



FOR RELEASE  
March 18, 2015

## **Funding announced for contaminated sites cleanup**

WHITEHORSE—The Government of Yukon will invest more than \$5 million in 2015/16 for remediation work at government-owned contaminated sites to minimize the risks to human health and the environment.

"Real progress is being made in assessing and remediating government-owned properties across the territory," Minister of Environment Wade Istchenko said. "The Yukon government is committed to protecting our natural environment for present and future generations, and this is our largest-ever investment in remediation efforts."

Subject to legislative approval, the Yukon government is budgeting up to:

- \$2.646 million to remediate eight sites identified by the *2015/16 Plan for Remediation Expenditures on YG Contaminated Sites*, and
- \$2.5 million for remediation of the Marwell tar pit in Whitehorse, one of the most heavily hydrocarbon contaminated sites in Yukon.

The eight sites identified in the budget include highway maintenance camps and other properties that are owned and operated by the Yukon government. The contamination at these sites is generally road salt and/or hydrocarbons such as spilled diesel fuel.

The Yukon government owns more than 100 sites that are believed to be contaminated. To date, three sites have been remediated under the territory's Environmental Liabilities and Remediation Program. It typically takes three to 10 years to assess and remediate a site.

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*News Release #15-091*

