Yukon Kuskokwim Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)





August 12-14, 2020 Virtual Work Session

Opening Plenary, August 12

Opening Prayer *John Charlie*

Network Manager

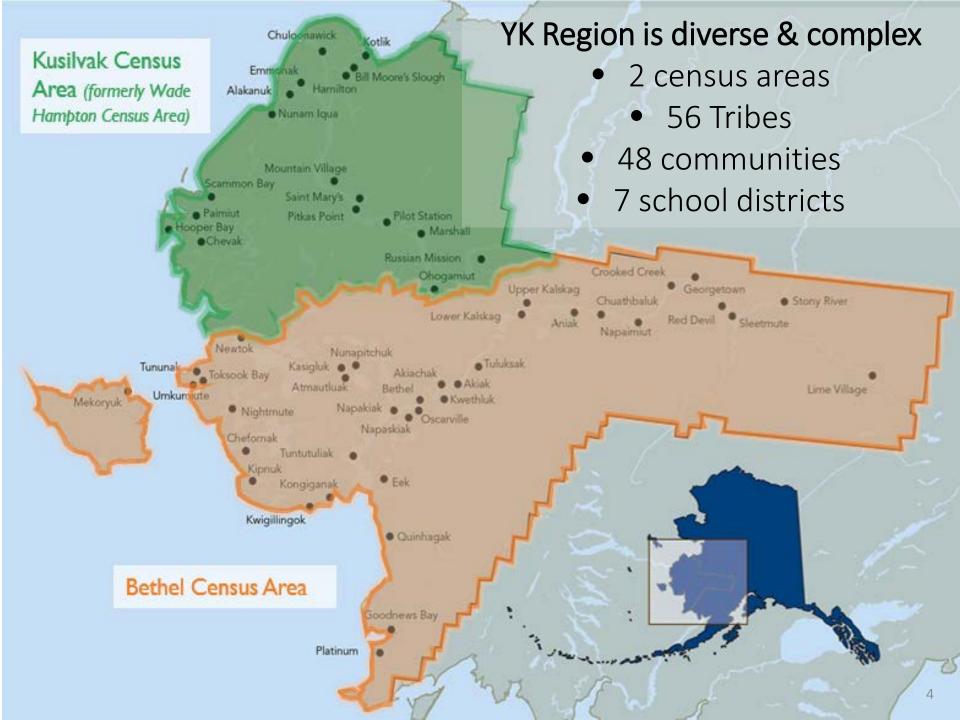
Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP)

Welcome & Land Acknowledgment

Clarence Daniel

Community Development Director

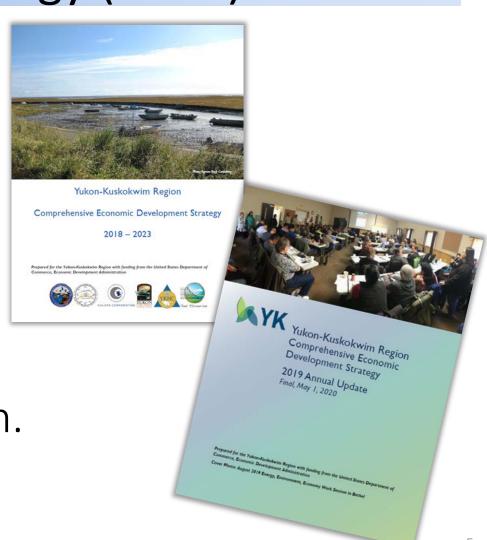
Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP)



Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

YK CEDS Vision:

A strong, innovative, self-reliant Yukon Kuskokwim economy supported by our resilient culture and regional collaboration.



YK CEDS Goals (big picture, or "30,000 foot" level targets):

Goal A - Grow
Our Own:
Develop an
educated and
well-trained
regional
workforce and
group of future
leaders

Goal B - Address Critical Housing Needs Goal C - Support and Grow Local Business Development and Entrepreneurship Goal D - Expand and Improve Regional Communications, Energy and Transportation Infrastructure.

Goal E – Improve the Health, Wellness and Safety of the Region's People and Communities.

Goal F – Create
Resilient and
Prepared
Communities.

Goal G – Cultivate Regional Coordination and Planning. Goal H – Protect Natural Resource Harvests and Subsistence.

YK CEDS Committee

- Association of Village Council Presidents
- Calista
- Native Village of Napaimute
- Nuvista
- Orutsaramiut Council
- Sealion Corporation
- Western Alaska Partnership
- Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation
- Yuut Elitnaurviat
- Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
- Alaska Native Science & Engineering Program

YK CEDS Working Groups

- **Economic Development & Planning**
- COVID-19 Response
- Hazard Mitigation, Climate Change & Community Planning
- Financial Education
- Locally Grown & Harvested Products

Infrastructure

- Transportation
- Community Facilities
- **Communications**

- **Education & Workforce**
 - Development

Housing

Energy



Our Keynote Speaker



Valerie Nurr'araaluk Davidson President, Alaska Pacific University

Work Session Objectives



 Bring together Working Groups representing key community, Tribal, regional, state and federal partners and funders around YK CEDS focus area priority strategies and actions.

 Result in detailed plans with clear 1 to 2-year actions and targets for YK CEDS priorities.

