



FOR RELEASE
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Emergency Response Centre contract awarded

WHITEHORSE—A Whitehorse-based company has been awarded a \$4.98 million contract for site work and construction of the new Emergency Response Centre that will serve as the city's primary ambulance station.

"A new Emergency Response Centre will have a significant and positive impact towards enhancing public safety, improving pre-patient care and continuing to improve Yukon's protective services," Community Services Minister Elaine Taylor said.

The addition of a centrally-located centre will bolster Yukon's vital emergency medical services and reduce response times to growing neighbourhoods along Hamilton Boulevard, the Alaska Highway and the new Whistle Bend development.

TSL Contractors was awarded the contract this week and is expected to begin work this spring. The pile foundation work was completed by Cormode & Dickson in fall 2011 at a total cost of \$711,129.

"Emergency responders play a significant role in fostering safe and healthy communities," Taylor said. "The Yukon government is pleased to advance this important initiative that will enhance services for all residents in Whitehorse and the surrounding area and improve emergency response coordination throughout Yukon."

The minister also unveiled a state-of-the-art ambulance which includes features to ensure the comfort of patients being transported and to better equip paramedics.

The new \$147,000 ambulance will be part of a fleet of 23 ambulances that provides territory-wide Emergency Medical Services coverage.

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See backgrounder and photos below

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Backgrounder

Major investment promotes quality care

Situated on the Alaska Highway near the Hamilton Boulevard north exit, the new 1,100 square metre Emergency Response Centre will house three ambulance bays,

crew and training facilities, and an emergency communications dispatch centre.

The facility meets Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) base standards and is designed as a post-disaster facility to withstand emergency events such as earthquakes.



Rendering of the new Emergency Response Centre adjacent to Protective Services building.



The new ambulance is a top quality vehicle which exceeds the specifications required for service due to a number of factory upgrades.

The handling and cornering of the vehicle is improved by relocation of batteries and a lower centre of gravity.

Safety and visibility are improved with increased reflective tape and fog lights, a portable spotlight, brighter emergency lights and the installation of a rear-facing camera. This shows the driver a full view behind the vehicle when backing up.

Further benefits include multiple electrical and oxygen outlets throughout the interior to facilitate the care of multiple patients if necessary.

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