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PRESS RELEASE

Supreme Court Ruling on Land Dispute Provides Better Economic Certainty for Development Initiatives in Yukon

The Yukon Chamber of Commerce is pleased with the certainty the recent ruling of the Supreme Court of Canada provides on the land dispute between Yukon government and the Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation.

The dispute stems around an agricultural lease application in the traditional territory of the Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation and whether the Yukon government met their duty to consult with the First Nation.

“I think this ruling is good for First Nations, governments and companies that do business in the Territory as it provides better clarity surrounding obligations to consult with First Nations.” says the Chamber’s chair, Andy Stouffer.

The ruling of this court case provides greater certainty and clarity to companies who negotiate benefit impact benefit agreements with Yukon First Nations that have land claim agreements knowing the obligations and the conditions specified within them are upheld by the Courts.

“We are pleased the courts have made this ruling as Yukon First Nations are an integral part of our economy and their land claim agreements provide a critical framework for sustainable, responsible economic development in the Territory” states Stouffer.

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