

FOR RELEASE  
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## **New doctors boost healthcare opportunities for Yukoners this October**

Joint recruitment efforts by the Government of Yukon and the Yukon Hospital Corporation will result in additional medical services for Yukoners this October.

Two new physicians are moving to Yukon: Dr. Curtis Myden, an orthopaedic surgeon, and Dr. Katharine Smart, a pediatrician.

Dr. Myden will be based in the surgeon's clinic at the Whitehorse General Hospital, while Dr. Smart will be based in Klondyke Medical Clinic.

### **Quotes:**

"Doctors Myden and Smart will expand our roster of specialists residing in Yukon, helping us to offer improved care access in the territory. Until now, Yukon has relied on visiting specialists for orthopedic surgery, and we have been without a resident pediatrician for a number of years. These physicians are a great addition to our health services."

*–Minister of Health and Social Services Pauline Frost*

"We are committed to a more seamless patient journey within our hospitals, and the Yukon health system as a whole. As we phase in expanded surgical service over the coming year, more Yukoners will be able to prepare for orthopaedic surgery, have the operation and recover here at home. And the addition of pediatric services offers not only improved access to child and youth care in the community, it also enables WGH to look how it can better support other in-demand visiting specialist services."

*–Yukon Hospital Corporation chief executive officer Jason Bilsky*

"The Yukon Medical Association is thrilled that Doctors Myden and Smart have decided to work and live in Yukon. Having these two highly-qualified and respected specialists in the territory will enable Yukoners requiring these specialties to access care closer to home, and without having to leave family and friends at potentially stressful times. Both doctors have both expressed an interest in fostering educational opportunities for the other physicians in Yukon so that we can all stay up to date on the latest evidence and trends in orthopedics and pediatrics. We look forward to warmly welcoming them to our Yukon healthcare team in October."

*–Yukon Medical Association president Dr. Alison Freeman*

### **Quick facts**

- Yukon's wait time for orthopaedic referrals is currently double the national average. The arrival of Dr. Myden should reduce the number of patients waiting for an orthopedic referral by up to 70 percent.
- Dr. Curtis Myden is an orthopaedic surgeon with a sub-specialty interest and training in Shoulder and Knee Arthroscopic surgery and Pediatric orthopaedics. As a former Canadian Olympic swimmer, he has a special interest in helping injured athletes return to their sport.
- Dr. Katharine Smart has completed fellowships in both Pediatric Emergency Medicine and Pediatric Trauma. She has a passion for medical education and health initiatives that support underserved populations, and has previously worked in the Pediatric Intensive Care and Emergency Medicine Units at Alberta Children's Hospital, Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne, and at BC Women's Hospital.

### **Contact:**

Sunny Patch  
Cabinet Communications  
867-393-7478  
sunny.patch@gov.yk.ca

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

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