

## flyairnorth.com

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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# AIR NORTH, YUKON'S AIRLINE ADDS VICTORIA, BC TO EXPANDING ROUTE NETWORK

Scheduled Boeing 737 jet service follows on successful charter flights

WHITEHORSE, YT – December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – Air North, Yukon's Airline today announced an addition to its route network to include twice weekly scheduled Boeing 737 jet service between Whitehorse, Yukon and Victoria, British Columbia. The new service will commence May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

For a number of years, Air North, Yukon's Airline has been providing Yukoners direct access to Victoria on its popular Thanksgiving weekend charter and other, one-off flights. The addition of Victoria to its regular schedule reflects the strong demand Yukoners have shown for the destination.

Air North, Yukon's Airline President and CEO Joe Sparling said "Yukoners have been telling us for some time that they would like to see a stop in Victoria and we think that the time is right to test the market by combining a stop in Victoria with our regular twice weekly Kelowna service. This modification to our routes reinforces our commitment to provide Yukoners with the best possible air travel network."

"The growth of Air North, Yukon's Airline is a great example of the continued commitment by Yukoners, including the Vuntut Gwitchin, to build local prosperity," said Greg Charlie, Director for the Vuntut Development Corporation and an Air North, Yukon's Airline Board Member, "We are pleased that northerners now have another great destination to choose from when traveling south, and invite our friends from Victoria and other Vancouver Island communities to come north to the Yukon."

This route expansion follows the successful launch of scheduled service to Kelowna in 2013 and Yellowknife and Ottawa in 2014, demonstrating the company's continued commitment to providing affordable outbound air travel for Yukoners and expanding inbound access for visitors, business travelers, friends and family.

"We welcome the new service between Whitehorse and Victoria. The team at Air North have developed a great schedule and an opportunity for Vancouver Islanders to explore the Yukon, and for visitors to Victoria to experience all that it has to offer," says Geoff Dickson, President and CEO of the Victoria Airport Authority, "We look forward to the success of this exciting new route. Victoria International Airport recognizes that the airlines have choices where they schedule their aircraft and the decision to serve these markets is greatly appreciated."

The inaugural Victoria schedule has Monday and Friday afternoon departures from Whitehorse. Friday's flight is direct to Victoria, returning to Whitehorse via Kelowna. Monday's flight sees a brief stop in Kelowna for Victoria-bound passengers with direct return service to Whitehorse. Special introductory fares starting from \$173 one-way

from Whitehorse to Victoria and \$188 from Victoria to Whitehorse are available for a limited period of time.

"We are delighted that Air North is making it easier for people to travel between Whitehorse and Victoria," said Paul Nursey, President and CEO of Tourism Victoria. "Our destination is known for having the mildest climate in Canada year round, and we invite northerners to see there is so much more to Victoria than just great weather. These flights also offer a great opportunity for Asian travellers who dream of seeing the Northern Lights to add Victoria to their itineraries."

Guests may start booking the new route immediately by visiting the company's website <a href="https://www.flyairnorth.com">www.flyairnorth.com</a> or by calling its reservation call centre at 1-800-661-0407 toll-free in North America or 867-668-2228. The call centre is open weekdays between 7:00AM and 6:00PM and weekends between 9:00AM and 5:00PM.

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### About Air North, Yukon's Airline

Founded in 1977, Air North, Yukon's Airline has proudly provided affordable, reliable air services to Yukoners for over 40 years. The airline serves 11 Canadian destinations including Whitehorse, Yellowknife, Dawson City, Old Crow, Inuvik, Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver, Kelowna, Victoria, and Ottawa. Its modern fleet is comprised of five Boeing 737 jets, and five turboprop aircraft including two ATR-42's and three Hawker-Siddeley 748's. Named North America's most-loved airline in 2016 by Fortune Magazine, Air North, Yukon's Airline prides itself on providing genuine Yukon hospitality from the moment guests step aboard its flights. Passengers experience fresh fare prepared daily by its Whitehorse flight kitchen, locally-roasted Midnight Sun Coffee Roasters coffee, and Yukon Brewing beer. Air North, Yukon's Airline is one of the few remaining North American carriers that does not charge fees for checked baggage. Guests enjoy two complimentary checked bags (up to 100 lbs with no one item exceeding 70 lbs) on its 737 jets, and one complimentary checked bag (up to 44 lbs) on its turboprops. For more information, including flight schedules and fares visit www.flyairnorth.com.

