



FOR RELEASE
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Yukon Archives marks milestone with a book and a new vault

WHITEHORSE—Yukon Archives is celebrating its 40th anniversary with the publication of a commemorative book, *For the Record: Yukon Archives 1972-2012*. The Archives will also start planning a vault expansion project.

"Yukon Archives acquires, preserves and makes available the territory's unique documentary heritage," Tourism and Culture Minister Mike Nixon said. "*For the Record* helps us appreciate the Archives as a modern facility staffed by dedicated, dynamic professionals. We also gain a better understanding of the value of archival material as irreplaceable evidence of Yukon's governance, economic development, and social and cultural history."

Yukon Archives was established in 1972 after former Commissioner Jim Smith identified the need for a territorial archives. Smith is also a longtime member of Friends of the Yukon Archives Society, which sponsored the book.

"It's extremely gratifying to see the commemorative book and to hear about plans for new vault space in this anniversary year," Smith said. "I look forward to seeing Yukon Archives expand to accommodate the important records that make up the territory's documentary legacy."

The Yukon government has committed \$291,000 in 2012-13 for planning and designing a vault expansion project. Construction is expected to begin in 2013-14 at a cost of approximately \$2.6 million.

"The existing vault space will be expanded underground to create storage for the steadily-growing collection and to ensure Yukon Archives fulfills its legislated role as a repository for both government and private records," Nixon added.

The book will be launched Friday, May 4, at the Hougen Heritage Gallery in Arts Underground at 5 p.m. The event will also feature an exhibition of historical photographs entitled *E.J. Hamacher, A Photographer's Perspective*.

Free copies of *For the Record* will be available at the launch and at Yukon Archives. Copies are also available to the public at the Whitehorse Public Library and in communities through the public libraries network. Yukon residents outside Whitehorse may contact 1-800-661-0408, extension 5321 or email Brenda Berezan to have a copy mailed to them.

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