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Yukon Climate Change Research Centre of Excellence Office Established at Yukon College

WHITEHORSE – The Yukon government is pleased to provide funding to establish a dedicated space for the new Yukon Climate Change Research Centre of Excellence at the Yukon College, announced Education Minister Patrick Rouble and Environment Minister Elaine Taylor.

"The Yukon government has a responsibility, not only to Canada but also to the rest of the world, to increase and facilitate the research being done on climate change. We are very excited to see the Yukon Climate Change Research Centre of Excellence being formally established at Yukon College," Rouble said.

Yukon College will use the funds to add offices and work areas for research activities in the lower level of the student residence building. The project will be tendered in March, and the 356 square metre space will be complete for occupancy by July 1, 2009.

"Yukon College has a long history of leading with our strengths in climate change research. The financial support from the Yukon government will allow us to continue to expand our capacity and increase the profile for research conducted by northerners, on global issues facing the North," Yukon College President Terry Weninger said.

"The creation of a Yukon Research Centre of Excellence builds on the Yukon government's commitment, as outlined in the Climate Change Action Plan, to expand our research capability and knowledge on northern climate change," Taylor said. "The centre will facilitate and coordinate expertise based in Yukon as well as national and international research related to climate change adaptation, monitoring and reducing greenhouse gas emissions for the benefit of all northerners."

The Climate Change Action Plan released last month by the government calls for improved monitoring and reporting on Yukon climate change, with data to be shared with others involved in climate change research.

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