



# Canada Community-Building Fund

Outcomes Report 2024-25



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## Executive summary

Infrastructure is the backbone of any thriving community, providing residents with sustainable local services and amenities such as transportation, drinking water, wastewater services, and recreation. The Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) is a critical source of infrastructure funding for Yukon communities.

This report provides detailed measurable outcomes for projects completed in the Yukon from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025. During this period, 29 projects were completed with a total investment of \$6.5 million. They spanned 11 of the 19 categories, advancing national priorities of economic growth, environmental sustainability, and resilient communities.

This report highlights a selection of projects supported through CCBF, showcasing how ultimate recipients are leveraging these investments to enhance community infrastructure, improve public services, and strengthen long-term asset management practices. Together, these projects demonstrate the diverse and meaningful ways communities across the territory are applying CCBF to build resilient, sustainable, and vibrant places for Yukoners.

The 2024–25 fiscal year marked the first year of the new 10-year agreement, under which the Yukon received \$18 million in funding. During the same period, the Government of Yukon implemented a new program structure, resulting in ultimate recipients recovering nearly \$38 million from the trust, helping bring key initiatives to life and sustain ongoing work.

Recipients are advancing projects with a growing awareness of housing needs, indicating a shift toward more integrated, community-focused planning. The Government of Yukon remains committed to supporting ultimate recipients in developing infrastructure projects that meet local priorities, guided by a housing-focused perspective.



# CCBF in the Yukon

## ADMINISTRATION

The 2024–25 fiscal year was the beginning of a new administrative agreement with the Government of Canada that covers a 10-year period (2024–34). The Yukon’s 2024–25 CCBF allocation was \$18 million.

The Government of Yukon administers CCBF by coordinating project proposals, managing funding agreements, tracking and reporting on ultimate recipients, ensuring compliance with the federal agreement, and supporting the Oversight Committee.

The Government of Yukon also holds CCBF funding in trust. At the start of the new agreement, the trust balance was \$147 million, and by year-end \$135 million remained in trust.

What could have been a routine renewal instead became a catalyst for a bold rethink of our internal processes. We conducted internal and external process reviews, with goals to reduce administrative burden, improve transparency and streamline fund delivery. Changes to the administrative process include the following.

- ❖ Shifting from project-specific transfer payment agreements to a single funding agreement per ultimate recipient, enabling communities to better integrate CCBF into their capital planning processes.
- ❖ Introducing streamlined quarterly reporting for faster and more frequent recoveries to ultimate recipients.
- ❖ Modernizing project proposals and final reporting so ultimate recipients can capture project outputs from inception and better communicate project outcomes, strengthening the Yukon’s ability to track project data and outcomes reporting.

In 2024–25, these changes resulted in ultimate recipients recovering nearly \$38 million from the trust to support infrastructure projects, an amount comparable to the total recoveries over the previous three years.

As part of the approved 2024–27 business case, the Government of Yukon allocates up to 2.3 per cent of administrative expenses to support expanded reporting and communications.

By accessing a portion of the budget for administrative purposes, the Yukon aims to strengthen its capacity to manage CCBF projects effectively.

These expenses are critical for facilitating smooth operations, proper planning, monitoring, reporting and evaluation of funded initiatives.

## Principle 5: Complementarity

In the Yukon, the Comprehensive Municipal Grant (CMG) provides unconditional block funding each year that supports municipal delivery of core services, together with municipal property taxes and other revenues. The Government of Yukon worked jointly with the Association of Yukon Communities (AYC) to review the grant and as a result, the 2024–25 CMG funding transferred to Yukon municipalities increased by \$4.96 million. This marks the largest single increase to the grant since its creation in 1991.

By bolstering the CMG, the Government of Yukon reinforces Principle 5: Complementarity, which requires CCBF funding to not displace existing territorial or municipal funding. Instead, the CMG increase protects the integrity of CCBF by allowing municipalities to rely on their primary funding source for essential services, freeing CCBF to support strategic infrastructure projects.

## ALLOCATION

CCBF is a stable, predictable and indexed source of funding. Funding is transferred from the Government of Canada to the Government of Yukon, then allocated out on a percentage basis to ultimate recipients, as outlined in the agreement, with 68 per cent to municipalities, 25 per cent to Yukon First Nations governments and 7 per cent to the Government of Yukon on behalf of unincorporated Yukon communities.

