



FOR RELEASE  
May 2, 2013

## **Five-year busing contracts awarded**

WHITEHORSE—Watson Lake Bus Lines Co. Ltd.—commonly referred to as Takhini Transport—was awarded two five-year school busing contracts effective July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2018, Education Minister Scott Kent announced today.

"Congratulations to Takhini Transport for being awarded contracts for both urban and rural Yukon bus routes," Kent said. "We look forward to working with this local Yukon company, and would like to thank Standard Bus Contracting Ltd. for its excellent service over the past two years."

The contract tendering rules state that contracts are awarded to the low bidder and the contractor must operate buses that were built in 2007 or later. Takhini Transport was awarded a contract in the amount of \$10,900,042 for school bus services in the Whitehorse area and a combined contract in the amount of \$3,110,400 for rural communities.

"We are delighted to have won the contract," Takhini Transport general manager Pat Jamieson said. "We look forward to working with Yukon Education to provide safe, efficient transportation for students."

Bids received from Standard Bus Contracting were \$10,999,154 for urban services and \$3,876,172 for rural services.

This is the second time the Yukon government has awarded a five-year busing contract. The previous five-year contract was terminated at the end of the fourth year at the request of the contractor due to significant increases in fuel prices. Since that time, all busing contracts have built-in fuel clauses that address fluctuating prices.

"Extending the length of our busing contract streamlines department processes and ensures that the main focus remains on transporting our students in a safe and timely way," Kent added. "Student safety is a top priority for the Yukon government and we do all we can to keep children safe from the time they board the bus in the morning until they return home at the end of the day."

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*News Release #13-113*