

FOR RELEASE April 15, 2015

Pharmacy and Drug Act passed

WHITEHORSE—The first step in modernizing the regulation of pharmacies in Yukon has been taken with the passage of third reading of the *Pharmacy and Drug Act* in the Yukon Legislative Assembly.

"Yukon is well on its way to having robust and modern pharmacy legislation with the passage of this act," Minister of Community Services Currie Dixon said. "I thank the health community for working with us to address Yukoners' need of a more collaborative health care model that reflects current practices."

The *Pharmacy and Drug Act* will regulate the operations and licensing of community pharmacies and rural dispensaries. It is the foundation of the Pharmacy Initiative, which is a larger project to modernize Yukon's legislation.

"The passage of this act moves us towards a more progressive health care delivery model," Health and Social Services Minister Mike Nixon said. "The collaborative focus will strengthen our health-care system as we look to ensure its long-term sustainability.

Work to complete the Pharmacy Initiative continues. This includes the drafting of regulations to govern pharmacists and rural permit holders under the *Health Professions Act* as well as regulations to implement the *Pharmacy and Drug Act*. The advisory committee, made up of members of the health community and general public, will continue to be involved in the development of these regulations.

The bill awaits assent by the Commissioner of Yukon.

-30-

Contact:

Elaine Schiman Cabinet Communications 867-633-7961 elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca

Bonnie Venton Ross Communications, Community Services 867-332-5513 bonnie.ventonross@gov.yk.ca

News Release #15-130

