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FOR RELEASE #11-021 February 10, 2011

Yukon performing and visual artists participate in Winterlude 2011

Yukon artists will participate in Yukon Days as part of the 33rd annual Winterlude in Ottawa, thanks to co-ordinated efforts between the Government of Yukon and the Government of Canada's National Capital Commission (NCC).

"Winterlude brings hundreds of thousands of Canadians and visitors together to celebrate winter in the National Capital Region," Tourism and Culture Minister Elaine Taylor said. "We are very pleased to continue our partnership with the National Capital Commission that will see our diverse northern culture being showcased during Yukon Days."

"Winterlude celebrates Canadian achievements, values and traditions and helps to enrich the social and cultural fabric of Canada," Chief Executive Officer of the NCC Marie Lemay said. "The NCC is thrilled to welcome talented artisans, singer-songwriters, and snow sculptors from the Yukon who will share their talents and crafts with visitors during Winterlude's second weekend."

The national winter celebration takes place February 4 to 21 in Canada's Capital Region. Yukon artists will take part in special events on February 12 and 13, proclaimed as Yukon Days by Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson.

The cultural contingent includes musicians Remy Rodden, duo Kevin Barr and Boyd Benjamin and the Root Sellers, comprised of Galen and Daniel Ashley. Snow sculptors Don Watt, Michael Lane and Adam Green will create a sculpture in Jacques-Cartier Park February 1-5. Shelby Blackjack, a young visual artist of Northern Tutchone descent, will demonstrate moccasinmaking.

This is the third year of Yukon participation at Winterlude.

For more information about Yukon's cultural contingent and Winterlude visit www.qov.yk.ca/yukondays.html and www.winterlude.gc.ca.

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