



FOR RELEASE
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Community Development Fund promotes active living and healthy communities

WHITEHORSE—The Government of Yukon has awarded more than \$159,000 to four community organizations for initiatives that promote active living and healthy communities.

The Community Development Fund (CDF) support of these Tier II projects will provide approximately 2,200 hours of employment for as many as 11 people.

"Through the CDF, the Yukon government is helping community groups accomplish a wide range of projects that promote the well-being of Yukon communities," Minister of Economic Development Currie Dixon said. "We want to ensure that Yukoners have opportunities to choose a healthy lifestyle and be active."

The Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre (VFWC) is among the recipients. It will use the funding to hire a research coordinator to help the centre build community partnerships, explore sustainable funding opportunities, and create and establish policies and parameters for a pilot project called A Safe Place.

"A Safe Place program is offered jointly by the Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre and the Yukon Status of Women Council. It is an after-hours and weekend facilitated drop-in program where we serve nutritious meals to women and their children experiencing precarious housing and food insecurity in Whitehorse," VFWC program coordinator Hillary Aitken said. "Since last summer the program has been surviving on donations. This funding will allow us to evaluate the program and consider future options."

The Kwanlin Dün First Nation is receiving funding to establish a day activity program for Elders. Offered three days a week, it will provide healthy snacks and lunches while reducing isolation and increasing physical and mental activity.

"Having this commitment of funds allows for the development of a greatly needed program that is culturally appropriate for Elders, their families, and caretakers." Home and Community manager Crystal Edzerza said. "We believe this project will be beneficial to all who are involved by enhancing the quality of life for the community members who can take advantage of this great opportunity."

Learn more: Community Development Fund

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See backgrounder below.

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Backgrounder: September 2014 Tier II Community Development Fund Projects

ACTIVE LIVING AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Kwanlin Dün First Nation – \$28,270 – For a pilot program for Elders that provides healthy snacks and lunches three days per week while reducing isolation, increasing socialization, and increasing physical and mental activity. The program will also provide a support network among Elders and enable them to practice and teach Kwanlin Dün First Nation culture, language and traditions. The project will create 748 hours of employment for two people. Contact: Crystal Edzerza at 867-668-7289

Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre – \$46,080 – To hire a research coordinator to: compile collected data; create and establish policies and structural parameters for the pilot project A Safe Place; build community partnerships; explore avenues for sustainable funding over the long term; and research how to extend the pilot project for six months to allow time to collect data. The project will create 1380 hours of employment for three people. Contact: Hillary Aitken at 867-667-2693

Klondike Snowmobile Association – \$40,358 – To undertake an upgrade to the Whitehorse South motorized multi-use trail. Deficiencies will be repaired using a combination of granular fill, puncheons (boardwalks) and three small field-constructed bridges to repair rutted wet areas and build creek crossings. The project will create 90 hours of employment for six people. Contact: Mark Daniels at 867 667-7680

Whitehorse Glacier Bears Swim Club - \$44,843 – For the purchase and installation of an event and timing board at the Lion's Aquatic Centre. Contact: Johanne Koser at 867-667-6220

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