Additionally, every fiscal year the Government of Yukon allocates accumulated interest from the trust and any unused administrative funds back to ultimate recipients.

### **Municipalities 68%: Allocations for each municipality were determined by The Association of Yukon Communities**

	<b>% within Municipal allocation</b>	<b>2024-2025 allocations</b>
Village of Carmacks	2.14%	\$256,987.74
City of Dawson	7.523%	\$899,636.45
Town of Faro	2.149%	\$256,987.74
Village of Haines Junction	4.299%	\$514,095.06
Village of Mayo	2.149%	\$256,987.74
Village of Teslin	2.149%	\$256,987.74
Town of Watson Lake	7.523%	\$899,636.45
City of Whitehorse	72.059%	\$8,617,161.10

**Yukon First Nations 25%: Funding is distributed based on the Umbrella Final Agreement's aggregate value formula**

	<b>% within Yukon First Nation allocation</b>	<b>2024-2025 allocations</b>
Carcross/Tagish First Nation	7.29%	\$320,504.85
Champagne and Aishihik First Nations	11.34%	\$498,563.10
Kluane First Nation	6.00%	\$263,790.00
Kwanlin Dün First Nation	4.12%	\$181,135.80
Liard First Nation	8.82%	\$387,771.30
Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation	10.14%	\$445,805.10
First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun	6.42%	\$282,255.30
Ross River Dena Council	5.91%	\$259,833.15
Selkirk First Nation	6.84%	\$300,720.60
Ta'an Kwäch'än Council	5.06%	\$222,462.90
Teslin Tlingit Council	7.69%	\$338,090.85
Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Government	8.98%	\$394,805.70
Vuntut Gwitchin Government	7.90%	\$347,323.50
White River First Nation	3.49%	\$153,437.84

**Unincorporated Communities 7%: The Government of Yukon's Community Operations branch determines the priorities for unincorporated communities and acts as the ultimate recipient.**

	<b>2024-2025 allocation</b>
Unincorporated Communities	\$1,231,020.00

## METHODOLOGY

This report includes data on projects reported complete between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025. This represents 29 projects and \$6.5 million in CCBF funds invested.

The federal CCBF Outcomes Reporting Guide and Template for 2024 to 2034 served as the basis for recommended outputs and outcomes by investment category. Some modifications were introduced to reflect the Yukon's size and its northern and remote context.

## DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING APPROACH

Ultimate recipients provided report data through project proposals, quarterly reports and final submissions.

Proposals identify anticipated project outputs, while final reports update those outputs with measurable indicators. To strengthen consistency, the Government of Yukon followed up with ultimate recipients to collect standardized output and outcome data, along with additional insights into broader program impacts.

Tracking outputs and outcomes in northern and remote contexts presents distinct challenges that differ significantly from those in larger or more accessible regions. Many Yukon communities are small, geographically isolated, and operate with limited capacity. In sectors such as recreation and tourism, it is often not feasible to track visitor numbers or other conventional metrics simply because the communities are too small to support the systems required for that level of monitoring.

Flexibility in the types of outcomes that are recognized is therefore essential. It allows Yukon communities to report on results that genuinely reflect their realities, rather than forcing projects into standardized categories that do not align with northern circumstances. This is why the new standardized reporting process is particularly valuable: it creates structure while still accommodating the unique challenges of northern living, ensuring that meaningful outcomes are captured without placing undue burden on small communities.

# SUMMARY OF COMPLETED PROJECTS AND BENEFITS

For the 2024–25 year, 29 CCBF-funded projects were completed across 11 out of the 19 eligible project categories. Over \$6.5 million was invested for these 29 projects.

Capacity building was the most popular project category, when considering the number of completed projects. Solid waste is the project category that received the most CCBF investment; five solid waste facilities across the territory received upgrades or were expanded.

