

FOR RELEASE July 19, 2012

Yukon government implements staking prohibition covering most of Whitehorse

WHITEHORSE—Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Brad Cathers announced today that the Yukon government has issued a prohibition order on quartz mineral staking covering 74 per cent of all land within the City of Whitehorse.

"This prohibition on new mineral staking is aimed at reducing the potential for future conflicts between mining claims and other interests such as surface rights, recreational uses, and areas designated as parks or greenbelts," said Cathers. "This withdrawal order preserves all existing rights, while providing more protection for owners of private property."

The Yukon government worked with the City of Whitehorse to determine boundaries of the areas where new mineral staking will not be allowed. The prohibition on new staking is intended to support the City of Whitehorse's Official Community Plan, and to protect existing rights and interests from potential future conflicts. Areas that are no longer open for staking include residential subdivisions, downtown, and the Whitehorse Cross-Country Ski Club trails.

The two areas not covered by the prohibition order retain mineral potential for future opportunities and include areas identified in the City of Whitehorse Official Community Plan for future industrial development and resource extraction.

The prohibition order is in effect for a five year period, and can be extended or adjusted at that time. The order does not affect existing mineral claims that remain in good standing.

For more information about mineral staking in Yukon or this prohibition, visit www.emr.gov.yk.ca.

-30-

Contact:

Darren Parsons Cabinet Communications 867-633-7910 darren.parsons@gov.yk.ca Dan Macdonald Communications, Energy, Mines & Resources 867-667-5809 dan.macdonald@gov.yk.ca

News Release #12-136

