

YUKON

Jurisdictional Profile

2023 Report

A profile of governance, programs, and services for the aging population in the Yukon

Written by: **Jeremy Piamonte**
Policy Engagement Coordinator
AGE-WELL Network of Centres of Excellence (NCE)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The AGE-WELL National Innovation Hub, Advancing Policy and Practice in Technology and Aging (APPTA) welcomes comments about this report and would like to know how we can better meet your information needs. If you have any questions about the work APPTA conducts, please contact us.

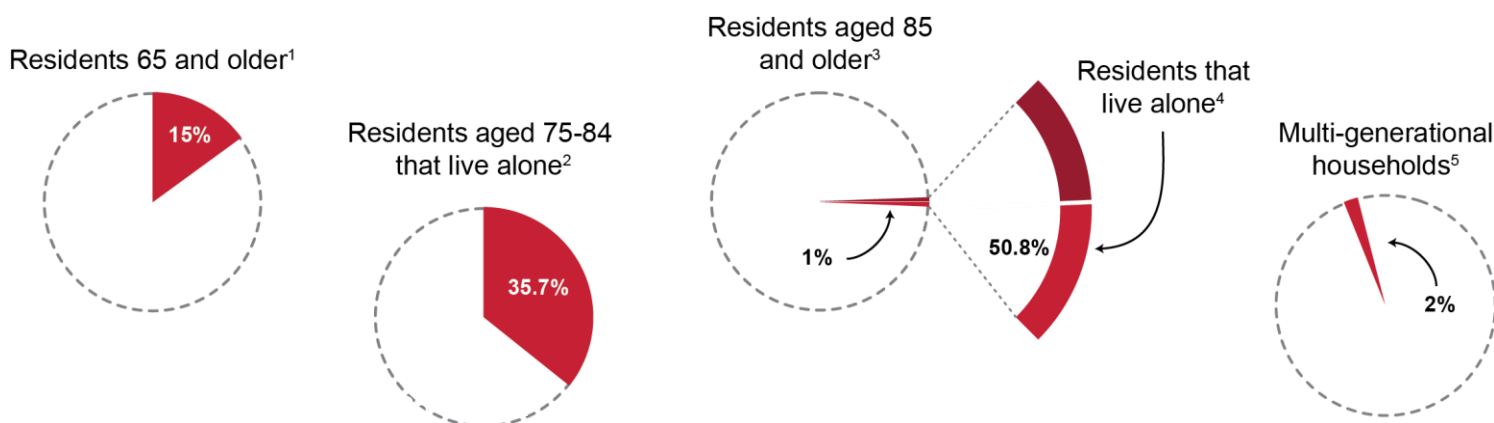
EMAIL: info@appta.ca

DISCLAIMER

The current document has been developed by AGE-WELL, APPTA, and other external reviewers for the purpose of advancing knowledge related to territorial programs and governance structures that serve older Canadians. The information included in this profile has been taken from publicly available information from government websites, reports, and strategies, and the author(s) has made every effort to ensure the information included is correct and up to date at the time of publication. Any use which a third party makes of this report, or any reliance on or decisions to be made based on this report, is the responsibility of such third parties. The author(s), AGE-WELL, and APPTA accept no responsibility for damages, if any, suffered by any third party as a result of decisions or actions made, based on this report.

Preamble: The Government of Yukon supports seniors through the Ministry of Health and Social Services and more indirectly through the Ministry of Community Services. The government's focus on seniors is driven by the Putting People First and the Aging in Place Action Plan strategies.

Yukon Seniors Demographics



¹ Statistics Canada: <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&SearchText=yukon&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1&DGUIDlist=2021A000260&HEADERlist=0>.

² Statistics Canada:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=9810013401&pickMembers%5B0%5D=1.162&pickMembers%5B1%5D=2.1&pickMembers%5B2%5D=3.10&pickMembers%5B3%5D=4.1>.