## SUMMARY OF COMPLETED PROJECTS

Category	Number of projects completed	Total cost of completed projects	Total CCBF contribution per category
Local roads and bridges	3	\$265,500.00	\$246,524.99
Public transit	2	\$442,537.67	\$442,537.67
Drinking water	1	\$51,600.00	\$51,600.00
Wastewater	4	\$466,067.28	\$466,067.28
Solid Waste	5	\$1,991,036.69	\$1,988,305.85
Community energy systems	3	\$649,355.88	\$649,355.88
Brownfield redevelopment	1	\$495,970.00	\$495,970.00
Recreational infrastructure	2	\$1,134,905.64	\$1,134,905.64
Cultural infrastructure	1	\$208,910.74	\$208,910.74
Tourism infrastructure	1	\$57,200.00	\$57,200.00
Capacity building	6	\$827,009.90	\$823,798.90

## PROGRAM OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

Category	Output indicator	Outcome indicator	Number of reported projects contributing to indicator(s)
Local roads and bridges	1 crosswalk was added	Enhanced roadway safety	3
	0.6 km of new and improved roads	Increased traffic and pedestrian safety	
	1 intersection received upgrades	Improved traffic flow and safety	
Public transit	Multiple Locations	Increased transit efficiency	2
	1 new bus added to the existing fleet	Expanded transit accessibility and service alignment	
Drinking water	1 new system installed	Sustainable heating and reliable water treatment	1
Wastewater	1 facility received upgrades	Maintained service continuity	4
	4.5 km of existing roads and bridges were improved and 38 culverts were rehabilitated	Protected road infrastructure and reduced flood risk	
	1 pump station received upgrades	Enhanced wastewater management and environmental protection	
	2 existing facilities received upgrades	Improved environmental monitoring and regulatory compliance	

## PROGRAM OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

Solid waste	1 facility received upgrades	Improved environmental protection	5
	1 SWF received security upgrades	Strengthened facility management and environmental protection	
	1 existing facility received upgrades	Improved service delivery and regional capacity	
	1 facility was expanded	Advanced waste diversion and renewable energy potential	
	1 SWF received investment	Increased waste management capacity and regulatory compliance	
Community energy systems	1 asset received energy upgrades	Improved energy efficiency and cost savings	3
	1 asset received upgrades	Enhanced energy efficiency and operational reliability	
	1 building received upgrades	Reduced energy consumption and improved system performance	
Brownfield redevelopment	1,524 square metres	Improved public safety and community redevelopment potential	1
Recreational infrastructure	3 new and upgraded recreational facilities, 1,500 m of new fitness and bike trails, 8,000 m <sup>2</sup> of existing public park received investment and 1.5 km of roads and walkways were improved.	Enhanced community recreation and public space use	2
	1 asset received upgrades	Extended asset lifespan and improved user experience	

## PROGRAM OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

<b>Cultural infrastructure</b>	<b>1 existing asset received upgrades</b>	<b>Enhanced venue experience and energy efficiency</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Tourism infrastructure</b>	<b>1 existing tourism facility received upgrade</b>	<b>Enhanced safety and facility longevity</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Capacity building</b>	<b>1 new plan completed</b>	<b>Improved mobility and accessibility</b>	<b>6</b>
	<b>1 new plan developed</b>	<b>Resilient and active communities</b>	
	<b>1 new plan developed</b>	<b>Strengthened local governance</b>	
	<b>1 new plan developed</b>	<b>Improved long-term financial planning and transparency</b>	
	<b>1 new plan developed</b>	<b>Informed decision-making for transit policy</b>	
	<b>1 new plan developed</b>	<b>Improved transportation planning and community connectivity</b>	

# PROJECT IMPACTS

CCBF funding supported the completion of a wide range of infrastructure projects that help enable housing, from upgrading recreational spaces for more community appeal, ensuring sustainable access to drinking water, to improved active transportation systems. Investing in a variety of infrastructure means that Yukoners have spaces to live, work and play across the territory.

These projects illustrate the diverse and meaningful ways Yukon communities are applying CCBF to improve infrastructure, enhance public services, and strengthen planning and asset management capacity. Together, they reflect ongoing commitment to building resilient, sustainable and vibrant communities across the territory.

## PROJECT VINGNETTES

**City of Whitehorse, Handy Bus Purchase:** The City of Whitehorse used CCBF to acquire a new Handy Bus, expanding accessible transportation options for residents with mobility challenges. This investment supports inclusive mobility, improves service reliability and ensures continued access to essential community services.

**Village of Carmacks, Merv Tew Park Improvements (Phase Two):** Phase two of the Merv Tew Park upgrades focused on enhancing recreational amenities and creating a more welcoming community space. CCBF enabled improvements that support active living, community gatherings, and long-term usability of the park.

