

# **Results of the 2020-2023 Covid-19 Impacts on Yukon Trappers**

**April 2023**

# **Results of the 2020-2023 Covid 19 Impacts on Trappers Survey**

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## **Acknowledgements**

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## Summary

- On March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health, advises all Yukoners to cancel all non-essential travel outside of Canada.
- On March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health required Yukoners who travelled outside of Canada to self-isolate for 14 days.
- On March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Premier Silver has announced an economic stimulus package to support local workers and businesses impacted by COVID-19.
- This includes a 14-day isolation with paid sick leave, grant for cancelled events, waiving, reimbursing or delaying government fee collection.
- On March 18<sup>th</sup> 2020, Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health, declared a public health emergency.
- On March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Discretionary, recreational and tourist travel between Canada and the US was stopped.
- On March 26<sup>th</sup>, New financial support for Yukon businesses and workers were announced including paid sick leave for self-employed individuals.
- On March 27, 2020 the Yukon Government declared a State of Emergency under the Civil Emergency Measures Act (CEMA).
- On April 2022 the COVID-19 Recovery Research Program funded research projects across the Territory including Covid 19 Impacts on Yukon Trappers.
- Research was conducted across the Territory in person, over the phone, computer, zoom and skype.
- The survey provided Yukon Trappers with an opportunity to share information regarding their experience through the Covid-19 pandemic in year 2020-2023 and the effectiveness and accessibility of Federal and Territorial funding programs.
- The survey provided information on the recovery of their trapping business along with views on how to improve programing for the industry to promote recovery.
- The intent of the report is to provide a summary of "what we heard" from trappers that participated. Results will help evaluate the programming and accessibility for the trapping industry.
- Outreach was through Yukon Trappers Association, social media, flyers, radio, Renewable Resources Councils and First Nation contacts.
- Here, we provide the results of respondents' answers to the survey questions. Additionally, the survey itself and a summary of comments by respondents are available as appendices.
- Overall, (67% n=81) of respondents did not feel supported by the Yukon Government Covid 19 Support Programs and (66% n=81) of respondents did not feel supported by the Canada Federal programs for businesses.
- Only (19% n=81) of respondents feel they are making pre-pandemic income levels with their trapping business.

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# Introduction

## Covid 19 Pandemic Global

The earliest date of a patient showing Covid 19 symptoms was on December 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 in Wuhan, China (Huang et al. 2020). By January 2, 2020, 41 patients were admitted to the hospital having laboratory-confirmed pneumonia symptoms in Wuhan (Allam Z. 2020). On December 31<sup>st</sup> the Chinese Government officially reported to the WHO (World Health Organization) of the possibility of a new virus with symptoms of pneumonia. This marked the official day that the virus attracted attention from the international body (WHO), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (Allam Z. 2020). On January 7, 2020 the Chinese Government made a global announcement that they had successfully identified the virus as a novel coronavirus, similar to the one associated with SARS (Huang et al., 2020)

On January 20<sup>th</sup> the increase in the number of cases outside of Wuhan raised suspicion the virus could transmit from individual to individual. This increased the global surveillance of individuals who had traveled and were traveling to other countries. On January 25 2020, Canada confirmed its first Covid 19 case of a male that had traveled from Wuhan and developed respiratory symptoms. On January 28, the total number of confirmed cases of Covid 19 globally increased to 4593 after China reported 1771 new cases, with 18 more reported from 14 other countries (Allam Z. 2020).

Through the month of February, the virus spread globally and countries started evacuating citizens from areas where cases were increasing. Planes stopped traveling to areas in China and cruise ships were docked and put into isolation. Many countries were having cases of Covid 19 with Italy having a large outbreak and locking down areas within the country. On February 29<sup>th</sup> WHO raised the global risk of the spread of the disease to “very high,” but they did not declare COVID-19 as a pandemic ([Branswell, 2020](#)).

By early March many schools globally were closing down to contain the spread of the virus. Countries put in place mandatory isolation periods for travellers and also started to ban travel from some regions and started closing borders (Allam Z. 2020). March 11 the WHO confirmed the Covid 19 coronavirus amounted to a global pandemic ([WHO, 2020ad](#)). This led to Canada announcing to temporarily close its border to the United States on March 18, 2020. Many other countries closed their borders to travel and immigration at this time in order to contain the spread of Covid 19.

## Covid-19 Pandemic in Yukon

On March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Yukon Territory residence learned that the Arctic Winter Games would be canceled due to the concerns around the spread of Covid-19 (Government of Yukon 2020). This was the start of series of actions that the Territorial government implement in order to keep Covid-19 from impacting residence. By March 13<sup>th</sup> citizens were advised to postpone all international non-essential travel. On March 16<sup>th</sup> the Chief Medical Officer introduced 14-day isolation for residents that had traveled outside of the Territory along with ending gathering over 50 individuals. Children were asked to stay home from camps and individuals were asked to work from home. The premier also introduces a large stimulus package to help support businesses.

The Chief Medical Officer of Health declares public health emergency on March 18, 2020 which closed all three hospitals to visitors, schools closed and all public indoor recreational facilities closed (Government of Yukon 2020).

The Yukon Chief Medical Officer announces the first two cases of Covid 19 in the Territory on March 22, 2020 (Government of Yukon 2020). The Yukon Government announces a new Paid Sick Leave Program to help support individuals on March 26<sup>th</sup>.

Yukon declared state of emergency under the Civil Emergency Measures Act (CEMA) on March 27<sup>th</sup>. CEMA was structured to provide the power to act in an emergency. Some measures include a 14-day mandatory isolation when arriving in Yukon. The suspension of dental services, keeping distanced in public, and no gatherings of more than 10 people.

