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Fund supports community museums development

WHITEHORSE—Yukon museums, including First Nation cultural centres and one umbrella organization, are receiving funding for a variety of projects that will assist their efforts to preserve and interpret Yukon history. Tourism and Culture Minister Mike Nixon announced the funding at the Canadian Museums Association awards ceremony on Thursday, May 30.

"Our museums are dynamic cultural facilities and hubs for community gatherings throughout Yukon," Nixon said. "Special projects funding ensures that museums continue to preserve their invaluable collections, maintain safe and modern buildings, and interpret our history with innovative exhibitions and programming."

The Special Project Capital Assistance Program is providing \$337,500 to support 17 projects such as artifact inventories, cooperative marketing ventures and building upgrades. A panel of museum professionals reviewed and graded applications based on how well the projects fit the program criteria.

MacBride Museum of Yukon History is receiving a total of \$66,000 to complete four projects including network, wireless and communications upgrades; storage reorganization; expansion of museum school programs and the creation of paper and online gallery guides.

"These projects will contribute to MacBride Museum's mission to be a dynamic community place for Yukoners to share their stories," MacBride Museum chair Keith Halliday said. "Whether we are upgrading our infrastructure or exploring new ways of interpreting our collections, special projects funding makes it possible for us to continually develop our facilities and public programs."

The Government of Yukon provides approximately \$1.3 million in operational and capital funding to museums annually. Eighteen museums as well as the Yukon Historical and Museums Association are eligible for funding.

For more information on the department's museum programs, visit www.tc.gov.yk.ca.

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See backgrounder and photo below.

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2013-14 Special Projects Capital Assistance Program recipients

Recipient	Project	Amount
Binet House Museum	Display planning and development	\$27,000
Big Jonathan Heritage Centre	Signage upgrade project	\$3,500
Copperbelt Railway and Mining Museum	Collections inventory and management	\$20,000
Da Kų Cultural Centre	Video display	\$30,000
Dawson City Museum	Archives description project	\$40,000
Keno City Mining Museum	Corp and Ryan Cabins roof upgrade	\$14,000
Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre	Äjanátthá: Elders' portrait project	\$30,000
MacBride Museum of Yukon History	Computer network replacement	\$20,000
MacBride Museum of Yukon History	Gallery guides	\$11,000
MacBride Museum of Yukon History	Education program expansion	\$20,000
MacBride Museum of Yukon History	Storage reorganization	\$15,000
Northern Lights Centre	Computer workstations for local and tourism access	\$7,000
Old Log Church Museum	Artifact inventory and cataloguing upgrade	\$17,000
Tagé Cho Hudän Interpretive Centre	Boardwalk extension for display viewing	\$10,000
Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Heritage	Artifact processing	\$20,000

Yukon Historical and Museums Association	Yukon heritage attractions joint marketing	\$36,000
Yukon Transportation Museum	Collections management	\$17,000
		\$337,500

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