



FOR RELEASE
September 9, 2015

Government of Yukon and Kluane First Nation partner to support economic development initiatives

WHITEHORSE— A memorandum of understanding (MOU) has been signed by Premier Darrell Pasloski and Kluane First Nation Chief Mathieya Alatini confirming both governments' support for sustainable growth and economic development opportunities for the Burwash Landing community and surrounding area, including new cottage lots.

"This agreement provides the framework for exploring a number of potential projects in the Kluane Traditional Territory," Pasloski said. "I am pleased to sign this memorandum of understanding as it builds on the 2013 Kluane First Nation-Government of Yukon Intergovernmental Accord and cements our positive working relationship."

The MOU outlines potential projects that the two governments will explore in the coming months. Projects include local-area planning for settlement and non-settlement land, the development of Yukon government land in Burwash Landing, recreational and residential land opportunities, and a recreational development project at Dutch Harbour on Kluane Lake, including cottage lots that will be available to Yukoners through a land lottery.

"The Kluane First Nation is pleased to confirm our ongoing working relationship with the Yukon government and are excited to see funds contributed to renewable energy projects," Chief Alatini said. "We look forward to exploring these economic development opportunities that will support sustainable growth in the Kluane First Nation Traditional Territory."

The Yukon government also agreed to partner with the Kluane First Nation on the development and construction of a wind facility to generate renewable energy.

"Due to increasing demands for electrical energy and Yukon's isolated electrical system, the Yukon government is actively working with communities and First Nation leaders to explore energy-related opportunities for our remote and diesel-dependent communities to reduce their energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions," Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Scott Kent said.

Kluane MLA Wade Istchenko added: "I'm very pleased to see our governments working so well together. This MOU will guide us as we move forward and brings us much closer to realizing the tremendous opportunities in our region."

The Department of Energy, Mines and Resources will provide \$1 million over the next two-and-a-half years to the Kluane Community Development Corporation to install three wind turbines. The electricity will be supplied to the communities of Burwash Landing and Destruction Bay via the existing diesel micro-grid.

For the recreational development project at Dutch Harbour on Kluane Lake, the partners hope to complete the identification of lots for later this year.

Any projects identified to move forward will be subject to the normal application and public review process.

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News Release #15-268



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