In the months of April and May the Yukon Government started programs for Yukon businesses to receive relief fund. The benefits offered funding for things like cancelled events and rent. Essential workers received income support, and support that helps tenants pay rent due to the lack of income (Yukon Government 2020). Some of these programs like business relief were extended later in 2020 to ensure individuals and businesses had continuous support.

In 2021 the Covid 19 pandemic was still impactful so many of the business programs were extended including Yukon Business Relief Program, Paid Sick Leave Rebate, Regional Relief Loan Program, Yukon's Tourism Relief and Recovery Plan (Yukon Government 2021). These were designed to help businesses and workers to recover to pre-pandemic levels.

## Methods

### Survey Design

Given the survey was focussed on the impacts of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Yukon Trappers, it was limited to trappers and assistant trappers that lived in the Territory and were actively trapping in the years leading up to the pandemic and afterwards. Trappers who were not active during this time did not participate.

The survey was designed so that it could be delivered online or in person and take approximately 30 minutes to complete. The survey consisted of 53 questions and were organized into thematic sections (Appendix 2). Section 1 referred to the geographic location of the trapline and the level of activity that the trapper conducted on their trapline in the years leading up to the Covid Pandemic.

The subsequent sections used Likert-scale style questions (e.g., Strongly Agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree, Strongly Disagree) along with multiple choice and fill-in-the-blank questions. Skip logic was used to increase efficiency and increase the speed of the survey. This was the case with pandemic benefits, if a respondent did not apply for CERB (Canada Emergency Recovery Benefit) they then would skip the questions that pertained to that benefit.

Using the Likert-scale style questions the survey assessed the overall financial impact during the pandemic and the recovery from 2020-2023. The survey also assessed if the programs that were offered by the Federal and Territorial governments were accessible as a trapper and if they addressed the financial needs to recover.

Finally, participants were offered an opportunity to comment or make suggestions regarding the pandemic programs and supports for Yukon Trappers. Before being implemented drafts of the survey were reviewed by Yukon Trapping Association, Department of Environment, Fish and Game Association, and Yukon Council of First Nations.

### Survey Delivery

The survey was delivered in person, online, over the phone, skype and facetime by SP Consultants. Each invitee was provided an email invitation to participate in the online survey. If respondents had two traplines within a house hold they were given a second unique invitation. Trappers were able to use either a computer or other device (e.g., phone, tablet, etc.), and were

able to take the survey in English or French. In some cases, SP Consultants supplied a computer for the trappers to take the survey in a designated community, time and date. Phone/Skype/Facetime interviews were conducted and copies of the completed survey were printed out and sent to the respondent to ensure accuracy. Some organizations preferred printed copies for their members to complete and these were sent to that organization and returned by mail.

Reminders were periodically emailed to invite participants who had not completed the survey after the initial invite was sent. All trappers that took part in the Climate Change Impacts to Yukon Trappers survey were contacted and sent a link to the survey. The survey was biased to trappers that supplied their email address to previous Yukon Trapper surveys, members of the Yukon Trapper Association and trappers active in Renewable Resource Councils and participate in online platforms such as Facebook. Outreach with flyers, newspaper, social media, Renewable Resource Councils and First Nations Trapping and Harvest Officer was done to attract new trappers who had not participated in the past. Completed surveys were managed and compiled by SP Consultants. All participants that took part in the survey were sent a \$100.00 gift card for a store of their choice to recognize their time. Arrangements were made with local stores to ensure community participants could receive a gift card in their community if that was preferred.

The online survey was open from August 1 2022 closing March 20<sup>th</sup> 2023, recognizing trappers are out of service for large portions of time and need a larger window to participate. This also allowed trappers to assess the 2022/2023 trapping season.

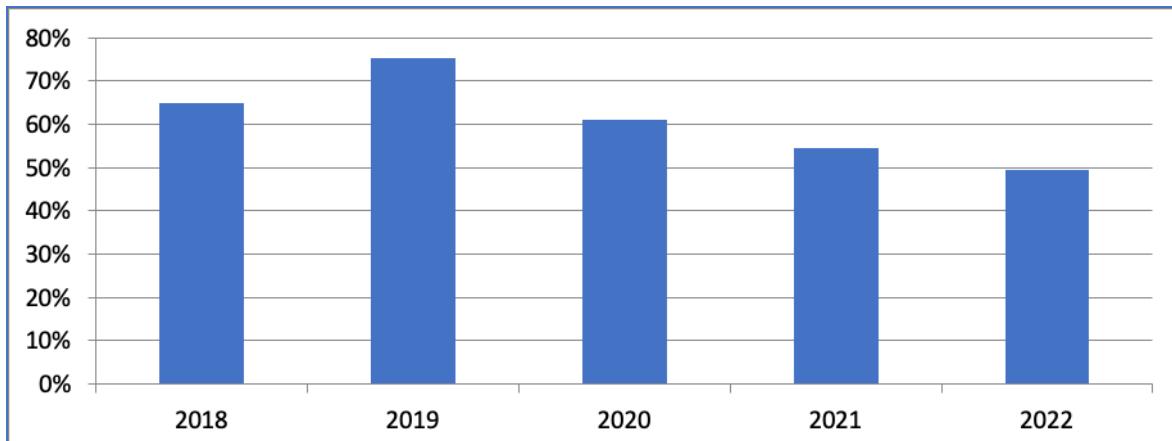
## Results

### Respondents

Currently there are 283 active traplines in the Yukon. The data shows that 18-30 traplines were not consistently active during the 2019-2023 years. Some of those lines were trapped for one of those years but consistently. We received 105 responses to the survey. During the confirmation process only 81 respondents were registered trappers. The other 24 respondents were not Yukon residences that had a valid trapline and Yukon address. These 24 surveys were not used in the data analysis and reporting.

