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Internet safety report released

WHITEHORSE – A report from the Internet Safety Advisory Committee recommending steps government could take to protect Yukoners from the dangers of the internet was released today.

"Through the Internet Safety Advisory Committee, the Department of Justice has worked closely with the RCMP, Northwestel and the Education department to create a comprehensive report that details the steps we can take to protect Yukoners from the serious harm that can occur from not understanding the hazards of the internet," Justice Minister Marian C. Horne said. "This is a matter of national concern."

The Internet Safety Advisory Committee was established by the justice minister in November 2009, further to a motion unanimously endorsed by members of the legislative assembly in November 2007.

Consistent with that motion, the committee was mandated t

- examine the extent to which issues identified during the legislative debate (internet luring, child pornography, cyber-bullying, fraud and identity theft) affect Yukoners;
- review educational and public safety initiatives that are now in place in Yukon to address these issues;
- examine best practices from other jurisdictions, including but not limited to, best practices for developing and implementing effective, targeted public awareness campaigns; and
- develop options and make recommendations for how government, law enforcement officials, educators, citizens and information technology professionals might address these concerns.

The committee made 17 recommendations including working with stakeholders to create a web portal explaining internet safety with sections for kids, parents, seniors, consumers and businesses; each linking to a selection of the best and most relevant online resources for Yukoners.

A copy of the report is available at www.justice.gov.yk.ca.

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