



FOR RELEASE
November 19, 2013

Groups receive funding to help Yukon youth

WHITEHORSE—More than \$60,000 has been awarded to 17 groups to help individual youth further develop social skills through training, art, sport and science.

"Once again, we are pleased to offer funding to a variety of organizations to improve the lives of youth and their communities," Minister responsible for the Youth Directorate, Premier Darrell Pasloski said. "Ongoing youth investment funding is vital in developing a strong future as well as sustainable communities."

The Youth Investment Fund provides financial support to short-term projects with the goals of promoting self-esteem, encouraging positive lifestyle choices, or creating social or recreational opportunities.

The October intake will issue a total of \$63,370. One group receiving funding is the Yukon Youth Outdoor Leadership Association, which promotes physical exercise and positive social interaction by providing disadvantaged youth with the opportunity to ski and snowboard.

"Over the last decade the Youth Investment Fund has played a pivotal role in helping the association to create recreational opportunities for at-risk youth," Yukon Youth Outdoor Leadership Association president James Roddick said. "Funding contributions by a number of community partnerships will help the Young Riders Program to offer youth the opportunity to ski and snowboard, activities that satisfy youth's need for challenge and exhilaration, and a recreational opportunity which they likely may not have the chance to do otherwise."

The next intake deadline is April 1, 2014 for applications ranging from \$501 to \$5,000. Applications for \$500 and under can be submitted at any time.

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See backgrounder below.

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Backgrounder: October 2013 Youth Investment Fund recipients

Association franco-yukonnaise is receiving \$4,000 for Engage-toi!, a two-day gathering for francophone Yukon youth to help them discover their leadership potential.

The Boys and Girls Club of Yukon will get \$4,000 to employ a literacy coordinator for Literacy Through Action, a 24-week education program for youth that will visit four elementary schools and the club's drop-in centre.

The **Carcross Recreation Board** will receive \$4,000 to give youth the chance to experience indoor rock climbing during the winter to help improve leadership, problem solving and communication skills.

The **Carcross/Tagish First Nation** will get \$4,000 for their Boys N Girls Youth Club, which meets twice a week to engage youth in social and recreational activities such as outdoor survival skills, traditional skills, resumé writing, fishing, healthy cooking and healthy eating.

Cross Country Yukon is receiving \$4,000 to help host its Rip the Roof Cross Country Ski and Snowshoe Camp that will include skiing, snowshoeing and other winter activities, as well as information about making healthy choices when it comes to nutrition, peers and physical activity.

The **Eliza Van Bibber School** in Pelly Crossing will get \$4,000 to host a Girls Night Out after-school program, which will focus on nail art, hairstyling, soap making, face painting, beading, sewing, jewellery, smoking fish and making preserves.

The **First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun** will be getting \$2,500 to host winter activities in music, singing, learning to play and tune a guitar, as well as writing and composing music in a group. Elders will be involved to teach and share traditional knowledge, cooking and snowshoeing.

The **Liard First Nation** will receive \$2,400 to form a Youth Step Forward committee to gather programming input from youth. Youth wishing to be on the committee will need to make a pamphlet about themselves and participate in an election. The committee will be guided by the Liard First Nation Police Advisory Board and the Dena Elders Council.

North Klondyke Highway Music Society will get \$3,350 to host Dawson Rock Camp 4 Girls. This project includes a three-day music camp to teach girls the basics of playing and performing in a rock and roll band through music lessons, band practice and workshops. The fourth day will showcase the bands that were formed.

The **Skookum Jim Friendship Centre** is receiving \$4,500 to offer an after-school sports program at Whitehorse elementary schools where healthy snacks will be provided.

Sport Yukon is getting \$4,000 to coordinate a Yukon-wide event—Higher, Faster, Stronger, Yukon—during Canada's Sport Day week. Communities will be encouraged to participate in three sports that can be done anywhere: jumping, running and lifting. Results will be included in a final Yukon calculation and prizes will be awarded for participation.

The **Village of Teslin** will receive \$4,000 for two trips for youth to downhill ski and snowboard at Mt. Maichen near Watson Lake.

The **Ynklude Art Society** is getting \$4,000 to develop an anti-bullying presentation by teenagers with siblings living with disabilities. They will host a series of workshops to develop the

presentation, which will feature two short films as well as an original song to be written and performed by the teens.

Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council is receiving \$3,650 to bring a Leaping Feats Creative Dance Works instructor to Old Crow to provide dance instruction lessons. The goal is to train local dance instructors who will be able to offer lessons for youth in the community.

Yukon Association for Community Living will get \$4,000 for a youth peer mentoring and skill development pilot project, which will consist of 12 evening gatherings for teens with and without disabilities to enjoy activities together.

The **Yukon College** is getting \$2,970 to host the Science of Health program on Saturday mornings where girls can explore new science concepts, conduct hands-on experiments and ask questions in a non-intimidating, girls-only environment. Science topics include kinesiology, anatomy, epidemiology, occupational therapy, nutrition, blood typing, sports medicine and community health education.

The **Yukon Youth Outdoor Leadership Association** will receive \$4,000 to provide marginalized youth with the opportunity to ski and snowboard, which will promote physical exercise and positive social interaction.

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