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CORRECTIONS FINAL REPORT TABLED, ACTION PLAN AND STRATEGY ENDORSED

WHITEHORSE - Correctional reform is moving forward today with the tabling of the Corrections Consultation Final Report and the Implementation Framework in the Legislative Assembly. The Corrections Consultation Action Plan and the Implementation Framework were recently endorsed by the Yukon government and the Council of Yukon First Nations at the Yukon Forum.

"The Corrections Consultation Action Plan lays the foundation for correctional reform, while the Implementation Framework reflects how the Yukon government and Yukon First Nations will work together on implementation planning," Premier Dennis Fentie said.

"The message from our chiefs, Elders and citizens is clear. The focus of correction reform must be based on rehabilitation and healing and not be punitive in nature," Council of Yukon First Nations Chief Andy Carvill said. "The Corrections Reform Implementation Framework reflects such a focus. We are looking forward to the continued collaboration with the Yukon government to the successful implementation of the corrections reform process."

"This government is committed to proceeding with correctional reform, to building new correctional infrastructure, and to improving programs and services in Whitehorse and in the communities," Justice Minister John Edzerza said.

The Corrections Consultation Action Plan will help guide the delivery of correctional programs and services. The plan is the result of a fifteen-month public consultation co-chaired by the Yukon government and the Council of Yukon First Nations (CYFN). Approximately 160 consultation meetings were held across the Yukon.

The executive committee overseeing the corrections consultation included Justice Minister John Edzerza; CYFN Grand Chief Andy Carvill; Liard First Nation councilor Darryl Stewart; and Ross River Dena First Nation representative Lloyd Caesar.

Copies of the Corrections Consultation Final Report, which includes the action plan, can be obtained from the Department of Justice. Copies will also be available at Yukon First Nations' offices, territorial agent offices in Yukon communities, and online at <u>www.correctionsconsultation.yk.ca</u>.

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