



FOR RELEASE
April 24, 2015

Yukon government supporting projects that increase community capacity and knowledge

WHITEHORSE—Eight Yukon organizations are receiving more than \$113,000 in funding from the Government of Yukon for projects that promote capacity building and knowledge exchange.

"We're pleased to provide funding through the Community Development Fund for initiatives that foster excellence and increase capacity," Minister of Economic Development Stacey Hassard said. "Accessing knowledge and sharing innovative ideas will generate economic opportunities for Yukon communities."

The Arctic Institute of Community-Based Research (AICBR) hosted a two-day workshop on March 24 and 25 that brought together more than 50 growers from every Yukon community – plus Atlin and the Northwest Territories – to share, learn and network.

"Territorial support for community gardens is very important for the long-term sustainability of Yukon food security," AICBR executive director Jody Butler Walker said "It contributes to local self-sufficiency and can provide economic opportunities for communities. We are very grateful for the funding support from CDF and others who have made this event possible."

The Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition (YAPC) is receiving funding for a project to bring greater food security to low-income and marginalized Yukoners by developing their knowledge and skills and improving access to tools. The project will map community food systems and investigate implementing a nutrition coupon program and a garden tool library.

"Communities have traditionally turned to charity-based models and food banks to meet the needs of people challenged with food security," YAPC executive director Kristina Craig said. "With CDF support we want to offer opportunities to individuals and families to be more self-reliant in their own food security."

Learn more: Community Development Fund

See backgrounder below.

-30-

Contact:

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

Samantha Paterson
Economic Development, Communications
867-667-5387
samantha.paterson@gov.yk.ca

Background: January 2015 Tier I Community Development Fund Projects

COMMUNITY CAPACITY AND KNOWLEDGE

Arctic Institute of Community Based Research – \$18,785 – A two-day workshop that will bring together growers from each Yukon community to share, learn and network about community gardening.

Contact: Katelyn Friendship at 867-668-3393.

Equine Association Yukon – \$ 6,500 – A project to develop the association's policies, procedures and information packages for programs, projects, funding and competitions. The project will create 98 hours of employment for one person.

Contact: Inge Sumanik at 867-633-5046.

White River First Nation – \$19,453 – For a community garden project that will increase gardening knowledge, skills and improve community nutrition. The project will create 805 hours of employment for four people.

Contact: Marilyn Sanford at 867-862-7802.

Whitehorse Concerts Society – \$10,220 – To survey concert subscribers, audience members, organizations and others to gather information to guide the board in developing a marketing strategy, planning the annual Classically Yours concert series, and increasing attendance at concerts. The project will create 85 hours of employment for two people.

Contact: Candice Scott at 867-667-7567.

Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition – \$16,470 – This project will provide a plan for Whitehorse Connects for the next three years based on a review of the program to date, consultations with community members and service providers, and an identification of gaps and potential areas of growth, community involvement and funding. This project will create 183 hours of employment for one person.

Contact: Kristina Craig at 867-334-9317.

Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition – \$19,955 – A three-part project aimed at increasing knowledge, tools and skills that will lead to greater food security for low income and marginalized Yukoners. The project will create 415 hours of employment for two people.

Contact: Kristina Craig at 867-334-9317.

Yukon First Nations Graduation Society – \$20,000 – A celebration to honour, acknowledge and celebrate 40 years of First Nations education and achievement in Yukon. The project will create 425 hours of employment for 10 people.

Contact: Kim Rumley at 867-334-9824.

Yukon Wildlife Preserve Operating Society – \$2,520 – A one-day planning workshop to undertake a comprehensive review and redefinition of the society's vision statement, mission statement and core values.

Contact: Greg Meredith at 867-456-7313.

News Release #15-146

