



## Government of Yukon

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FOR RELEASE #10-168  
 September 1, 2010

### Circumpolar conference seeds ideas for Yukon agriculture

WHITEHORSE – Ten Yukoners are heading to Alta, Norway next week to sow their perspectives and reap the ideas of international experts on farming in the North at the Circumpolar Agricultural Conference to be held September 6 to 8.

"This conference is an exciting opportunity for our delegation to share Yukon expertise with the circumpolar community and bring back new ideas on northern agriculture," Energy, Mines and Resources Minister Patrick Rouble said.

The Circumpolar Agricultural and Land Use Resources - Prospects and Perspectives for Circumpolar Productions and Industries Conference will feature presentations on climate change, circumpolar food products, traditional knowledge and rural tourism. The Yukon delegation includes representatives from government, industry associations, community gardens, education, business and the research community.

"This conference will provide us with the chance to learn what is happening in other northern communities and to share our own experiences," Aroma Borealis Herb Shop owner Bev Gray said. "This exchange has the potential to inspire new market opportunities and relationships, both in the broader circumpolar region and at home in Yukon."

This will be the seventh conference held since 1992 when Yukon hosted the first Circumpolar Agriculture Conference in Whitehorse. The conference is just one of a wide range of regional, national and international programs and organizations that Yukon participates in as part of our continuing work on sustainable development in the circumpolar region.

Funding to attend the conference was provided through Growing Forward, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative supporting a profitable and innovative agriculture, agri-food and agri-business sector.

To learn more about how the Yukon government is supporting agriculture in the North, visit [www.agriculture.gov.yk.ca](http://www.agriculture.gov.yk.ca).

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See backgrounder below.

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**Backgrounder: 2010 Circumpolar Agricultural Conference Delegation**

Jeannie Burke	Arctic Health Yukon
Bonnie Dalziel	Seniors' Residence Gardens
Bev Gray	Aroma Borealis Herb Shop Presentation on medicinal plants of the northern boreal forest.
Chad Gubala	Gubala Consulting, Inc.
Tony Hill	Government of Yukon Agriculture Branch Chairing a plenary session on education and knowledge.
Randy Lewis	R.L. Resource Management Presenting his paper entitled <i>A Basis for Community and Economic Development</i> .
Ralph Mease	Yukon Agricultural Association
Rick Tone	Yukon Agricultural Association
Lisa Werther	Growers of Organic Food Yukon Poster presentation entitled <i>Soil Treatment Effect on Biomass Production in the Yukon, Canada</i> .
Ingrid Wilcox	Consultant and educator for the greenhouse and gardening community.

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