



Government of Yukon

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NEWSrelease

FOR RELEASE #10-182
September 21, 2010

Amendments to the Motor Vehicle Act on distracted driving

WHITEHORSE – Amendments to the *Motor Vehicles Act* that will ban the use of hand held cell phones and other electronic devices while driving were tabled in the Yukon Legislature today.

"We have taken Yukoners' opinions into consideration and reviewed legislation from other Canadian jurisdictions. These changes to the *Motor Vehicle Act* will improve safety on Yukon roads," Minister of Highways and Public Works Archie Lang said.

Jurisdictions across the nation have been implementing legislation that bans the use of electronic devices while driving. In addition to changes to the act, the Yukon government will launch a campaign to educate Yukoners on the dangers of driving while distracted.

"By educating Yukoners on how to avoid distracted behaviours while driving, we are making our roads safer for everyone," Lang added. "Distracted driving continues to be a leading cause of crashes in the territory. I encourage all Yukon drivers to look at their driving practices and make sure they are being as safe as they can for themselves and other drivers on the road."

These amendments will come into effect April 1, 2011. For more information on distracted driving please visit www.hpw.gov.yk.ca.

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Contact:

Emily Younker
Cabinet Communications
867-633-7961
emily.younker@gov.yk.ca

Jennifer Magnuson
Communications, Highways & Public Works
867-667-3146
jennifer.magnuson@gov.yk.ca

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