



FOR RELEASE
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Community Services minister attends Federation of Canadian Municipalities meeting

WHITEHORSE—Community Services Minister and 2013 Chair of the Provincial-Territorial Ministers of Local Government Elaine Taylor is in Vancouver to take part in the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Annual Conference.

"This year's conference will bring together nearly 2,000 local government leaders from across the country for discussion on issues of importance to municipalities," Taylor said. "I look forward to exchanging ideas on these topics and identifying opportunities to work collaboratively to support and strengthen our communities."

President of the Association of Yukon Communities Elaine Wyatt will also attend the gathering in Vancouver.

"Having attended the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual Conference for 11 years, and as a member of the FCM board, I can say that Yukon government and Yukon municipalities have an excellent working relationship that stands out among our counterparts across Canada," Wyatt said. "Yukon government and municipal leaders collaborate to achieve plans that really work."

During the conference, Taylor and Wyatt will participate in a meeting with presidents and executive directors of municipal associations and ministers of local government. Discussions will include the new national infrastructure funding program, expected to roll out in 2014 as a replacement for the Building Canada Fund.

"The Building Canada Fund has resulted in more than \$244 million in joint investments from Yukon and Canada in support of a range of projects in the territory, including major highway and bridge improvements as well as enhancements to solid waste, drinking water and waste water systems," Taylor added. "Working with our northern colleagues and community partners, we look forward to a renewed program that will ensure continued focus on priority projects that drive economic growth, achieve environmental goals and build strong sustainable communities."

In Whitehorse later this summer, Taylor will host the annual meeting of provincial and territorial ministers responsible for local government. The new national infrastructure funding program will also be a key topic at the meeting.

The FCM is the national voice of 2,000 municipalities across Canada. Through the FCM, members collaborate on issues of shared importance and build relationships with other partners, such as federal, provincial and territorial governments. To find out more about the 2013 FCM conference, visit <http://www.fcm.ca/home.htm>.

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