

FOR RELEASE
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Yukoner to learn about Arctic challenges in Emerging Leaders Program

WHITEHORSE—Yukoner Jodi Gustafson is one of 30 participants from a number of countries chosen to take part in a week-long Arctic education program in Norway in January.

"The Government of Yukon is delighted to support Jodi's participation in what will surely be a remarkable and worthwhile experience," Premier Darrell Pasloski said. "She will join future northern leaders to learn about the challenges and potential of development in the Arctic. They will engage with mentors in the business, academic and public sectors."

Participants in the Emerging Leaders Program will start their studies in the city of Bodø, north of the Arctic Circle, then travel on board the Norwegian Coastal Express to Tromsø, calling in at Svolvær in the Lofoten Islands on the way.

The program forms part of the 2016 Arctic Frontiers conference on the theme of Industry and Environment, which takes place in Tromsø from January 24 to 29 and includes sessions on politics and security in the high North, and technology development and transfer within seafood and offshore industries.

"Growing up in Yukon instilled within me a passion for circumpolar environments and fostered a deep motivation to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of fragile northern resources," Gustafson said. "The Emerging Leaders Program will enable me to apply and continue to foster many of the skills learned from my experience working in the environmental sector in Yukon and elsewhere, to address real-world natural resource development challenges which are exacerbated by climate change across the North."

This is the second year that the Government of Yukon has co-sponsored a Yukon participant with the Government of Canada.

Gustafson has worked in Yukon, Australia, New Zealand and Antarctica and is currently studying for a master's degree in conservation leadership at the University of Cambridge with a scholarship from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The Emerging Leaders Program is open to applications from young professionals and academics. Participants are required to make a presentation during the program and report on their experience after returning to their home country.

Learn more:

Arctic Frontiers Emerging Leaders Program

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Contact:

Dan Macdonald
Cabinet Communications
867-393-6470
dan.macdonald@gov.yk.ca

Joanna Lilley
Communications, Executive Council Office
867-667-5341
joanna.lilley@gov.yk.ca

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