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**Government to Increase Funding Support for Raven Recycling**

WHITEHORSE – The Yukon government will provide up to \$320,000 to Raven Recycling over the next two years to ensure that the non-profit society can continue to offer Yukoners a comprehensive recycling and processing service, Environment Minister Elaine Taylor announced today.

“Raven Recycling’s activities contribute significantly to the economy, both in jobs and exports, and to the environment, particularly by helping to divert non-refundable items from our landfills,” Taylor said. “This new funding will enable Raven Recycling to further its work to increase Yukon participation in recycling, increase environmental awareness through education and promote waste diversion.”

“The Yukon government’s new funding will help us transition to a new business model that keeps our education component but addresses the revenue loss we’ve recently experienced until such time as commodity prices rebound,” Executive Director Joy Snyder said.

The Yukon government supports a number of recycling initiatives across the territory which include operating funds for community depots as well as funding for capital equipment, public education and a new school recycling program. Funding for recycling activities in 2009-10 is estimated to be \$1.6 million.

In 2008 Raven recycled a total of 2,840 tonnes of material: 922 tonnes of refundables, 155 tonnes of scrap metal, and 1,741 tonnes of recyclables.

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