



FOR RELEASE
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Yukon government to form working group on oil-fired appliances

WHITEHORSE—Minister responsible for Yukon Housing Corporation Scott Kent and Community Services Minister Elaine Taylor announced today the formation of a working group to address the status of oil-fired appliance and oil tank safety in Yukon.

The working group will be tasked with developing an action plan to enhance safety with respect to oil-fired heating systems throughout the territory.

"The Yukon government is committed to improving safety as it pertains to installation and maintenance of oil-fired appliances and tanks in Yukon," said Kent. "Yukon Housing Corporation is pleased to lead this initiative and work in partnership with Yukon stakeholders and government departments to find solutions that can be implemented successfully across the territory."

Marc Perreault, acting vice-president of Yukon Housing Corporation and a certified oil burner mechanic, will chair the working group. It will include representatives from industry, communities, the City of Whitehorse, First Nations and the departments of Community Services and Education.

"Once formed, this multi-stakeholder working group will bring industry expertise and community representatives together to come up with a made-in-Yukon solution that addresses public safety and well-being for Yukoners," said Taylor. "The recommended actions arising from this group will build on work already completed, including public education initiatives, training for oil burner technicians and implementation of new regulations under the Building Standards Act, which apply to newer oil burner appliance installations and modifications to existing systems."

The working group will be asked to develop its recommended action plan by this summer and submit it to the Yukon Housing Corporation and the Yukon government.

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