

NIKI ASHTON

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To Whom It May Concern,

The NDP has consistently stood with Yukon First Nations and Yukoners in opposition to S-6.

As Aboriginal Affairs critic for the NDP, I have been proud to listen alongside our Leader, Tom Mulcair and our Northern Affairs critic, Dennis Bevington to Yukon First Nations and Yukoners. Together, we brought the messages from Yukon to Parliament. S-6 cannot be supported.

We have been clear; First Nations deserve a federal government that will work, nation-to-nation, and respect the work of Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act. Ottawa should not be dictating to First Nations and Yukoners.

As Official Opposition, we made every effort to make sure that Yukon voices were being heard loud and clear throughout the process. In Ottawa, our Leader Tom Mulcair hosted Yukon First Nations to hear concerns first hand. In Ottawa and Whitehorse, we met with Yukon First Nations, Yukon leaders, members of the legislature, members of community and environmental organizations, members of industry and Yukoners who were part of putting together YESAA. The messages we heard guided our opposition in Parliament.

Despite the strong opposition by Yukoners, S-6 received support from Conservatives and Liberals in the Senate.

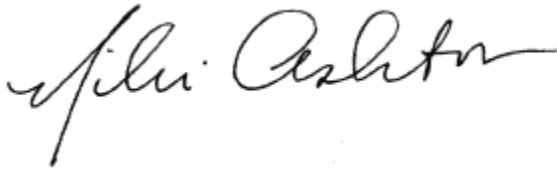
We recognize that the callous disrespect that the Conservative government has shown toward Yukon First Nations will result in costly litigation.

As we have stated, an NDP Government will repeal the four contentious clauses added to Bill S-6 without proper consultation with First Nation governments. We will work with First Nations and Yukoners.



As a proud northerner, I stand with you and with my colleagues in the NDP, in solidarity against Bill S-6 and in favour of a new relationship with Yukon First Nations and with Yukoners, founded on respect.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Niki Ashton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Niki Ashton
MP for Churchill