



Government of Yukon

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NEWSrelease

FOR RELEASE #10-229
December 22, 2010

Social inclusion and poverty reduction reports released

WHITEHORSE – The Yukon government today released two reports: the *Whitehorse Housing Adequacy Study* and the *Dimensions of Social Inclusion and Social Exclusion in Yukon 2010* report, as part of the creation of the Yukon Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Strategy.

The *Whitehorse Housing Adequacy Study* was designed to address a long-standing need for statistical information on homelessness and housing challenges in the Whitehorse area. While it is not intended to be representative of the whole Whitehorse population, it provides a snapshot of a vulnerable sub-population during a specific time period.

"The study will help all of us – government and agencies alike – address the growing needs around affordable housing and homelessness by taking the evidence-based data and using it to identify priorities and develop programs and services to help those wanting to make better lives for themselves," Health and Social Services Minister Glenn Hart said.

The survey was created by the Department of Health and Social Services in partnership with the Yukon Bureau of Statistics and the Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition. A number of key stakeholders provided input and advice from early April to mid-May, 2010.

The *Dimensions of Social Inclusion and Social Exclusion in Yukon 2010* report is a rich compilation of data using social indicators such as personal and community assets, access to necessities and participation in society. These documents are the foundation that will provide the information and evidence needed to develop the strategy.

"The information in both reports will help government bring together everything it is already doing under one single banner so we can all focus our energy on meeting needs that are evidence based. Together they tell us that housing and homelessness are complex issues that we will continue to address," Hart said.

Both reports are available online at www.hss.gov.yk.ca. Paper copies are available upon request.

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