



FOR RELEASE
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Yukon government announces long-term partnership with Habitat for Humanity

WHITEHORSE—Government of Yukon is committing land to Habitat for Humanity Yukon in each of the five phases of the Whistle Bend subdivision. Community Services Minister Elaine Taylor and the Minister responsible for Yukon Housing Corporation Scott Kent announced today that the land will be provided to the organization to assist families who want to own their own homes.

"Adequate and affordable housing is fundamental in building and maintaining strong Yukon communities and families and that is why we are pleased to set aside this land for Habitat for Humanity," Taylor said. "Over the next few years, these lots will help a number of families achieve their dream of home ownership."

Since 2005, the Government of Yukon has made land available to Habitat for Humanity Yukon, first in Copper Ridge, then in 2011 in downtown Whitehorse and in 2012 in Ingram. Altogether, with these projects, nine families will have become homeowners with the help of Habitat for Humanity Yukon and the Government of Yukon. The Whistle Bend land will help the non-profit organization provide affordable, sustainable homes to other families through ownership.

"Habitat for Humanity Yukon and its many volunteer individuals, businesses and corporations are doing the good work to help low-income families have a safe, comfortable and affordable place to live and raise a family," Kent said. "The Yukon government and Yukon Housing Corporation are proud to be partners with Habitat for Humanity in helping achieve our common housing goals."

"We are very grateful for this contribution of land," Habitat for Humanity Yukon president Arthur Mitchell said. "The Yukon government's long-term commitment is very important to our continued success in helping provide low-income families with affordable housing through home ownership."

Lots from phase one of the Whistle Bend subdivision are anticipated to be available this fall.

When complete, the Whistle Bend Subdivision will provide accommodation for more than 8,000 residents in nearly 3,900 housing units.

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See backgrounder attached.

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Backgrounder

Habitat for Humanity Yukon is a not-for-profit organization that was officially established in September 2004 to provide affordable housing through home ownership. Since 2005, Habitat for Humanity Yukon and the Government of Yukon through the Yukon Housing Corporation, have partnered to make home ownership possible for low-income Yukon families who would not qualify for a regular mortgage and for whom home ownership would otherwise be difficult or impossible.

The Yukon Housing Corporation has been involved with previous Habitat for Humanity construction projects by providing free construction consulting services and guidance on building energy-efficient structures so they will be more comfortable and more affordable to maintain, and to create safe and healthy housing that retains its value and benefits to the occupants.

For more information on Habitat for Humanity Yukon, visit www.habitatyukon.org.

Habitat for Humanity-Yukon government partnerships:

2006 - Single family unit, Kodiak Place, Copper Ridge
2010 - Duplex, Keewenaw Drive, Copper Ridge
2011 - Triplex, 810 Wheeler Street
2012 - Triplex, Lot 135, Ingram in progress

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