



FOR RELEASE

May 9, 2014

## **Yukon commemorates veterans of Afghanistan mission**

WHITEHORSE—Yukon officials and members of the Royal Canadian Legion gathered in Whitehorse and Dawson City today to commemorate Canada's military engagement in Afghanistan at the National Day of Honour ceremonies.

"Veterans have contributed to Canada in ways most of us will never fully comprehend," Premier Darrell Pasloski said. "Today we commemorate the unwavering dedication and strength of the members of the Canadian Armed Forces who served in Afghanistan. Their commitment to making the world a safer place will not be forgotten."

The National Day of Honour is being commemorated through a series of events across Canada to recognize the accomplishments of veterans of the Afghanistan mission. Over 40,000 members of the Canadian Armed Forces and hundreds of civilians served in the 12-year mission; among them were the 158 military personnel, one diplomat and several civilians who died serving their country.

"The National Day of Honour is also about recognizing those in uniform who serve, often at the risk of their lives, both at home and abroad," Deputy Premier Elaine Taylor said. "We are deeply grateful for the contributions of Canadian law enforcement, emergency services and civil society whose sacrifice keeps us safe within our own borders."

Speaker of the Yukon Legislative Assembly David Laxton added: "As Yukoners we owe Canada's armed forces our deepest thanks and respect for their service to our country. The National Day of Honour gives us all an opportunity to reflect and appreciate the sacrifices of the fallen, the wounded, and their families at home."

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*News Release #14-119*

