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American Sign Language Interpreting Program extended for three years

WHITEHORSE—The Yukon government's American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreting Program has been extended for three years, the Minister for the Public Service Commission Currie Dixon announced today.

"The ASL Interpreting Program is a tremendous success, as it has enhanced communication access across all facets of life for the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community in Yukon," Dixon said. "Thank you to all of those involved in helping to make the program such an accomplishment."

The program provides members of the Deaf and hard-of-hearing communities with interpretive services to access health care, social services, employment opportunities, community meetings and events. In the past two years, over 2,000 hours of interpretation services were provided through 1,306 appointments.

The program was extended following an evaluation of the two-year pilot project to determine whether it was meeting the needs of the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community.

"Since the pilot project began we have seen a steady increase in the number of clients accessing ASL interpreting services," Dixon added. "As we move forward, we will continue to work closely with the Deaf community to better define the program and what the priorities are for service."

A special video featuring Minister Dixon has been created to announce the program extension to the Deaf community. It can be viewed here.

For more information, or to book interpretation services, please contact the Diversity Services office by calling 867-456-6537 or e-mail interpreter.ASL@gov.yk.ca or by TDD at 867-667-5864.

Learn more:

Yukon's Diversity Services office

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