



Government of Yukon

Government of Yukon » March 2009 » News Release #09-078

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



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March 26, 2009

Watson Lake Hospital Management Agreement Signed

WHITEHORSE – Health and Social Services Minister Glenn Hart and Yukon Hospital Corporation Chair Craig Tuton announced today the signing of a 13-month management agreement that formalizes the corporation’s participation in the management of the Watson Lake Hospital.

This agreement details the steps necessary for the Yukon Hospital Corporation (YHC) to take in considering the transfer of the hospital from the Government of Yukon to the corporation.

The agreement appoints authority to the corporation to review policies and procedures at the Watson Lake Hospital. It also specifies that hospital staff remain employees of the Yukon government during the period of the management agreement.

“We are taking a measured and professionally informed approach in considering the hospital transfer, and involving physicians, staff and administration, as well as the community of Watson Lake as we proceed,” Tuton said.

“This will allow us to enhance health care in the community of Watson Lake,” Hart said. “As we move toward this goal, we are following a process that will be respectful and open so that employees and community members are well informed at every step.”

The 2008 Yukon Health Care Review recommended that the government ‘examine if the transfer of the Watson Lake Hospital, to the control of the Yukon Hospital Corporation, will improve the alignment of responsibility for acute care service delivery in the Yukon.’ It is in this context that the current management agreement was signed.

-30-

Contact:

Emily Younker
Cabinet Communications
Government of Yukon
867-633-7961
emily.younker@gov.yk.ca

Val Pike
Communications
Yukon Hospital Corporation
867-633-7949
val.pike@wgh.yk.ca

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