



# Government of Yukon

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# NEWS *release*

FOR RELEASE #09-276  
December 4, 2009

### Yukon Supports U.N. Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities

WHITEHORSE – The Yukon government supports Canada’s intention to ratify the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Justice Minister Marian C. Horne announced today.

Canada has already signed the convention, indicating agreement with its principles, but ratification requires the support of the provinces and territories because disability issues fall under their jurisdiction.

“Yukon legislation is essentially in compliance with this convention, and there is always more we could do to remove the barriers that people with disabilities face every day,” Horne said. “In supporting ratification we are pleased to signal our intention to continue making progress.”

The decision to support ratification follows extensive consultation with all Yukon government departments to ensure Yukon legislation, policies and practices are in compliance with the convention.

The convention was tabled in the House of Commons on December 3 to mark International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

This annual day of recognition aims to increase the understanding of disability issues and bring attention to the dignity, rights and well-being of people with disabilities. The day occurs during Disability Awareness Week in Yukon.

“There are increasing efforts across Yukon by individuals, businesses, organizations and governments to improve services for people with disabilities,” Horne added. “I would like to commend the efforts of everyone who works hard to make Yukon more accessible to people with disabilities.”

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