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PRIMA Training Workshop for Addictions Professionals

WHITEHORSE – Alcohol and Drug Services is hosting a training workshop today on substance abuse and pregnancy, Health and Social Services Minister Glenn Hart announced.

The PRIMA (Pregnancy-Related Issues in the Management of Addictions) training group will be in Whitehorse to provide an intensive all-day training session to increase the knowledge of Yukon health and addiction professionals about problematic substance use and pregnancy. These problems include the prenatal use of alcohol, tobacco, cocaine, marijuana, heroin and prescription opiates. A discussion on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder will also be included.

“The PRIMA workshop is given by experts” Hart said. “Its aim is to help health professionals provide care for women with substance use problems during pregnancy and after.”

The training is designed for family physicians, obstetricians, midwives, addiction experts, public health nurses, nurse practitioners, family practice nurses, community workers and prenatal support workers.

“We encourage participants to share the knowledge they gain at the workshop,” Dr. Deana Midmer, the executive director of PRIMA, said. “This is an opportunity to expand the base of knowledge of their peers and become a resource in their home communities.”

Over 50 professionals are registered for the training session. The three presenters are Dr. Patricia Mousmanis from the Ontario College of Family Physicians, Dr. Lisa Graves from McGill University, and Dr. Georgia Hunt from the Sheway Clinic in Vancouver.

For more information on PRIMA or to find out about other training opportunities, visit www.addictionpregnancy.ca or contact PRIMA at prima.medicine@utoronto.ca.

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