



FOR RELEASE
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Yukon government offers condolences after tragic deaths in Porter Creek

WHITEHORSE—On behalf of the Government of Yukon, Premier Darrell Pasloski is offering sincere condolences to everyone affected by the recent tragic deaths of five Whitehorse residents in their Porter Creek home.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends of the people who died in this terrible tragedy," Pasloski said. "An event of this magnitude affects the community as a whole, including schools and workplaces. The government shares the concerns of so many Yukoners in regard to this event and we are all saddened by this tragic loss."

One of the individuals who died, Bradley Rusk, had a position with the Yukon government's Workplace Diversity Employment Office and was a panelist at the Six Steps to Success Conference held in Whitehorse last year. The office has set up a memorial table for Rusk in the foyer of the Yukon Government Administration Building on Second Avenue in Whitehorse, including a sympathy card for the family that Yukoners are encouraged to sign.

This tragedy is the subject of investigations that are currently underway by the appropriate authorities.

"Our government will be looking closely at the results of the investigations to determine what actions may be required on the part of various levels of government, Pasloski added.

"Along with the two opposition parties, we are committed to implement the recommendations of the Select Committee on the *Landlord and Tenant Act* to modernize the legislation. Work is underway with the intent of bringing forward new legislation this year. The results of the current investigations into the recent tragedy may figure into that ongoing work."

Yukon schools have their own counsellors, chaplains and teaching staff providing grief counselling and support for their students, in regard to this matter. The Department of Education has a crisis response team that is on standby to support students and staff with additional resources, support and expertise, if required.

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Contact:

Elaine Schiman
Cabinet Communications
867-633-7961
elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca

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