



FOR RELEASE  
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## **Team Yukon leaves for 2013 Canada Summer Games this week**

WHITEHORSE – The Yukon government sent Team Yukon off to the 2013 Canada Summer Games in style with a pep rally held at the Yukon Beringia Centre last Friday evening. The team leaves August 1.

"The Yukon government wishes the very best to Yukon's athletes, coaches, managers and mission staff participating in the 2013 Canada Summer Games," Community Services Minister Elaine Taylor said. "These games are an exceptional opportunity for our athletes to compete and to showcase their skills, talent, sportsmanship and all that they've achieved through hard work and training."

The pep rally was attended by athletes, coaches, mission staff, supporters and family members. Team Yukon athletes gathered in their red, white and black uniforms for team photos and enjoyed the youth-oriented entertainment overseen by emcee George Maratos. Team members also received their team pins and a ministerial pin from Minister Taylor.

"Support for Team Yukon is one of the many ways the Government of Yukon is taking action to develop athletes in the territory," Taylor added. "It is a key part of the government's overall investment in the health, well-being and quality of life of all Yukoners. Our local sports heroes inspire both participation and excellence in sport and help encourage physical activity and sport among Yukoners of all ages."

Team Yukon will compete in athletics (running events and field sports), canoe/kayak, golf, volleyball, mountain biking, cycling, soccer, swimming and tennis.

"This is a tremendous opportunity afforded to 15 young athletics competitors who have been working very hard in preparation for these games," athletics coach Don White said. "This is the largest athletics team we have ever sent to the Canada Games with a wide variety of ages and experience."

Team Yukon's participation in the 2013 Canada Summer Games is supported by \$150,000 in funding from the Government of Yukon and additional support from sports organizations, the business community and Yukoners. "I am extremely excited for these games to begin as I can't wait to play against the top level teams from across Canada," Team Yukon soccer player Camille Galloway said. "I love the sport of soccer and hope to pursue a future playing at university."

A total of 141 athletes, coaches, managers and mission staff will represent Yukon at the games, which run from August 2 to 17 in Sherbrooke, Quebec.

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