

FOR RELEASE
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Corrections engages with Yukon First Nations on culturally relevant programming

WHITEHORSE—The Government of Yukon is seeking feedback from Yukon First Nations on developing and implementing culturally relevant First Nations correctional programming.

"We are looking forward to working with Yukon First Nations to identify and develop new programming that will have lasting positive outcomes for offenders in Yukon," Minister of Justice Brad Cathers said. "Efforts continue to be made to weave the history and culture of First Nations into the day-to-day operation of the Whitehorse Correctional Centre. We are inviting input into incorporating relevant cultural information into effective, evidence-based rehabilitative programming."

The Government of Yukon has sent letters and information packages to every Yukon First Nation that outline current programming and invite each to share its views and ideas.

In addition to employment, educational and cultural training, the Government of Yukon's corrections service currently provides programs – on violence prevention, substance abuse, respectful relationships, emotional management and cognitive skills – based on detailed case management plans for each sentenced offender.

This training, however, is modelled on other jurisdictions' programs and has been identified as culturally neutral rather than specific to Yukon First Nations.

"Addressing issues such as the over-representation of First Nations in Yukon's correctional system requires partnership and collaboration," Cathers added. "Our hope is that the input we receive will help strengthen rehabilitative programs at Whitehorse Correctional Centre."

Learn more: [Offender Programming and Case Management](#)

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Contact:

Dan Macdonald
Cabinet Communications
867-393-6470
dan.macdonald@gov.yk.ca

Dan Cable
Communications, Justice
867-667-3508
dan.cable@gov.yk.ca

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