

FOR RELEASE September 24, 2012

## Public input sought on recommended Dawson Forest Resources Management Plan

WHITEHORSE—Energy, Mines and Resources Minister Brad Cathers today invited the public to review and comment on the recommended Dawson Forest Resources Management Plan.

"This plan was developed through collaboration between the Yukon government, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, the Dawson District Renewable Resources Council and the regional forest industry," Cathers said. "The public's input is essential to ensure the plan reflects the needs of all Yukoners and is inclusive of all potential forest uses."

The Dawson Forest Resources Management Plan is a strategic plan intended to guide forest resource management through the integration of different community values.

"Forests are vital to the health of our citizens; it is where our cultural and traditional economic activities are based. A forest management plan must provide certainty to our citizens that the management of our forests will be done in a sustainable way," Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Chief Eddie Taylor said. "Participating in this consultation is an important way of ensuring this plan works for our region, and I encourage everyone to make their comments at the October 23 meeting."

Public consultation on the recommended plan will continue until November 9. An open house will be held in Dawson City on Tuesday, October 23 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Klondike Institute of Art and Culture in the Odd Fellows Hall.

"Forest resource management plans provide the framework to ensure certainty for the land base, sustainable harvest levels and economic opportunities while integrating ecological, traditional, heritage, and other community values," Cathers said.

For more information or to provide comments on the recommended Dawson Forest Resources Management Plan, visit www.forestry.gov.yk.ca or call 867-456-3999 or 1-800-661-0408, extension 3999 or via email forestry@gov.yk.ca.

-30-

## Contact:

Elaine Schiman Cabinet Communications 867-633-7961 elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca Alicia Debreceni Communications, Energy, Mines & Resources 867-667-3005 alicia.debreceni@gov.yk.ca

News Release #12-176