All trappers that took the survey were active on their trapline before the pandemic started. With the highest activity level in 2019 (72% n=8 Figure 1). In

2020 and the following years trapping activity steadily decreased overall in the Territory from the highest year in 2019 to lowest 2022 (72% vs 49%, Figure 1).



**Figure 1.** Results from Question 6. — **Which years have you been actively trapping?** (n=81 for each category).

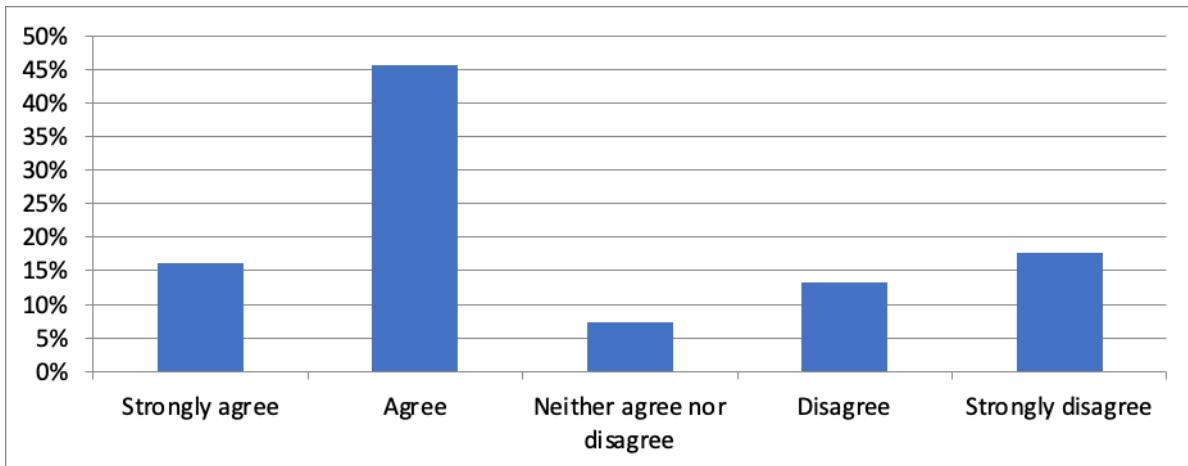
## 14-day Isolation Traveling into Yukon and Illness

Restrictions started to get implemented in March 2020 around illness, isolation and travel. Trappers reported first-hand experience with these restrictions. Respondents reported that (49% n=77 Q9) of them had to self-isolated during this period. Of the respondents that isolated (91% = 77 Q10) reported it directly impacted their income they would have earned trapping.

Seventy one percent of trappers reported their household are the sole trappers on their trapline, while (26% n=81 Q8) of respondents share their trapline. Some respondents use a community trapline and others trappers can have an assistant trapper that works on their line. This complicated access to traplines when trappers had to isolate for 14 days, restricting access.

## International Border Closures and Local Closures

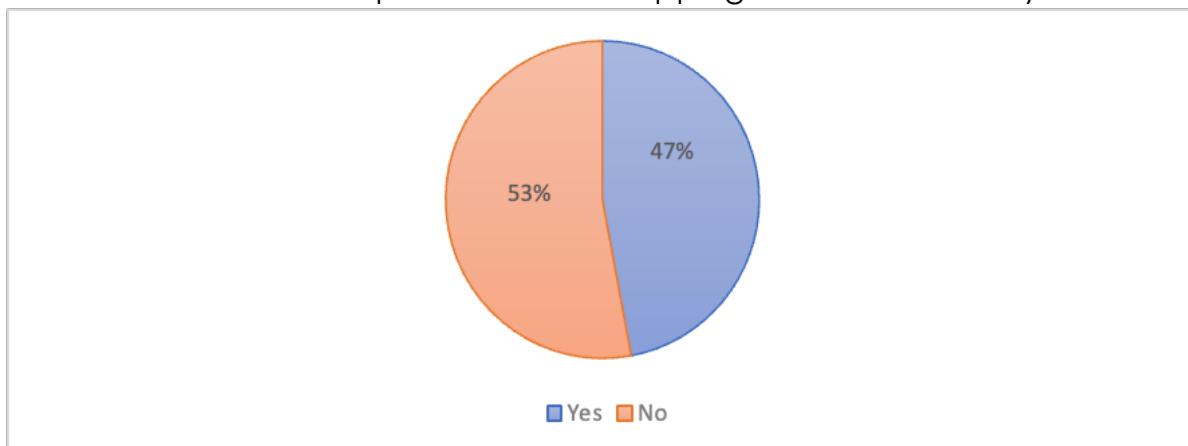
The United States and Canada border was closed to non-essential travel on March 18, 2020. Only (37% n=81) of respondents felt the impacts of the international boarder closure with regards to traveling (Q13- Appendix 1). The impacts were mainly around international fur auctions that they were sending furs to or planning on attending. These impacts were felt by trappers with regards to decreased income and demand for product.



**Figure 2:** Results from Question 13 - **How does this statement apply to your trapline business "Fur Auctions I was planning on selling my furs at were canceled which decreased my trapping revenue."** (n=81 for each category).

