



FOR RELEASE
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Government of Yukon provided northern perspective to Toronto conference

WHITEHORSE—Deputy Premier Elaine Taylor shared Yukon's circumpolar governance experience at the Regional Governments in International Affairs: Lessons from the Arctic conference in Toronto on September 17 and 18.

"There is growing global interest in the challenges and opportunities faced by circumpolar regions around the world," Taylor said. "The conference was an opportunity to highlight Yukon's unique governance, discuss how regional governments help shape the international Arctic agenda, and contribute to a global understanding of northern issues and specific issues of importance to Yukoners."

Taylor took part in a panel discussion on The Role of Regional Government in the Circumpolar Arctic along with: Christin Kristoffersen, mayor of Longyearbyen, Norway; Inuuteq Holm Olsen, head of Greenland Representation, Washington D.C., and Alaska State Senator Lesil McGuire.

The conference was part of the Munk-Gordon Arctic Security Program and was organized by the Bill Graham Centre for Contemporary International History. Former Yukon premier Tony Penikett and former federal minister and Trinity College chancellor Bill Graham also spoke at the conference.

"As the first Canadian territory to achieve devolution, Yukon is a leader in northern governance," Taylor added. "That same leadership is reflected in the ground-breaking land claims agreements with Yukon First Nations through the Umbrella Final Agreement. As regional governments in the circumpolar north we have much in common and take strength in working together to advance shared interests."

The Walter & Gordon Duncan Foundation and the Munk School of Global Affairs sponsored Minister Taylor's travel.

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Contact:

Dan Macdonald
Cabinet Communications
867-393-6470
dan.macdonald@gov.yk.ca

Michael Edwards
Communications, Executive Council Office
867-456-6507
michael.edwards@gov.yk.ca

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