



FOR RELEASE
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Government supports land-based healing with \$1 million contribution

WHITEHORSE—The Government of Yukon is providing \$1 million in funding over three years to the Kwanlin Dün First Nation to support land-based healing programs at the Jackson Lake Healing Centre.

"The government is pleased to support the Jackson Lake Healing Centre, which has attracted national attention and is at the forefront of land-based healing options," Premier Darrell Pasloski said.

The Kwanlin Dün First Nation (KDFN) has offered treatment programs at the Jackson Lake centre for the past four years. Programs at the facility are, and will continue to be, open to all people in Yukon.

"KDFN has been working hard to develop and deliver a comprehensive range of cultural and land-based programs for Yukon people. This funding will allow us to provide more prevention, treatment on the land and in the community, and aftercare services to Yukoners in need," Kwanlin Dün Chief-elect Doris Bill said. "It will also allow us to advance the program model and will provide more opportunity for collaboration with other First Nations, government and NGOs."

A Leadership Resolution passed last year by the Council of Yukon First Nations supported the allocation of Yukon government funding for Jackson Lake as a pilot project for a land-based healing program.

"Through this funding we are meeting our government commitment to work with First Nations to explore opportunities for land-based treatment of substance abuse," Pasloski added. "We recognize the importance of this being a First Nations-owned and operated facility."

Programming at Jackson Lake, which is about 20 minutes outside Whitehorse, integrates traditional and contemporary approaches to healing. Participants live full-time at the centre for four weeks, taking part in activities that are designed to address the spiritual, mental, emotional and physical needs of participants dealing with issues stemming from substance abuse.

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