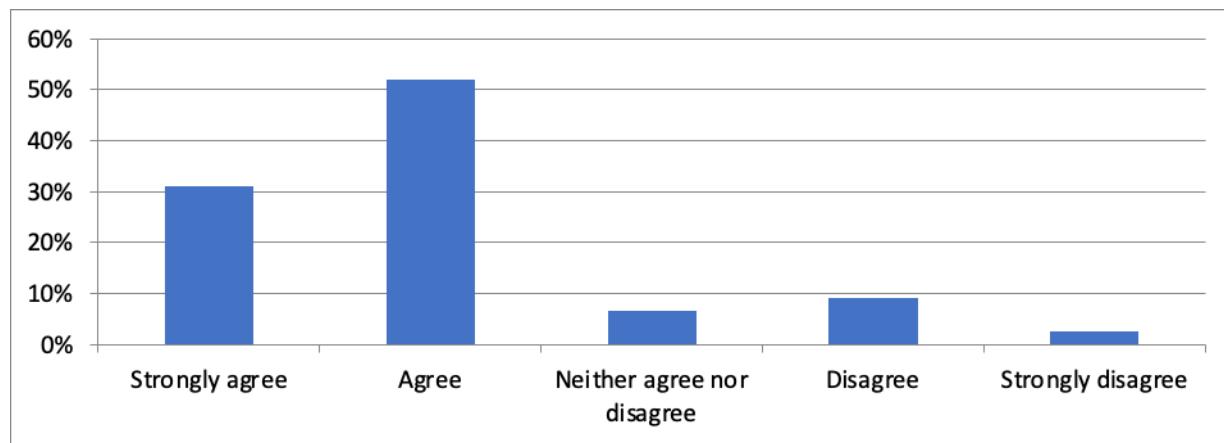
The international border closure was not as impactful as the local closures. In April 2020 the Yukon Chief Medical Officer along with First Nation Leaders, asked Yukoners to not travel to other communities within the Territory. Some participants weren't able to reach their trapline with (47% n=81) having access cut off (Figure 3).

The local closures stopped the movement and regular visits to maintain trails and infrastructure for some respondents. Respondents wanted to respect and protect the communities so they refrained from trapping during this time but this absence was impactful to their trapping business in future years.



**Figure 3** Results from Question 7. —On March 22, 2020: Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health advised against all non-essential travel into and out of the Yukon. Residents were advised to return home. Did this limit your access to your trapline? (n=81 for each category).

For many trappers they live a portion of the season on the trapline. Participants answered that (83% n=81) live on their trapline at some point during trapping season (Figure 4). This local closure also impacted where individuals resided and was disruptive to livelihood and accommodations.



**Figure 4.** Results from Question 7. — **Please rate this statement on how it applies to your trapline "I live on my trapline for portions of my trapping season".**, Values above the bars are the percentage of respondents for each category(n=81)

## Yukon Government Covid-19 Support Programs

### Tenants Support

Yukon Government offered Tenants living in private non-subsidized market rental housing in Yukon who have lost 30% or more of their income due to COVID-19 were eligible for a grant to help cover rent from April to June 2020 (Yukon Government 2020) Out of the respondent only one individual utilized this Covid-19 benefit.

### Business Relief Support

The Yukon Government also introduced the Yukon Business Relief Program to cover costs from March 23 until May 22, 2020. This was designed to help Yukon Businesses that had experienced a 30% reduction in revenue and needed immediate relief (Government of Yukon 2020). One Trapper from the respondents took part in this program out of 81 of respondents. That individual found the process difficult to navigate.

The Yukon Government had a program to help businesses recover money that was spent on events that had to be canceled (Government of Yukon 2020). No trappers utilized this program that participated in the survey.

## Paid Sick Leave

Yukon Paid Sick Leave Rebate was created by the Yukon Government for employers and people who are self-employed. This program provided up to 10 days' wages for workers who were sick, self-isolating or taking care of a household member (Government of Yukon 2020). Only one respondent took part in this program of 81 respondents. That individual found the program difficult to navigate but did receive the funding.

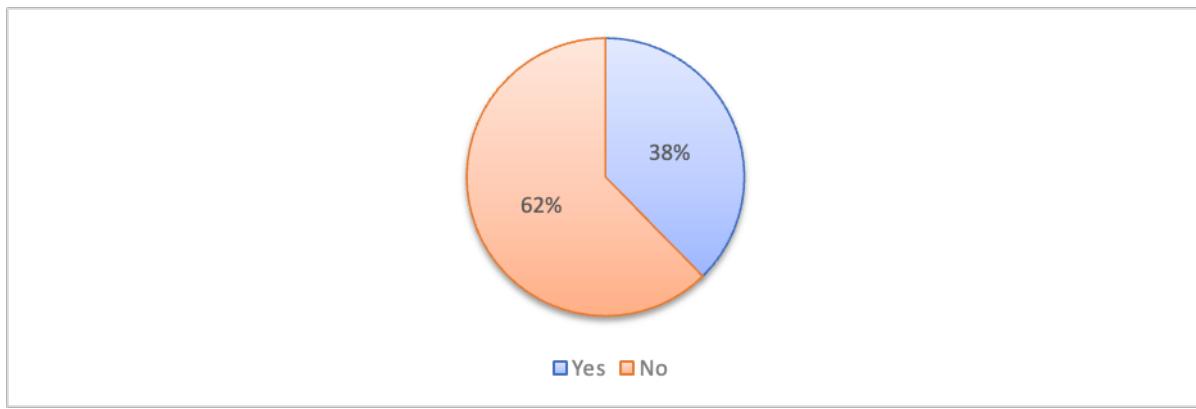
## Temporary Housing

The Yukon Government offered Temporary Housing for Individuals that had Covid and could not isolate at home. (Government of Yukon 2020). No respondents took part in this program.

