



FOR RELEASE
June 25, 2014

Mineral staking prohibition order extended for Ross River Area

WHITEHORSE—The Yukon government has issued an extension to the interim withdrawal from mineral staking for the Ross River Area. The staking withdrawal is in effect until January 31, 2015.

The December 27, 2012 decision of the Yukon Court of Appeal in *Ross River Dena Council vs. Government of Yukon* stated that the Yukon government must consult the Ross River Dena Council about whether to grant mineral rights on Crown lands in the Ross River Area.

The Yukon government continues to consult with the Ross River Dena Council on how to address this decision. The government is committed to completing the consultation and reaching a solution in time for the 2015 exploration season.

Mining claim holders in the area will continue to be relieved from the requirement to perform work on their existing claims in the area or pay in lieu until the process is complete.

The relief from assessment will occur as a separate order authorized under Section 57 of the *Quartz Mining Act*. Without such relief in place, claim owners could lose their claims if they did not perform work on them or pay in lieu.

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Contact:

Elaine Schiman
Cabinet Communications
867-633-7961
elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca

Sarah Crane
Communications, Executive Council Office
867-667-5270
sarah.crane@gov.yk.ca

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