

FOR RELEASE #201
August 15, 2001

CONNECT YUKON WRAPS UP RIGHT ON SCHEDULE

WHITEHORSE –High-speed Internet will soon be available to the communities of Carmacks, Dawson City, Pelly Crossing, Mayo and Old Crow. Access will start with Carmacks August 16 and will be available to all of these communities by mid-September.

These communities join those that received high-speed Internet capabilities previously under the program, namely, Haines Junction, Watson Lake, Teslin, Beaver Creek, Destruction Bay and Carcross.

“Connect Yukon is wrapping up successfully on time and is projected to be on budget, said Community and Transportation Services Minister, Pam Buckway. “Almost 90 per cent of Yukon homes will soon have access to high-speed Internet.”

Connect Yukon is a cost-shared joint initiative between the Yukon government and Northwestel. The new services will enhance distance education options for schools and college campuses, enable a range of emerging health applications and allow business to take full advantage of worldwide Internet marketing and sales opportunities.

“We have now completed the backbone of infrastructure required for many kinds of existing and developing telecommunication applications,” said Ray Wells, Northwestel Vice-President Corporate. “We’re very pleased with the way the project has proceeded to date. This has been a very important initiative, in that it represents a significant development in telecommunications in the Yukon.”

“As telecommunications systems are upgraded by Northwestel through their Service Improvement Plan, the Yukon Government will continue to work to gain high-speed access for all Yukon Communities,” Buckway said.

Access to Internet services in the recently connected communities can be obtained by contacting local Internet service providers.

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