

## News Release.....

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## AIR NORTH RECOGNIZED FOR SOARING TO THE TOP

Whitehorse – Highways & Public Works Minister Archie Lang has congratulated Joe Sparling, president and chief executive officer of Air North, on winning the Transportation Association of Canada's Achievement Award.

Sparling received his award and plaque from the president of the Transportation Association of Canada in Saskatoon last Wednesday. The department and the Northern Air Transport Association are pleased that their nominee for this award was chosen.

"Mr. Sparling and the Air North staff deserve to be recognized for their continued efforts to increase domestic and international air access to Yukon. This year also marks the company's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary - a significant accomplishment. I congratulate Mr. Sparling on this, and on winning this prestigious award," Lang said.

"Yukon's Airline" was started by Sparling in 1977 with a single Cessna 206 that served the mining industry. Through business ingenuity, patience and perseverance, he turned that one aircraft into the aviation success story of the North. Today the airline runs jet service from Whitehorse to Vancouver, Edmonton and Calgary, with scheduled flights to Dawson City, Old Crow, Inuvik and Fairbanks.

"The Yukon government works to enhance the marketing of Yukon as a quality travel destination and appreciates the work of Yukon businesses such as Air North," Lang. added.

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