



FOR RELEASE
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Government provides multi-year funding for the Yukon Wildlife Preserve

WHITEHORSE—A new five-year funding agreement with the Yukon Wildlife Preserve Operating Society will assist the society with its research and animal rehabilitation efforts.

The agreement will provide secure funding for the operating society and will allow the preserve to focus its energies on providing a safe, secure and healthy natural environment for its wildlife population.

"The Government of Yukon supports the preserve because it provides wildlife viewing, education and research opportunities that help Yukoners and visitors appreciate our wildlife and our wilderness," Environment Minister Currie Dixon said. "We are pleased to move from an annual to a multi-year agreement based on the operating society's sound governance and prudent financial management decisions over the past decade."

The five-year funding agreement will maintain the present level of government support – currently \$633,000 for 2013/14 – with an annual increase for inflation. The total value of the agreement is \$3.34 million. Government of Yukon funding accounts for approximately two-thirds of the preserve's annual revenues.

"This new funding arrangement will support the society's efforts to promote knowledge and foster appreciation of Arctic and boreal ecology," Yukon Wildlife Preserve Operating Society president Dave Mossop said. "We are working towards being an internationally recognized centre for our research and rehabilitation work while at the same time becoming a year-round 'must see' destination for Yukoners and visitors alike."

Over the past 10 years the society has made significant facility and programming improvements, to the extent that the preserve became an accredited member of the Canadian Association of Zoos and Aquariums in 2012 as well as a mainstay of the Whitehorse tourism sector.

For information about the Yukon Wildlife Preserve, visit www.yukonwildlife.ca.

-30-

See photo attached.

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