

KEY POINTS/TOPICS – Whitehorse, March 7th, 2024

DOES NOT APPLY TO THE YUKON

- A lot of these conversations, yes they are important, but for action right now and what Yukon first nations can do... we are handcuffed. We are very much working within the existing system. This is a consultation and we don't want to be boxes to check, it's important to know that not a lot is going to come out of this, because looking at the three streams, they just don't apply. This is just a matter of fact.

FUNDING NOT ACCESSIBLE

- From a Yukon self governing first nation perspective, that does not have a negotiation framework agreement for implementing any agreement under an area of self justice, we cannot access this funding without Yukon government legislation, so i guess implementation, as far as I know we have never had any funding flow to Yukon, and currently we cannot because Yukon does not have policing legislation. Either we discuss policing through the AJA, which at this time we don't see how we can do that under our current framework agreement or our Yukon government has to legislate and talk about how this could be implemented in Yukon.

ENSURE PROVINCES CONTRIBUTE AND COST SHARE

- Strengthen the language to make sure that the provinces do in fact contribute their portion and the province and territories do have legislative authorities in policing.
- The ability of both governments to cost share at the same time - has been a limiting factor.

RCMP ARE LIMITED TO ENFORCE LAWS

- RCMP do not enforce laws. We have our self governed agreements that allow us to draw down jurisdiction. It has effectively frozen us to be able to develop anything - we can't legislate any of those areas until we have the ANA signed. When we have a community safety crisis, or the justice system releasing dangerous people back to the community, we are held back by our own self government agreement. If any legislation we pass is in conflict with Yukon or RCMP legislation, they will not enforce it. There is no enforcement on anything that we set as a community.
- The charter is the reason that if we pass any legislation that puts the rights and safety of the community above an individual, they can't enforce it. This is where we run into issues with enforcement. They are limited to the charter for what they can do. That is something that I would like for you to hear and consider with this legislation.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS AND CONSULTATIONS IN PERSON

- Engage with each community individually, and equally. When it came to CTA talks, what would happen in Nova Scotia, is the province and the feds would come into Old Crow and they would make agreements. They would engage individually and equally. I find it a little different here the way it works, it's a bit awkward and inefficient. It's like anything, you get great teachers and bad teachers.
- I like the idea of a mediator and I think it would be helpful to consult with each first nation, because there could be more than one way of dispute resolution and clearly outlining the perimeters of it.
- I really wanted to be in this conversation, going forward I would love the opportunity to meet with people in person.
- Hypothetically, if Yukon had legislation and could access this, I think we would like to have funding to be able to do these consults with our community, and have input into how it applies within our legislation framework, how it interplays with all the different service providers, how it affects our administration of justice negotiations, and that would include legal support, which is a big cost, when reviewing legislation.

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- The only real thing that they give to the government is the data every month, but it's not very informative, it doesn't report on community engagement, they don't really have any relationship with our council. We can't just talk to them directly most of the time.

JURISDICTIONS

- We are looking to align with the framework that's in place with the jurisdiction. This issue has provoked the most amount of discussion. We are looking to find a collaborative approach.

HAVING LANGUAGE THAT SPEAKS TO THIS INTENT, IN THE LEGISLATION

- The whole heart of the legislation is really about the government's conduct and doing better where we bring funds to the table. There is a conversation between the first nation or the police commission, the province and the federal government, to meet the standards of that jurisdiction, with a collaborative approach.

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

- A lot of young people are interested in policing, but don't get on par with other police jurisdictions. So, they lose a lot of members to different police services.

OPEN APPEAL PROCESS

- Regarding dispute resolution, I would prefer an open appeal process, this is public money being discussed, it would help having the information public.

COLLABORATIVE APPROACH FOR SMALL JURISDICTIONS

- I'm just wondering if because the Yukon is such a small jurisdiction, if there was a collaborative approach with the first nations that are self governing, how would that work?
- The concept of regionalization is already contemplative under the FNIPP. There is one first nation police service that operates within two jurisdictions, so there is space for multi jurisdictional operations. We are working in a space where there needs to be a tie to provincial police work.

TRANSBOUNDARY ISSUES

- My issue is for my small community, it's going to be hard. I am wondering how we are going to address the transboundary issues. I am wondering, you say multi communities but we are one nation and we are split by borders. In our time, the elders said bloodlines not borders, because we have people related to us right from Ross River to British Columbia. We were at the tables of BC at one point, but that is no longer.

FAST TRACK IT – CREATE A WORKING GROUP

- Have a working group that can stay focused on getting it developed towards what we need here and other places, I would like to see that it be sped up, to not have it go on for another 20 years.

UNDERSTANDING THE FULL COSTS

- We need to consider the cost of delivering these kinds of services in a very remote fly-in community.
- We need to understand the full cost of a program like that. Training and infrastructure.
- How much is available to be paid and in comparison to RCMP? Is it going to be equitable?

ACCOUNTABILITY

- We would like more accountability built into the program. There is no reporting to the first nations, we don't see how that money from the FNIPP is actually benefiting our community.

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EXPECTATIONS OF A CTA (CONTRIBUTION TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT)

- Every member should know about the CTA the minute they come to the community. They should know the expectations and they should know it well. Maybe there should be a section in monthly reports, showing what expectations they met from the CTA.
- Public safety Canada would need to take a serious look at the current structure of the CTA and add more resources to the program.

PROACTIVE REDUCTION APPROACH

- Funds for training and prevention.
- Most calls are mental health or addictions, we are trying to put better boots on the ground. We are really taking a proactive reduction approach and the CTA programs and other programs sometimes don't adhere to what our vision is and it makes it very expensive for us to engage.
- Rather have the ability to do our own prevention. We want people to not need to interact with police all the time and the justice system. I get calls everyday about domestic, violence, drugs, etc and I try to tell people they have to call the RCMP and they will not.
- We need more of a team of the outreach people that are trusted to do the prevention work and to lessen the job of the RCMP to only serious cases.

CSO'S (COMMUNITY SAFETY OFFICERS)– ONLY OPTION

- One of our CSOs got a text, and there were drugs and guns and threats in play, and the individual couldn't step outside to make a call, but they were able to text the CSO number and that resulted in a larger safety response. This is an example of the bridging. This success story would never have happened without the CSO.
- The reason we have the CTAs is because it's our only option. My understanding of CSOs is 100% prevention.
- Because we have chosen to accept funding from the Yukon government, that will lock us in somehow and not allow us to get prevention funding to allow them something else like outreach workers.
- Their role is not enforcement at all. I would like us to not be made to squeeze into boxes that are given to us as our only option.

GBA+ REFERENCE POINTS

- If someone goes to jail and they come back to our community, have they taken steps to improve themselves to be able to live around women and children? They are limited to the charter for what they can do. That is something that I would like for you to hear and consider with this legislation.
- In our time, the elders said bloodlines not borders, because we have people related to us right from Ross River to British Columbia. We were at the tables of BC at one point, but that is no longer.