

FOR RELEASE
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Mike and Sylvia Blumenschein are Yukon's 2017 Farmers of the Year

Mike and Sylvia Blumenschein are Yukon's 2017 Farmers of the Year. Mike and Sylvia received the award at the annual North of 60° Agriculture Banquet in Whitehorse on November 3.

Mike has been farming in the Yukon since the 1980s, and has a long history of volunteer work with the board of the Yukon Agricultural Association. They are long-time residents of the Takhini area.

Quotes:

"Mike and Sylvia Blumenschein's hard work, mentorship and guidance have been critical to the growth of agriculture in the Yukon. Their resourcefulness and dedication to community involvement make them worthy recipients of the Yukon Farmer of the Year Award."

–Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Ranj Pillai

"Mike Blumenschein taught us how to farm. During the years that we worked with Mike, I remember hanging on his every word, I was like a sponge absorbing everything he said."

–Takhini River Ranch owner Jackie McBride-Dickson

Quick facts:

- Each year, Yukon's Agriculture Branch highlights a farm family, farmer, or farm advocate who has made an outstanding contribution to Yukon. Recipients are nominated by their peers for their commitment to, and passion for, local farming.
- The first Yukon Farmer of the Year Award was presented to Hugh Bradley of Pelly River Ranch in 1999.
- There are 142 farms reporting to the agriculture census. In 2016, Yukon farms reported \$4.3 million in total gross receipts.

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