

## **Government of Yukon**

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FOR RELEASE #09-266 November 17, 2009

## Multi-year Funding Agreement for Yukon Wildlife Preserve

WHITEHORSE – A multi-year funding agreement for the Yukon Wildlife Preserve will provide a total of \$1.8 million over three years to help the organization expand its programs and seek other funding opportunities.

"Multi-year funding will ensure the Yukon Wildlife Preserve Operating Society (YWPOS) continues to provide educational, research and wildlife viewing opportunities while providing a safe and healthy environment for wildlife in their care," Environment Minister Elaine Taylor said. "The Yukon government is proud to continue its support of the Yukon Wildlife Preserve, its board of directors, staff and the many volunteers for implementing their vision and helping residents and visitors alike – especially our youth – appreciate Yukon's wildlife as an important resource."

YWPOS promotes knowledge and appreciation of Arctic and boreal ecology. Its 750-acre site offers year-round viewing of northern animals in their natural environment. The agreement supports the society's efforts to expand educational programming, research collaborations and partnerships with other wildlife and conservation organizations.

"Since our non-profit society took over managing the Yukon Wildlife Preserve five years ago, there has been a steady increase in the number of people visiting," YWPOS president Dave Mossop said. "Each year more Yukoners support us by buying memberships, more tourists are visiting the facility and there are more programs for students and researchers. This funding agreement is recognition of our work by Environment Yukon."

"This multi-year agreement will allow us to plan, to improve what we offer and to focus on attracting more funding," YWPOS Executive Director Krista Prochazka said. "Investors, researchers and visitors all want to know that we will be around for the long-term and this agreement gives us that stability."

For more information about the Yukon Wildlife Preserve, visit <a href="http://www.yukonwildlife.ca/">http://www.yukonwildlife.ca/</a>

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Yukon Wildlife Preserve Executive Director Krista Prochazka, left, and Environment Minister Elaine Taylor on the preserve where elk and moose gather.