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UBC shares experiences on integration of health care services

WHITEHORSE—Staff from three Whitehorse medical clinics, nurse practitioners and representatives from the Yukon Medical Association and the Yukon Registered Nurses Association are in the classroom today to learn about collaborative practices in primary care settings.

"We're fortunate to have staff from the University of British Columbia's College of Health Disciplines here to share their experiences with local health care providers," Minister of Health and Social Services Doug Graham said. "Yukon is moving towards a model of care that integrates different health care providers into one setting. Hearing about the BC experience will help us in our work, which will ultimately benefit Yukon patients."

In 2012, Yukon introduced regulations to bring nurse practitioners into the health care system. Part of today's education session is about integrating them into primary care and community settings. This is an important step towards full scope of practice for Yukon nurse practitioners, which will increase access to health care for all Yukon residents.

The training is coordinated by the Collaborative Care Initiative Working Group, which is made up of three local physicians and three departmental representatives. The participating clinics are Pine Medical Centre, Whitehorse Medical Services and Taiga Medical Clinics.

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