



FOR RELEASE

June 3, 2015

## **Yukon College and Whitehorse Correctional Centre renew education agreement**

WHITEHORSE—Yukon College and Yukon's Corrections branch have signed a five year memorandum of understanding (MOU) that outlines a cooperative approach to the development and delivery of educational programs and services for adults at the Whitehorse Correctional Centre (WCC).

"The Department of Justice is pleased to formalize this relationship with Yukon College," Minister of Justice Brad Cathers said. "Education and training strengthens the capacities of offenders to make the positive behavioural changes needed to re-enter society."

The MOU outlines the provision of programs, courses and services. These include academic upgrading, vocational training, career guidance, academic assessments and First Nations-based college preparation programs.

"This joint initiative is a positive step in the delivery of education and skills training at WCC," Minister of Education Doug Graham said. "Through coordinated planning and resource sharing, this collaboration ensures that educational programming is offered to offenders looking to expand their knowledge base or start meaningful careers, which will benefit them and their communities."

The Yukon College campus at WCC is staffed by two part-time instructor-coordinators; additional instructors are made available as required. In the 2014-15 academic year 108 inmates registered for academic upgrading or basic education opportunities; 36 students participated in five-week full-time work programs.

"Students at Whitehorse Correctional Centre Yukon College campus are very motivated," Yukon College president Karen Barnes said. "The wide range of upgrading and certification courses provide a bridge to programming at Ayamdigut campus, and a positive path forward. We are pleased to renew this memorandum of understanding and work with WCC to expand educational opportunities for inmates."

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*News Release #15-198*



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