

FOR RELEASE
February 9, 2016

Agreement reached on Dawson wastewater treatment plant

WHITEHORSE—The Government of Yukon will own and operate the new Dawson wastewater treatment plant on an ongoing basis.

"The Yukon government has and will continue to work closely with the City of Dawson to provide the municipality with sound wastewater infrastructure to meet the community's long-term needs," Minister of Community Services Currie Dixon said. "We recognize the city's concerns about its ability to fund and operate the wastewater treatment plant at this time. We have taken this step today in order to address their concerns and to support the plant's ongoing operations."

The wastewater treatment plant is a complex and significant piece of public infrastructure. The plant met acceptance testing requirements in February 2015, triggering the beginning of a two-year warranty period. The Yukon government has contracted Corix Utilities, the same company that built the plant, to operate it on its behalf until the end of the warranty period in 2017.

"The City of Dawson is pleased with the ongoing partnership and cooperation with Yukon government on this important piece of public infrastructure," City of Dawson Mayor Wayne Potoroka said. "Going forward, the City will be continuing to contribute financially to the operation of the plant and we will also be working with Yukon government to establish a service agreement for the facility."

An amendment to the water licence will be requested to transfer the portion of the licence linked to the wastewater treatment plant to the Government of Yukon.

While the Government of Yukon continues to manage the oversight of the plant contract operator over the next year, it will develop an operating plan to ensure that a qualified operator is in place after February 2017 when the Corix Utilities contract is complete.

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