



FOR RELEASE  
March 17, 2015

## **Departments of Environment and Community Services transfer programs**

WHITEHORSE—Effective April 1, the Yukon government's animal protection services will move from the Department of Community Services to the Department of Environment, while Environment's special waste and household hazardous waste collection services will move to Community Services.

"Animal protection is administered by the chief veterinary officer in most Canadian jurisdictions," Minister of Environment Wade Istchenko said. "This shift is a logical expansion of the Animal Health unit's mandate and supports implementation of a comprehensive program as envisioned through the recently modernized *Animal Health Act*."

Integrating animal protection and health will capitalize on the shared expertise provided by the animal protection officer and the enforcement and investigation staff with the Department of Environment.

The Department of Community Services works with municipalities to manage waste and administer related programs in Yukon. Transferring special waste and household hazardous waste collection services to this department will result in more effective waste management practices.

"By taking on the special waste and household hazardous waste collection programs, we will have a more comprehensive approach to waste management that ensures environmental stewardship and community health across the territory," Minister of Community Services Currie Dixon said. "We look forward to continuing this important work with our partners and communities throughout Yukon."

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