



FOR RELEASE  
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## **Excellence recognized and celebrated in the public service**

WHITEHORSE—Premier Darrell Pasloski presented two teams and two individuals with the 2015 Premier's Award of Excellence.

"I am proud to recognize and celebrate this year's award winners for their dedication and enthusiasm for working to improve the lives of all Yukoners," Premier Pasloski said.

The individual recipients are Brian Kitchen, Health and Social Services, and James Paterson, Community Services. The team recipients are employees from the Housing Action Plan team and Business Law Reform Project team.

The Premier's Award of Excellence was established in 2005 to recognize exceptional accomplishments of Yukon government employees and celebrate their talent and teamwork.

The recipients are chosen by the Premier's Award of Excellence selection committee which includes Yukon government employees from several departments and one community representative.

### **Learn more:**

Premier's Award of Excellence

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See backgrounder and photo.

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## **2015 Premier's Award of Excellence recipients**

### **Individual category**

#### **Brian Kitchen** (Health and Social Services)

Brian Kitchen is a long-serving, trusted civil servant whose career with Health and Social Services spans three decades. Brian is and always has been a strong and consistent advocate for

improving the lives of Yukoners. Under his leadership, the Department of Health and Social Services has made significant gains in the social and health services available to Yukon residents and has developed a reputation for being one of the best “policy shops” in government to work in.

### **James Paterson** (Community Services)

James Paterson has been a mentor to many in the Fire Marshall’s Office for promoting principles of fitness, nutrition and wellness. James’ commitment and dedication to the Yukon Fire Service is best embodied by his commitment to the Firefighter Combat Challenge and the Ember Fire Academy for women of Yukon – both of which highlight his passion for physical health and his commitment to improving and promoting the Yukon Fire Service. James has also established a non-profit fitness association to aid firefighters travelling to fitness events. The association also donates money to local charities supporting healthy lifestyles, and often represents the fire service at community events.

### **Small team category**

#### **Business Law Reform Project team** (Community Services and Justice)

This diverse and dedicated group of talented individuals worked together to modernize a number of legislative statutes with the aim of making Yukon a more attractive jurisdiction in which to incorporate and do business. The project was extremely technically complex, and it took seven years – including a full public consultation – to develop and finalize. For all individuals involved, this was a major, multi-year initiative that they accomplished while performing their regular responsibilities. The modernization has had several benefits for the Yukon, including new business for the territory, job creation, increased regulatory revenues, and increased revenues from corporations and other business entities registered here.

Members of this team include:

- Fred Pretorius (CS)
- Marie-France Pourreaux (CS)
- Rhonda Horte (CS)
- Ken Kilpatrick (CS)
- Bonnie Venton-Ross (CS)
- Anne King (Justice)
- Benoit Brouillard (Justice)

#### **Housing Action Plan team** (Health and Social Services, Yukon Housing Corporation, Energy, Mines and Resources, Community Services)

The Housing Action Plan team demonstrated exceptional collaboration across agencies and departments to complete a large-scale and high-profile project. The leadership demonstrated by the team of nominees brought a varied group of representatives, including NGOs, social agencies, First Nations governments, municipal governments, private sector developers, the construction industry, realtors and landlords, the resources sector, and others in a collaborative and constructive process that resulted in an approved action plan that is adaptable, inclusive, results oriented and sensitive to local context. The action plan sets a course of realistic action designed to guide governments and stakeholders towards a shared vision of stable, healthy, and appropriately-housed Yukoners to 2025.

Members of this team include:

- Laura Lang (HSS)
- Christine Tapp (HSS)
- Blake Buckle (YHC)

- Michael Draper (EMR)
- Pat Molloy (CS)
- Michael Noseworthy (CS)
- Mary Cameron (YHC)
- Kristine Laluk (YHC)
- Tracey Anderson (YHC)

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