



Government of Yukon

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NEWSrelease

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Delegation to attend UN climate change conference

WHITEHORSE – The Yukon government is participating in the 16th *Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* (COP 16).

"Climate change is a global issue that is presenting challenges all over the world," Environment Minister John Edzerza said. "COP 16 will be an opportunity for Yukon to discuss adaptation, technology and research priorities."

Four people from the Yukon government will join representatives from other provinces and territories as part of the Government of Canada delegation. The Yukon government is also helping fund travel and accommodation costs for three Yukon-based youth to attend COP 16 as part of the Canada Youth Climate Coalition.

"In Yukon, the effects of climate change are becoming more apparent and better understood. Yukon continues to experience impacts such as thawing permafrost, increased glacial melting, rising sea levels on the north coast and beetle infestations across our spruce forests," Edzerza said. "We need to continue to get this message out."

"We want to make sure people know how climate change is affecting us in Yukon and how we are responding," Edzerza added. "We will participate in a wide range of meetings and side-events, getting our message out and learning from others. While I can't predict today what the outcomes of COP 16 will be, I am confident that Yukoners will benefit from having representatives at this important conference."

The goal of COP 16 is to build understanding among countries in order to face the global challenge of climate change. Up to 10,000 people are expected to attend the conference, which will run November 29 to December 10 in Mexico.

For more information about the conference, visit www.cc2010.mx/en/.

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