YUKON GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR YUKON PLACER REGIME

WHITEHORSE – Energy, Mines and Resources Minister Archie Lang announced that the Government of Yukon has committed a total of $650,000, in two parts, for the Yukon Placer Regime.

The Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, through its Client Services and Inspections branch, will receive $170,000 to hire qualified personnel to analyze and monitor information collected from water samples within areas where placer mining activity exists. This funding will also be used to develop a comprehensive database.

"The information provided from this work will help ensure that the regime achieves its overall management objectives," Lang said. "This work will position the Yukon as a global leader in monitoring and enforcing placer mining activities."

The Yukon Placer Secretariat will receive $480,000 to complete its three-phase consultation process and to implement the new Yukon placer mining regulatory regime this year. This consultation has been a cooperative partnership between the governments of Canada and Yukon.

This funding will allow the Secretariat to purchase automated water monitors to analyze samples collected from watershed areas, to complete the final regime documents and to complete the collection of traditional knowledge from First Nation governments.

"Implementing the new placer regime recognizes the importance of a sustainable placer mining industry to Yukon, as well as the importance of conservation and protection of fish and fish habitat," Lang said.

A new, integrated regime framework to manage Yukon placer mining was cooperatively developed by the Yukon government, the Council of Yukon First Nations, Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Klondike Placer Miners' Association.

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