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**Addictions Resource Line Will Benefit Yukon Callers**

WHITEHORSE –The launch today of the Alcohol and Drug Information and Referral Service (ADIRS) by Health and Social Services Minister Glenn Hart means Yukon residents have another addictions service available to them.

“We identified a clear need for a confidential crisis line and referral service in the Yukon Substance Abuse Action Plan several years ago and I am happy to report that we have now concluded negotiations with Information Services Vancouver to link into their addictions crisis and referral service,” Hart said.

The telephone helpline is available toll-free to Yukon callers 24 hours a day, seven days a week and is multilingual, anonymous and completely confidential.

Separate from the 811 Yukon HealthLine, those answering the ADIRS helpline are certified information and referral specialists with backgrounds in psychology, social work, addictions counselling and crisis support.

“Whichever scenario a caller presents, ADIRS can respond accordingly,” Hart said.

The service taps into available services in Yukon and provides a variety of information on local alcohol and drug services, including detox and counselling.

The minister said the line is one more tool that Yukon residents have available to them to make it easier to take that step towards better health.

The toll-free number is 1-866-980-9099.

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Contact:

Roxanne Vallevand  
Cabinet Communications  
867-633-7949  
[roxanne.vallevand@gov.yk.ca](mailto:roxanne.vallevand@gov.yk.ca)

Pat Living  
Health & Social Services, Communications  
867-667-3673  
[patricia.living@gov.yk.ca](mailto:patricia.living@gov.yk.ca)