

Subject:Re: Questions from Whitehorse Urban Cycling Coalition
Date:2016-10-29 23:46
From:Yukon Green Party <yukongreenparty@gmail.com>
To:connect@wucc.ca

Hello WUCC:

Thank you very much for including the Yukon Green Party in your questionnaire.

Have a read through our transportation policies in Section 2 of our policy book. Our policy book is available at yukongreenparty.ca. We are confident you will be pleased to see our dedication to a healthier and de-carbonized territory.

Please see below our answers to your questions, they were prepared for you by Philippe LeBlond. You may know of him as the previous owner of what is now Cadence Bike Shop. He is currently running in the riding of Copperbelt South.

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

The Yukon Green Party is all for programs and initiatives which promote active and healthy living. In a car oriented culture, offering alternatives such as safe and efficient bicycle paths, away from air polluting cars and with adequate snow clearing, would be a means of encouraging more people to consider cycling as a healthy means of transport.

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

The soon to be federally imposed carbon tax would be applied to fossil fuels at the pump, this may encourage more people to take out their bicycle and ride the nice new cycle path which could be paid for by... the carbon tax :)

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

There are programs on road safety for kids and bikes, such as the one put on by RPAY. Such education and awareness programs fit well with Green Party values. Drunk driving awareness and check stop programs sadly exist and seem to have some effectiveness. However, efficient bicycle and pedestrian paths would help remove cyclists and other non-motorized (except electric wheelchairs) travelers from traffic and decrease their risks of collision.

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

These highways are what they are, vital links through the Territory and to most towns. Champagne was essentially removed from the map when the Alaska Highway was rerouted, but this may not be practical or economical for other communities, nor may they desire this option. I've traveled and have seen many places where a cycle path parallels the highway for several kilometers on each side of a town. This isolates cyclists and pedestrians from the highway and allows them a safer, car free option for short trips which are along the highway.

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

We would promote cycling in the Yukon through better infrastructure such as cycle paths and more safety and education programs. Additionally, initiatives such as showers in new commercial/government buildings over a certain capacity and a safe area to store bikes would increase the desire for more folks to participate in this very valuable mode of transportation.

Thanks again, and have a great day,

Kristina Calhoun
Yukon Green Party