

FOR RELEASE
March 31, 2016

Legislative Assembly Building to Light It Up Blue for autism awareness

WHITEHORSE—The Government of Yukon's main administration building on Second Avenue will be illuminated with blue light on April 2 in honour of World Autism Awareness Day.

"This year the Yukon government's main administration building will be one of more than 3,000 structures in more than 600 cities to be illuminated in blue to shine a bright light on autism awareness," Minister of Health and Social Services Mike Nixon said. "Shining a blue light shows that we care for and support individuals and families affected by autism."

Light It Up Blue is a global initiative that was launched in 2010 to help raise awareness and support for World Autism Awareness Day.

"I'd like to thank the staff at the Department of Highways and Public Works for lighting it up blue in recognition of World Autism Day, and all those who are making this global initiative a local event," Minister of Highways and Public Works Scott Kent said.

Autism Spectrum Disorder is a neurodevelopmental disorder that can affect the gastrointestinal, immune, hepatic, endocrine and nervous systems, and impacts a person's ability to interact socially and communicate with others. It is the most common neurological disorder affecting children and one of the most common developmental disabilities affecting Canadians.

"Autism Yukon is pleased that the Government of Yukon responded so readily to our request to 'light it up blue'," Autism Yukon executive director Leslie Peters said. "It's a great time to remember that the world needs all kinds of minds. Our vision is that we continue to work together to ensure that supports and resources become available to Yukoners affected by autism throughout their lifespan."

Learn more: [Autism Yukon](#)

-30-

Contact:

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

Patricia Living
Communications, Health and Social Services
867-667-3673
patricia.living@gov.yk.ca

News Release #16-100



Stay up to date with the latest Yukon government news by subscribing to our RSS feed here:
<http://www.gov.yk.ca/news/rss.html>. Or follow us on Twitter @yukongov.