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YUKON LAND MANAGEMENT TO BE STREAMLINED

WHITEHORSE – The Government of Yukon is streamlining the management of land services in order to improve the disposition of land to Yukoners, Community Services Minister Archie Lang and Energy, Mines and Resources Minister Brad Cathers announced today.

Effective April 1, 2009, the Yukon government's Land Planning branch will be transferred from Community Services to Energy, Mines and Resources (EMR).

"This move will centralize the management of Yukon lands and will provide Yukoners with one convenient location to undertake all their lands related business," Lang said.

The Land Planning branch assists rural communities, located outside of municipalities, with community plans, zoning and subdivision services. The branch also provides Yukon-wide community mapping programs, legal survey databases and a photography library of most Yukon communities.

"The Land Planning branch will remain an integral part of Yukon government's land management," Cathers said. "This change will make it easier for staff to work collaboratively and enhance the ability of the Yukon government to deliver effective and timely lands services to Yukoners."

A number of positions and responsibilities will be transferred from the Land Planning branch to the Sustainable Resources division of Energy, Mines and Resources. All positions within the Land Planning branch will be maintained.

EMR's Sustainable Resources division manages and supports the sustainable development of Yukon's land, forest and agriculture resources. Within the division, the Lands branch administers the sale of residential, commercial and industrial lots on Yukon land, land use permitting and quarry permits.

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