



FOR RELEASE
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Housing action plan to be developed for Yukon

WHITEHORSE—Work has started on the development of a Housing Action Plan for Yukon, Minister responsible for the Yukon Housing Corporation Scott Kent announced today.

"I have asked the housing corporation to invite a number of organizations and stakeholders to participate in developing a Housing Action Plan for Yukon," Kent said. "Ensuring a range of housing options for Yukoners is vitally important and our hope is that all stakeholders with an interest in housing will help to create an action plan that is fully encompassing."

The Yukon government will lead the process through Yukon Housing Corporation and the departments of Community Services, Energy Mines and Resources, and Health and Social Services. Building on this week's Northern Housing Conference, it will identify the range of interests in Yukon's housing sector and set the direction for the Housing Action Plan.

"Housing is an issue that is important to all Yukoners and by working in partnership with stakeholders, I am confident we can move forward to create a realistic housing plan for all of Yukon," Kent added.

"Yukon Housing Corporation's five-year strategic plan defines the goals and objectives of the board and the corporation, and having a fully-supported Housing Action Plan will provide the clear direction needed to turn ideas into action," Yukon Housing Corporation chair Claire Derome said. "We are looking forward to the outcomes of this planning."

The development of the action plan will take into account the strategic investments in housing and land already initiated or completed by the government to meet its commitments. These include land development, an expanded youth shelter, new second stage housing for women and children fleeing violence, the expansion of the Options for Independence facility for adults with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, and seniors' housing, such as the replacement of the former Alexander Street residence and a recently-announced seniors' housing facility in Mayo. The Yukon Housing Corporation has also introduced a new Down Payment Assistance Program.

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