

FOR RELEASE June 4, 2012

## Yukon archaeology publication receives national recognition

WHITEHORSE—The Government of Yukon has been recognized for its publication *The Frozen Past: The Yukon Ice Patches* as an outstanding contribution in communications. The Public Communications Award was presented to Yukon at the Canadian Archaeological Association (CAA) annual meeting in Montreal in May.

"It's fitting that Yukon is celebrating this award in the midst of hosting the Frozen Pasts glacial archaeology symposium," Tourism and Culture Minister Mike Nixon said. "The Yukon government archaeology team is making Yukon's heritage more accessible through its many outreach initiatives, and *The Frozen Past* is an excellent example of how we work with our partners to share fascinating discoveries from our history. We're proud to receive this award in recognition of these efforts."

As part of its objectives to increase archaeological knowledge in Canada and to stimulate public interest in archaeology, the Canadian Archaeological Association recognizes outstanding contributions to the field. In 2012, Yukon and Northwest Territories were the only Canadian jurisdictions to receive the Public Communications Award in the professional/institutional category.

"Ice patch archaeology is one of the biggest stories to break in Canadian archaeology in the past 15 years," CAA president William Ross said. "Frozen Past is a well-illustrated and detailed story that brings together archaeologists, climate researchers and First Nations peoples, and that shows how professionals can work with and learn from the general public and First Nations. This is exactly the type of publication the CAA is looking to encourage, and the Yukon government is to be congratulated for this, as well as for a continuing series of similar publications."

The Frozen Past reflects on 15 years of research conducted in 24 ice patches located in the Southern Lakes region and the traditional territories of six Yukon First Nations: Champagne and Aishihik First Nations, Carcross/Tagish First Nation, Kwanlin Dün First Nation, Kluane First Nation, Ta'an Kwäch'än Council and Teslin Tlingit Council.

Produced by the Yukon government with contributions from all First Nations involved in the Ice Patch Project, the publication is part of a larger effort to increase awareness about glacial archaeology and its significance not only to Yukon but throughout the world.

To view the publication visit: www.tc.gov.yk.ca/publications/The\_Frozen\_Past\_\_the\_Yukon\_Ice\_Patches.pdf.

-30-

## Contact:

Elaine Schiman Cabinet Communications 867-633-7961 elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca

Heather LeDuc Communications, Tourism and Culture 867-667-5318 heather.leduc@gov.yk.ca