## Canada Federal Government Covid-19 Support Programs

### Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)

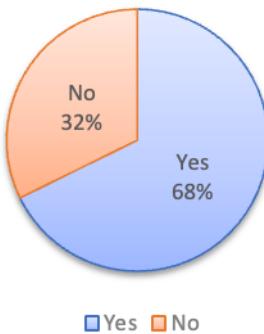
The Canadian Federal Government put together programs to help individuals and small business owners. The first program that was implemented was the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB). This program provided temporary income support to workers who stopped working and were without employment or self-employment income for reasons related to COVID-19. The program ran for 5 months (Government of Canada 2020).



**Figure 5. Results from Question 36** - Did you access the Federal Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB). (n=81 for each category).

Due to the quick deployment of the program, many individuals that took part in the program were later found to not qualify for the amount they received. Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) sent notices to over 260,000 Canadians

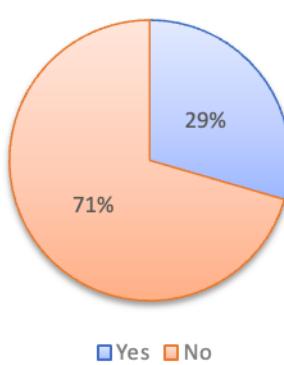
indicating that they had received money to which they were not entitled and would have to pay back (CBC 2021). Of the Canadians having to pay back the support funding 770 were Yukon residents (Yukon News 2023). Yukon Trappers were impacted by this with (68% n=81) who received funding having to pay it back and 71% of those individuals stating that it created hardship (Q37; Figure 6).



**Figure 6.** Results from Question 37 - **If you accessed CERB were you asked to repay any of the contributions.** (n=81 for each category).

## Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB)

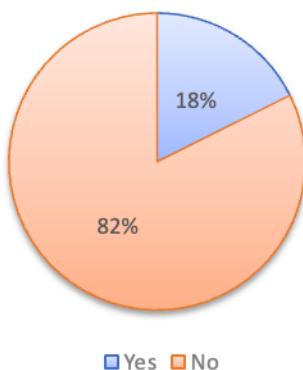
The Canadian Government implemented a program to replace CERB. This program was called the Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB). This allowed eligible worker to get up to 54 weeks of income support. This program took the taxes up front from participants which was less impactful to individuals who took part in the program. Yukon Trappers utilized this program less than CERB. Only 29% of participants took part in this benefit. Out of the 29% of participants that took part in the program, 35% found it difficult to navigate. No participants reporting having to pay this benefit back (Figure 7).



**Figure 7.** Results from Question 40 - **Did you participate in the Federal Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) that was provided eligible workers with up to 54 weeks of income support** (n=81 for each category).

## Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB)

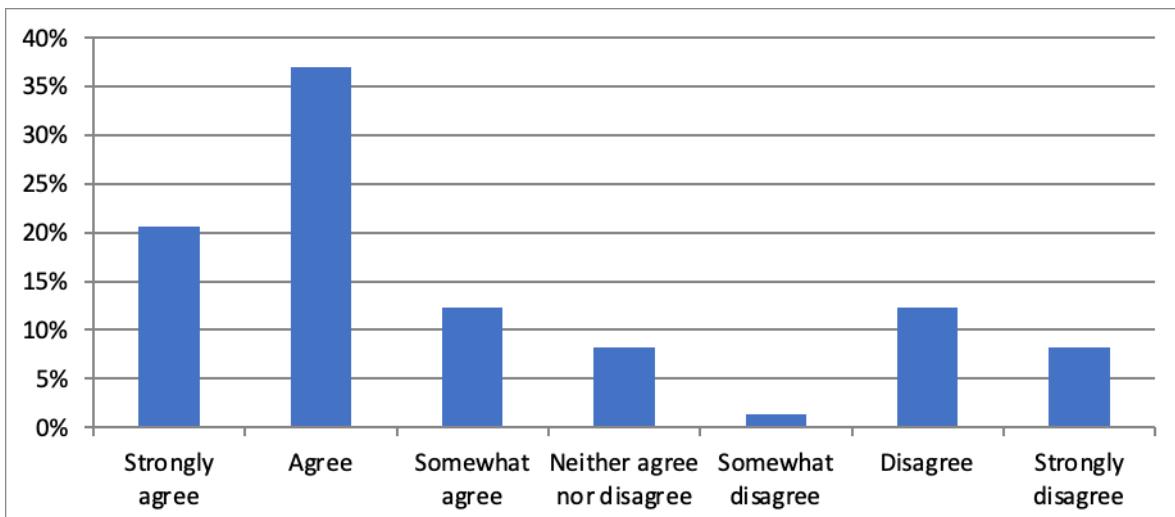
The Federal Government also provide a support for caregivers. This support was called the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB) for individuals unable to work because they had to care for their child under 12 years old or a family member who needed supervised care. Only (16% n=77) of trappers reported taking part in this program. From the 16% of respondents that took part in this program 69% found it difficult to navigate and participate in. No participants reported having to repay the funding (Figure 8).



**Figure 8.** Results from Question 43- **The Federal Government put in place the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit for individuals unable to work because they had to care for their child under 12 years old or a family member who needed supervised care. Did you take part in this benefit?** (n=77 for each category).

