



FOR RELEASE
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Bill to amend the Travel for Medical Treatment Act tabled today

WHITEHORSE—The Department of Health and Social Services is introducing changes to the *Travel for Medical Treatment Act*. The amendments will provide greater flexibility and will enable the Government of Yukon to recover the cost of emergency medical transportation from people not insured by the Yukon Health Care Insurance Plan.

The amendments will also align the legislation with its regulatory framework, clarify who may authorize pre-approved travel and emergency transportation, and modernize the Act to better reflect evolving practices.

"We would like to remind Yukon residents who are in their three-month waiting period for benefits to purchase private insurance until they are eligible for Yukon health care," Minister of Health and Social Services Mike Nixon said. "Visitors from other jurisdictions also need to have private travel insurance that covers air medevacs and ambulance transportation outside their home province or territory."

This initiative represents a collaboration between the departments of Health and Social Services, Justice, Community Services and Finance to address the authorities for emergency transportation and the need to establish methods to collect funds owed by uninsured individuals.

Pre-approved medical travel is a benefit available to people covered by the Yukon Health Care Insurance Plan. Emergency medical transportation is also available to non-residents, but they or another insurer have to pay for the service.

The proposed changes to the *Travel for Medical Treatment Act* have no impact on Yukoners already insured by the Yukon Health Care Insurance Plan.

The next step will be to work with the Canadian Revenue Agency to implement recovery mechanisms.

Learn more:

Medical treatment travel or call 867-667-5203

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