

News Release.....

FOR RELEASE May 17, 2006 #06-109

YUKON'S MUSEUMS LAUNCH NEW WEBSITE

Whitehorse – The public is invited to the launch of a new Yukon museums website on International Museums Day, May 18th, at 7 p.m. at the Yukon Beringia Interpretive Centre.

The Department of Tourism and Culture, the Yukon Historical & Museums Association and Yukon museums have collaborated to create the new website that exhibits Yukon's heritage. The website www.yukonmuseums.ca features museums and First Nation cultural and interpretive centres from across the Yukon, and highlights special collections from those heritage attractions.

"The Yukon has a remarkable and varied history that needs to be shared," Elaine Taylor, Minister of Tourism and Culture, said. "This website brings together the complete picture of the Yukon's heritage from natural history, to First Nations' culture, to industrial and historical development."

"The Yukon has large collections of artifacts and it is impossible to have them all on display," Julia Pike, President of the Yukon Historical and Museums Association and Curator of the Dawson City Museum, said. "This new website allows us to highlight specific items in our collections. It also entices people to come and visit our facility."

The website is a companion to a print publication, *Yukon: A Guide to Heritage Attractions* by the Government of Yukon and the Yukon Historical and Museums Association. You can pick up a copy of the brochure at Visitor Information Centres and Heritage Attraction sites throughout the Yukon.

-30-

Contact:

Peter Carr Cabinet Communication (867) 667-8688 peter.carr@gov.yk.ca Diane Nikitiuk Communications, Tourism and Culture (867) 667-3660 diane.nikitiuk@gov.yk.ca