Budget Highlights April 19, 2007

# **BUILDING YUKON'S FUTURE TOGETHER**

The Yukon is growing. The economy is stronger, population is increasing, and employment rates are higher than ever. The Yukon Government will continue to support Yukoners' growth and prosperity by investing in four key areas: quality of life, a pristine environment, a diversified private sector economy, and good governance. By strengthening these areas, we will Build Yukon's Future Together.

## **QUALITY OF LIFE**

Building healthy, safe communities with skilled and adaptable people is the cornerstone to a better quality of life. Healthy, safe communities provide opportunities for people to engage in living healthy, active lives.

- \$400,000 for operation of Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act Office to address illegal activities such as drug dealing
- \$478,000 for RCMP Street Crime Reduction Team
- \$3.24 million for new Whitehorse Correctional Centre design
- \$650,000 over two years for Targeted Initiative for Older Workers to recruit 140 workers
- \$2.1 million for Health & Human Resource Strategy to recruit and retain doctors and other health care professionals
- \$6.25 million for land development of Porter Creek Lower Bench and Porter Creek Pine Street extension
- \$1.1 million to assist museums and First Nation cultural/heritage centres
- \$1.5 million to support Arts Groups
- \$270,000 for the School of Visual Arts in Dawson City
- \$1.8 million for senior's affordable housing in Haines Junction
- \$477,000 to complete Mayo Community Centre
- \$1.5 million for Carcross Waterfront Project
- \$4 million for Whitehorse Waterfront Project
- \$5 million for Hamilton Boulevard Extension with City of Whitehorse
- \$1.055 million for Golden Horn Fire Hall
- \$400,000 to support Team Yukon for 2008 Arctic Winter Games and \$75,000 for Team Yukon in 2008 North American Indigenous Games.

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#### A PRISTINE ENVIRONMENT

Yukon's pristine environment is special in today's world. Protecting and preserving our environment and wildlife while studying, mitigating, and adapting to climate change is essential to maintaining the quality of Yukon's natural setting.

- \$145,000 for developing a Climate Change Action Plan
- \$1.285 million for fish, wildlife, and habitat surveys, including the harvest management plan for the Porcupine Caribou Herd
- \$75,000 for Celebrating Yukon Parks
- \$330,000 for expansion of Parks Officer Program
- \$105,000 apprenticeship training for big game guiding and horse wrangling

#### **DIVERSIFIED PRIVATE SECTOR ECONOMY**

With recent growth in population, rising global demand for energy and minerals, breathtaking wilderness tourism potential, and blooming arts and culture, Yukon is poised to develop a strong, diversified private sector economy.

- \$480,000 for implementation of new placer regime
- \$400,000 to continue the success of the look Up north national marketing campaign
- \$650,000 over 21/2 years for development of Interactive Strategy including a new <a href="https://www.travelyukon.com">www.travelyukon.com</a> website to be launched in fall 2007
- \$9.2 million to expand Whitehorse Airport terminal building and parking improvements
- \$400,000 for Scenic Drives Initiative
- \$1.811 million for Tombstone Visitor Reception Centre
- \$10 million to upgrade the Alaska Highway along the south shore of Kluane Lake
- \$2.7 million for highway upgrades to the Dempster, Atlin Road and Robert Campbell Highway
- \$6.5 million for Information Technology funding
- \$3.3 million for the Community Development Fund
- \$765,000 for Film and Sound Incentive Programs
- \$100,000 for the continuation of the implementation of the Yukon Larger than Life Tourism Brand

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### **GOOD GOVERNANCE**

Practising good, cooperative governance with strong fiscal management is of fundamental importance to the Government of Yukon.

- \$1.382 million for investing in the Public Service initiative
- \$1.875 million for training Yukon residents on heavy equipment operation
- \$32.5 million for Northern Housing Trust Fund to be used by First Nations to address affordable housing needs
- \$614,000 for capacity development strategy with First Nations
- New principles based Territorial Formula Financing Agreement
- Continued pan-northern approach with Northwest Territories and Nunavut and collaboration with Alaska, Alberta and British Columbia