

**Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce Territorial Election Platform**  
**Responses from Kevin O'Reilly, Candidate for Frame Lake MLA**

I support the Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce Territorial Election Platform with some conditions.

The 5 key issues are:

1. Liquor Licensing & Regulations;

I worked with other Yellowknife MLAs to push for changes to improve opportunities for the hospitality sector, including a visit with the NWT Brewing Company. At the same time, we need a greater investment into addictions program and services and should discuss whether a portion of the revenues are directed or not. I do not support lower liquor pricing as all the evidence shows that increased prices reduce consumption.

2. Fibre Redundancy;

I raised the issue of the need to deliver on the promise of high-speed internet to all of our communities in the Mackenzie Valley. I support building in alternate fibre capacity for Yellowknife to avoid further troublesome outages.

[2019 08 14 Member's Statement Mackenzie Valley Fibre Optic Line to Communities](#)

[2019 08 14 Oral Questions Mackenzie Valley Fibre Optic Line to Communities](#)

3. Community Government Underfunding;

I raised this issue many times during the review of the budgets for the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs.

2019-20 Operating Budget Review: <https://kevinoreillyframelake.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/2019-02-27-COW-MACA-Municipal-Funding-Gap.pdf>

4. Post-Secondary Transformation (Yellowknife-Based University); and,

A NWT university was part of my campaign platform in 2015 and I made many statement and raised questions during my first term. I continue to support this initiative and believe it should part of efforts towards a Knowledge Economy where research and development is focused on areas where we excel. This initiative should be one of our top priorities for the 19<sup>th</sup> Assembly. We also need a larger investment into early childhood development and our education system as a whole to ensure our students are ready for school and post-secondary opportunities.

[2019 03 07 Member's Statement City of Yellowknife University Feasibility and Benefits Study](#)

[2018 03 07 Member's Statement Post-Secondary Education](#)

[2019 03 07 Oral Questions Development of an NWT Polytechnic University](#)

[2017 02 08 Member's Statement Proposed University for the NWT](#)

[2017 02 08 Oral Questions Post-Secondary Strategic and Action Plan](#)

[2016 02 29 Oral Questions Northern Post-Secondary Institutions](#)

5. Land availability.

I sit on the Standing Committee on Economic Development and Environment which reviewed Bill 46 Public Land Act. I made sure that there is substantive coverage of the land availability issue in the Committee's report on the Bill (see pages 12-16 of the report link below). This is an issue I intend to pursue in the 19<sup>th</sup> Assembly.

[https://www.assembly.gov.nt.ca/sites/default/files/19-08-19\\_cr\\_31-183\\_report\\_on\\_the\\_review\\_of\\_bills\\_46\\_-\\_public\\_land\\_act\\_-\\_final.pdf](https://www.assembly.gov.nt.ca/sites/default/files/19-08-19_cr_31-183_report_on_the_review_of_bills_46_-_public_land_act_-_final.pdf)

Lastly, I was surprised to see that maximizing northern and local benefits from Giant Mine remediation was not a key issue as this will be the single largest project ever undertaken in Yellowknife. I have raised the issue many times in the House:

[2019 03 13 Member's Statement Giant Mine Remediation Benefits](#)

[2019 03 13 Oral Questions Giant Mine Remediation Benefits](#)

[2018 05 31 Member's Statement Giant Mine Socio Economic Strategy](#)

[2018 05 31 Oral Questions Giant Mine Socio Economic Strategy](#)

[2018 03 12 Member's Statement Giant Mine Remediation Project Socio-Economic Benefits](#)

[2018 03 12 Oral Questions Giant Mine Remediation Project Socio-Economic Benefits](#)