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**PREMIER FENTIE TABLES 2007-08 BUDGET**

WHITEHORSE – The Government of Yukon's 2007-08 Capital and Operations and Maintenance budget, totaling \$861.7 million, was tabled today in the Yukon Legislative Assembly by Premier Dennis Fentie.

“The 2007-08 budget reflects our vision to continue supporting Yukon’s growth and prosperity by investing in the following four key areas: quality of life; a pristine environment; a diversified private sector economy; and, good governance,” Fentie said. “We are committed to and have been working on behalf of Yukoners to make this vision a reality.”

“Last October, Yukoners voted for political stability and continuity, and we will continue to carry on the direction we established in 2002,” Fentie added.

The upcoming fiscal year's capital budget totals \$212.3 million and the operations and maintenance budget totals \$649.4 million.

The 2007-08 Yukon government budget is available online at [www.gov.yk.ca](http://www.gov.yk.ca) and in hard copies at the inquiry desk in the main Government of Yukon administration building on Second Avenue in Whitehorse, at Territorial Agents and government offices in the communities.

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Attachment: 2007-08 Budget Highlights

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## ATTACHMENT: 2007-08 Budget Highlights

### Quality of Life

- \$400,000 for operation of *Safer Communities and Neighborhoods Act* office to address illegal activities such as drug dealing
- \$478,000 for RCMP Street Crime Reduction Team
- \$3.24 million for new Whitehorse Correctional Centre design
- \$650,000 over two years for Targeted Initiative for Older Workers to recruit 140 workers
- \$2.1 million for a Health and Human Resource Strategy – to recruit and retain doctors and other health care professionals
- \$6.25 million for land development of Porter Creek Lower Bench and Porter Creek Pine Street extension
- \$1.1 million to assist museums and First Nation cultural/heritage centres
- \$1.5 million to support art groups
- \$270,000 for the School of Visual Arts in Dawson City
- \$1.8 million for seniors' affordable housing in Haines Junction
- \$477,000 to complete Mayo Community Centre
- \$1.5 million for Carcross Waterfront project
- \$4 million for Whitehorse Waterfront project
- \$5 million for Hamilton Boulevard Extension with City of Whitehorse
- \$1.055 million for Golden Horn fire hall
- \$400,000 to support Team Yukon for the 2008 Arctic Winter Games and \$75,000 for Team Yukon in 2008 North American Indigenous Games.

### A Pristine Environment

- \$145,000 for developing a Climate Change Action Plan
- \$1.285 million for fish, wildlife, and habitat surveys, including the harvest management plan for the Porcupine Caribou Herd
- \$75,000 for Celebrating Yukon Parks
- \$330,000 for expansion of Parks Officer program
- \$105,000 apprenticeship training for big game guiding and horse wrangling

### Diversified Private Sector Economy

- \$480,000 for implementation of new placer regime
- \$400,000 to continue the success of the *look Up north* national marketing campaign
- \$650,000 over two and a half years for the development of an Interactive Strategy including a new [www.travel yukon.com](http://www.travel yukon.com) website to be launched in fall 2007
- \$9.2 million to expand Whitehorse Airport terminal building and parking improvements
- \$400,000 for Scenic Drives Initiative
- \$1.811 million for Tombstone Visitor Reception Centre
- \$10 million to upgrade the Alaska Highway along the south shore of Kluane Lake
- \$2.7 million for highway upgrades to the Dempster, Atlin Road and Robert Campbell Highway
- \$6.5 million for Information Technology funding
- \$3.3 million for the Community Development Fund
- \$765,000 for Film and Sound Incentive Programs
- \$100,000 for the continuation of the implementation of the Yukon Larger than Life Tourism Brand

**Good Governance**

- \$1.382 million for Investing in the Public Service Initiative
- \$1.875 million for training Yukon residents on heavy equipment operation
- \$32.5 million for Northern Housing Trust Fund to be used by First Nations to address affordable housing needs
- \$614,000 for capacity development strategy with First Nations
- New principles-based Territorial Formula Financing Agreement
- Continued pan-northern approach with Northwest Territories and Nunavut, and collaboration with Alaska, Alberta and British Columbia