**Village of Haines Junction, St. Elias Convention Centre Grand Hall Lighting Upgrades:** The Village of Haines Junction completed significant lighting upgrades in the Grand Hall of the St. Elias Convention Centre. With CCBF support, the project modernized lighting systems to improve energy efficiency, reduce operational costs and enhance the experience for event organizers and attendees.

**Town of Watson Lake, Landfill and Public Drop-Off Upgrades:** Watson Lake used CCBF funding to upgrade its landfill and public drop-off facilities. These improvements support safer waste management practices, improve environmental stewardship and extend the lifespan of critical municipal infrastructure.

## PROGRAM SPOTLIGHTS: HOUSING AND ASSET MANAGEMENT

**Village of Haines Junction, Official Community Plan (OCP) and Zoning By-Law Rewrite:** The Village of Haines Junction undertook a comprehensive rewrite of its OCP and Zoning By-Law to better align land-use planning with current and future housing needs. This initiative strengthens the community's ability to guide development, support housing growth and plan for long-term sustainability.

**Village of Teslin, Asset Retirement Obligation (ARO) Adoption:** The Village of Teslin advanced its asset management practices by adopting Asset Retirement Obligation (ARO) accounting standards. This work ensures accurate financial planning for the future retirement, remediation, or replacement of municipal assets, supporting transparent and responsible long-term infrastructure management.



MUNICIPALITY: CITY OF WHITEHORSE  
CATEGORY: PUBLIC TRANSIT

## HANDY BUS PURCHASE

**CCBF Funding Amount: \$317,538**  
**Total Project Budget: \$317,538**

The Paratransit (Handy Bus) service offers safe and secure transportation to people who, for a variety of reasons, have difficulty using regular transit service. The Handy Bus is available to provide transportation on both a scheduled and casual need basis, seven days a week.

The City of Whitehorse invested \$317,538 to purchase a Handy Bus.

By adding a third Handy Bus to its accessible transit fleet, up from two, the City of Whitehorse has expanded service capacity during regular daytime hours while maintaining the same service area as its conventional transit system.

This investment helps meet increasing demand and enhances service reliability, ensuring residents who face barriers to using regular transit have access to safe, secure and fully accessible transportation.

As outlined in the City of Whitehorse's Transportation Master Plan, transportation investments play a critical role in shaping how the community moves and grows.

Adding a third Handy Bus is an example of how the city is applying its values, accessibility, equity, safety and sustainability, to guide decision-making and deliver a transportation system that supports a vibrant and livable Whitehorse.



Photo credits: City of Whitehorse



MUNICIPALITY: VILLAGE OF CARMACKS  
CATEGORY: RECREATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE

## MERV TEW PARK IMPROVEMENTS PHASE TWO

<b>CCBF Funding Amount:</b>	<b>\$623,400</b>
<b>Total Project Budget:</b>	<b>\$623,400</b>

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In Carmacks, the Merv Tew Park is a well-loved space where the community and visitors gather for outdoor activities and recreational events.

To continue enhancing the park, the Village of Carmacks invested \$623,400 in phase two of improvements. These improvements build on phase one changes, which also leveraged CCBF funds

Phase two relocated the playground and created new recreational features, including a disc golf park, beach volleyball court and a horseshoe pit.

The Village also added new picnic tables and benches to support community use and constructed a new bandstand to expand opportunities for events and gatherings.

In addition, the overall layout of the park was enhanced through upgraded walkways, improved perimeter fencing and a redesigned driveway turnaround.

By undertaking this project, the Village of Carmacks upgraded recreational amenities and public spaces, improving their livability, connectivity and community appeal. Merv Tew Park has seen an increase in community use. The Village of Carmacks now hosts more community events at the park, and residents and local organizations are making greater use of the space for family gatherings, celebrations and other public activities.



Photo credits: Village of Carmacks



MUNICIPALITY: VILLAGE OF HAINES JUNCTION  
CATEGORY: CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

## ST. ELIAS CONVENTION CENTRE GRAND HALL LIGHTING UPGRADES

<b>CCBF Funding Amount:</b>	<b>\$208,911</b>
<b>Total Project Budget:</b>	<b>\$208,911</b>

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The St. Elias Convention Centre is a versatile building; housing the municipal offices and meeting facility with various spaces used for hosting events, including the atrium and the Grand Hall. It also features the history exhibit The Cultural Landscape of Kluane and showcases an impressive collection of Yukon art.

