



FOR RELEASE
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Women's Directorate to co-host the second Yukon Aboriginal Women's Summit

WHITEHORSE—The Yukon government will co-host the Yukon Aboriginal Women's Summit (YAWS 2) with the Yukon Advisory Council on Women's Issues on October 13 and 14, Minister responsible for the Women's Directorate Elaine Taylor announced.

This year's theme is Strong Women, Strong Communities: Restoring our Balance.

"The summit will bring women together to talk about the work that's been done at the community level for the last several years to address issues in the theme areas of wellness, education and leadership," Taylor said. "This gathering is an excellent opportunity for Aboriginal women to identify priorities and set the direction of future work."

During the summit, Aboriginal women will be asked to provide feedback on the recommendations and implementation of projects which were developed to address issues identified at the first Yukon Aboriginal Women's Summit, held in November 2007. From their feedback, participants will identify and refine key priorities for advancing Aboriginal women's equality.

"We are very excited about the opportunity to co-host this event, and to see projects completed from the first summit," Yukon Advisory Council on Women's Issues chair Betty Irwin said.

In November, the Government of Manitoba and the Native Women's Association of Canada will co-host the third National Aboriginal Women's Summit in Winnipeg. The national summit is expected to bring together key decision makers from governments across Canada and National Aboriginal organizations.

"With the third National Aboriginal Women's Summit coming up in November 2012, we are excited about the YAWS 2 gathering bringing Yukon Aboriginal women together to set priorities and give direction to our work," Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council president Chantal Genier said. "This is an excellent opportunity for Yukon to highlight some of the important work we have been doing here, and for us to see what other jurisdictions are doing to address key issues."

For more information or to register for the summit visit www.womensdirectorate.gov.yk.ca or find us on Facebook.

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