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For Immediate Release:

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YESAB Appoints New Executive Director

Whitehorse (May 26, 2011) – Stephen J. Mills, Chair of the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board, today announced the appointment of Mr. Bengt Pettersson to the position of Executive Director of the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB). The appointment is effective May 2, 2011.

“Mr. Pettersson brings considerable experience to YESAB with nearly 30 years of environmental and resource management in government and the private sector” said Mr. Mills. Mr. Pettersson has worked in Yukon for 20 years and recently returned from a year in Sweden where he was an environmental manager with a Swedish crown corporation responsible for highways and railways.

Mr. Pettersson is a Certified Environmental Professional and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Protection and Public Health and a Master’s degree in Environment & Management. “I’ve missed Yukon and am excited to be back and working with such an important organization as YESAB. It’s an honour to be part of such a dedicated and knowledgeable team, Pettersson said.”

YESAB is an independent, arms-length entity, responsible for the implementation of the *Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act*. Specifically, its role is to review the potential environmental and socio-economic effects of project activities and make recommendations to government decision bodies.

YESAB is made up of a seven member board and 35 employees within seven offices located throughout Yukon. It has received over 135 project proposals for assessment since January and is currently conducting four Executive Committee screenings.

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For further information please contact:

Rob Yeomans
Communications and Information Manager
Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB)
867-668-6420