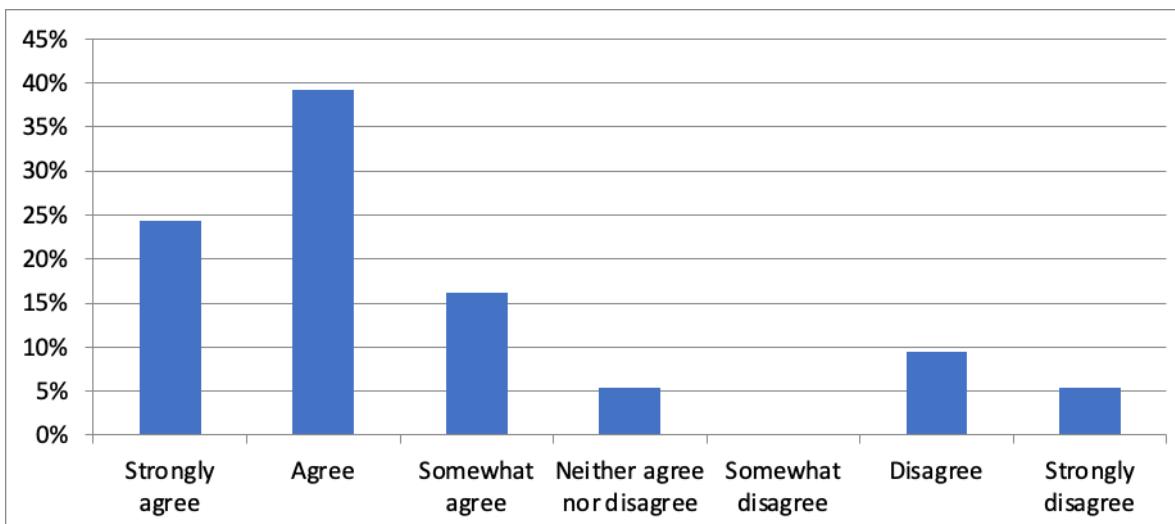
## Covid 19 Pandemic Restrictions Impacts on Trappers

Respondents reported (70% n=73) that the restriction put in place due to the Covid 19 pandemic decreased their income in 2020 to varying degrees with (21% n=73) strongly agreeing. In 2020 the majority of the restrictions were introduced around movement outside and inside the Yukon Territory and work from home initiatives were implemented. Many were lifted such as allowing travel for Yukoners between the Northwest Territories and British Columbia (Government of Yukon 2020). The overall restrictions were still impactful to trapping businesses (Figure 9).



**Figure 9.** Results from Question 46- Please rate the following statement: "Covid 19 restrictions decreased income I generate by trapping in 2020 compared to previous years". (n=73 for each category).

Considering the restrictions (80% n=74) of respondents reported a loss of income in 2021 (Q46, Figure 9) from their trapping business. Only (15% n=74) of respondents felt that their trapping business was not impacted by the restrictions (Q 47, Figure 10). On May 25, 2021 Yukoners had all restrictions from movement within Canada taken off. This was due to the 65% of eligible Yukoners receiving their Covid 19 vaccine. Due to the high vaccination rate individuals were not required to self-isolate upon returning to the Yukon and businesses were allowed to be at 100% occupancy (Government of Yukon 2021).



**Figure 10.** Results from Question 47- Please rate the following statement: "Covid 19 restrictions decreased income I generate by trapping in 2021 compared to earlier years". (n=74 for each category)

## Opinions on Territorial and Federal Covid 19 Pandemic Support Programs

Trappers were asked if they felt Yukon Trappers were supported through the pandemic support programs. Overall, (67% n=76) of respondents did not feel supported by the Yukon Territorial Program (Table 1). When asked if trappers felt supported through the Federal government programs (66% n=76) of respondents did not feel supported through these programs.

**Table 1.** Summary of results from questions posed to trappers on the financial support programs that were offered by the Yukon Territorial Government and Canada Federal Government. (n=76 for each category).

Question	Median	Frequency				
		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Q48 - Please rate the following statement "I feel the Yukon Governments Covid-19 Programs supported my trapping business."	Disagree	2.63%	17.63%	13.16%	31.05%	35.53%
Q49 - Please rate the following statement "I feel the Federal Government Covid-19 Programs supported my trapping business".	Disagree	2.60%	15.97%	15.58%	34.68%	31.17%

## Opinions on Trapping Business Recovery in 2022/2023

Trappers were asked if they felt their businesses had recovered since 2020 and 2021. Sixty percent of respondents stated that had not experienced a recovered. With only (19% n= 76) of respondents seeing a recovery in their business, making pre-pandemic levels of income, with 61% feeling they are still at a lower revenue level from pre-pandemic levels (Table 2).

**Table 2.** Summary of results from questions posed to trappers on the recovery of their trapping business and post pandemic levels of income. (n=76 for each category).

Question	Median	Frequency				
		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Q 50 - Please rate the following statement "My trapping business has started to recover in 2022 compared to 2020 and 2021".	Disagree	1.32%	17.63%	21.05%	38.95%	21.05%
Q 52 - How does the following apply to your experience on your trapline. "My trapping business is back to pre-pandemic income"	Disagree	1.33%	18.00%	20.00%	35.33%	25.33%



## Discussion

Yukon Trappers did not receive any direct or targeted support for the Trapping Industry during the Covid-19 Pandemic from the Territorial Government or Federal Governments. Many respondents discussed other jurisdictions in the north that did have direct financial supports offered. Northwest Territories and Nunavut Territory had targeted programs for the trapping industry. Respondents also referred to other Yukon industries that received directed supports from the Yukon Territorial Government. Highlighted below are a few examples of the supports that were received in other jurisdiction that trappers were referring to for reference.

### **Yukon Tourism Industry**

The tourism industry in the Yukon received targeted funding to help recover from the impacts of the pandemic. On December 14, 2020 the Tourism Relief and Recovery Plan was released by the Tourism and Culture Minister Jeanie McLean. This plan detailed targeted investments that focuses on building sector resiliency for the future. The investment for the plan was 15 million over three years to support tourism sector leadership, rebuild confidence in the industry and support recovery for the operators while refining the branding for future travellers (Government of Yukon 2020).

