



FOR RELEASE
March 15, 2012

New Whitehorse Correctional Centre opens

WHITEHORSE—The new Whitehorse Correctional Centre (WCC) opened this morning and inmates and staff are spending their first full day in the new facility.

"This project was one of the cornerstones of our Correctional Redevelopment Strategic Plan," Justice Minister Mike Nixon said. "This facility will be a great improvement from the conditions that existed at the old building, and will provide more opportunities for programming and a safer environment for both staff and inmates. I would like to commend WCC staff on their professionalism in ensuring a smooth transition over the course of this morning."

The Correctional Redevelopment Strategic Plan called for improved programs and services within corrections, more services for victims of crime, a new regulatory framework and a new correctional centre. Each aspect of the strategic plan has seen significant progress and the opening of the new correctional centre signals that the plan is reaching its final stretch toward completion.

The new correctional centre was a \$70 million project that was constructed by a partnership between the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Dominion Construction.

"Kwanlin Dün First Nation is pleased to have been a part of the construction of the new Whitehorse Correctional Centre", said Acting Chief Ray Sydney. "We look forward to the implementation of the Correctional Redevelopment Strategic Plan, in consultation with the Department of Justice, First Nations and other partners, including improved programs and services at the facility."

The new correctional centre has a capacity of 190 inmates. The centre uses a direct supervision model for interacting with and securing inmates. This model ensures that staff interacts with inmates throughout the day.

Over three hundred full time jobs were created during construction and many Yukon tradespersons and subcontractors were able to contribute to successful completion of the project. The building was designed to LEED certification as a high efficiency commercial building.

"This complex project is a good example of collaborative efforts, not only between our working partners, but also amongst the many trades, engineers and architects that worked on the construction of this facility," said Highways and Public Works Minister Wade Istchenko. "This state of the art correctional centre will provide a safe and effective environment for inmates and staff."

For more information about Community and Correctional Services please visit our website.

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News Release #12-045



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