



FOR RELEASE
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Yukon premier to attend Mandela memorial

WHITEHORSE—Premier Darrell Pasloski will be part of the delegation representing Canada at the memorial for former South African President Nelson Mandela.

The premier left Whitehorse on Saturday to join Prime Minister Stephen Harper and other members of the delegation in Ottawa. The group departs for South Africa on Sunday.

"It's a great privilege to represent Yukon people at a service of remembrance and celebration for one of the greatest leaders of our time," said Pasloski. "I am honoured to be able to help carry the condolences of Yukoners and all Canadians to Nelson Mandela's family, the people of South Africa and others around the world."

Harper invited Canadian premiers, as well as all former living prime ministers, to accompany him on this trip.

"Nelson Mandela inspired people around the world by setting an example of how to lead through a period of tremendous change," added Pasloski. "During his time as President of South Africa, he showed us how to effect change peacefully. By acting as he did, he saved lives and helped build South Africa into a better country for all its citizens. His sacrifice and dedication to the greater good is an example to us all."

The Prime Minister and his delegation will attend a memorial service on Tuesday, December 10, scheduled to be held in a soccer stadium on the outskirts of Johannesburg, as well as Mandela's lying in state on Wednesday, December 11, in Pretoria.

Yukoners can join other Canadians in expressing their thoughts and prayers by signing the book of condolences on the Government of Canada website at www.commemoration.gc.ca/index-eng.cfm.

Mandela died Thursday at the age of 95.

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