### **Northwest Territory (NWT) Trapping Support and Pandemic Support**

Three programs were offer by the NWT Government that amounted to \$330,000 in funding to support harvesters and the traditional economy in 2020-2021. These included:

- Funding to assist families in need to go out on the land.
- A regional harvesting, training and mentorship funding program.
- A pilot program for trapper mentorship.

These programs were put in place to reflect the importance of increasing food security through locally-harvested food and are a direct response to the challenges the communities were facing during the COVID-19 pandemic (NWT Government 2020). The NWT Government also enhanced the grubstake payment in the Genuine Mackenzie Valley Fur Program to recognize the hardship from Covid-19 (NWT Government 2020). The Grubstake programs is intended to help offset a portion of the annual start-up costs of trapping and encourage participation in the fur industry.

## Nunavut Harvester Support Program

Nunavut Harvesters Support Programs (NHSP) is intended to preserve and advance Inuit harvesting culture, heritage and traditional ways of life by providing Inuit in need with funding assistance to purchase harvesting equipment.

NHSP's Harvesting Equipment Program provides funding assistance for equipment required to carry out hunting, fishing, gathering and/or trapping activities (Government of Nunavut 2020). Some examples of supports are

- Small Equipment: 50% of the equipment costs (including shipping costs) to a maximum of \$500 per request and \$1,000 per household each year.
- Safety Equipment: 50% of the equipment costs (including shipping costs) to a maximum of \$500 per request and \$1,000 per household each year
- Disaster Relief: 75% of the net replacement cost of equipment.

To date, the Nunavut and Federal Governments have invested \$144.7 million in eligible communities through both the Harvesters Support Grant and the Community Food Programs Fund since the grant's inception in 2020. A portion of this funding goes to trappers and trapping associations to support their members.

## Yukon Trappers

Respondents referred to these programs within Yukon and in other northern jurisdictions as examples of supports that would benefit the Yukon Trapping Industry in recovery from the Covid 19 pandemic. These programs have been successful in the recovery of these industries and individual trappers. Respondents feel that they could still use support to recover and build a stronger more resilient industry in the future.

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## Appendices

### Appendix 1. Summary of Comments by Respondents

The Impacts of Covid 19 to Yukon Trapper Survey included 8 open-ended questions that asked trappers to submit comments focused on specific aspects of the barriers that were experienced in applying for programs, as well as general comments on future supports. Comments were analyzed exactly as they were submitted by trappers to ensure that they retained their original meaning and intent, and were grouped into three main categories representing common themes 1) Barriers in Programs, 2) Consequences of incorrect funding, 3) Level of Support from Government for Industry.

<b>Barriers</b>	<b>Representative Quotes</b>
<p>Trappers experienced difficulty applying to the programs online and understanding the qualification requirements. Due to the quick deployment of the programs many trappers that participated had to pay back the funding they received. This impacted them financially and in some cases their pensions in future years.</p>	<p><i>"Needed help accessing online form from family"</i></p> <p><i>"It takes a lot of data and a lot of people to go back and forth"</i></p> <p><i>"Online support was confusing and hard to understand if I qualified"</i></p>
<b>Consequences of Incorrect Funding</b>	<b>Representative Quotes</b>
<p>Due to the quick deployment of some support programs individuals discovered afterwards that they did not qualify for the programs. This caused the recipient to have to payback a portion or the whole the amount of funding that received. Many individuals were informed of this a year or two after applying to the programs which made it more difficult to payback to funding.</p>	<p><i>"Less pension offered the next year. Decrease income".</i></p> <p><i>"Paying back money when I hadn't recovered from the income loss to start with"</i></p> <p><i>"Hard on paying back with no money"</i></p> <p><i>"Trapping and sewing fur makes SO LITTLE income that it's a gut punch to ask for \$2000 back".</i></p>



<b>Level of Support from Government for Trapping Industry</b>	<b>Representative Quotes</b>
<p>Yukon Trappers were asked about the level of support they received from the Territorial and Federal Governments for their industry. Comments were generally pointing out the lack of directed support compared to other industries in the Territory. Many comments were comparing the level of support that the other two Canadian Territories offered to trappers compared to the Yukon. The programs were to support the industry as well as the cultural significance of trapping on traditional wear and practices.</p>	<p>“More support than we got. Like the hotels and tourism companies”</p>

## Appendix 2. Survey Covid-19 Impacts on Yukon Trappers

### General Information

1. Your personal Information will be confidential and only used to contact for gift card and final report delivery purposes

Agree  
 Disagree

2. What is your first name and last name?

3. What is your Trapline Concession Number?

4. What area of the Yukon is your trapline located?

5. What phone number or email address is best to contact you for the gift card?

6. Which years have you been actively trapping?

2018

2021

2019

2022

2020

None of the above

7. Please rate this statement on how it applies to your trapline "I live on my trapline for portions of my trapping season".

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

8. Rate how the following statement applies to your trapline "My household is the only one that utilizes the trapline".

Strongly agree

Disagree

Agree

Strongly disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

9. Did anyone running your trapline required to self-isolate during trapping

Yes

No

Other (please specify)

season?

10. Did the isolation decrease income that would have been earned during the trapping season?

- Yes
- No

11. On March 18, 2020: Government of Canada, in conjunction with the United States, closed the Canadian-US border to all non-essential travel. Did this impact trapping related travel?

