



Government of Yukon

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New northern search and rescue web resource

WHITEHORSE – The Yukon government is pleased to launch a new online resource for backcountry users in Canada's territories, Community Services Minister Archie Lang announced today.

"The website encourages common-sense planning that could help people ensure they are better prepared, and possibly save lives, when venturing into the backcountry," Lang said. "Search and rescue volunteers in Yukon are always prepared to help when the unforeseen happens, but being personally well prepared could prevent the need for a search."

Users will learn how to better equip themselves against unforeseen weather and mishaps, and thereby prevent unnecessary hardship and even loss of life.

"This important new resource will not only help Yukoners stay safe, but will help visitors to Yukon's world-class wilderness areas better prepare themselves for the conditions they may face when venturing into our backcountry," Tourism and Culture Minister Elaine Taylor said. "By being better prepared, visitors will get that much more out of their travels to Yukon's rich wilderness areas."

"The RCMP M Division is pleased to support this new search and rescue web resource. This initiative is an example of the collaboration of governments and agencies across northern Canada and will enhance the safety of those seeking to enjoy a wilderness adventure in Yukon," Superintendent Peter Clark said.

The website at www.northernsar.ca is a joint effort of the governments of Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut, in partnership with the National Search and Rescue Secretariat and the RCMP.

In 2009, Yukon Search and Rescue organizations participated in 19 searches. Yukon's Emergency Measures Organization supports eight active Search and Rescue societies, comprising approximately 150 volunteers.

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