



FOR RELEASE
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Yukon supports national showcase for First Nation communities, businesses and artists

WHITEHORSE—Yukon First Nation arts and culture will be front and centre at the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) 34th Annual General Assembly thanks in part to support provided by the Government of Yukon. The Kwanlin Dün Cultural Society is receiving \$25,000 for a First Nations showcase during the AFN assembly in Whitehorse from July 16 to 18.

"This showcase is a valuable opportunity for Yukon First Nations to demonstrate their talent, culture and history," Premier Darrell Pasloski said. "Arts and culture play an important role in Yukon. They contribute to our social fabric and build on the diversity of Yukon's economy, something the Government of Yukon is proud to recognize and support."

The theme of this year's assembly is Our Nations, Our Rights, Our Future: Empowering Our Citizens to Drive Change. The AFN Yukon regional office partnered with the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Society to help organize and host the upcoming gathering. Yukon First Nation artists and businesses will have the opportunity to illustrate how Yukon is a great place to experience cultural tourism and to do business.

"The AFN General Assembly will bring hundreds of First Nation representatives from across Canada to Yukon in July," Assembly of First Nations regional chief Mike Smith said. "We are honoured to have the opportunity to welcome them to our traditional territories and to showcase our superb Yukon First Nations artists, our highly successful entrepreneurs and our First Nation development corporations. We are pleased to partner with the Yukon government on this event, which will bring significant attention to Yukon and long-term economic benefits to our communities."

Funding support is being provided through the Department of Economic Development's Strategic Industries Development Fund. For more information about the fund visit www.economicdevelopment.gov.yk.ca/pdf/sidf.pdf.

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