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Multi-party agreement reached on Dome Road solution

WHITEHORSE—The Yukon government, City of Dawson and owners of the Slinky mine have negotiated a multi-party agreement which will see a number of initiatives move forward.

"This agreement will enable development of much needed country residential lots in the area, provide for a timely end to placer mining near the road and residences, and result in a safer road for all users," Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Scott Kent said. "We are working together in the best interests of Dawson and its residents."

This relocation project of approximately \$1.3 million specifies that the mining must be completed by December 31, 2017. The claims in the area will then be relinquished and the land made available for future residential development.

"Creating lots is a primary goal for Dawson City's council, and we are thankful for the Yukon government's help in expediting this mining activity and getting us closer to realizing that objective," Dawson City Mayor Wayne Potoroka said. "Council was unanimous in their support of this agreement and looks forward to keeping residents informed and involved as the project progresses."

A public meeting is scheduled in Dawson for June 25. Work on road relocation will be completed this summer.

"The Yukon government understands some residents' concerns with placer mining near their properties – that is why we negotiated a solution that will see the Slinky mine complete its operations on a much shorter and certain timeline than if no settlement had been reached," Kent added.

The Slinky placer mine is an established mine site with a water use licence and a Class 4 mining land use approval issued by the Yukon Water Board. The claims encompassing the mine had been staked prior to the 1993 expansion of Dawson's municipal boundaries.

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