

FOR RELEASE #141
June 13, 2002

MORE YUKONERS PUT TO WORK THROUGH GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS

WHITEHORSE – More than 70 Yukoners will be employed as a result of some new Yukon government highway projects.

Golden Hill Ventures Ltd. of Whitehorse has received an \$8.4-million Shakwak Highway contract to do road construction in the Destruction Bay area. This will employ about 50 Yukoners from mid-June of this year to the end of June 2003.

A second Shakwak Highway project, for resurfacing sections of the Alaska Highway from kilometres 1664 to 1820, has been awarded to Skookum Asphalt Ltd., also of Whitehorse. The contract is worth \$1.8 million and will employ about 20 Yukoners from mid-June to the end of July.

The Yukon government has awarded a bridge rail replacement project to West Shore Constructors Ltd. of North Vancouver. The contract is for work on the Seaforth Creek Bridge on the Alaska Highway, south of Jakes Corner. The project is worth about \$105,000. It will employ four people and will begin on August 1 and finish by the end of September.

“I’m very pleased we have been able to award so many contracts early in the season,” Infrastructure Minister Scott Kent said. “This has been possible because of our decision to approve the 2002/03 capital budget last fall. This is something contractors asked for, and we have listened.”

The government has also awarded more projects under its annual maintenance budget. It has given a \$50,000 brush and weed control contract to Meldon Construction and Landscaping Services of Whitehorse. The contract, for work between Braeburn Lodge and McCabe Creek on the Klondike Highway, will provide about five weeks of employment for two to three Yukoners this summer.

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