



FOR RELEASE
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FireSmart projects help to safeguard Yukon communities

WHITEHORSE—Twenty-seven FireSmart projects are underway across Yukon to reduce the threat of wildfire in and around communities and neighbourhoods. In 2012/13, the Yukon government is investing \$850,000 for projects in 14 communities.

"FireSmart continues to provide an effective way for not-for-profit organizations, community associations and municipal and First Nations governments to access funding and wildland fire management expertise in support of safeguarding our communities," Community Services Minister Elaine Taylor said.

Over the last 14 years, more than \$12 million has been invested in 337 FireSmart projects, helping to reduce the threat of wildfire and providing employment opportunities for Yukoners in the fall and winter.

FireSmart is a program that is subscribed to nationally, which increases public awareness and the resilience of communities and residents who live with the risk of wildfire. Preparing for the threat of wildfire is a shared responsibility. Home owners, communities and governments have a shared role to play to lessen the potential effects of wildfire.

Rural property owners and residents living along greenbelts are encouraged to use the following FireSmart practices as part of an integrated fire risk reduction program:

- Stack firewood and other combustibles away from your house and buildings.
- Remove lower branches and space out trees on your property while retaining as much of the natural surroundings as possible.
- Remove deadfall, tall grasses and shrubs around your house.
- Keep areas under decks and stairs free of leaves, needles and debris.
- Plant and encourage the growth of fire-resistant vegetation and trees.
- Install fire-resistant roofing and siding as part of any renovations or repairs to your home.

For more information, contact the FireSmart coordinator 867-667-3013 and visit www.community.gov.yk.ca.

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See backgrounder below.

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2012/13 FireSmart funding recipients

Community	Recipient	2012 funding
Beaver Creek	White River First Nation	\$31,000
Burwash Landing	Kluane First Nation	\$29,000
Carcross	Carcross/Tagish First Nation	\$31,000
Carmacks	Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation	\$29,000
	Village of Carmacks	\$19,000
Dawson City	Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in	\$31,000
Faro	Town of Faro	\$29,000
Haines Junction	Champagne and Aishihik First Nations	\$31,000
	Village of Haines Junction	\$31,000
Marsh Lake	Marsh Lake Emergency Services Society	\$31,000
Mayo	First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun	\$31,000
	Village of Mayo	\$31,000
Mendenhall	Mendenhall Volunteer Fire Department Society	\$31,000
Ross River	Ross River Dena Council	\$29,000
Teslin	Village of Teslin	\$31,000
	Teslin Tlingit Council	\$29,000
Tagish	Tagish Volunteer Fire Department	\$31,000
Whitehorse	Hillcrest Community Association	\$38,000

	Granger Community Association	\$38,000
	Copper Ridge Neighbourhood Association	\$38,000
	Riverdale Community Association	\$38,000
	Porter Creek Community Association	\$38,000
	McLean Lake Residents' Association	\$31,000
	Lorne Mountain Community Association	\$31,000
	Kwanlin Dün First Nation	\$31,000
	Crestview Community Association	\$31,000
	Ta'an Kwäch'än Council	\$31,000
TOTAL		\$850,000

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