³ Statistics Canada: <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&SearchText=yukon&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1&DGUIDlist=2021A000260&HEADERlist=0>.

⁴ Statistics Canada:

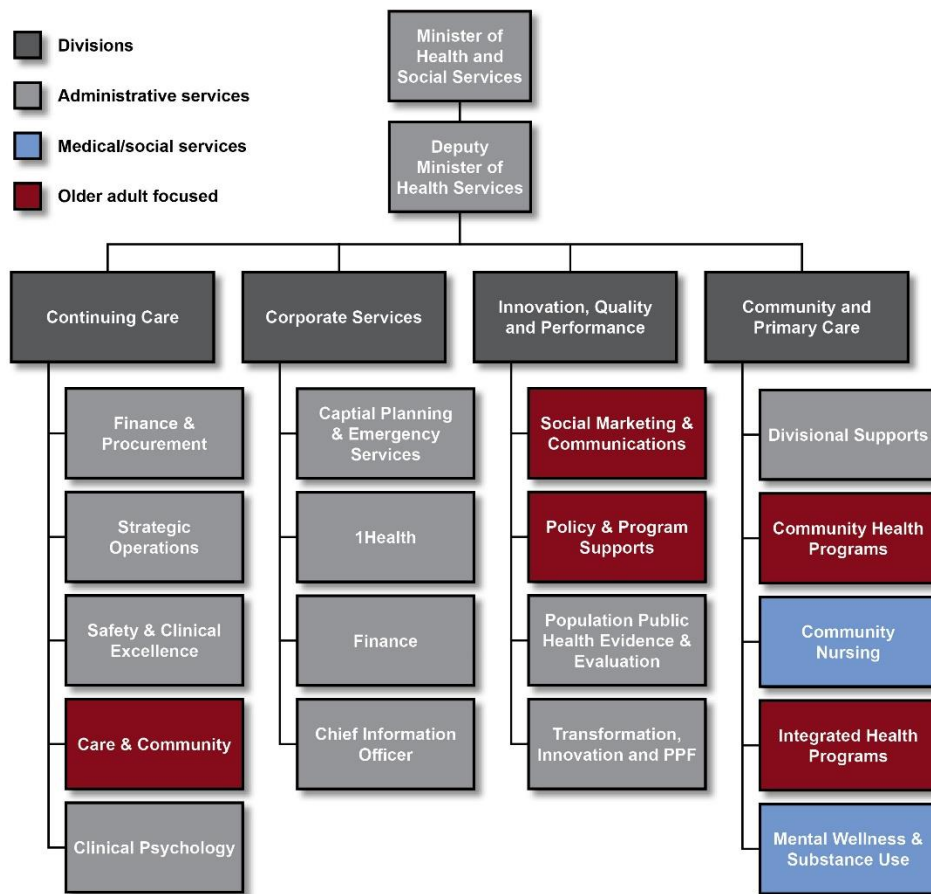
<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=9810013401&pickMembers%5B0%5D=1.98&pickMembers%5B1%5D=2.1&pickMembers%5B2%5D=3.11&pickMembers%5B3%5D=4.1>

⁵ Statistics Canada: <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&SearchText=yukon&GENDERlist=1,2,3&STATISTIClist=1&DGUIDlist=2021A000260&HEADERlist=0>

Ministry of Health and Social Services

To promote, protect and enhance the well-being of the Yukon's people through a continuation of quality, accessible and appropriate health and social services that eliminate inequalities and improve outcomes for all Yukoners.

Governance Overview⁶



⁶ Government of Yukon: <https://open.yukon.ca/sites/default/files/HSS%20-%20Health%20Services%20Final%20Orgchart%20-%202022.pdf>

Strategies / Action Plans

This section includes strategies, action plans, and other relevant reports from government that outline commitments and progress toward serving seniors.