The 2020 Yukon Kuskokwim Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Work Session is conducted for the Yukon Kuskokwim Region with funding from the United States Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration.

| Wednesday, | |
|------------|------------------|
| August | 12 th |

9am - 9:45am



Opening Plenary

9:45am - 10am

BREAK and transition to Working Group Breakouts

10am - 12pm

Working Group Breakouts - BLOCK I



Subsistence



Housing

12pm – 1pm

Lunch Break

Ipm – 3pm

Working Group Breakouts - BLOCK 2



Economic Development and Planning (Climate Adaptation Focus)



Energy

Agenda

Thursday,
August 13th

10am - 12pm

Working Group Breakouts - BLOCK 3



Infrastructure (Transportation Focus)

12pm - 1pm

Lunch Break

Ipm – 3pm

Working Group Breakouts - BLOCK 4



Education and Workforce Development

Friday, August 14th

2pm – 3:45pm



Full Group Work Session

3:45pm - 4pm

BREAK and transition to Recap and Community Q&A

4pm – 5pm



Work Session Plenary Recap with Community Q&A

Setting & Working Toward Targets

Through
ACTION
What tangible
change can you
make over the
next two years?

| Indicator | Target | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Per capita income | ↑ Increase | |
| Total wages | ↑ Increase | |
| Employment by sector | ↑ Increase | |
| Unemployment | ↓ Decrease | |
| Number of business | ↑ Increase | |
| establishments | Thicrease | |
| Gross Domestic Product (GDP) | ♠ Increase | |
| Cost of living (groceries) | ↓ Decrease | |
| Poverty | ↓ Decrease | |
| Graduation rates | ↑ Increase | |
| Out Migration | ↓ Decrease | |
| Subsistence harvests | ↑ Increase | |

COVID-19 and the CEDS

- We recognize there is economic uncertainty due to COVID-19.
- This work session is an opportunity to consider how partners can help the YK region respond across different focus areas, including strategic ways to allocate and implement COVID-19 relief funding.

Your Questions

To all YK residents, communities, Tribes and organizations:

Have a question for Work Session participants?

What is on your mind about the YK economy?

Text or email us:

- 907-242-5326
- shelly@agnewbeck.com

We'll address your questions during the Work Session Recap this Friday, August 14th, 4-5PM.

Yukon Kuskokwim Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)





August 12-14, 2020 Virtual Work Session

Work Session Community Recap, August 14

Work Session Results

Highlighted Results: Subsistence

| CEDS Strategy | Expand local employment in natural resource research, management and subsistence decision-making at the community, regional, state and federal levels. |
|------------------|---|
| CEDS Action | Mentor younger generations to take larger roles in stewardship and resource management. Better incorporate local, traditional and indigenous knowledge and concerns in fish and wildlife management. Prioritize community-based participatory research. |
| Example Tasks | a. Document and connect youth to opportunities offered by existing internship and youth leadership programs. b. Create Lower River and Upper River, and Yukon and Kuskokwim River, youth exchanges. |

Highlighted Results: Housing

CEDS Strategy

Increase housing affordability and housing sanitation for homeowners and renters.

CEDS Actions

- Increase residential access to clean water through piped, hauled water or other innovative systems.
- Increase regional housing authority access to funding or partnerships for water and sewer infrastructure to help offset construction costs for new homes.

Example Tasks

- a. Expand dry toilet implementation projects from Village Safe Water and Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium into more YK communities.
- b. Create a **partnership funding model** that better leverages funds to construct homes with appropriate water-sewer systems.
- c. Support individuals and communities in **securing equipment and training needed to level homes**.

Highlighted Results: Climate Adaptation

| CEDS Strategy | Expand local capacity to assess risks, develop, and implement community-level plans and solutions to environmental threats and other economic disruptions. |
|------------------|--|
| CEDS Action | Ensure all YK communities have active hazard mitigation plans. |
| | a. Complete risk assessments for high risk communities that lack an assessment. |
| Example Tasks | b. Provide technical assistance and training to high risk communities to conduct assessments and manage ongoing communications around climate change response. |

Highlighted Results: Energy

| CEDS Strategy | Expand energy infrastructure and increase the use of renewable energy. |
|------------------|---|
| CEDS Action | Build renewable energy infrastructure. Address barriers to building more renewable energy infrastructure in the YK Delta. |
| Example Tasks | a. Project Inventory: Update the inventory of potential renewable energy projects in the YK region ("Community Energy Profiles" from 2016 YK Energy Plan) to give a baseline to work from. |
| | b. Work from energy audits and complete work that has not been done toward energy efficiency . |

Highlighted Results: Transportation

| CEDS Strategies | Prioritize and implement regional transportation projects. Increase surface travel safety throughout the year and across the region. |
|--------------------|--|
| CEDS Action | Identify sustainable maintenance funding sources for the Kuskokwim River ice road. Improve trail marking and systems that provide real-time data on ice conditions on rivers and lakes. |
| Example Tasks | a. Secure funding for ongoing Kuskokwim Ice Road construction and maintenance. b. Construct trails as identified in winter trails plan. |

Highlighted Results: Education + Workforce Development

CEDS Strategy

Prepare regional residents for work in emerging economic sectors, including aviation, energy, housing construction and rehabilitation, infrastructure, transportation and resource development.

Example Tasks

a. Collectively develop and implement a **regional vocational training workforce development plan** focused on adults.

b. Conduct **quarterly meetings** between education, workforce development agencies and HR departments of major employers.

Next Steps



- Continue to bring together Working Groups representing key community, Tribal, regional, state and federal partners and funders around YK CEDS focus area priority strategies and actions.
- Continue to revise, implement and evaluate detailed plans for YK CEDS priorities.

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YK CEDS Working Groups

- Economic Development & Planning
- Hazard Mitigation, Climate Change& Community Planning
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- 2 o Locally Grown & Harvested Products

Infrastructure

- Transportation
- Community Facilities
- Communications

- Education & Workforce
- Development

• Housing

Energy

Subsistence

Funding Opportunities



IMMEDIATE:

- Federal Communications Commission (FCC) – Broadband Internet: The Rural Tribal Priority Window closes on Wednesday, September 2, 2020.
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants: Application period opens September 30, 2020.

