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**FUNDING TO ASSIST YUKON HOSPITAL FOUNDATION**

WHITEHORSE – Health and Social Services Minister Brad Cathers has announced today that the Yukon government will provide funding for the Yukon Hospital Foundation to assist its fundraising efforts.

“This funding will support the foundation by providing assistance to cover its administrative costs, so that its tireless volunteers can better continue their good work to raise funds for new medical equipment that will help improve healthcare services for all Yukoners,” Cathers said.

The Yukon Hospital Foundation, chaired by local businessman Keith Byram, has hosted the annual ‘Northwestel Festival of Trees’ and other events during the Christmas season to fundraise for specific hospital projects. The foundation has previously raised \$600,000 for cardiac care equipment and is currently fundraising for other capital projects. Its most recent campaign, ‘Under the Wing,’ is raising \$5 million to advance a number of projects at the hospital.

“We believe it is important for people to know that, when they donate to the 'Under the Wing' campaign, their money goes directly to support these very important projects, rather being spent on salaries and supplies,” Cathers added.

The foundation will receive \$75,000 per year for the next three years, with funding flowing through the Yukon Hospital Corporation.

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