

FOR RELEASE
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Government recognizes unique nature of Yukon log homes

WHITEHORSE—Homes built with exterior log walls are now exempt from section 9.36 of Canada's National Building Code, which sets energy efficiency standards for homes and small buildings.

"The Government of Yukon has responded to the concerns of log home builders in the territory and created this Yukon-specific amendment to the National Building Code," Minister of Community Services Currie Dixon said.

The Government of Yukon adopted the energy efficiency standards of the National Building Code in March, with some Yukon-specific regulations that consider the territory's climate and geography, and the types of construction Yukoners may choose. The amendment that exempts log homes from energy efficiency standards was passed last week.

The adoption of section 9.36 of Canada's National Building Code in Yukon followed a thorough review by a special advisory committee on energy efficiency. The committee, which included members of the local construction community, sought feedback from their peers, spoke with energy efficiency code-development experts in other Canadian jurisdictions, and considered public comments.

"This much-needed amendment will ensure that log homes continue to be an affordable option for Yukon families," MLA for Lake Laberge Brad Cathers said. "On behalf of my constituents I thank everyone who helped find a made-in-Yukon solution that recognizes log homes as an environmentally responsible option."

Log homes are still required under Yukon's Building Standards Act and regulations to meet a minimum thickness for exterior walls. In addition, log homes in Whitehorse must meet building standards set by municipal bylaw.

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