



FOR RELEASE
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Premier, ministers to attend Pacific Northwest Economic Region annual summit

WHITEHORSE—Premier Darrell Pasloski, Economic Development Minister Currie Dixon and Education Minister Scott Kent are travelling to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan next week to discuss issues of mutual interest with counterparts at the Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) annual summit.

"The Government of Yukon continues to work to provide the necessary leadership and climate to make Yukon competitive in the regional and global economy," Pasloski said. "The PNWER annual summit is an invaluable opportunity for Yukon representatives to network with key business leaders, legislators and heads of government from across the region."

The theme of this year's summit is *The Power of Partnerships* and topics for discussion include energy, transportation, tourism and border issues. Also on the agenda is an Arctic Caucus session, facilitated by Minister Dixon in his role as the PNWER Arctic Caucus chair for 2012.

"As global attention continues to focus on the Arctic regions of North America, it becomes increasingly important for Yukon to work with our neighbours and partners on Arctic issues," Dixon said. "Forums like the PNWER Arctic Caucus provide an important venue to represent Yukon's interests, engage in ongoing discussions and help set priorities for the North."

The Arctic Caucus is a working group of PNWER with representatives from Alaska, Yukon and the Northwest Territories. It serves as a forum for the Arctic jurisdictions to share information, discuss issues of mutual concern and identify areas for collaboration.

PNWER is a regional U.S.–Canada forum dedicated to encouraging global economic competitiveness and preserving the Pacific Northwest's natural environment. Yukon has been a member of this forum since 1994.

For more information about PNWER and its working groups visit www.pnwer.org or call 206-443-7723.

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