



Government of Yukon

Government of Yukon » November 2011 » News Release #11-156

Newsroom

Latest news releases

News by theme

News by department
 Community Services
 Economic Development
 Education
 Energy, Mines and Resources
 Environment
 Executive Council Office
 Finance
 French Language Services Directorate
 Health and Social Services
 Highways and Public Works
 Justice
 Public Service Commission
 Tourism and Culture
 Women's Directorate

News by corporations

Yukon Development Corporation
 Yukon Energy Corporation
 Yukon Housing Corporation
 Yukon Liquor Corporation
 Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board

Joint news releases

Premier's News

News by date

2017 news releases

January
 February
 March
 April
 May
 June
 July
 August
 September
 October
 November
 December

News archive



NEWS *release*

FOR RELEASE #11-156
 November 16, 2011



Yukon recognizes World Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Day

WHITEHORSE—If you can't catch your breath, you're not necessarily out of shape.

For the first time, Yukon will be joining the world community in recognizing World Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) Day, which is taking place today.

COPD Day is organized by the Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease and was launched in 2002 to raise awareness of a debilitating group of lung diseases, including chronic bronchitis and emphysema.

"COPD is hard to detect, especially in the early stages," Health and Social Services Minister Doug Graham said. "If a patient is out of breath, the assumption is often that they are just out of shape or it's because they smoke, but it could be COPD."

In 2004, 64 million people were affected with COPD and the World Health Organization predicts that COPD will become the third leading cause of death worldwide by 2030.

In Yukon, almost 700 people received care for COPD in the last year.

The Chronic Conditions Support Program of Health and Social Services is encouraging Yukoners who often find themselves out of breath to call their health provider for a breathing assessment called a spirometry test.

In addition, the department's Health Promotion Unit, in partnership with Community Nursing, will be sending a registered nurse to all communities outside Whitehorse to offer spirometry testing. The visits are funded through the Public Health Agency of Canada as part of Health Promotion's Lung Health Project.

The community visits will start November 16 and go into the new year. Yukoners interested in being referred for a spirometry test should contact their local health provider.

-30-

Contact:

Elaine Schiman
 Cabinet Communications
 867-633-7961
elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca

Marcelle Dubé
 Communications, Health and Social Services
 867-667-3010
marcelle.dube@gov.yk.ca

<%img_newsarticle%>