

FOR RELEASE  
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## **Government of Yukon and Northern Vision Development sign workplace literacy program agreement**

WHITEHORSE—The Government of Yukon and Northern Vision Development (NVD) have signed an agreement to support a Workplace Literacy and Essential Skills program for their employees.

"It's terrific that Yukon and Canada can work together to help individuals get the training they need to improve their essential skills and enable them to excel in their workplace," Federal Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour MaryAnn Mihychuk said. "We will continue to work with the Yukon government, and others, to help all Canadians get the skills required for good quality jobs."

With funding coming from the Employer-Sponsored Training program under the Canada-Yukon Job Fund, the agreement provides up to \$80,000 to support the program until June 2017. The program will be delivered through professional practices developed by Frontier College, a national, non-profit literacy organization. Content will be personalized to specific job activities so that employees are able to apply their new skills in their positions.

"Private sector organizations are essential partners in developing the skills and employability of Yukoners," Minister of Education Doug Graham said. "This program will help NVD employees increase their workplace skills and enhance the skills of the Yukon labour force."

The program will be delivered to up to 40 NVD hotel employees during regular working hours. Through the program, participants will improve on one or more of the nine essential skills for workplace readiness: reading, writing, document use, numeracy, computer use and digital skills, thinking, oral communication, working with others and continuous learning.

"Workplace literacy is a critical issue for us," NVD Human Resources director Alexis Brandt said. "This program ensures that our employees are much more productive in the workplace and equips them to be much more fully engaged in Yukon society."

The Canada-Yukon Job Fund is an agreement between the governments of Canada and Yukon that provides funding to increase the participation of Yukon individuals in the labour force and helps them develop the skills necessary to find meaningful long-term employment.

"Not only does this program substantially upgrade the quality of workers we have within our employ, it also makes the individuals much more employable in the general marketplace," NVD hotel division general manager Dylan Soo said. "It is therefore a win-win, and we are very appreciative that the government has seen the benefit in making this important workplace investment."

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