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Land development protocols empower Yukon municipalities

WHITEHORSE—Energy, Mines and Resources Minister Scott Kent today announced that five Yukon municipalities have recently signed Land Development Protocol Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with the Government of Yukon.

"With the addition of Faro, Teslin, Haines Junction, Mayo and Carmacks all seven rural Yukon municipalities have now signed Land Development Memorandums of Understanding with the Yukon government," Kent said. "Watson Lake and Dawson City completed their agreements with the government in 2013."

The agreements outline how the Yukon government will work cooperatively with the municipalities in identifying and providing available land for potential territorial, municipal and private sector developments within their boundaries. The Yukon government and municipalities will also work together on public sales of developed lots in the communities.

"All Yukon municipalities now have consistent land development protocols that will assist the Association of Yukon Communities in its goals of supporting community success," Association of Yukon Communities president Wayne Potoroka said. "These agreements clarify the roles and responsibilities between communities and the Yukon government and we look forward to projects that will result from this working relationship."

"These documents empower municipalities to plan long-term land development essential to meeting the future needs and economic development opportunities of our growing communities," Kent added. "We look forward to continuing to build on our good working relationships with municipalities and with the association that represents them."

With the transfer of responsibilities for rural land development in April 2014, Energy, Mines and Resources is the single government contact for all land management, planning and development services outside of Whitehorse.

The City of Whitehorse and the Government of Yukon signed the first land development protocol in 2006.

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