The Village of Haines Junction invested \$208,911 to replace the existing lighting system in the centre's Grand Hall which can accommodate over 200 guests.

Through the project, a new lighting system was researched and designed, outdated equipment was removed and new equipment was installed.

This included installing new electrical, audiovisual and network systems, signal programming, system commissioning and end-user training.

The upgraded system features theatrical stage lighting, ambient house lights for the hall, upstage video projection and a portable LED backlighting system.

The community now has an enhanced space to host events such as movies, live music, stage products and community events, all at the gateway to Kluane National Park and Reserve for a more connected community with modern amenities.



Photo credit: NF Electrical and Event Production



MUNICIPALITY: TOWN OF WATSON LAKE  
CATEGORY: SOLID WASTE

## WATSON LAKE LANDFILL PUBLIC DROP-OFF AREA UPGRADES

<b>CCBF Funding Amount:</b>	<b>\$1,306,182</b>
<b>Total Project Budget:</b>	<b>\$1,306,182</b>

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As a facility recognized under the Government of Yukon's Solid Waste Regionalization program, the Watson Lake Solid Waste Facility plays a critical regional role in providing safe, efficient and environmentally responsible waste management services for surrounding communities.

The Town of Watson Lake has invested \$1,306,182 to upgrade its Solid Waste Facility drop-off site.

Enhancements to the site improve how solid waste is collected, treated and stored, while giving the municipality greater control over disposal activities at the landfill. These improvements deliver several key benefits.

A dedicated and well-designed drop-off area reduces the staff time required to monitor landfill cells, increases safety for residents, and lowers municipal liability. It also helps control airborne waste on site, contributing to a cleaner and more efficient operation overall.

This investment reflects two years of capital planning and aligns with the Town's responsibility to provide legislated solid waste services. Improvements to Watson Lake's Solid Waste Facility support new housing by enhancing essential services, enabling regional growth and demonstrating infrastructure readiness for a growing community.

This project focuses on modernizing the public waste drop-off area to better serve a growing community and an expanding regional catchment. The Town of Watson Lake is ensuring it has the infrastructure needed to modernize landfill operations and provide accessible, reliable and environmentally-responsible waste management services for years to come.



Photo credit: Town of Watson Lake

## HOUSING REPORT

The Government of Yukon plays a supporting and enabling role in housing development across the territory, contributing to, but not solely responsible for, the creation of new homes. Its efforts include working with municipalities to develop lots on Government of Yukon-owned land, collaborating with Yukon First Nations governments to advance development on their Settlement Land, and making public land available through sales, leases, and licences.

The government also invests in housing-enabling infrastructure, builds and maintains social housing, and supports housing initiatives led by private developers, non-profits, Yukon First Nations governments and development corporations. Together, these contributions help create the conditions for a diverse range of housing solutions across the Yukon.

### Spotlight on Haines Junction: Aligning Zoning with Long-Term Housing Priorities

In 2024–25, the Village of Haines Junction invested \$169,000 in CCBF funding to complete a comprehensive review and update of its zoning bylaw, an important step toward enabling more diverse, affordable and attainable housing options in the community. Guided by the Official Community Plan, the updated bylaw directly addresses barriers to homeownership and supports long-term housing goals.

Several key changes were introduced to expand housing supply and improve affordability.

- Reducing minimum home size to make it easier and more cost effective for residents to build smaller, more attainable homes.
- Allowing an additional dwelling unit on R1 lots, such as a legal suite or carriage home, increasing density while maintaining neighbourhood character. This flexibility also allows residents to build a smaller home first and expand later as their needs or finances change.
- Removing mobile home zones, enabling mobile homes to be developed within R1 areas and broadening affordable housing options.
- Streamlining the development permit process to reduce delays and encourage new construction.
- Reducing setback requirements to better accommodate secondary dwellings and make more efficient use of existing lots.

Together, these updates modernize the regulatory framework and create more pathways for residents to enter the housing market. They also complement other municipal initiatives aimed at increasing housing supply, such as reviewing property taxation and exploring a vacant property tax bylaw to encourage development.

