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FOR RELEASE

#10-133

July 15, 2010

Yukon affected by national product recall

WHITEHORSE – Yukon residents are being cautioned against consuming a meat product that is suspected of causing cases of a rare strain of salmonella (S. Chester) in British Columbia and Ontario.

Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Brendan Hanley, says the affected product that may be contaminated with salmonella has been distributed in Yukon, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and northwest Ontario.

Freybe Gourmet Foods Ltd., in British Columbia, is voluntarily recalling its headcheese product from the marketplace. Headcheese is a deli product made from meat from the head of a pig, combined with gelatine and spices.

Environmental Health Services will be working with Yukon suppliers to ensure they are aware of the recall.

Hanley said that food contaminated with salmonella may not look or smell spoiled, but consuming products contaminated with the bacteria may cause salmonellosis, a food borne illness.

In young children, the elderly and people with weakened immune systems, salmonellosis may cause serious and sometimes deadly infections.

In people who are otherwise healthy, salmonellosis may cause short-term symptoms such as high fever, severe headache, vomiting, nausea, abdominal pain and diarrhoea. Long-term complications may include severe arthritis.

For information on salmonella visit the <u>Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) food facts</u>, or about food recalls visit the <u>CFIA food recall report</u>.

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