

**ATIPP 21-253**  
**Funding for Yukon University's Innovation and Entrepreneurship Unit**  
**April 1, 2019 - August 10, 2021**

**Core Funding Support – \$1,670,000**

Core funding support enables Cold Climate Innovation (hereafter called “CCI”) to deliver their innovation support funding program from April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2022. The funds support project funding to provide grants to entrepreneurs for the development and commercialization of products, physical space for selected entrepreneurs to support product development and operational funding to support CCI in delivering these services.

The funding supports the successful development, commercialization, and export of innovative products and establishes Yukon as a Canadian entrepreneurial hotbed. Working with its ecosystem partners, CCI intends to help grow the number of successful Yukon startups in order to support the development, enhancement, and diversification of Yukon’s economy.

**Economic Opportunities with University Transition – \$19,800**

As Yukon College worked towards full transition to a university, there was a need to invest time, effort and resources into development of relationships with the federal government. The College already has a strong relationship with local First Nations and the territorial government, but in order to ensure a successful transition without creating an unsustainable funding burden on Yukon Government, the College needed to invest more time in the federal relationship.

To that end, the College sought one-year’s funding to contract specialized support with a clear objective of obtaining political and financial support from the federal government.

**Yukon Innovation Prize – \$60,000**

Cold Climate Innovation in partnership with the Yukon Government, Department of Economic Development hosted their 5th Yukon Innovation Prize to encourage the local development and delivery of innovative products and services.

The goal is to grow and diversify Yukon’s economy and promote local applications of sustainable activities. This competition is open to any idea that improves sustainability through increasing efficiency or decreasing environmental impact. Clean tech can include a broad range of processes, products, services, and businesses that relate to recycling, renewable energy (wind power, solar power, biomass, hydropower, biofuels, etc.), information technology, green transportation, electric motors, green chemistry, lighting, Greywater, and more.

### **Yukon Agri-Food Start-up Business Plan – \$30,690**

The Start-Up Business Plan is intended to guide the planning and budget requirements for a new Agri-Food Innovation Centre Pilot Project. It provided best estimates based on the principal consultant's experience and research and on the input provided by the Saskatchewan Food Centre. Yukon College also engaged the Saskatchewan Food Centre for advisory services and professional advice.

The project was organized into a logical framework that included the necessary elements of a business plan that are required to support the start-up of the Agri-Food Innovation Centre Pilot Project. The business plan identified and quantified key elements including costs and timelines.

### **Yukon Agri-Food Innovation Centre - Pilot Project – \$137,060**

A pilot project to assess the effectiveness of a Yukon Agri-Food Innovation Centre. The project advances the Yukon Local Food Strategy and previous feasibility work (Hart Report 2016 and others) to establish a facility that enables Canadian Food Inspection Agency compliance for food processors. This enables Yukon companies to build capacity to process fruit and vegetables within export regulatory standards as well as to extend the shelf-life of local grown foods for local markets. These activities align as a Yukon Business Retention and Expansion initiative to strengthen grower and food processor businesses.

### **Incubation Program Support – \$49,800**

YukonU's Incubation Station is Yukon's first business incubation program. This program is designed to fill an important gap supporting market ready northern start-ups toward growing vibrant Yukon built businesses.

A pilot program was launched in October 2019 to provide space, shared services and some professional support to three participants. These pilot participants have been providing valuable feedback and direction affecting the program design.

In order to continue on this path, they require additional financial support of Government of Yukon as they have only begun the early stage investments required to prepare the program for what it can become. These investments have included extensive consultation, space furnishings, printer/copier, and hosting meetings. Also needed is additional support to fully onboard their existing participants, finalizing processes, policies, and procedures as well as the final purchases needed to prepare for additional program participants.

### **Yukon Innovation Prize 2020– \$45,000**

Yukon College's Innovation & Entrepreneurship in partnership with the Yukon Government, Department of Economic Development hosted a 6th Yukon Innovation Prize (YIP) to encourage the local development and delivery of innovative products and services.

The goal of the prize is to grow and diversify Yukon's economy and promote local applications of sustainable activities. This competition was open to any idea that addressed one or more of the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs or Global Goals). Each of these 17 SDGs are a call to action aimed at improving our global future.

### **Event Planning for Recreation, Culture, and Leisure (EPRLC) – \$15,313**

The Event Planning for Recreation, Culture, and Leisure (EPRLC) program is a non-credited 12-week program (16-week project) designed with a unique focus to encourage personal growth and development. Through the lens of event planning, the program focused on practical and academic skill development in the area of community sports, recreation, and cultural programming.

The objective of the EPRLC program was to increase the quality and regularity of community recreational events, improve the employability of participants, and enhance the quality of cultural celebrations.

### **Yukon Innovation Prize 2021 – \$85,500**

The 2021 YIP, themed *Innovation in Recovery*, was launched during Global Entrepreneurship Week in mid-November (Nov 16-20), coinciding with Start-up Fest. The deadline for submission of applications was in mid-February, followed by a single round of judging with the prizes being awarded in early March. The grand prize winner was awarded \$30,000, 6 micro grants of \$6,500 were awarded to runners up. In previous years, YIP has shown that it can bring out the "ideas people". With each iteration Innovation & Entrepreneurship (I&E) is incrementally improving the YIP design so that it can better help innovators move past the ideation stage. I&E provides opportunities for networking and development of skills and knowledge that are intended to assist the innovator, not only with the specific innovation at hand, but also with their future innovative and entrepreneurial endeavors. To that end, this year's YIP structure was designed to allow I&E to provide support to entrants and prospective entrants through multiple channels; each entrant was eligible for three hours of consultation time with Dana Naye Ventures (DNV), entrants were free to submit preliminary drafts for feedback from I&E staff, a program of training and networking events was offered.

### **Learning Management System (LMS) – \$5,000**

The LMS is used to put all Innovation & Entrepreneurship Unit's programming to create a one-stop-shop for their educational content, learning forums, videos, chats, wiki's, and more. This System supports their aim to ensure that programs and supports are easily accessible to all internet holders across the territory. This tool supports the vision to offer more educational programming in the domains of Innovation & Entrepreneurship in areas such as YIP, IncubateNorth, and Summer Biz School.

### **Summer Biz School Promotional Video – \$2,000**

The I&E team put together a video to promote their upcoming and newest program, Summer Biz School. This is online via their website and on Social Media telling the vision of the program and giving folks information on how to apply.

### **IncubationNorth Program Support – \$20,000**

Funding to hire a contractor to deliver the core programming support for the IncubateNorth program.

The Contractor is responsible for the following:

- Providing business advisory and coaching services to participating businesses.
- Providing expertise and advice during the program intake meetings to accept program participants.
- Providing 360 Degree Business assessments for each business.
- Developing and submitting to the Manager of I&E 30/60/90-day plan with a set of 6/12/18 month recommendations from the findings of the business assessment coupled with goals from the application and intake session.
- Attending and actively participating and providing updates and suggestions in quarterly meetings with I&E and businesses to update on progress, review goals and milestones, etc.