



For Immediate Release!

Yukon Chamber of Commerce applauds the YDC Hydroelectric Work Plan

May 9, 2014.

The Yukon Chamber of Commerce (YCC) welcomes the announcement by Yukon Development Corporation (YDC) of the proposed work plan to develop the Next Generation Hydro for Yukon.

Mr. Rich Thompson, Interim Chair of the Yukon Chamber of Commerce commented, "with demand for electricity in the Yukon growing annually, driven by simple population growth, behavioral shifts of consumers such as moving more towards heating with electric baseboard heating, and increased industrial demand, Yukon's seasonal demand for electricity already outstrips total territorial hydroelectric generation capacity in the winter months. Current electrical production does not address the need for additional electrical generation that is reasonably priced, reliable and serves to attract new businesses and major industrial development to our territory."

Mr. Kevin Brewer, Interim Chair of the YCC Energy Committee added, "we support this effort strongly, and encourage YDC to address the energy needs of our business community and to contemplate future Yukon hydroelectric generation needs for the foreseeable future and decades to come. We are glad to see that the Plan will examine the opportunity for Yukon to become an exporter of electricity generated by renewable resources. Large-scale renewable energy project is needed by Yukon businesses and consumers alike, and, given the anticipated 10 - 15 year lead time required to complete a new Hydro facility, YCC encourages the government and YDC to proceed as expeditiously as possible."

Incorporated in 1985, the Yukon Chamber of Commerce is the collective voice of Yukon's Business Community, working to create a climate conducive to a strong private-sector economy by providing leadership and representation on issues and projects affecting business. The Chamber represents the four Community Chambers of Dawson City, Silver Trail, Watson Lake and Whitehorse, as well as over 700 Yukon businesses, through either direct or Community Chamber membership.

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