking	Youth Consultation	Summary/Comments
18	More aboriginal language options in high school	<p>Introduce and/or enhance aboriginal language options in NWT schools and the curriculums.</p> <p>The participants saw maintaining or expanding aboriginal languages as being central to preserving their cultures.</p>
7	Arctic sports lessons	Introduce arctic sports lessons into schools and community activities.
5	Promote northern languages and cultures in the South (Ontario, BC, Alberta)	<p>Develop programs that promote northern aboriginal cultures and languages in southern Canada.</p> <p>By promoting NWT aboriginal language and cultures in the south, there would be a better understanding of the unique needs and challenges of the North.</p>
5	Teaching of cultural music in schools	Develop music programs in school that teach aboriginal music to youth.
4	Give elders a bigger voice	Reinforce the traditional roles of elders in northern communities by giving them a bigger voice in decision-making.
4	Aboriginal history classes allowing aboriginal students to learn about who they are	<p>Introduce aboriginal classes into school curriculums that would allow aboriginal students to explore their histories and cultures.</p> <p>A better understanding and knowledge of their cultures would allow NWT youth to better preserve and protect their cultures.</p>
3	Making parents speak to their kids in their language	<p>The youth participants felt that parents played a central role in preserving their cultures.</p> <p>A key component was parents speaking and teaching their language to their children in the home.</p>
1	More Dene Kede incorporated into schools	Expand the delivery of Dene Kede into schools or introduce other forms of aboriginal based programming into schools.

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Preserving, Revitalizing and Promoting Culture and Identity (cont'd)

Ranking	Youth Consultation	Summary/Comments
1	More language sessions	Expand aboriginal language sessions into school and other NWT learning institutions, such as Aurora College.
1	Aboriginal fur industry	Promote the fur industry in Canada and around the world. Trapping is seen by youth as being a strong focus to culture and preserving a traditional way of life.
1	Creating fun activities and more choices to speak their language such as sing-alongs and developing fun language games	Develop new, innovative and fun ways of learning and maintaining aboriginal languages. The learning of languages was seen as "boring" which directly affected the interest level to youth to learn or maintain their aboriginal languages.
No ranking given by the participants	More cultural field trips	Utilize more field trips that focus on cultural learning to enable youth to better understand or learn more about their cultures.

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Developing Northern Science and Research

Ranking	Youth Consultation	Summary/Comments
13	Have technology for the North developed in the North	<p>Much of the technology used in the development of the NWT comes from the rest of Canada with little input from Northerners.</p> <p>Increase the capability of industry, businesses and governments to develop technology in the NWT.</p>
11	Create programs at Aurora College on developing technology in the North	<p>Aurora College is seen as a leading institution by youth for education in the NWT.</p> <p>Following on the recommendation of developing technology in the North, Aurora College should develop programs on technology development for Northerner to take.</p> <p>This process would enhance the concept of Northerners developing technology in the North for use in the NWT.</p>
9	High speed internet	<p>Develop reliable cost effective high speed internet for all schools and all communities in the NWT.</p> <p>Many schools in the NWT do not have reliable high-speed internet limiting youth in their ability to access further education through internet based distance education courses.</p>
6	Studies on the effects of pollution in the North	<p>Pollution is seen an issue for the North by youth. Develop northern-based programs for studying the effects of pollution on the environment.</p> <p>The development of a NWT pipeline prompted much of the discussion around the effects of pollution in the NWT.</p>
5	Aboriginal books by aboriginal people	<p>The issues of northern science and research should incorporate the knowledge of aboriginal people and importantly include the teachings of elders, especially in the areas of the environment and renewable resource management.</p> <p>This could be managed through aboriginal books written by aboriginal authors.</p>

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Developing Northern Science and Research (cont'd)

Ranking	Youth Consultation	Summary/Comments
3	Get our people to train on how to build a pipeline	<p>Create job-training programs to educate aboriginal workers on how work in the pipeline construction industry.</p> <p>The job training would focus on the NWT's small communities to increase business and employment opportunities for aboriginal people.</p> <p>The development of a NWT pipeline is seen by youth as a major economic issue for the North.</p>
1	Northern sciences	<p>Enhance the delivery of science programs in NWT schools.</p> <p>Current science curriculums being delivered in the NWT utilize information from southern Canada and do not include information on northern-based sciences and are not relevant to NWT students.</p> <p>Rewrite science curriculums to include reference to the science of the north and make science education relevant to northern students.</p>



Northern Strategy Youth Workshop

Appendix A - Agenda

Thursday April 21:

Evening:

- 4:00 - 7:00 Youth participants arrive Yellowknife
- 6:30 - 8:00 Pizza Party Meet & Greet at Fraser Tower
- 8:00 - 10:00 Recreational activities

Friday April 22:

Morning:

- 8:00 – 8:30 Breakfast Fraser Tower Suites Lobby
- 8:30 – 8:45 Participants transported to Legislative Assembly
- 8:45 - 9:00 Security sign in at LA.
- 9:00 – 9:45 Tour of Legislative Assembly
- 9:45 – 10:00 Nutrition Break
- 10:00 – 10:30 Orientation briefing on the Northern Strategy
- 10:30 – 11:15 Preparing for facilitation sessions
- 11:15 – 11:30 Travel to museum
- 11:30 – 12:15 Lunch with Premier/Minister of Youth

