

FOR RELEASE August 1, 2012

Lease agreement signed to support development of agriculture infrastructure

WHITEHORSE—The Government of Yukon has signed a 30-year lease agreement for a 65 hectare parcel of land on the Mayo Road to enable the Yukon Agricultural Association (YAA) to proceed with planning for a central agriculture facility to serve the industry and the Yukon public.

"The Yukon government is pleased to set aside this land for central agriculture infrastructure as part of continuing to fulfill our commitment to support the development of agriculture infrastructure that improves food security, facilitates access to market and encourages local production of food," said Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Brad Cathers. "This lease agreement will facilitate the development of infrastructure to support continued growth of Yukon's agriculture sector by helping industry take steps to address current needs and opportunities, as well as looking to the future by enabling long-term planning of shared infrastructure."

The lease agreement will enable the YAA to use the land to promote and support growth of the agriculture sector of Yukon's economy by working with producers to develop infrastructure that improves access to market for locally grown food products.

"The Yukon Agricultural Association is very happy that the lease agreement has been signed," said Yukon Agricultural Association president Cain Vangel. "This positions the YAA one step closer to achieving our vision of creating the infrastructure required for the Yukon agriculture industry to grow and supply more local food to Yukon residents."

The terms of the lease require that any services provided on the site must be offered on an equitable fee-for-service basis.

For more information on agriculture in Yukon and efforts to support local food production visit www.agriculture.gov.yk.ca.

-30-

Contact:

Darren Parsons Cabinet Communications 867-633-7910 darren.parsons@gov.yk.ca Alicia Debreceni Communications, Energy, Mines & Resources 867-667-3005 alicia.debreceni@gov.yk.ca