- [Putting People First](#)
- [Yukon Performance Plan 2020](#)
- [Aging in Place Action Plan](#)
- [LGBTQ2S+ Inclusion Action Plan](#)
- [Forging Ahead: The Yukon's Continuing Response to COVID-19](#)

Legal Framework⁷

The legal framework consists of legislation passed in the Yukon that direct the Ministry of Health and Social Services and/or any agencies or non-governmental entities under its purview. This list is not exhaustive, and contains only legislation related to seniors care in the territory.

- Adult Protection and Decision Making Act
- Canadian Blood Agency/Canadian Blood Services Indemnification Act
- Canadian Council for Donation and Transplantation Indemnification Act
- Care Consent Act
- Change of Name Act
- Decision Making, Support and Protection to Adults Act
- Health Act
- Health Care Insurance Plan Act
- Health Information Privacy and Management Act
- Hospital Act
- Hospital Insurance Services Act
- Mental Health Act
- Pioneer Utility Grant Act
- Public Health and Safety Act
- Rehabilitation Services Act
- Seniors Income Supplement Act
- Social Assistance Act
- Tobacco and Vaping products Control and Regulation Act
- Travel for Medical Treatment Act
- Vital Statistics Act
- Yukon Family Services Association Rent Guarantee Act

⁷ Government of Yukon: https://laws.yukon.ca/cms/legislation-by-title.html?view=acts_alpha

Programs and Services

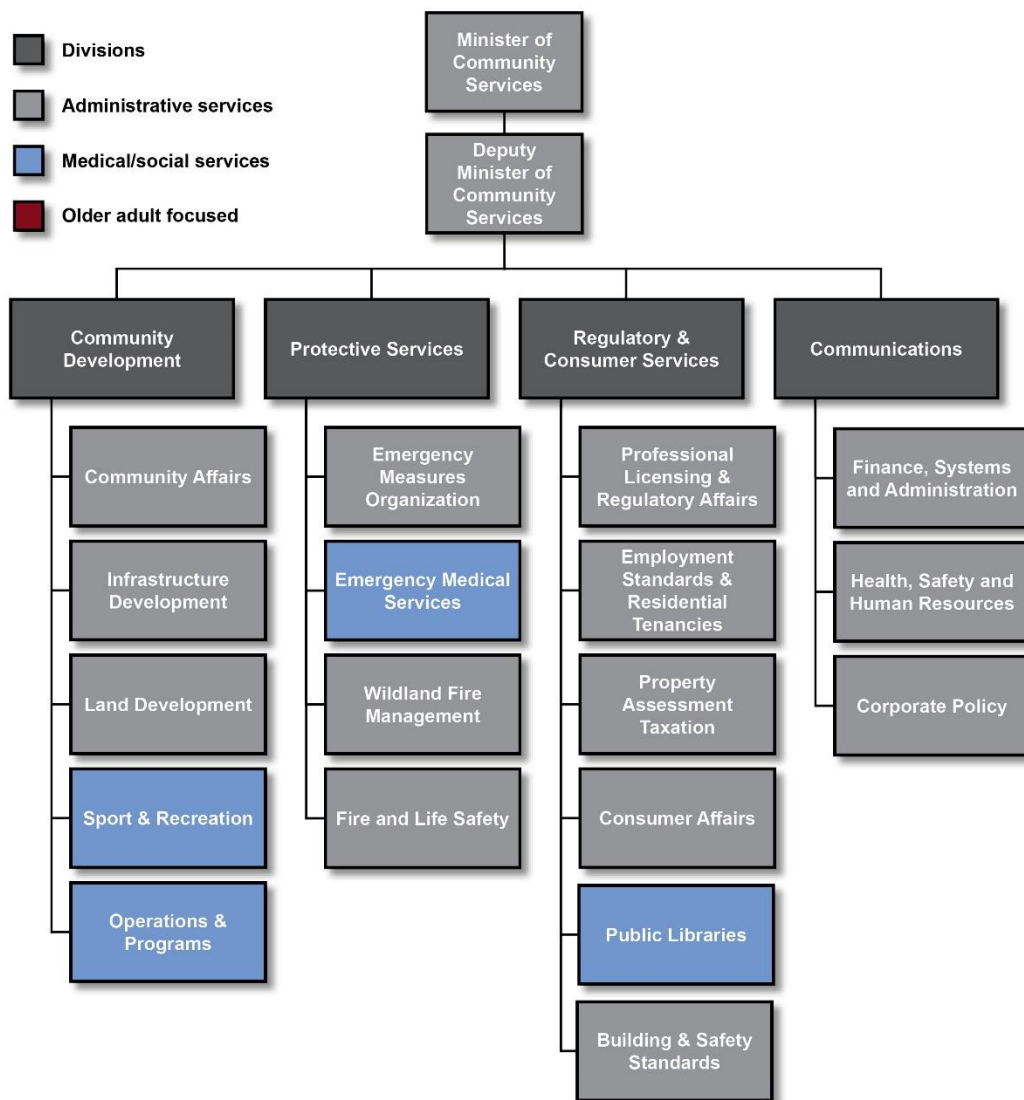
The following list provides an overview of some of the relevant and available social programs and services for older adults.