Afternoon:

- 12:15 – 1:00 Q&A with Premier/Minister (Museum auditorium)
- 1:00 – 4:00 Facilitated consultation session
- 4:00 – 4:30 Wrap up and closing comments

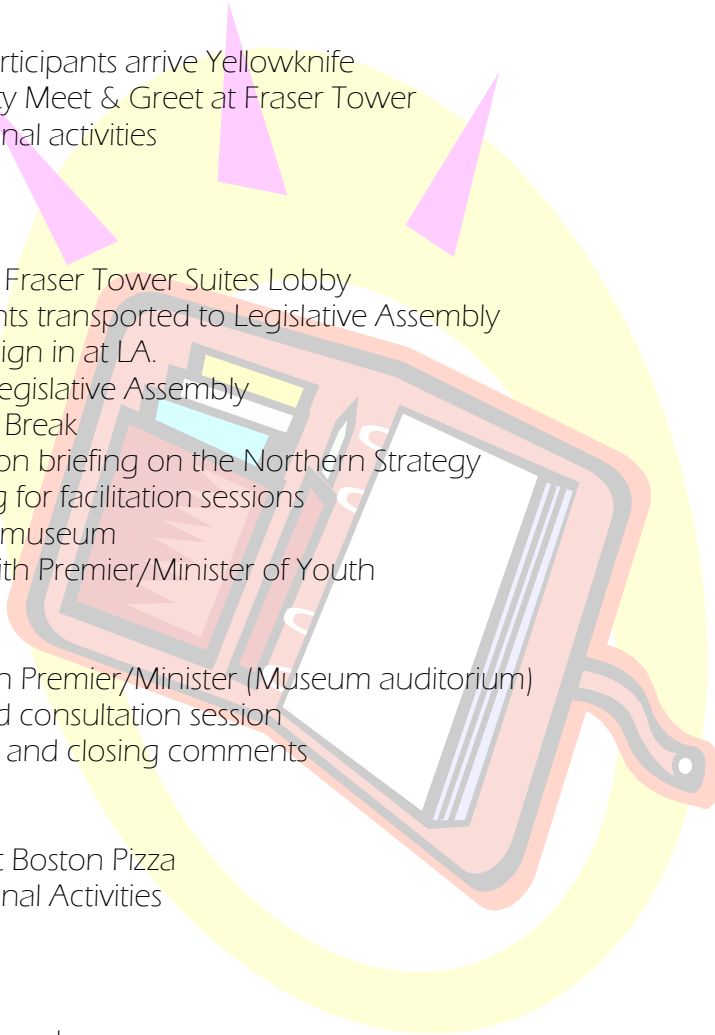
Evening:

- 7:00 – 8:30 Dinner at Boston Pizza
- 8:30 – 10:30 Recreational Activities

Saturday April 23:

Morning:

- 8:30 – 11:00 Youth return home



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Appendix B - Jenna's Thoughts

Hi my name is Jenna McDonald. I am here representing the youth of Inuvik. I am honoured to be here, and we the youth of Inuvik appreciate that you have taken the time to listen to our concerns and issues.

My first concern I would like to express is extended hours for teen swim, especially in the summer months. This would prevent kids hanging out and doing inappropriate actions.

My next issue is the oil and gas industry. This has already had a positive impact in our region. However, without this pipeline opportunities will be very limited. One example that I can give is our high school is already running an oil and gas trades program for high school students. The benefit of this particular program is it has drawn students back to school, who would otherwise wind up out of school and probably not be working.

My other thoughts are to turn Inuvik's youth centre to an actual youth centre, with some structured programs verses a place to hang out. Personally I feel blocked out from Inuvik's youth centre, just because of the kind of crowd that hangs out there, and it's the same with a few other peers. Therefore structured programming would eliminate the segregation now present in the youth centre.

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One opportunity that I would love to have is to learn to cross country ski. And, have someone with experience like Sharon or Shirley Firth take time to teach us. If they came to Inuvik and taught us how to cross country ski, in my opinion, it will draw teenagers away from drugs and alcohol and lead them to a stronger career, and future. If Sharon and Shirley Firth can cross country ski and go places, so can the youth across the North.

Samuel Hearne Elementary School would be a lot better school if we were to have a better education. Put more activities such as new optional classes which will give us more opportunities than what we have now, and for us youth to be brought up to a better future.

One idea, I know that the teens of Inuvik will appreciate is to fix up our skateboarding park. Such as better cement and new ramps, then the teens will be more focused on sports instead of growing up too quick and doing things such as drugs and alcohol.

At Samuel Hearne Elementary Secondary School kids at a young age see the older teens smoking. Young kids are followers and they will follow what they see. They will end up making bad choices instead of doing what they have to do to make their dream or career more successful, so I think smoking should be taken somewhere else besides right in front of the entrance of Samuel Hearne Elementary Secondary School.

Thank you.