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#09-136

Increased Investment in Resource Access Roads

WHITEHORSE - The Government of Yukon continues to support the territory's resource industry by allocating \$1 million for improvements to existing access roads. Administered through the Resource Access Road Program (RARP), funding includes a one-time contribution of \$500,000 made available through the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund.

"We are pleased that this program allows us to provide funding and material support to assist industry and economic growth in Yukon," Highways and Public Works Minister Archie Lang said. "The Yukon government continues to maintain and upgrade rural and mining roads throughout the territory, benefiting industry and all road users alike."

RARP is designed to spur and enhance prospects for resource industry projects. Through the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund, the governments of Canada and Yukon have partnered to increase RARP funding for this year. Funding will meet industry requests for road upgrades such as grade raises, brush clearing and bridge repairs on the following:

Dawson Gold Field road:	\$220,000
Freegold road:	\$200,000
South McQuesten bridge:	\$150,000
Duncan Creek road	\$135,000
South McQuesten road:	\$100,000
Nahanni Range road:	\$100,000
Casino Trail:	\$ 65,000
Davidson Creek bridge:	\$ 30,000

"This investment in improving access roads supports continued growth of Yukon's resource sector, which is a key contributor to our economy," Energy, Mines and Resources Minister Brad Cathers said.

Through the program, resource-based companies can apply for assistance in upgrading existing roads and, under particular circumstances, in developing new roads, airstrips and docks. All road improvement projects must comply with federal and territorial environmental acts and regulations.

Resource-based companies interested in learning more about the program or in submitting an application may contact the Department of Highways and Public Works at 867-667-3168, tollfree in the communities at 1-800-661-0408 extension 5644 or visit www.hpw.gov.yk.ca.

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