



FOR RELEASE
September 29, 2015

Ready to Work program supports tourism workers and employers

WHITEHORSE—Forty-five new Yukon graduates are celebrating their successful completion of the Ready to Work program.

Ready to Work is a nationally recognized program that provides participants with classroom learning, on-the-job experience and mentoring to develop the skills, knowledge and practical experience needed for entry-level employment in Canada's tourism sector.

"Yukon has one of the highest proportions of tourism jobs in the country," Minister of Tourism and Culture Elaine Taylor said. "The Ready to Work program produces much-needed employees who are ready for transition into Yukon's flourishing tourism industry."

Participants in the 12-week program learn about workplace safety, first aid, food safety and Yukon human rights and employment standards. The program is delivered in Yukon by the Yukon Tourism Education Council with \$166,000 in funding from the Department of Education. The funding is part of a larger Canada-Yukon Job Fund agreement aimed at creating jobs and driving economic growth in the territory.

"Congratulations to the graduates for developing their skills and knowledge," Minister of Education Doug Graham said. "I wish them all the best as they move forward into successful careers and become vital contributors to Yukon's economy."

More than 800 people have taken Ready to Work training in the 16 years it has been offered in Yukon.

"Ready to Work is a national program for transferrable skills development that helps graduates integrate successfully into the Yukon labour force," Yukon Tourism Education Council CEO Darlene Doerksen said.

The 45 graduates received their certification at a ceremony on September 26.

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