



MEDIA RELEASE

Canadian Rangers Continue to Break Trail for Yukon Quest

January 11, 2018 (Whitehorse, YT) – The trail for the Yukon Quest 1,000 Mile International Sled Dog Race will be clear for mushers, thanks to the continued support of the 1st Canadian Ranger Patrol Group (1 CRPG).

Since 1984, the Canadian Rangers have offered their invaluable services to the Yukon Quest, and the 2018 race is no exception. Four patrols including Whitehorse, Carmacks, Pelly Crossing, and Dawson City, nearly 50 Rangers in total, will once again break the trail. The Rangers work for months leading up to, and including, race time on the over 550 miles from Whitehorse to the US border. They split their efforts into four phases including trail clearing, setting, marking and proofing. Their knowledge of the terrain provides a safe route for local, national and international participants.

As with previous years, 1 CRPG will leverage trail breaking with Canadian Ranger training opportunity. This year the Rangers will be conducting surveillance and emergency response training focused along select portions of the trail during the Quest. Additionally, the Junior Canadian Rangers will be assisting Yukon Quest personnel at select check points along the route.

“The Yukon Quest relies heavily on the support of the Canadian Rangers from year to year,” says Natalie Haltrich, Executive Director – Yukon. “They work tirelessly on the trail in the weeks leading up to the race and report back with valuable information that we can pass along to the mushers and race personnel so they know what to expect on the trail ahead of them. Their efforts are not only important for the planning of the race, but also in helping us assess ever-changing trail conditions. This is especially important with the 2018 race finishing in Whitehorse.”

“1 CRPG has been a long and integral active partner in the success of the Yukon Quest. Our continued participation is consistent with our aim of deepening relationships with local communities.” said Lieutenant-Colonel Luis Carvallo, Commanding Officer, 1 CRPG, “This event also offers a unique training opportunity for our Yukon-based Canadian Rangers and Junior Canadian Ranger patrol members.”

The Canadian Rangers are a part of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) Reserves working in remote regions. They provide lightly-equipped, self-sufficient mobile forces to support CAF national security and public safety operations within Canada. Their motto is ‘Vigilans,’ meaning ‘The Watchers.’ For more information, www.army-armee.forces.gc.ca/en/canadian-rangers/index.page.

The 35th Yukon Quest 1,000 Mile International Sled Dog Race starts Saturday, February 3rd in Fairbanks, Alaska. For up-to-date information and news about the race, [visit www.yukonquest.com](http://www.yukonquest.com).

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Note to Media:

Media interested in attending or covering the 2018 Yukon Quest are invited to register for accreditation by visiting yukonquest.com/media/media-accreditation.

For more information or to arrange an interview, contact:

Pixie Ingram
867-335-1927
communications@pixieingram.ca

<p>ALASKA 550 First Ave, Fairbanks, AK 99701 Phone: 907.452.7954 Fax: 907.452.7959</p>		<p>YUKON #2 – 1109 Front Street. Whitehorse, YT Y1A 5G4 Phone: 867.668.4711</p>
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