

**For immediate release  
April 30, 2019**

**Yukon Human Rights Commission partners with Spot to deliver powerful A.I. tool  
for recording and reporting discrimination and harassment**

April 30, 2019 [Whitehorse, Yukon] -- Today, the Yukon Human Rights Commission announced the rollout of Spot, an A.I. (artificial intelligence) reporting tool that uses a chatbot to help people document and report harassment and discrimination. Over the past year, the Yukon Human Rights Commission has worked closely with Spot to customize the system specifically for use by people in Yukon.

In addition to offering a safe, secure way for individuals to document incidents, Spot also allows the Yukon Human Rights Commission to follow up on submitted reports, even when they're anonymous. The tool is available for the public to report discrimination and harassment in any protected area under the Yukon *Human Rights Act*, including employment, housing, and goods and services provided to the public.

Spot will enhance the Commission's existing points of contact with the public, making it easier and more accessible to submit an inquiry.

"Spot will be one more way for people in Yukon to speak up about human rights and to share experiences of discrimination and harassment with the Yukon Human Rights Commission. It will break down barriers around reporting, helping people to record memories of an incident as soon as possible—privately, confidentially, at any time of day, and anywhere in Yukon," says Jessica Lott Thompson, YHRC Director.

Cofounded by Canadian psychological scientist Dr. Julia Shaw, Spot uses a science-driven, evidence-based approach that is rooted in best practices for interviewing people about highly emotional events.

"The Yukon Human Rights Commission is setting itself as a global leader in online reporting, by embracing the practical use of artificial intelligence. By using Spot, the Commission enables higher quality reporting for the people of Yukon, and improved accessibility. Access to justice is so important. No matter who you are, or how remotely you live, Spot gives you access to help when you need it. I'm thrilled that we are part of this change" says Dr. Julia Shaw.

Spot is available 24/7 online and can be used on mobile phones. Spot starts with a confidential, anonymous online chat with a bot (an artificial intelligence tool) to document what happened. From there, individuals save their private report as a secure, timestamped PDF. They can then save the report for later or decide to submit it as an inquiry to the Yukon Human Rights Commission. A Human Rights Officer with the Commission follows up on all inquiries, including those received through Spot.

Residents of Yukon can still come see the Commission at 215-305 Main Street, phone us at 867-667-6226, email [info@yukonhumanrights.ca](mailto:info@yukonhumanrights.ca), or reach out to us on Facebook.

**MEDIA EVENT TODAY AT 11AM** - Media representatives are welcome to join Yukon Human Rights Commission Director Jessica Lott Thompson and Spot cofounder Dr. Julia Shaw for a live demonstration of the reporting tool at the Commission's office at 215 – 305 Main Street at 11am on April 30, 2019.

**Yukon Human Rights Commission** [yukonhumanrights.ca](http://yukonhumanrights.ca)  
**Spot** [talktospot.com](http://talktospot.com)

For more information, contact:

Jessica Lott Thompson, Yukon Human Rights Commission  
[info@yukonhumanrights.ca](mailto:info@yukonhumanrights.ca) 867-667-6226

For more information about Spot, contact:

[hello@talktospot.com](mailto:hello@talktospot.com)