



FOR RELEASE  
February 13, 2012

## **Yukon government recognizes the importance of local airline**

WHITEHORSE – Premier Darrell Pasloski confirmed today the Yukon government’s continuing support for Air North Yukon’s Airline and recognized the airline’s importance to Yukon’s economy.

“The continuing success of Air North is important for both the local economy and the health of a number of rural communities in Yukon,” Pasloski said. “Air North provides a significant number of local jobs, supports other local businesses through its purchasing policies, and has made Whitehorse a hub of air transportation; all of which make the airline an important component of Yukon’s strong, diversified economy.”

Premier Pasloski, Energy, Mines & Resources Minister Brad Cathers, Economic Development Minister Currie Dixon, Highways & Public Works Minister Wade Istchenko, and Tourism and Culture Minister Mike Nixon took the opportunity to meet with senior Air North officials and tour the local airline’s offices, operations, and hangars last Friday.

“Air North provides high-quality service on its routes to our gateway cities in Alberta and British Columbia, as well as within Yukon and other areas of the North,” Nixon said. “In recent years, we have worked with Air North to promote Yukon as a tourist destination, and the results have been very positive for our local economy.”

The Government of Yukon uses Air North as a service provider for government travel and plans to continue to implement its internal Government Air Travel Policy which lends itself to maximizing Air North’s share of government travel. Government travel is awarded based on factors such as ticket price, flight frequency, type of aircraft, marketing of Yukon, provision of year-round service and connections to other flights.

“We have agreed to assist in facilitating a strategic partnership between Air North and other mainline air carriers,” Dixon said. “Improving the ability for Air North passengers to both connect and transfer luggage with ongoing flights will improve overall service to Yukoners.”

-30-

Contact:

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