



Government of Yukon

Government of Yukon » March 2010 » News Release #10-048

Newsroom

Latest news releases

News by theme

News by department
 Community Services
 Economic Development
 Education
 Energy, Mines and Resources
 Environment
 Executive Council Office
 Finance
 French Language Services
 Directorate
 Health and Social Services
 Highways and Public Works
 Justice
 Public Service Commission
 Tourism and Culture
 Women's Directorate

News by corporations

Yukon Development
 Corporation
 Yukon Energy Corporation
 Yukon Housing Corporation
 Yukon Liquor Corporation
 Yukon Workers'
 Compensation Health and
 Safety Board

Joint news releases

Premier's News

News by date

2017 news releases

January
 February
 March
 April
 May
 June
 July
 August
 September
 October
 November
 December

News archive



NEWS *release*

FOR RELEASE #10-048
 March 25, 2010

2010-11 Budget continues to invest in Yukoners' economic and social future

WHITEHORSE – The Government of Yukon's 2010-11 Capital and Operations and Maintenance budget, totaling \$1 billion and \$75 million, was tabled in the legislative assembly today by Premier and Finance Minister Dennis Fentie.

"This budget continues to be strategic and focuses on the economic and social well-being of Yukoners," Fentie said. "Our commitment to build for the future is reflected by investments in health care, green energy, resource and land development, housing, education, public and social infrastructure."

A multi-year capital plan – a schedule of specific capital projects – also included in the budget, will provide strategic direction for the next three years.

For more information visit www.gov.yk.ca.

-30-

Backgrounder attached: 2010-11 budget highlights

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2010-11 Budget Highlights

Quality of Life

- \$11.25 million to replace 207 Alexander Street seniors' housing in Whitehorse. \$7 million to replace Korbo Apartments social housing in Dawson City.
- \$3.7 million to upgrade existing social housing units Yukon wide.
- \$2.7 million for the design of the new F.H. Collins Secondary School.
- \$2.6 million over two years commencing 2009-2010 for the Dawson City Community Campus.
- \$2.2 million for six social housing units in Whitehorse.
- \$1.5 million for eight-unit seniors' housing project in Teslin.
- \$1.5 million to complete 12-unit Watson Lake seniors' building.
- \$1.4 million over two years commencing 2009-2010 for the Pelly Crossing Community Campus.

- \$950,000 to enable Yukon College to develop an interdisciplinary research and commercialization facility to further enhance its research, commercialization, education and training capacity.
- \$808,000 comprehensive municipal grant increase and \$121,000 increase for community operations in unincorporated communities.
- \$312,000 in the first year of a three-year initiative to implement new Victims of Crime Strategy.
- \$250,000 to complete six-unit seniors' housing project in Faro.
- \$126,000 for the Four Winds Family and Community Literacy Project.

Environment

- \$33.923 million for remediation work at Faro Mine. \$1.052 million for the expansion of Yukon's forestry research Infrastructure including the upgrading and renovation of greenhouses and the development of a research laboratory at the Forest Management branch compound and research centre at the Gunnar Nilsson and Mickey Lammers Research Forest.
- \$1 million for Firesmart program.
- \$844,000 for the Cold Climate Innovation Centre.
- \$175,000 for the Yukon Placer Secretariat working in partnership with the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in government to increase the ability of individual First Nation governments to participate in the adaptive management process related to the Fish and Habitat Management System for Yukon Placer Mining.
- \$115,000 for Champagne and Aishihik First Nations' spruce beetle impact mitigation project.
- \$100,000 for Ross River to develop a resource plan involving the Ross River Dena Council and the mineral industry for the traditional use area of the Ross River Dena and to enhance community capacity through an outdoor education program of environmental management and cultural awareness.

Economy

- \$10.3 million for the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre new public library that will be the centerpiece in the development of the Whitehorse waterfront.
- \$4.375 million Labour Market Development Agreement for the design and delivery of skills development and employment programs funded under the Employment Insurance program.
- \$1.146 million over three years to the Northern Institute of Social Justice at Yukon College to deliver training programs to enhance the capacity of Yukoners whose work involves social justice.
- \$334,000 to provide on-the-job First Nation resource management training.
- \$250,000 Northern Strategy Funding for the Yukon Mine Training Association to provide mine training to Yukoners.

Good Government

- Implementation of new Corrections Act and Victims of Crime Strategy, reflecting a new philosophy of corrections that emphasizes the protection of the public, holds offenders

accountable and provides appropriate opportunities for rehabilitation, resulting from the Corrections Consultation.

- Implementation of the Climate Change Action Plan and the Energy Strategy for Yukon through such initiatives as the Yukon Research Centre of Excellence established at Yukon College, connecting the Whitehorse-Aishihik-Faro grid to the Mayo-Dawson grid, and upgrading the Mayo hydro dam.
 - Implementation of the findings of the Yukon Health Care Review and Taking the Pulse report through the all-party Oversight Committee on Health Care Sustainability, setting priorities and development of a new wellness strategy.
 - Development of a new Social Inclusion Strategy, a significant social policy initiative.
 - Development of a multi-year capital plan providing a schedule of specific capital projects including:
 - \$40 million for highways and airports,
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- \$15 million for land development,
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- \$12 for capital building maintenance, and
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- \$6.5 million for a three-year plan of annual core expenditures related to information technology.
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- Continued implementation of cooperative governance with Yukon First Nations including support for Yukon First Nations in concluding new Financial Transfer Agreements with the federal government to properly fund First Nations governments.

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