



FOR RELEASE
February 16, 2015

Construction contract highlights partnership between Kwanlin Dün and Yukon governments

WHITEHORSE—Premier Darrell Pasloski and Kwanlin Dün First Nation Chief Doris Bill are pleased to announce the award of a \$3.2 million contract to Canyon City Construction for the design and building services to replace the St. Elias Residence in Whitehorse.

This initiative highlights the partnership between the Kwanlin Dün First Nation (KDFN) and Yukon government through the signing of a Yukon Asset Construction Agreement (YACA) under the *Kwanlin Dün First Nation Final Agreement*.

"Moving forward on this initiative and working collaboratively with KDFN makes good economic sense for Yukon and highlights the success of YACA agreements for our governments," Pasloski said. "Together we will provide a safe and supportive adult residence for Yukoners who suffer from cognitive disabilities but benefit from a measure of independence and self-reliance."

Two recently announced Yukon capital projects provided opportunities for YACA agreements with KDFN – Yukon Housing's 48-unit seniors' residence and the new St. Elias Residence. Canyon City Construction provided a price for construction of the St. Elias Residence that was within the Yukon government's budget parameters, so a sole-source opportunity was provided to the KDFN-owned company.

"An agreement such as this not only provides job opportunities for KDFN citizens, it also promotes economic growth and improves deliverable programs and services for our community," Chief Bill said. "KDFN is pleased to be a part of this important initiative."

Yukon Asset Construction Agreements are negotiated under Section 22 of some self-government agreements and are designed to provide opportunities for training, employment, new business or investment for the qualifying First Nation. A YACA opportunity is triggered when the Yukon government intends to construct an asset within the Traditional Territory of the qualifying First Nation.

The new St. Elias Residence will be located on Hoge Street and is scheduled for completion this fall.

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Contact:

Elaine Schiman
Cabinet Communications
867-633-7961
elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca

Eileen Duchesne
Executive Assistant to the Chief, Kwanlin Dün First Nation

867-633-7826
eileen.Duchesne@kdfn.net

Doris Wurfbaum
Communications, Highways and Public Works
867-393-7193
doris.wurfbaum@gov.yk.ca

Pat Living
Communications, Health and Social Services
867-667-3673
pat.living@gov.yk.ca

News Release #15-049



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