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YUKON BERINGIA INTERPRETIVE CENTRE TO HOST THE POLAR PERSPECTIVES SERIES

WHITEHORSE – The Yukon Beringia Interpretive Centre, in partnership with the Alliance of Natural History Museums of Canada and Students on Ice, will host the Polar Perspectives Lecture Series announced Minister of Tourism and Culture Elaine Taylor.

“The hosting of this lecture series is something which the Yukon government is very pleased to be a partner of,” Taylor said. “The public lecture and student forum allows for discussion and interaction across Canada on many topics and issues that are relevant to Yukon ranging from arctic ecosystems to climate change.”

The Polar Perspectives Lecture Series consists of public lectures and full-day student forums. Free public lectures by prominent scientists, adventurers, filmmakers and leaders on Arctic issues are being held at 15 venues across Canada in 2008. Topics range from environmental impacts in the Arctic to the latest polar research discoveries.

The Youth Forums are full-day educational programs providing secondary school students with a unique opportunity to learn about the Arctic ecosystem, northern issues, the International Polar Year (IPY), climate change, Antarctica, and much more. Video-conferencing throughout the Canadian Arctic is enabling northern youth to share their thoughts, stories and perspectives with other northern and southern youth.

The lecture series in Yukon will feature a special free talk, *North Towards Meaning*, by wildlife biologist, adventurer and compelling public speaker Karsten Heuer. Drawing on his experiences from his last three epic expeditions, Heuer will share the stories that invariably keep him exploring life in a northwards direction.

This national IPY event is possible due to the support of the Government of Canada's International Polar Year Program, the Walter & Duncan Gordon Foundation, the Alliance of Natural History Museums of Canada (ANHMC), Students on Ice, the Royal Canadian Geographical Society and *Canadian Geographic* magazine.

The lecture is taking place on Sunday, November 30, 2008 at the Yukon Beringia Interpretive Centre. There will be an open house starting at 6:30 pm with the lecture following at 7:30 pm. The Youth Forum will be held on December 1, also at the Beringia Centre.

For more information please visit www.beringia.com.

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