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FENTIE TO MEET WITH ABORIGINAL LEADERS, COUNCIL OF THE FEDERATION

WHITEHORSE – Premier Dennis Fentie is looking forward to discussing common priorities with national Aboriginal leaders and his provincial and territorial counterparts next week.

Fentie will be traveling to Corner Brook, Newfoundland to meet with national Aboriginal leaders July 25, then to St. John's to meet with Canadian premiers for a Council of the Federation (CoF) meeting July 27 and 28.

“It’s important that we, as premiers, meet with national Aboriginal leaders to ensure common issues are discussed and advanced,” Fentie stated. “I also look forward to meeting with my national colleagues to address a number of matters critical to Yukon’s future and anticipate practical and productive discussions.”

Agenda items include Revitalizing the Federation, Economic Challenges and Opportunities, Healthy Living, and Promoting Canada Through Sport.

Yukon will co-lead the CoF agenda item ‘Promoting Canada Through Sport,’ to highlight the importance of the 2007 Canada Winter Games in the development of a culture of physical fitness and athletic excellence.

“The 2007 Canada Winter Games, here in Whitehorse, are not only the last national winter competition before the 2010 Olympics, they are also the first winter games to be held North of 60°,” Fentie said. “Together with the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, we look forward to the North hosting the South.”

The Council of the Federation was created in 2003 by premiers because they believe it is important for provinces and territories to play a leadership role in revitalizing the Canadian federation and building a more constructive and cooperative federal system.

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