



WHAT WE HEARD REPORT —
Can anyone believe it's almost August? The months have been flying by, and things are really shaping up for our 'What we Heard' report. We're in the process of finalizing the information, and developing the parameters for the final report.

We would like to say to everyone who contributed stories, or recorded, a great thank-you. This has been a very heartfelt project and has touched all of us in the Office of Social Inclusion & Poverty Reduction.

LAUNCHING THE CAMPAIGN —
Keep watching the...ground?

That's right, keep an eye out along the city sidewalks in Whitehorse for our key messages. Be prepared for evocative and provocative messages—and a great learning experience.

We will be launching the public information campaign next week, and it's looking like a very interesting program.

Do you support social inclusion? Soon we'll see that the whole city does!

WELCOME TO OUR FORUMS —
Don't forget, another great way to stay engaged and let us know your thoughts, hopes and opinions is to post what you're feeling on our online forums!

Visit www.abetteryukon.ca, and our chat forums are prominently displayed. Or just click <http://abetteryukon.forums-free.com/>

Current topics include:

- Love in a time of AIDS
- Changes to Canadian Census-does it make 'cents'?
- Mary Walsh's documentary about the working poor in Canada; 'Poor No More'
- The over-representation of poor children in welfare

The forum is for everyone, so come prepared to engage in insightful, respectful conversations.

FALL SYMPOSIUM PLANNING COMMITTEE — We are seeing good progress with our Fall Planning Committee. We are planning to have meetings once a month, and lay out the groundwork and details for the Fall Symposium, now tentatively planned for November 30th and Dec. 1st.

We've got a bit surprise up our sleeves, but until we can confirm—it's a secret!

Your next meeting is to be determined, but most likely on a Friday afternoon.

PUBLIC MEETINGS— We are planning for a fall public meeting, possibly in September, and we are currently designing a general information brochure to hand out at the meeting.

GENERAL UPDATES —

- We're currently commissioning a report to find out the Cost of Poverty in the Yukon
- General population survey in field
- What we Heard report compilation underway
- Housing Adequacy report to be released this month

MEETING REMINDERS —
Community Advisory Committee Meeting: Tuesday, August 31st at the Elijah Smith Boardroom #3A, 1:00-3pm

Next Inter-Departmental Steering Committee Meeting: TBD



What is Social Inclusion?

A socially inclusive society is defined as one where all people feel valued, their differences are respected, and their basic needs are met so they can live in dignity.

What is Social Exclusion?

Social exclusion is the process of being shut out from the social, economic, political and cultural systems which contribute to the integration of a person into the community.

Poverty is one of the most obvious factors, but social exclusion also refers to inadequate education, housing, health, social participation, employment and access to services.

Why a Social Inclusion Strategy?

A strategy developed around increasing social inclusion responds not only to its most obvious identifier (i.e. poverty) but also systemic barriers found in policies, programs and services across departments.

Upcoming

- Community tours: Completed
- Community Advisory Committee Meeting: Tuesday, August 31st, 1-3pm, Elijah Smith Building Boardroom #3A
- General Population Survey — Launched and in field, wrapping up this in next few weeks.
- Fall Symposium Planning Committee : Next meeting TBD.
- Fall Symposium: Tentatively for November 30 & Dec 1, 2010
- Interdepartmental Steering Committee Meeting: TBD