- [Blood Pressure and Heart Disease Support Programs](#)
- [Diabetes Support](#)
- [Diabetes Wellness](#)
- [Extended Health Care Benefits and Pharmacare for Seniors](#)
- [Elder Abuse Hotlines](#)
- [Home Care](#)
- [Pioneer Utility Grant](#)
- [Palliative Care](#)
- [Seniors and Elders Community Day Program](#)
- [Low Income Senior's Income Supplement](#)
- [Social Assistance Supplement](#)
- [Property Tax Deferment](#)
- [Chronic Disease and Disability Benefits Program](#)
- [Shine a Light on Dementia Caregiver Training](#)

Ministry of Community Services

Community Services builds sustainable and diverse economies while supporting local solutions to local problems. The work we do supports economic and community development. The ministry helps Yukoners lead healthy, productive, happy lives through accessible, integrated programs and services tailored to their needs.

Governance Overview⁸



⁸ Government of Yukon: <https://open.yukon.ca/sites/default/files/cs-organization-chart.pdf>

Strategies / Action Plans

This section is inclusive of strategies, action plans, and other relevant reports from government that outline commitments and progress toward serving seniors.

- [Yukon Performance Plan](#)
- [LGBTQ2S+ Inclusion Action Plan](#)

Legal Framework⁹

The legal framework consists of legislation passed in Yukon that direct the Ministry of Mental Health and Community Wellness and/or any agencies or non-governmental entities under its purview. This list is not exhaustive, and contains only legislation related to seniors care in the territory.

- Assessment and Taxation Act
- Building Standards Act
- Chiropractors Act
- Choses in Actions Act
- Consumers Protection Act
- Dental Profession Act
- Denturists Act
- Emergency Medical Aid Act
- Employment Agencies Act
- Employment Standards Act
- Health Professions Act
- Home Owners Grant Act
- Insurance Act
- Licensed Practical Nurses Act
- Medical Profession Act
- Municipal Finance and Community Grants Act
- Optometrist Act
- Pharmacy and Drug Act
- Public Libraries Act
- Recreation Act
- Registered Nurses Profession Act
- Residential Landlord and Tenant Act
- Seniors Property Tax Deferment Act

Programs and Services

The following list provides an overview of some of the relevant and available social programs and services for older adults.

- [Sports and Recreation](#)
- [Residential Tenancies Office](#)
- [Yukon Public Libraries](#)

⁹ Government of Yukon: https://laws.yukon.ca/cms/legislation-by-title.html?view=acts_alpha

Government of Yukon Agencies¹⁰

This section lists bodies that may have influence over policy or practice that impacts the delivery of services and supports to seniors.

