



Government of Yukon

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NEWS release

FOR RELEASE #09-170

July 23, 2009

Kenyon Receives Support from PNWER Forum

WHITEHORSE – Economic Development Minister Jim Kenyon recently received support for the Shakwak Highway project from the Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Leadership Forum in Boise, Idaho.

“PNWER’s show of support for the Shakwak Highway project is excellent,” Kenyon said. “The project is important to Yukon and to the entire Pacific Northwest region because it is Alaska’s link to the continental United States.”

The Shakwak Highway connects the Alaska panhandle with the rest of the state and is primarily located within Canada.

Kenyon presented information about the Shakwak Highway project and received a formal resolution of support from PNWER. The resolution supports renewed funding for the project, specifically to repair the sections damaged by melting permafrost between Destruction Bay and the Canada-U.S. border, and repaving on the Alaska Highway south of Destruction Bay and the Haines Road.

The four-day conference of private and public sector leaders from the PNWER partner regions focused on global challenges. The program included discussions on energy, international border crossing issues, technology and innovation.

“It is very important for Yukon to present at the PNWER forum,” Kenyon added. “The forum is an opportunity to discuss mutual goals and concerns with our Canadian and American neighbours.”

PNWER is a regional Canada-U.S. forum dedicated to encouraging global economic competitiveness and preserving the Pacific Northwest’s natural environment. Yukon has been a member since 1994.

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