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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY STRATEGY FINALIZED

WHITEHORSE – There is a new future vision for information and technology (IT) for the Yukon.

Following four months of public review, the Yukon Information Technology Sector Strategy is complete and available both on-line and in print.

"The Yukon IT Sector Strategy is an outline that will guide the information technology sector towards viability and growth in the future," Premier and Economic Development Minister Dennis Fentie said. "First Nations, industry, education and governments are all equal players in the growth and the benefits that will be realized from a strong information technology future."

The strategy was developed through a steering committee that included the Association of Yukon Communities, Council of Yukon First Nations, Yukon College, Industry Canada, National Research Council, Yukon Information Technology Industry Society, Yukon Technology Innovation Centre, and the Yukon Government.

"The Yukon IT Sector Strategy is a useful tool in guiding the continued growth and development of the IT sector in the Yukon. Yukon College is pleased to be an educational partner and we look forward to assisting in the plan's implementation," Yukon College Dean of Professional Studies Stu Mackay said.

The strategy reports on where the industry is now and where it should be in the future. It examines developing global IT sectors and analyzes how the Yukon can best fit into the new information economy.

"With the completion of the sector strategy, we will move from planning to doing. The development of the strategy has been a partnership between government, industry and education. That partnership will continue through to implementation and we look forward to realizing the objectives of the strategy," Yukon Information Technology Industry Society (YITIS) President Ken Sylvestre said.

With the release of the Yukon IT Sector Strategy, work will commence on the development of an IT implementation plan.

The strategy is available on-line at <u>www.yitis.ca</u> or in print at the Yukon Government Inquiry Centre.

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