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Provincial and Territorial Ministers Congregate to Renew Commitment to Housing Issues

WHITEHORSE – Provincial and territorial housing ministers met in St. John’s, Newfoundland last week to discuss housing issues for Canadians.

“The need for more adequate and affordable housing is an issue across our country,” Minister responsible for Yukon Housing Corporation Jim Kenyon said. “Yukon is collaborating with other jurisdictions to strategically engage Canada in improving housing conditions for Canadians.”

Ministers are asking for early and comprehensive involvement in decisions related to the extension of the Federal Funding for Affordable Housing Initiative, the Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program, and the Homelessness Partnering Strategy.

Last May the federal government announced a \$54 million contribution over the next two years, including \$51 million under Canada’s Economic Action Plan (CEAP), toward constructing new housing and improving existing housing stock. Yukon is the first jurisdiction in Canada to have its projects fully approved and disbursed for this fiscal year under CEAP funding. Yukon will contribute a further \$6 million towards these initiatives.

“Federal funding is creating jobs for Yukoners and much-needed housing in the North,” Kenyon added. “We recognize the significant contribution Canada makes toward funding Yukon’s housing needs and by attending meetings such as these, we strive to ensure that support continues.”

All new construction in Yukon is built to Yukon Housing Corporation’s SuperGreen energy efficiency standards to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and decrease operating costs. Many new residential units will feature accommodating home standards with barrier-free interior and exterior living environments.

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