- Building Standards Board
- Medical Council (Yukon)
- Hospital Corporation Board of Trustees
- Seniors' Advisory Committee
- Licensed Practical Nurses Advisory Committee
- Capability and Consent Board

Territorial Priorities/New Initiatives/Announcements

The following section comprises a review of recent government announcements and budgets that have dedicated resources and action to improving programs, policy, and services offered to older adults in Yukon. These priorities span both government departments highlighted above.

Inflation Reduction for Seniors¹¹

- The Government of Yukon announced a 10% top-up to the Yukon Pioneer Utility Grant and a one-time payment of \$150 to the Yukon Seniors Income Supplement

Housing

- In Budget 2022, the government announced \$255 million in capital investments over 5 years, of which an undisclosed amount is meant for accessible housing for seniors and people with disabilities.¹²
- The government is investing in the Normandy manor project to create 84 new homes for seniors in the territory¹³, with an increase of \$1.6 million in Budget 2023¹⁴

Community Care¹⁵

- Budget 2022 included \$86.5m for continuing care, home care, respite care, palliative care programs and community day programs.

¹⁰ Government of Yukon: <https://yukon.ca/en/your-government/boards-and-committees>

¹¹ The Whitehorse Star: <https://www.whitehorsestar.com/News/minister-unveils-anti-inflation-assistance-measures>

¹² Budget 2022: <https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/fin/fin-2022-23-budget-address.pdf>

¹³ Budget 2022: <https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/fin/fin-2022-23-budget-address.pdf>

¹⁴ Budget 2023: <https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/fin/fin-2023-24-budget-highlights.pdf>

¹⁵ Budget 2023: <https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/fin/fin-2023-24-budget-highlights.pdf>

Dental Care¹⁶

- The government is investing \$3.6m for dental care for uninsured Yukoners.

Healthcare

- Budget 2023 proposes a number of healthcare spending items:
 - \$4.4m to support the 1Health virtual care platform;
 - \$4.1m to recruit and retain healthcare staff;
 - \$3.2m to address post-public health emergency requirements;
 - \$460,000 for community nursing and nurse practitioner funding; and
 - \$279,000 to ensure a safe supply of opioids.¹⁷
- The government has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Yukon Medical Association to support projects aimed at retaining healthcare workers, reduce overhead operating costs for physicians, and increase access to primary care.¹⁸
- Yukon is investing in developing a health human resources retention plan.¹⁹

Mental Health²⁰

- Yukon is spending between \$10-\$15m to create a Mental Wellness Unit at the Whitehorse General Hospital.
- \$660,000 is being invested in additional mental wellness and substance use services.

Aging in Place

- The Yukon government created the Aging in Place Action Plan in 2020, and has worked to implement its 56 recommendations, having completed 15 recommendations and started or began planning an additional 30.²¹

¹⁶ Budget 2023: <https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/fin/fin-2023-24-budget-highlights.pdf>

¹⁷ Budget 2023: <https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/fin/fin-2023-24-budget-highlights.pdf>

¹⁸ Budget 2023 Address: <https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/fin/fin-2023-24-budget-address.pdf>

¹⁹ Budget 2023 Address: <https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/fin/fin-2023-24-budget-address.pdf>

²⁰ Budget 2023: <https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/fin/fin-2023-24-budget-highlights.pdf>

²¹ Aging in Place Action Plan Annual Report 2021-2022: <https://yukon.ca/sites/yukon.ca/files/hss/hss-yukon-aging-in-place-annual-report-2021-22.pdf>

Key Stakeholders in the Yukon

This list only includes Yukon organizations that serve older adults.

- [Yukon Council on Aging](#)
- [Alzheimer/Dementia Caregiver Support Group](#)
- [Arthritis Society Yukon](#)
- [Ask A Nurse / 811](#)
- [Hospice Yukon](#)
- [Women's Transition Home](#)
- [Canadian Red Cross, Yukon](#)
- [ElderActive](#)
- [Golden Age Society](#)
- [Handy Bus Services](#)
- [Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre](#)
- [Line of Life Association of Yukon](#)