



## Government of Yukon

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FOR RELEASE #10-060

April 9, 2010

### Watson Lake Hospital now part of Yukon Hospital Corporation

WHITEHORSE – Effective April 1, history was made when the Watson Lake Hospital became part of the Yukon Hospital Corporation (YHC).

"This coming Saturday, staff at the Watson Lake Hospital will gather at a special celebration to say goodbye to their old employer and be welcomed by their new employer," Health and Social Services Minister Glenn Hart said.

"It's important to be able to access health care that is close to your home community," Watson Lake MLA Dennis Fentie said. "This new step ensures that the YHC can deliver its services to citizens of Watson Lake and the surrounding area more effectively."

The transfer of the hospital facility was one of the recommendations in the 2008 Yukon Health Care Sustainability Review and is consistent with the *Hospital Act*.

"This transfer agreement has aligned the Yukon Hospital Corporation with its mission to provide quality acute care for Yukoners," YHC Board of Trustees chair Craig Tuton said. "At this time, I would like to extend a huge thank you to all those government and corporation staff who have worked tirelessly over the past year to make this a reality. Work will continue at a brisk pace as plans for the new hospital facility take shape."

The new Watson Lake Hospital is set for completion in early 2012.

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