



## Government of Yukon

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**NEWS**release

FOR RELEASE #10-139

July 29, 2010

### Carcross waterfront investments celebrated during Golden Spike Day 2010

WHITEHORSE – Community Services Minister Archie Lang, Tourism and Culture Minister Elaine Taylor and Education Minister Patrick Rouble, who is also the Southern Lakes MLA, will commemorate the Golden Spike anniversary of the White Pass & Yukon Route railway by highlighting more than \$6.75 million in investment in the Carcross waterfront.

Ministers will join representatives of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation, the federal government, the South Klondike local advisory council, White Pass Yukon, visitors and community members to celebrate the occasion and to highlight construction projects underway to enhance Carcross and Destination Carcross.

"The Yukon government's investment in Carcross reflects the aspirations and vision of the community and its many partners," Lang said. "Investments in the downtown core and on the waterfront are important for the growth of tourism and will benefit both local businesses and residents alike."

White Pass & Yukon Route president Eugene Hretzay said, "We value the significant investment in infrastructure that the governments have made into Destination Carcross. In addition, the positive working relationship we have with the Yukon government is leading to product and market development."

In total, Canada and Yukon are investing more than \$6.75 million in the development of the Carcross waterfront under the Canadian Strategic Infrastructure Fund. Canadian Northern Economic Development (CanNor) is the federal delivery agency for the project working in partnership with Infrastructure Canada. This support has leveraged other funding programs and investments from the private sector, in partnership with governments, to help revitalize and develop Carcross.

"One of the top priorities of the CTFN government is to build a strong, vibrant economy within our traditional territory. We are glad to participate in today's events which mark our progress toward this goal," Carcross/Tagish deputy Khà Shâde Héni Dan Cresswell said.

Celebrations commence on Thursday, July 29 beginning at 3 p.m. at the Train Depot platform in Carcross.

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See backgrounder below.

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### Background information:

This year is the 110th anniversary of the Golden Spike anniversary on July 29 in Carcross. Back on July 29, 1900, the 110 mile of the White Pass railroad was completed in Carcross by driving a golden spike.

Minister Lang will officially open the new Carcross boat launch and public dock, on the Nares River that links Bennett Lake and Nares Lake, with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Ministers Taylor and Lang will also tour other Carcross waterfront development projects, including sod turning for a new gateway pavilion, the S.S. Tutshi memorial and completed projects like the First Nation carving centre, viewing deck and pedestrian bridge.

### Carcross Waterfront Canadian Strategic Infrastructure Fund (CSIF) Projects:

Carcross waterfront project funding has come in two phases. The first project of phase one projects was completed in 2008. Phase one included more than \$3.55 million in joint investment under the Canadian Strategic Infrastructure Fund (CSIF). Phase two funding was approved in 2009 and increased the total investment by another \$3.2 million to address projects that were identified by the community and local businesses in developing a Carcross Downtown Core planning document.

<b>Carcross Waterfront CSIF Phase I</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Status</b>
Pedestrian bridge	\$2.06 million	Completed summer 2008
Carcross welcome sign	\$40,000	Under construction. Estimated completion August 2010
Carcross boat launch, dock and parking lot	\$585,000	Completed summer 2010
Bennett viewing deck	\$295,000	Completed summer 2008
Visitor base infrastructure phase 1 (power upgrades)	\$90,000	Completed fall 2009
Carcross carving facility	\$480,000	Completed spring 2009
<b>Carcross Waterfront CSIF Phase II</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Status</b>
Visitor base infrastructure phase 2	\$1.8 million	Construction in 2010-11. Estimated completion

(downtown roadworks)		October 2011
Carcross landscaping	\$50,000	Construction summer 2012. Estimated completion September 2012
Carcross gateway pavilion and visitor washrooms	\$750,000	Construction summer / fall 2010 Estimated completion December 2010
SS Tutshi memorial	\$600,000	Under construction Estimated completion October 2010.

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