



FOR RELEASE
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Premier focuses on a stronger North at Ottawa meetings

WHITEHORSE—Energy, infrastructure and jobs are top of Premier Darrell Pasloski's agenda as he heads to the winter meeting of Canada's premiers in Ottawa on January 30, followed by meetings with federal ministers.

"Meetings with federal ministers are an excellent opportunity to discuss Yukon's priorities with our federal counterparts and how we can align our goals to benefit all Canadians," Pasloski said. "Two particular projects that are crucial to a strong North are a new large-scale hydro facility to meet long-term energy needs, and expanding telecommunications infrastructure to ensure uninterrupted connectivity."

At the Council of the Federation winter meeting of premiers, discussions will focus on the economy, fiscal arrangements, labour mobility, health care and aging.

"I look forward to continuing progress with my fellow premiers on issues that are important to Yukon and are a shared priority across the country," Pasloski added.

Pasloski will also update premiers on the Health Care Innovation Working Group at the premiers' meeting, in his role as co-chair of the working group along with Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne and Prince Edward Island Premier Robert Ghiz.

The Government of Yukon continues to expand its role in the Council of the Federation and in 2016 will chair the council and host the premiers' summer meeting in Whitehorse. This will be the first time a Council of the Federation meeting will take place in Canada's North.

Included in the delegation travelling to Ottawa to meet federal ministers are Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and Highways and Public Works Scott Kent and Minister of Health and Social Services Mike Nixon.

The Ottawa meetings are taking place during the capital's annual Winterlude festival, which features Yukon Days from January 30 to February 2. Yukon Days events include snow carvers in Confederation Park, a Yukon tourism celebration on the Rideau Canal and a reception hosted by the premier.

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