

FOR RELEASE
October 4, 2017

Government of Yukon tables Public Airports Act

The Government of Yukon today tabled Bill No. 6, the Public Airports Act. It provides the government with the ability to more efficiently manage aviation infrastructure.

At present, no territorial legislation applies directly to airports in Yukon. Instead, public airports are operated through the powers granted by the airport devolution agreements, the *Lands Act*, the *Territorial Lands (Yukon) Act*, the *Motor Vehicles Act*, the *Financial Administration Act*.

The Public Airports Act will clarify the government's role and enable it to better respond to tenant requests, manage traffic flow through aviation facilities and to improve service.

Quotes

"As Yukon's aviation industry expands, many issues at our airports have become more difficult to address and resolve using the existing patchwork provisions. This act will make Yukon's aviation industry safer for everyone."

–Minister of Highways and Public Works Richard Mostyn

Quick facts

- In 1990, the federal government devolved the authority for the smaller airports in Yukon (also referred to as Arctic B airports) to the territorial government. A similar process transferred the two larger airports at the time, Whitehorse and Watson Lake (or Arctic A airports) in 1996.
- Yukon is the only major airport operator in Canada without legislation governing airport activities.

Please note: *this media release was updated on October 17 to remove, at their request, specific mention of industry members. The release is otherwise as originally issued.*

Contact:

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

Brittanee Stewart
Communications, Highways and Public Works
867-667-3692
brittanee.stewart@gov.yk.ca

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