



FOR RELEASE  
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## **The Yukon government's interim 911 solution approved by CRTC**

WHITEHORSE—The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) has approved, with conditions, the Government of Yukon's application to launch an interim 'auto-select' emergency response solution. This solution is part of the territory's plan to expand Basic 911 service to all Yukon communities over the next two years.

"We are pleased with the CRTC's decision. While conditions in that decision require discussion with our partners, we expect that this will allow the interim 911 solution to be implemented in rural communities," Minister of Community Services Brad Cathers said. "This will simplify public access to emergency help in all our rural communities until the Basic 911 system is complete."

Residents and visitors in rural Yukon communities – outside the current Whitehorse 911 call area – will be able to dial 9, 1, 1 and then access local emergency services by pressing 1, 2 or 3 to select the emergency service they need. The current seven-digit emergency numbers in the communities will also continue to work.

"We're pleased this made-in-Yukon interim solution will be in place as progress is made on a fully functional, Yukon-wide 911 system," president of the Association of Yukon Communities Wayne Potoroka said. "Ensuring the safety of our residents and visitors is a priority for local governments, and we support the Yukon government's efforts towards implementing a 911 system that will benefit all Yukon communities."

The Association of Yukon Fire Chiefs (AYFC) worked with representatives of the Association of Yukon Communities, the City of Whitehorse, the RCMP and Yukon government emergency response officials as part of the inter-agency 911 Management Committee to advise the Minister of Community Services on 911 service options.

"The Association of Yukon Fire Chiefs is pleased to see that the CRTC has approved an interim solution for the Yukon that will see residents dial 911 and be able to access emergency services in our communities," AYFC president Jim Regimbal said. "We support this temporary initiative and look forward to seeing the expansion of Basic 911 service to all Yukon communities over the next two years."

This initiative is part of the Government of Yukon's ongoing efforts to improve the territory's emergency response capability by investing in the people, training, equipment and facilities that make a difference when Yukoners need help.

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