

NEWS RELEASE #07-258

November 29, 2007

IMPROVEMENTS TO YUKON NOMINEE PROGRAM

WHITEHORSE – Education Minister Patrick Rouble today announced improvements to the Yukon Nominee Program (YNP).

Recent changes to the YNP that will have a direct impact on easing the labour shortage include the establishment of a Critical Impact Worker component and discontinuing the requirement for a Labour Market Opinion under the Skilled Workers' component.

“Improvements to the Yukon Nominee Program (YNP) will have a significant impact on how Yukon businesses meet current and future labour market shortages,” Rouble said. “The Yukon government recognizes that the territory is facing a labour shortage and employers are finding it increasingly more difficult to attract and retain workers. These improvements to the YNP will fast track the immigration of skilled and semi-skilled workers in high demand fields.”

These changes will speed up the process of labour immigration. They will also help local businesses meet their staffing requirements.

“This, and other government initiatives, will help to alleviate labour shortages. A strong economy needs the support of suitably trained and available workers,” Rouble added. “The government has listened and responded to Yukon’s business community about the need for more workers. We will continue working on future market labour development programs in order to keep the Yukon economy vibrant and strong.”

The Department of Education will host an in-depth public information session on recent improvements to the YNP on December 5, 2007 from 1:30 – 4 p.m. at Canada Place Meeting Room 1A in the Elijah Smith Building.

For inquiries regarding the YNP, call the Department of Education at (867) 667-8751.

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