



FOR RELEASE
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First Nations and Government of Yukon partner to share new capacity tools

WHITEHORSE—The Government of Yukon has partnered with the Carcross/Tagish and Kwanlin Dün First Nations, the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun, and the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation to develop a series of new tools that will help support First Nation governance.

The tools include:

- Carcross/Tagish administrative and workflow systems for heritage and natural resource management;
- A Kwanlin Dün framework for Yukon First Nations Settlement Land management;
- A Na-Cho Nyäk Dun handbook and manuals on governance processes and procedures including orientation, transition, management and administration; and
- A Vuntut Gwitchin natural resource department operations manual.

The tools were funded through the Northern Strategy Trust Fund, launched by the Government of Canada in 2007 to support the development of Canada's North. Yukon jointly manages the Northern Strategy Trust with Yukon First Nations.

The tools were created with input from citizens of participating First Nations and are being shared with other Yukon First Nations and with the Yukon government.

"We are pleased to see such valuable and useful tools developed for Yukon First Nations," Premier Darrell Pasloski said. "These resources will help First Nations build their own capacity by developing policies and procedures in support of good governance."

"The administrative workflow systems with tailored forms provide an effective way for our departments to communicate, catalogue and track important and often time sensitive decisions," Carcross/Tagish First Nation director Bill Barrett said.

"The framework project showcases how a successful partnership can work between two governments," Kwanlin Dün First Nation Chief Rick O'Brien said.

"These documents will form the basis for the political and administrative operational plans for Na-Cho Nyäk Dun in the coming years," Chief Simon Mervyn Sr. said. "The information in these documents will be helpful to the First Nation in its desire to create a strong, self-reliant government."

"The natural resource operations manual is an effective orientation tool that allows new employees to familiarize themselves with procedures and, administrative and financial responsibilities that relate to their respective positions," Vuntut Gwitchin Government natural resources director Lance Nagwan said. "The manual provides other VGG departments, along with our leadership in Vuntut Gwitchin Government, a clear description of the work that we do and the direction we're heading as a department."

The new capacity development tools will be available for distribution at the fourth annual First Nation Governance and Capacity Development Conference: Foundations for Our Future. The conference is hosted by the Government of Yukon, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada and the Council of Yukon First Nations.

The conference provides government representatives with the opportunity to share their capacity development experience. The conference will be held at the Yukon Inn on February 9 and 10.

Visit online for more information about the conference.

Visit online for more information about the Northern Strategy Trust.

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