

FOR RELEASE
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Yukon government supports signing of Paris Agreement on Earth Day

WHITEHORSE—Premier Darrell Pasloski and Minister of Environment Wade Istchenko expressed their support today following the signing of the Paris Agreement by Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in New York City.

"On behalf of our government, I would like to acknowledge Canada's signing of the Paris Agreement," Pasloski said. "We are taking action now to address climate change while protecting the economy through investments in climate research, by supporting green energy projects and by retrofitting government buildings. I will continue to stand up for Yukoners by ensuring the Canadian approach takes into account the unique challenges facing northern communities, including continuing to fight the imposition of a carbon tax."

More than 160 countries signed the Paris Agreement at a ceremony at the United Nations headquarters today. The signing ceremony, held on Earth Day, marks the first step in implementing the Paris Agreement, which was adopted at the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) in December 2015.

"I am very pleased to see Canada support this important agreement," Istchenko said. "While Yukon generates less than one per cent of Canada's greenhouse gas emissions, the impacts of climate change have a significant effect on Yukoners and require an effective adaptation response."

The Yukon government is taking action on climate change through a range of activities outlined in the Climate Change Action Plan and Yukon's Energy Strategy. Yukon is investing in building retrofits, biomass energy generation, hydroelectric expansion and a range of other carbon-reduction efforts.

Premier Pasloski led the Yukon delegation to the COP21 in December 2015. The delegation included leaders of Yukon's opposition parties, Council of Yukon First Nations Grand Chief Ruth Massie, the Climate Change Youth Ambassador and Yukon government officials.

Learn more:

Yukon's Climate Change Action Plan
COP 21
Canada Climate Change Portal

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