FOR RELEASE
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The Yukon government finalizes solid waste agreement with Watson Lake

WHITEHORSE—The Government of Yukon has signed an agreement with the Town of Watson Lake that will regionalize the town's solid waste services, furthering the territory's commitment to environmentally and fiscally responsible waste management.

"We have worked closely with the Town of Watson Lake to develop a solution for solid waste in southeast Yukon," Minister of Community Services Currie Dixon said. "This agreement exemplifies our commitment to modernizing Yukon's solid waste management and will result in a system that is more sustainable and environmentally friendly."

The Watson Lake landfill, which formerly served just the local community, is now designated a regional solid waste facility. This means that all waste from the southeast Yukon will be directed there. The existing transfer station in Upper Liard—just 10 km from Watson Lake—will be decommissioned in the coming months.

"Having only one landfill in the region streamlines services, and reduces the environmental impact of solid waste disposal," MLA for Watson Lake Patti McLeod added. "This will better serve the citizens of the area."

Tipping fees will continue to be charged at the Watson Lake facility, which will also feature a gate and attendant.

"We are pleased and excited about the agreement signed with Community Services. Not only does it combine all waste into one regional landfill site, but also allows us to provide safe and responsible handling of waste products," Watson Lake mayor Richard Durocher said. "We thank Community Services and the minister for all their hard work and patience in the crafting of this agreement. It shows that when two levels of government commit to work together, benefits to the community are the end result."

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