



FOR RELEASE
January 12, 2015

Community Development Fund awards more than \$67,000 to strengthen Yukon

WHITEHORSE—Eight community organizations across Yukon will receive support to provide training to improve operations after receiving a combined total of more than \$67,000 from the Yukon government's Community Development Fund (CDF).

"The Community Development Fund was designed to help strengthen Yukon communities by assisting a wide range of initiatives," Minister of Economic Development Currie Dixon said. "We proudly support these projects which contribute to the advancement and innovation of community groups for the benefit of all Yukoners."

With the funding they received, Habitat for Humanity Yukon Society will develop a realistic, sustainable and implementable business plan for a Whitehorse-based ReStore. As a social enterprise, earnings generated by the local ReStore will be used to fund Habitat for Humanity Yukon Society as well as to assist in providing safe and affordable housing to local families.

"Habitat for Humanity ReStores are charitable, environmentally-friendly retail stores that are already running in 74 locations across Canada," Habitat for Humanity executive director Stu Mackay said. "The business plan will be a tool to assist us with start-up and implementation of the new Whitehorse-based ReStore."

A scoping study has already been completed and two key partners were identified: the City of Whitehorse and Raven Recycling. An additional 14 potential partners ranging from government and non-profit organizations to construction and retail businesses were initially contacted. The funding approved by CDF will allow Habitat for Humanity Yukon Society to complete their business plan this winter.

Three levels of funding are offered through the Community Development Fund. Tier I funding is available for requests up to \$20,000. Tier II funding is available for applicants requesting \$20,001 to \$75,000, and Tier III funding is available for requests over \$75,000. The next intake deadline is January 15 for Tier I and Tier III applications.

Organizations are encouraged to contact the Community Development Advisors well before the deadline for assistance with their applications and developing project ideas.

Learn more:
Community Development Fund

See backgrounder.

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Backgrounder: October 2014 Tier I Community Development Fund Projects

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AND IMPROVEMENT

Friends of Mount Sima Society – \$10,720 – To upgrade snowmaking infrastructure to allow for early snowmaking, increased snowmaking capacity and increased efficiency. In support of a sustainable long-term community winter recreational facility, this upgrade will reduce snowmaking operation and maintenance expenses.
Contact: Cindy Chandler at 867-668-4557

Haines Junction Employment Development Society – \$7,750 – To develop a strategic plan for a clear, unified vision for the future; to create a more effective and professional organization. This project will create 48 hours of employment for two people.
Contact: Will Jones at 867-634-2613

Haines Junction Minor Hockey Association – \$6,525 – To purchase a skate-sharpening machine for Haines Junction Minor Hockey Association and the community of Haines Junction.
Contact: Georgie Townrow at 867-335-8467

Habitat for Humanity Yukon – \$12,812 – To develop a business plan to determine the operational requirements to open a Whitehorse ReStore – a “social enterprise” – to assist Habitat for Humanity Yukon to finance safe, decent and affordable homes for low-income families. The project will create 125 hours of employment for one person.
Contact: Stu Mackay at 867-332-4349

Percy DeWolfe Memorial Mail Race Committee – \$15,120 – This project will streamline the organization of the races, improve community-focused events and update the race manual to implement improvements made this year. The project will create 600 hours of employment for one person.
Contact: Melissa Atkinson at 867-993-5330

Yukon Amateur Boxing Society – \$2,010 – Purchase a container to provide a safe, dry and secure storage option for the Canada Games legacy competition ring, miscellaneous equipment and trophies.
Contact: Ted Staffen at 867-667-2900

Yukon Curling Association – \$10,977 – To launch and train instructors to deliver the Learn to Curl Program in six Yukon communities, targeted to interested Yukoners of all ages. This project will create 96 hours of employment for nine people.
Contact: Laura Eby at 867-334-5949

Yukon Freestyle Ski Association – \$2,000 – To purchase an 8 x 20 foot sea-can in which to store the association’s equipment which is currently stored in various different locations throughout Whitehorse.
Contact: Lynda Harlow at 867-393-3369