



FOR RELEASE  
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## **National symposium explores policing in the North**

WHITEHORSE—A national symposium exploring the challenges and opportunities of policing in northern and remote Canada will take place in Whitehorse September 18 to 20. The symposium will be hosted by the Government of Yukon in partnership with the Northern Institute of Social Justice at Yukon College, Government of the Northwest Territories, Council of Yukon First Nations, RCMP M Division and National Headquarters, and Public Safety Canada.

"Our government wants to explore a number of themes raised during the Review of Yukon's Police Force concerning policing in northern and remote communities across Canada," Justice Minister Mike Nixon said. "The symposium is an opportunity to learn from other jurisdictions, hear about best practices and identify research gaps and priorities for the future." The symposium will bring together delegates from across the country that include First Nations, territorial and municipal policing leaders, police service providers, academics and government officials.

Symposium themes include opportunities for innovation, strategies to attract and retain skilled police officers, collaboration with community members and First Nations, and integrated service delivery.

"We look forward to sharing knowledge and experiences that will guide us in forming a research agenda to support innovation in the unique environment of the North," Nixon added.

The symposium launches on the evening of September 18 with the presentation of the Minister of Justice Community Safety Awards.

On September 19, the public is invited to hear experts Dr. Gabor Mate, Lorraine Netro and a representative from the RCMP speaking on the topic of policing in northern and remote communities, an event hosted by Yukon College's Northern Institute of Social Justice. This event takes place from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre in Whitehorse. Admission is free but tickets are required and available in Whitehorse at Arts Underground, Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre and Yukon College.

In addition to the awards presentation and symposium, territorial justice ministers Mike Nixon of Yukon, Glen Abernethy of the Northwest Territories and Daniel Shewchuk of Nunavut will meet on Tuesday to discuss matters of importance to the North.

For more information about the symposium, visit [www.justice.gov.yk.ca](http://www.justice.gov.yk.ca).

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