



FOR RELEASE
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Yukon hosts Canadian museums conference

WHITEHORSE—Yukon is hosting approximately 250 delegates attending the Canadian Museums Association (CMA) national conference in Whitehorse from May 27 to June 1.

"We are pleased to participate in the conference and to share the territory's fascinating history and diverse culture with museum professionals from across Canada," Tourism and Culture Minister Mike Nixon said. "This is an opportunity for conference delegates to exchange ideas and to explore Yukon's 'larger than life' natural and cultural wonders."

The CMA conference theme this year is cultural collaborations. Several museum professionals are giving presentations about Yukon collaborations such as the yarn-bomb of the DC-10 at the Yukon Transportation Museum and the Searching for Our Heritage project led by the Yukon government museums unit.

"The Government of Yukon is proud to support our cultural spaces and the many innovative community projects led by our enthusiastic museum community and its partners," Nixon added.

This is the second time the conference has been held in Yukon and North of 60; the first time was in 1998.

"The Canadian Museum Association's first conference in Yukon in 1998 was one of our most memorable, so it's extremely exciting to be back," CMA executive director John G. McAvity said. "The region's culture is so rich and people work together so closely here. It's the perfect place to learn how we in the museum community can better collaborate."

The conference includes several study tours to destinations including Kluane, Teslin, the Klondike and Carcross, as well as the White Pass and Yukon Route. Other highlights include addresses from historian Ken Coates, artist Tomson Highway, Royal Ontario Museum director and CEO Janet Carding, and Rhonda Paku, acting Kaihautaū (Maori leader) of Te Papa Tongarewa, New Zealand's national museum.

For more information about Yukon museums visit www.tc.gov.yk.ca.

For more information on the Canadian Museums Association and to view the conference program visit www.museums.ca.

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See backgrounder attached.

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About the Canadian Museums Association

The Canadian Museums Association (CMA) is the national organization for the advancement of Canada's museum community. The CMA works for the recognition, growth and stability of the sector. Canada's 2,500 museums and related institutions preserve our collective memory, shape our national identity and promote tolerance and understanding.

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