



FOR RELEASE

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## **New soccer complex and track planned for Whitehorse**

WHITEHORSE—As part of the recently announced 2014/15 budget, the Yukon government is investing \$250,000 towards the development of an outdoor sport complex in Whitehorse. The facility will feature artificial turf and grass soccer fields and an eight-lane track, among other amenities.

"Yukon has a very strong sports community, and we have a history of producing exceptional athletes, particularly from such a small population. A modern outdoor complex will offer Yukon athletes and coaches better opportunities for enhanced training and development," Premier Darrell Pasloski said. "We believe this is excellent news for families and sports enthusiasts across the territory."

The investment is for preliminary work on the project, which will be managed by the Yukon Soccer Association. This will include site selection and surveying, preliminary and detailed engineering designs, geotechnical studies and construction cost estimates.

"Yukon has been hugely successful in hosting events like the Arctic Winter Games and Canada Winter Games," Minister of Community Services Brad Cathers said. "Investing in an outdoor complex will further foster active living and help the sports community explore opportunities for hosting athletic events in the summer months."

A feasibility study commissioned by Yukon Soccer, including consultation with other user groups, recommends that the complex include artificial turf fields, an eight-lane track, a natural grass field, change rooms, washrooms and equipment storage space. Tennis and basketball courts and other sporting facilities may also be incorporated into the final design.

"We are very encouraged by the government's support of this initiative," Yukon Soccer Association representative Tony Gaw said. "We are confident that an outdoor complex like this will be a huge asset for Yukon athletes for generations to come."

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