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Yukoners to Receive Secure Driver's Licences

WHITEHORSE – Yukon drivers and citizens will be issued new secure driver's licences and government identification cards beginning as early as next summer.

"The new secure driver's licence will meet national and international driver's licence standards," Community Services Minister Archie Lang said today. "The new licences will eliminate difficulties Yukon citizens have faced when using their current licence in other jurisdictions."

While the secure driver's licence and identification cards do not replace the need for a passport for international travel, they will be recognized and accepted across Canada and internationally as proof of identity.

The secure driver's licence and identification card will be produced in Yukon by the Motor Vehicles Branch using dye diffusion thermal transfer (D2T2) technology, which will help to prevent forgery and tampering.

The technology, expected to cost approximately \$500,000 to put in place, will enable Yukon to issue a modern, durable and secure plastic card similar to driver's licences being produced in the four Atlantic provinces and Saskatchewan.

The new technology will replace the old system, which involves cutting and pasting a Polaroid picture onto laminated card stock, a technology that came into use in the 1970s.

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