

## Government of Yukon

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FOR RELEASE April 30, 2010 #10-074

## Local photographer profiled at Arts Underground

WHITEHORSE – Yukon history, documented through the photographs of the late James Y.C. Quong, will be celebrated in a new exhibition at Arts Underground.

"The Yukon government is proud to support this exhibition that celebrates both James Quong and the legacy he created through his images," Tourism and Culture Minister Elaine Taylor said. "The photographs capture a wealth of stories and are an invaluable record of Yukon history during the 1940s to 1960s. We are grateful for the Quong family's generous donation of his collection to the Yukon Archives."

James (Jim) Quong was an engineer who worked on the Alaska Highway throughout its construction. He also worked on bridge design for other roads including the Dempster and South Klondike highways.

Throughout his career, Quong often carried his camera, shooting hundreds of photographs documenting Yukon's bridges. He also documented other subjects such as sternwheelers, buildings, nature, community events and weddings. He was known for his keen craftsmanship and artistic approach to photography. James Quong died in 2003 in Coquitlam, BC.

"Professionally and personally, Mr. Quong traveled a broad expanse of Yukon, so his photographs have relevance to many communities," Taylor added. "While he may have not realized the historical significance of the images he was creating, he preserved an era of Yukon history through his pictures."

The exhibition entitled James Quong: Photographer is presented by the Friends of the Yukon Archives Society. It is part of a project that includes three other exhibitions of Quong's photographs, each focusing on a specific theme:

- James Quong's Bridges and Boats
   Yukon Transportation Museum, May 27 to August 27
- James Quong's Church
   Old Log Church Museum, June 3 to August 27
- James Quong's Dawson
   Dawson City Museum, May 22 to August 11

The opening reception for the James Quong: Photographer exhibit opens today at Arts Underground from 5 to 7 p.m. The exhibit runs until July 30.

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See photograph below.

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James Quong's keen sense of line and proportion are revealed in his images of bridges and other structures. Photo credit: Yukon Archives, James Y.C. Quong fonds, 2006/140, 5-1-59

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