



FOR RELEASE

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## **Yukon government partners with City of Whitehorse on planning project for Fifth and Rogers property**

WHITEHORSE—Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Scott Kent today announced a partnership with the City of Whitehorse for a planning initiative for three hectares of land located at Fifth Avenue and Rogers Street in downtown Whitehorse.

"The Fifth and Rogers site has great potential for a mix of market and affordable housing and commercial development," Kent said. "This partnership will ensure that its development is consistent with the City's planning goals."

A steering committee will be formed to oversee the planning initiative. It will make recommendations to the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, Yukon Housing Corporation and the City of Whitehorse about the development of the site.

"We look forward to working with our partners to meet some of the housing needs that have been identified," Minister responsible for the Yukon Housing Corporation Stacey Hassard said.

The planning process is expected to be completed by December. All development at the site will be consistent with the City's Official Community Plan, the Whitehorse Growth Strategy and the Downtown South Master Plan.

"Downtown densification and affordable housing are top priorities for the City of Whitehorse," Mayor Dan Curtis said. "The City is working to increase residential density and revitalize our downtown. Affordable housing is a critical part of the housing mix that is needed. This was confirmed during the recent Vulnerable People at Risk Forum hosted by the City and the Kwanlin Dün First Nation."

A Request for Proposals (RFP) will be issued for detailed planning and engineering options for the site. It will look at the constraints and opportunities presented by the location and recommend the types of development to be supported.

"The YHC board is excited about the opportunity to collaborate in a planning process that will ensure private sector involvement in new mixed market housing opportunities in the downtown core," Yukon Housing Corporation chair Janet Moodie said. "We continue to support processes that bring partners together to maximize choices along the housing continuum."

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