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Yukon government invites public response to draft Pharmacy and Drug Act

WHITEHORSE—The modernizing of Yukon's pharmacy legislation is underway. From February 16 to March 6 the Yukon government is seeking feedback on its draft pharmacy and drug act. The draft act was developed with the input of an advisory committee who identified issues and made recommendations about the regulation of pharmacies and pharmacy professions.

"We thank the advisory committee for its valuable contribution in helping us create this new legislation," Minister of Community Services Currie Dixon said. "A new act will enhance public safety by creating industry standards and a framework for the safe operation of pharmacy facilities in Yukon."

The proposed act will regulate the operations of pharmacies and rural dispensaries in Yukon. It will set out licensing requirements, a code of ethics, standards of operation and requirements regarding the collection and disclosure of information and other tools to support safety and accountability.

"Every step we take brings us closer to ensuring a high quality, legislated system that will support Yukon citizens who are using our pharmacies," Minister of Health & Social Services Mike Nixon said. "Input from stakeholders will inform our next steps."

Regulations for the proposed pharmacy and drug act will be drafted following its approval.

Regulations governing pharmacists and rural permit holders will be also created. Both sets of regulations will be made available for public and stakeholder feedback when they are drafted.

Members of the advisory committee included representatives from the Yukon Pharmacists Association, Yukon Medical Association, Yukon Registered Nurses Association, and Yukon Hospital Corporation as well as pharmacy owners, other local health professionals and representatives from the general public.

The draft pharmacy and drug act and plain-language version are available for review and comment on the Community Services website from February 16 to March 6. A paper copy can be provided on request.

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