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Yukon government and First Nation leaders reach agreement on steps to enhance cooperation

WHITEHORSE—The Council of Yukon First Nations and the Government of Yukon are taking action to increase collaboration and strengthen their working relationship.

"At a recent meeting, our discussions as leaders gave us the opportunity to identify issues and speak frankly about our hopes for the future," Premier Darrell Pasloski said. "This dialogue demonstrated a mutual respect and the willingness of all involved to work constructively together."

The leaders have agreed to hold a series of informal government-to-government meetings, which will include the Grand Chief, First Nation Chiefs and the Premier. These meetings are designed to facilitate constructive discussions on a broad range of common issues. Depending on the topics, one or more Cabinet ministers may accompany the Premier.

"Yukon First Nation leaders were very pleased to have a frank discussion on our relationship as governments in the territory and how we can work together to make Yukon a better place to live for all Yukoners," Council of Yukon First Nations Grand Chief Ruth Massie said.

These ongoing working discussions will be in addition to formal Yukon Forum and Intergovernmental Forum meetings. It is intended that these informal meetings will help the parties better prepare for the Yukon Forum meetings.

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