



FOR RELEASE
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Whitehorse Correctional Centre adopts ion scanner

WHITEHORSE—The Whitehorse Correctional Centre is now using new technology to help prevent illegal drugs, including cocaine and marijuana, from being brought onto its premises.

"Our government has made addressing substance abuse a priority," Justice Minister Mike Nixon said. "The new facility was designed with that priority in mind and using this technology will ensure the correctional centre remains a safe place for both inmates and staff."

An ion scanner is currently in operation and can detect minute amounts of illegal drugs or explosives on a person, on an article of clothing, or in a package or envelope.

All visitors to the Whitehorse Correctional Centre are now subject to screening by the ion scanner pursuant to Section 21 of the Corrections Act, 2009.

The scanner uses ion spectrometry to identify the presence of contraband substances. A correctional officer may test a visitor's article of clothing, or any other item being brought into the centre.

Test results are instantaneous. A positive reading may result in an individual being refused entry to the facility.

Government employees working at the Whitehorse Correctional Centre are also subject to screening after authorization from the superintendent.

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Contact:

Elaine Schiman
Cabinet Communications
867-393-7961
elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca

Dan Cable
Communications, Justice
867-667-3508
dan.cable@gov.yk.ca

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