

FOR RELEASE

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NORTHERN PREMIERS' MEETING / RENEWAL OF NORTHERN COOPERATION ACCORD

WHITEHORSE – Territorial premiers are meeting in Iqaluit Nov. 6-7 to discuss issues affecting the three territories under the theme “The North’s Place in Canada’s Future.”

Yukon Premier Dennis Fentie, Northwest Territories Premier Joe Handley and Nunavut Premier Paul Okalik are meeting to renew and sign the Northern Cooperation Accord at a formal ceremony.

“Working collectively, we have achieved progress on a number of issues of shared interest such as health funding, sovereignty and security, and territorial formula financing,” Fentie said. “It is this united approach that allows us to move forward on matters of importance to the North.”

Other items on the agenda include fiscal arrangements with the Government of Canada, climate change, devolution, impact of federal cuts to northern program services, International Polar Year, and Canada Winter Games 2007.

This marks the first time the three premiers will meet formally under the renewed Northern Cooperation Accord. The original Accord signed in Nunavut in 2003 saw the Premiers meet on three separate occasions.

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