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**FILM COMMISSION REVIEW UNDERWAY**

WHITEHORSE – The process of reviewing the Yukon Film Commission has begun. Under the direction of a joint project steering committee, the services of Janzen & Associates have been retained by the Department of Economic Development to conduct the review.

The process will also include an examination of potential ways of working closer with the sound recording industry.

“We are proceeding with the film review in a manner that balances the need to do the job well and the need to do it in a timely manner,” Premier and Economic Development Minister Dennis Fentie said. “The steering committee and the consultant bring a wealth of experience and expertise to the table on film, television, sound and other cultural industries.”

Janzen and Associates President Diane Janzen visited the Yukon on May 21<sup>st</sup> to finalize a work plan schedule and commence one-on-one discussions with stakeholders.

Janzen has more than 20 years of experience in the cultural sector and has served clients including Manitoba Film and Sound, the National Association of Film Funding Agencies, Alberta Motion Picture Industries Association, the Manitoba Motion Picture Industry Association and the Manitoba Sound Recording Industry Association. She was one of the founding board members of Saskfilm and has worked in the Alberta Film Industry.

The Yukon Film Commission Review Steering Committee represents the Yukon Film Society, the Northern Film and Video Industry Association, independent film producers, the Recording Arts Industry Yukon Association, the Departments of Economic Development and Tourism and Culture, and the northern broadcasting community. Members include David Curtis, Ken Kane, Mark Smith, Tina Sebert, George Henry, Andrew Connors, Laurel Parry and Terry Hayden.

The steering committee reviewed the proposal from Janzen and Associates and accepted it as the terms of reference for the review.

During the film commission review, the Department of Economic Development has also retained the film marketing services of Mark Hill to promote the Yukon as a film production location. Hill was a former Yukon Film Commissioner and has key contacts within the film industry both locally and nationally.

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