



FOR RELEASE
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New mobile medical clinic unveiled during Operation NANOOK 2013

WHITEHORSE—Yukoners and visitors are the beneficiaries of a new piece of mobile medical equipment that can be deployed during emergencies.

The mini clinic is funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada through the National Emergency Stockpile System (NESS) and is designed to deal with the overflow from local health facilities. Sometimes referred to as a surge clinic, it contains medical equipment and supplies found in a walk-in clinic and can treat up to 17 patients at a time.

"This mini clinic can be deployed quickly to provide extra support to emergency responders in a health emergency," Community Services Minister Brad Cathers said. "By replacing our current, older mobile facility, we are helping better prepare Yukon to meet medical needs in an emergency situation."

The new mini clinic will be unveiled during Operation NANOOK 2013. The annual exercise is the largest conducted by the Canadian Armed Forces in Canada's North.

With the support of the Canadian Armed Forces, the Health and Social Services department will set up the mini clinic on Wednesday, August 7 at the Canada Games Centre as part of an exercise during which NESS staff will train about a dozen Yukon healthcare professionals to work in the clinic.

The public is invited to tour the mini clinic in the Flexihall at the Canada Games Centre from 1 p.m. on Wednesday, August 7 until 3 p.m. on Thursday, August 8.

During Operation NANOOK 2013 earlier this week, Health and Social Services also led a mock biohazard event that included support from the Canadian Armed Forces and the RCMP. Participants were tasked with sealing off the perimeter around a fictitious, dangerous pathogen and dealing with its removal.

To celebrate the conclusion of Operation NANOOK 2013, the public is invited to attend a hockey game between the Canadian Armed Forces' 22nd Regiment Montreal (the VanDoos) and a team of Whitehorse Mustang Alumni on Friday, August 9 at 7 p.m. at the Canada Games Centre (NWTel ice). Admission at the door is a non-perishable food item or small donation to the Whitehorse Food Bank Society.

On Saturday, August 10, the Canadian Armed Forces will host a community day at Shipyards Park where emergency equipment will be on display to the public from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information on Operation NANOOK 2013 in Yukon visit www.gov.yk.ca/opnanook13.html.

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