



FOR RELEASE  
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## **Clean up planned for contaminated sites in Old Crow**

WHITEHORSE—The Government of Yukon is developing plans to clean up three contaminated sites in Old Crow to protect environmental and human health. The work is part of an overall effort to reduce environmental liabilities.

"Real progress is being made to assess and remediate a legacy of government-owned contaminated properties located across the territory," Minister of Environment Currie Dixon said. "The Yukon government is committed to enhancing the quality of our natural environment for present and future generations."

Comprehensive site assessments are planned for the following three locations in Old Crow, which are known to be contaminated with hydrocarbons: the airport maintenance fuel facility; the aviation and marine branch fuel facility; and the nursing station. Assessment information will determine the remediation requirements for these sites.

"The community of Old Crow welcomes the news of work on these contaminated sites given the proximity of some of these sites to the Porcupine River," Vuntut Gwitchin MLA Darius Elias said. "The community's paramount concern is always the health of our natural environment."

In addition, the Yukon government plans to hire remediation specialists to continue clean up efforts at three other sites in the territory: the metals contaminated soil stockpile in Whitehorse; the Klondike River Highway maintenance camp; and a land treatment facility along the Top of the World Highway.

"Remediating these sites will result in a safer environment as well as create Yukon jobs for those contracted to carry out the work," Dixon added.

The Yukon government identified \$1,735,000 in the 2014/15 main budget estimate for clean up work and \$500,000 for assessment work, subject to legislative approval, which will begin this summer. This work falls under the Environmental Liabilities and Remediation Program and is implemented by the Site Assessment and Remediation unit at the Department of Environment. To date, the program has already fully cleaned up three contaminated sites in Yukon.

### **Learn more**

Visit Environment's webpage about site assessment and remediation at [www.env.gov.yk.ca/air-water-waste/contaminated\\_sites\\_regs.php](http://www.env.gov.yk.ca/air-water-waste/contaminated_sites_regs.php)

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