

FOR RELEASE
May 28, 2002

#123

2002 RURAL ROADS UPGRADING PROJECTS ANNOUNCED

WHITEHORSE – Construction will soon begin on 15 Yukon projects that have been approved under round one of the 2002/03 Rural Road Upgrading program.

These projects will receive a total of \$655,000 out of this year's available \$800,000 Rural Roads funding. The remainder of the Rural Roads money budgeted for 2002/03 will be awarded in mid-summer.

One of the projects will see a rest area and viewpoint constructed overlooking Nisutlin Bay and Teslin. This is a joint venture with the Yukon government, the municipality and the Teslin Tlingit First Nation. The rest area will include outhouses, garbage containers and cultural and historic information signs. The First Nation has indicated its desire to hire a student who will visit the viewpoint area regularly during the summer and speak with travelers about Teslin.

Another project came at the request of the town of Watson Lake. The money will be used to upgrade a short piece of the Old Alaska Highway loop between Watson Lake and Upper Liard. This will give travelers an opportunity to experience what it was like to drive the highway in years past.

“The Yukon government is happy to fund projects like these. The Teslin rest stop venture is a prime example of how three levels of government can work together to meet the needs of the community,” Infrastructure Minister Scott Kent said. “The Old Alaska Highway project shows our commitment to work with communities to support their local economy and the economy of the Yukon as a whole.”

Rural Road Upgrading Program guidelines are available that outline the criteria and methods for proposing projects. Members of the public are invited to identify roads in their area that require upgrading.

Department of Infrastructure staff coordinates the planning and construction components of the projects. Local contractors carry out the work.

Attached are the initial projects approved for 2002/03 funding.

-30-

Contact:

Bernie Adilman
Cabinet Communications
(867) 667-8075
bernie.adilman@gov.yk.ca

Janet Patterson
Communications, Dept. of Infrastructure
(867) 393-7193
janet.patterson@gov.yk.ca

Approved Rural Roads Projects for 2002/03 Funding

Road	RRUP Contribution
Aishihik Road	\$55,000
Destruction Bay Breakwater	\$20,000
Duncan Creek Road	\$80,000
East Point Spur Road	\$10,000
Frenchman Lake Road	\$55,000
Kusawa Lake Road	\$50,000
Mayo Lake Boat Ramp	\$25,000
Pelly Ranch Road	\$30,000
Robinson Subdivision	\$50,000
Tagish Estates	\$10,000
Taku Subdivision	\$15,000
Takhini River Road	\$100,000
Teslin Viewpoint	\$100,000
Vereman's Farm Road	\$15,000
Watson Lake Old Hwy Loop	\$40,000
	\$655,000