



## Media Release

### Yukon Quest Announces New Team Members

**August 6, 2011 (Whitehorse, Yukon & Fairbanks, Alaska)** – The Boards of Directors of the Yukon Quest International Sled Dog Race today announced new staff members as well as the return of head veterinarian Dr. Kathleen McGill.

Dr. McGill fulfilled this role in 2004, 2005, 2006, 2009, and 2010.

“The whole team is really thrilled to have Dr. McGill back,” said Julie Estey, president of the Alaska Board. “Her experience and passion for this race, as well as her commitment to excellence to dog care, make her the perfect choice for head veterinarian.”

The Yukon Board also introduced their new executive director, Sue Thomas. Born in Whitehorse and raised at Mile 1202 on the Alaska Highway, Thomas most recently called British Columbia home. Thomas worked as a communications manager and senior policy analyst with the Province of British Columbia. She has extensive experience working with not-for-profit organizations and boards as well as fundraising. She was also a competitive athlete and private pilot.

“The Yukon Board of Directors is looking forward to working with Sue,” said President Joost van der Putten. “Planning for the 2012 race is well underway and I hope our sponsors, mushers, and volunteers can find a moment in their busy schedules to welcome her to the Yukon Quest team.”

The executive director in Alaska, Marti Steury, added two new staff members to the team: Maria “Frog” Roberts assumes the role of assistant director, and J.C. Fletcher will be the sales and event manager.

Roberts’s background is in sales and marketing in Fairbanks. She also has experience with non-profits as a board member and a volunteer.

Fletcher brings retail experience to the team and will take the lead at the Official Yukon Quest Store in Alaska as well as all Alaskan events. She has spent the last decade as a substitute teacher in Fairbanks.

For full biographies on all Dr. Kathleen McGill, Sue Thomas, Maria Roberts and J.C. Fletcher, visit [www.yukonquest.com/site/current-news/](http://www.yukonquest.com/site/current-news/)

Mushers who signed up for the 2012 Yukon Quest during Sign up day are:

1. Brent Sass
2. Kyla Durham
3. Lance Mackey
4. Judy Currier
5. Abbie West
6. Jason Weitzel
7. Sonny Lindner
8. Mike Ellis
9. Paige Drobny
10. Becca Moore
11. Tony Angelo
12. Misha Pedersen
13. Gus Guenther
14. Allen Moore
15. Colleen Robertia

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For more information, contact:

Pixie Ingram

p) 867-456-7483

[communications@outsidethecube.ca](mailto:communications@outsidethecube.ca)