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**YUKON GOVERNMENT, CYFN, CANADA MOVE AHEAD ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND**

OTTAWA – The Yukon government and Yukon First Nations have agreed to work with the federal government on a trilateral process to move forward on the recently-announced Northern Economic Development Fund.

Premier Dennis Fentie and Council of Yukon First Nations Grand Chief Andy Carvill met today with Andy Scott, federal Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, Ethel Blondin-Andrew, Minister of State of Northern Development and Yukon Member of Parliament and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Natural Resources Larry Bagnell.

“I am extremely pleased that we have come to an agreement on a co-operative trilateral approach for this initiative,” Fentie said. “Our intent in coming to Ottawa was to find a way to move ahead in our efforts and to work towards a longer-term economic program for Yukon. What we’ve agreed to today will help us in those efforts.”

The Yukon government and Yukon First Nations committed to working collaboratively to achieve shared objectives in the Yukon.

“This collaborative approach can ensure we will move ahead in strengthening the self-reliance of Yukon,” Carvill said. “The three levels of government will work together to harmonize an approach and that is a positive step.”

Officials will work together in the next few weeks to develop the terms of the agreement and report back to principals.

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