



FOR RELEASE
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Yukon government launches a new awareness campaign to recruit foster parents

WHITEHORSE—Minister of Health and Social Services Mike Nixon launched a campaign today that is designed to raise awareness of the Yukon Foster Care program.

"The health and safety of children is of the utmost importance to the Yukon government," Nixon said. "Our first priority is to keep children with their families in their own homes, but this is not always possible and we need safe places for them to live. We hope this campaign encourages discussions about fostering around dinner tables and among friends, and will result in more Yukoners opening their homes to children."

The new campaign, launched during National Foster Family Week, encourages Yukoners to think about the possibility of fostering. Yukon is in need of a more diverse foster parenting force and more options in each community. Currently there are 70 active foster homes in the territory, 52 in Whitehorse and 18 in the communities.

"Thank you to all Yukon families who welcome children into their homes," Nixon added. "Foster parents can be single or married, old or young, male or female. They can live in an apartment, a double-wide, a house or a cabin in the woods. There is no special formula other than their commitment to care for and love a child."

The campaign also supports work being done to strengthen the program in Yukon. Training for foster parents and departmental staff and an appreciation dinner will take place later this month.

Learn more:
Foster care program

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