- Yes
- No
- Other (please specify)

12. Did the closure of the borders impact any fur auction that you had been planning on attending in person?

- Yes
- No
- Other (please specify)

13. Did the closure of the border impact any auction that you were planning on sending furs to be sold on your behalf?

- Yes
- No
- Other (please specify)

14. How does this statement apply to your trapline business "Fur Auctions I was planning on selling my furs at were canceled which decreased my trapping revenue."

Strongly agree

Disagree

Agree

Strongly disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

15. On March 22, 2020: Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health advised against all nonessential travel into and out of the Yukon. Residents were advised to return home. Did this limit your access to your trapline.

Yes

No

Other (please specify)

16. On April 17, 2020: The Government of Yukon introduced the Border Control Measures Order to ensure that enforcement officers could deny entry to non-essential travellers. Did these border measures impact anyone trapping

Yes

No

Other (please specify)

17. In April 2020, the Chief Medical Officer advised Yukoners to not travel to other communities within the Yukon that you did not reside in. Did this limit your access to your trapline.

Yes

No

Other (please specify)

18. Communities as well as First Nations Governments requested Yukoners to not travel into communities unless it was essential. Did this cut off access to your trapline?

Yes  
 No  
 Other (please specify)

19. Please rate the following statement "A government course I was scheduled to take for trapping was canceled due to Covid19 restrictions".

Strongly agree       Disagree  
 Agree       Strongly disagree  
 Neither agree nor disagree

20. Yukon Government offered Tenants living in private non-subsidized market rental housing in Yukon who have lost 30% or more of their income due to COVID-19 were eligible for a grant to help cover rent from April to June 2020. Did you take part in this program?

Yes

21. Did you find the program difficult to apply

Yes

No

Other (please specify)

No

21. Did you find the program difficult to apply

- Yes
- No
- Other (please specify)

22. Please explain the difficulty.

23. The YukonBusiness Relief Program helped Yukon businesses that experienced a 30% reduction in revenue and require immediate relief. Eligible businesses could apply for \$30,000 per month to cover fixed costs from March 23 to May 22, 2020. Did you apply to this program?

- Yes
- No
- Other (please specify)

24. Was your application for the YukonBusiness Relief Program accepted?

- Yes
- No
- Other (please specify)

25. What was the reason it was declined?

26. Did you apply for the YukonTerritory Temporary Support for Events Funding Program to

recoup costs for any Yukon Trapping

- Yes
- No
- Other (please specify)

27. Was the Yukon Territory Temporary Support for Event funding easy to access?

- Yes
- No
- Other (please specify)

28. What barriers did you encounter when you tried apply?

29. Did you participate in the Yukon Paid Sick Leave Rebate for employers and people who are self-employed which provided up to 10 days' wages for workers who were sick, self

isolating or taking care of a

- Yes
- No
- Other (please specify)

30 Was the Yukon Paid Sick Leave Rebate

- Yes
- No
- Other (please specify)

31. What barriers did you encounter with the Yukon Paid Sick Leave Rebate?

32. The Yukon Government offered Temporary Housing for Individuals that had Covid and could not isolate at home. Did you take part in this program while it was running?

- Yes
- No

33. Was the program easy to apply to as a trapper?

- Yes
- No

34. What barriers did you encounter?

35. The Yukon Government tried to support small businesses and industries through 2020/2021. Please rate the following statement "As a Yukon trappers I felt supported through the programs offered by the Yukon Territorial Government".

Strongly agree

Disagree

Agree

Strongly disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

36. Did you access the Federal Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)

Yes

No

Other (please specify)

37. If you accessed CERB were you asked to repay any of the contributions

Yes

No

38. Did repaying CERB create hardship for your trapping business?

Yes

No

Other (please specify)

39. Please explain the hardship it created.

40. Did you participate in the Federal Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) that was provided eligible workers with up to 54 weeks of income support.

- Yes
- No

41. Was the Federal Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) easy to access as a trapper.

- Yes
- No

42. What barriers if any did you encounter?

43. The Federal Government put in place the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit for individuals unable to work because they had to care for their child under 12 years old or a family member who needed supervised care. Did you take part in this benefit?

44. Did you encounter any barriers to accessing the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit as a Yukon Trapper?

- Yes
- No

45. What were the barriers that you encountered in this program?

- Yes
- No

46. Please rate the following statement: "Covid 19 restrictions decreased income I generate by trapping in 2020 compared to previous years".

Strongly agree  
 Agree  
 Somewhat agree

Somewhat disagree  
 Disagree  
 Strongly disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

47. Please rate the following statement: "Covid 19 restrictions decreased income I generate by trapping in 2021 compared to earlier years".

Strongly agree  
 Agree  
 Somewhat agree

Somewhat disagree  
 Disagree  
 Strongly disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

48. Please rate the following statement "I feel the Yukon Governments Covid-19 Programs supported my trapping business."

Strongly agree  
 Agree

Disagree  
 Strongly disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

49. Please rate the following statement "I feel the Federal Government Covid-19 Programs supported my trapping business".

Strongly agree  
 Agree

Disagree  
 Strongly disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

50. Please rate the following statement "My trapping business has started to recover in 2022 compared to 2020 and 2021".

<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree
<input type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly disagree
Neither agree nor disagree	

51. Do you feel the Yukon Trapping industry had enough support through the 2020 and 2021 Covid Pandemic years.

Yes  
 No

52. How does the following apply to your experience on your trapline. "My trapping business is back to pre-pandemic income"

<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree
<input type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly disagree
Neither agree nor disagree	

53. What suggestions do you have for the government to improve supports for the trapping industry in the future?