

FOR RELEASE August 1, 2014

Online calendar presents community health and social events

WHITEHORSE—An online community calendar is being piloted by White River First Nation, First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun and Vuntut Gwitchin Government.

The initiative is jointly sponsored by Council of Yukon First Nations (CYFN) and Health and Social Services (HSS). CYFN is providing in-kind services while the Yukon government will manage and fund the multi-faceted community calendar.

"This calendar ties in very nicely with our move towards greater collaboration among health care providers and our goal of integrated, cooperative care for all Yukon citizens," Minister of Health and Social Services Doug Graham said. "A visual, interactive calendar is a good start. It allows everyone to see who is where and when, and how they can support each other."

As catalyst for the project, CYFN approached HSS late last year with the idea of creating a calendar that could be used to track visits to each community.

"CYFN is very excited to see our calendar implemented," CYFN Grand Chief Ruth Massie said. "It will help health and social professionals plan more effectively and efficiently when visiting communities and will also provide community members with a means to see what is happening in their community and others at a quick glance."

Graham added this new tool will help community members and the professionals travelling to those communities. He anticipates the calendar will display dates for:

- professional visits by physicians, mental health workers, optometrists and dentists;
- service visits from social workers or child development centre workers; and
- community-specific events such as general assemblies, meetings and dinners.

Health professionals along with health and social organizations are now invited to schedule and post community visits to the online calendar. Massie added that the ultimate goal is to have all 14 First Nations, Council of Yukon First Nations, government and non-government organizations embed a calendar on each of their own websites.

Learn more: Health and Social Events Calendar

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News Release #14-179



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