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FOR RELEASE #09-026 February 16, 2009

Yukon to Host Environment Ministers from Across Canada

WHITEHORSE – Environment Minister and Chair of Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME), Elaine Taylor is pleased to welcome federal, provincial and territorial environment ministers to Whitehorse for the annual CCME meeting which will begin tomorrow.

Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment is the major intergovernmental forum in Canada for discussion and joint action on environmental issues of national and international importance.

"In Yukon and across the circumpolar north, the effects of climate change are becoming more apparent and better understood with wide reaching impacts on building infrastructure, highways, traditional ways of life and wildlife populations," Taylor said. "Collaboration and coordination are essential elements to any effective response to climate change. CCME, through its work and joint action on national priorities such as water, has demonstrated how effective inter-governmental relations can advance environmental issues of importance in Canada."

Items for discussion include climate change, municipal wastewater, and a national approach to extended producer responsibility and packaging.

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Contact:

Roxanne Vallevand
Cabinet Communications
867-633-7949
roxanne.vallevand@gov.yk.ca

Nancy Campbell
Communications, Environment
867-456-6794
nancy.campbell@gov.yk.ca

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