



FOR RELEASE
February 19, 2015

Local groups receive funding to develop vibrant and strong communities

WHITEHORSE—The Government of Yukon awarded more than \$222,000 to seven community organizations that are working to bring people and their communities together.

The Community Development Fund (CDF) support of these Tier II projects will provide more than 1,700 hours of employment for as many as 16 people.

"The Community Development Fund gives Yukon communities the means to achieve a better quality of life by supporting projects that promote community living, offer opportunities for new collaboration and improve the sustainability of organizations," Minister of Economic Development Stacey Hassard said.

Bringing Youth Towards Equality (BYTE) will host a youth entrepreneur conference this spring for Yukoners aged 18 to 25. The three-day event will offer participants a collaborative environment where participants will explore entrepreneurship and discover secrets to success in small business.

"We are excited to have received support from the Government of Yukon to host the Yukon UpStarts youth entrepreneurship conference in May," BYTE executive director Chris Rider said. "We're looking forward to a fun and interactive three days that will give young people from across the territory the opportunity to learn new skills and hopefully to start their own businesses."

The Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation's *Doòli Dän K'i* project will adapt existing *Hats'adan* (learning) storybooks for pre-school age children and develop tools to accompany the books. The *Doòli Dän K'i* project will help bring traditional Northern Tutchone stories, governance, principles, laws and values forward to future generations.

"The Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation has created 14 storybooks over the past three years from Northern Tutchone traditional stories. These 'gifts from our Elders' will also help guide the future direction of our government using the strong foundation of our traditional culture." *Doòli Dän K'i* coordinator Shirley Bellmore said. "With CDF support, these books and tools will also be made available to the other Northern Tutchone daycares in Pelly Crossing and Mayo."

Learn more: Visit the Community Development Fund

See backgrounder below.

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Backgrounder: September 2014 Tier II Community Development Fund Projects

COMMUNITY LIVING

Bring Youth Towards Equality – \$57,772 – To host a youth entrepreneur conference in Whitehorse in May 2015. The event will bring together approximately 100 young people aged 18 to 25 from across Yukon for three days of learning, training, collaborating, networking and discovering the world of small business. The project will create 1,050 hours of employment for one person. Contact: Adria Collins at 867-667-7975

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation – \$57,100 – To modify existing Hats'adan (learning) storybooks into a format suitable for daycare students and to develop posters, games and activities for each storybook. Contact: Shirley Bellmore at 867-863-5576

Northern Cultural Expressions Society – \$23,000 – To establish sound pillars of governance through the development of policy, constitution and governance models that reflect the vision and mandate of Northern Cultural Expressions Society. This project will create 344 hours of employment for one to four people. Contact: Jackie Bazett at 867-633-4186

Yukon Association for Community Living – \$28,082 – To implement a communications campaign, enhance opportunities for inter-agency collaboration and create greater awareness in the community regarding the benefits of inclusion. The project will create 345 hours of employment for three to five people. Contact: Colette Acheson at 867-667-4606

Yukon Wildlife Preserve Operating Society – \$27,188 – To purchase and install a comprehensive point-of-sale, master scheduling and member management software update. This will increase efficiency, accountability and decrease human error as well as time spent moving information from one system to another. Contact Greg Meredith at 867-335-0118.

Yukon Sourdough Rendezvous Society – \$14,985 – To design and create banners that will be featured in both the main festival tent and at outdoor events; and to improve the groups use of social media by providing training to volunteers and staff. Contact: Derek Charlton at 867-667-2148

Yukon Quest International Association (Canada) – \$14,060 – To enhance the existing website to house French and German translations of English content. The project will create 48 hours of employment for six people. Contact: Laurie Parris at 867-668-4711

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