



## Government of Yukon

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**NEWS**release

FOR RELEASE #10-023

February 10, 2010

### Improved support for victims of crime

WHITEHORSE – The Yukon government has committed nearly \$1.5 million over the next three years to increase services to victims of crime and to create a campaign aimed at preventing domestic violence, Justice Minister Marian C. Horne announced today.

"We heard from Yukoners during the corrections consultations that victims need support to rebuild a sense of security and safety," Horne said. "We heard that more services for victims of crime are needed."

The funding will support the Victims of Crime strategy, released in August 2009. The strategy stated the need to build upon a recently completed three-year public education campaign that addressed violence towards women.

The government is committing annual funding of \$170,784 towards two new victim services workers for the next three years in response to those stated needs.

The Women's Directorate will receive \$181,207 for each of the next three years for a new community-based social marketing campaign; the funding will provide for a new social marketing analyst position.

"This campaign will address the prevalence of intimate partner violence in the territory, which is three times higher than the national average," Horne added.

Another \$85,000 per year will be used to provide training for people who work with victims.

The new *Victims of Crime Act* is also part of the strategy. The department is reviewing input from the public consultation on the draft act, which closed on January 29.

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