By aligning zoning regulations with community needs and housing priorities, the Village of Haines Junction is strengthening its ability to support sustainable growth and ensure residents have access to a wider range of housing choices.

An Official Community Plan (OCP) is a planning document that sets an overall vision and direction for the community's land use. Under the Yukon's *Municipal Act*, municipal governments in the Yukon must have an OCP that addresses the future development and use of land in the municipality, the provision of municipal services and facilities, environmental matters in the municipality and the development of utility and transportation systems.

The OCP and zoning bylaws are reviewed regularly. The Government of Yukon uses OCPs to inform master plans, which outline the detailed design of subdivisions, including where to build different types of housing and the associated infrastructure and amenities for creating thriving and sustainable communities.

## PROJECT LEVEL HOUSING SUMMARY

### City of Whitehorse, Asphalt Paths Crossing Improvements, Local Roads, and Bridges (2020-041)

Constructing designated path crossings improves pedestrian and cyclist safety in shared traffic areas. This supports new housing by enhancing community connectivity, promoting active transportation, and aligning with planning goals for livable, walkable neighborhoods

### City of Whitehorse, WMF Monitoring Wells Upgrades, Solid Waste (2020-045)

Upgrading groundwater monitoring wells at the solid waste facility strengthens environmental oversight and infrastructure performance. This supports new housing by ensuring land use safety, meeting regulatory standards, and enabling future community growth

### Village of Carmacks, Recreation Strategic Plan, Capacity Building (2021-017)

An Integrated Community Sustainability Plan focused on recreation supports new housing by guiding land use, enhancing livability, and aligning infrastructure and policy for inclusive, long-term growth

### City of Whitehorse, Lift 1 Pump Upgrades, Wastewater (2021-037)

Replacing the pump at Lift Station STNT 1 ensures reliable wastewater service for Riverdale and Downtown, supporting new housing by maintaining essential infrastructure and enabling continued residential growth.

### City of Whitehorse, Modernized Transit Route Implementation, Public Transit (2022-005)

Upgrading public transit routes improves service efficiency and connectivity, supporting new housing by enabling transit-oriented development and sustainable urban growth

### City of Whitehorse, Electric Fence Improvement & Surface Water Management, Solid Waste (2022-008)

Planning improvements to the solid waste facility's electric fence and water management systems supports new housing by strengthening infrastructure, reducing environmental risks, and enabling safe land use

### Village of Carmacks, Stormwater System Upgrades Phase 2, Wastewater (2022-031)

Rehabilitating the stormwater drainage system supports new housing by protecting infrastructure, managing water effectively, and enabling safe, sustainable land development

### Town of Watson Lake, Landfill-Public Drop Off Area Upgrades, Solid Waste (2023-027)

Improvements to Watson Lake's Solid Waste Facility support new housing by enhancing essential services, enabling regional growth, and demonstrating infrastructure readiness for a growing community

### Town of Watson Lake, Lift Station Pump Upgrade, Wastewater (2023-051)

Renewing the lift station pump supports new housing by improving wastewater system reliability and protecting environmental and public health

## ASSET MANAGEMENT

Asset management is the strategic process to manage infrastructure assets across their life cycle. It is a key underpinning of community sustainability as it can inform a range of investment, servicing and community-planning decisions, which in turn supports maximizing ultimate recipients' infrastructure investments.

In 2024–25, six capacity building projects were completed, representing more than \$823,000 in CCBF investments to strengthen asset management across Yukon communities.

### Asset management project

This year, the Government of Yukon explored a short-term initiative to better understand community priorities related to managing infrastructure for Yukon First Nations governments and municipalities. Through a consultant, we conducted interviews with interested Yukon First Nations governments and municipalities to better understand community priorities related to managing infrastructure. This asset management project is funded in part by the Government of Canada's Department of Natural Resources Canada (NRCan).

### Sustainable Communities Forum

The Sustainable Communities Forum is an annual multi-day gathering for Yukon First Nations governments and municipal staff to discuss innovative strategies for sustainable infrastructure and climate resilient communities. The Government of Yukon hosts the forum. It is designed to support improved capacity across the territory. In 2024, was funded by NRCan and included an adaptation and asset management maturity workshop and a session about roles and responsibilities for asset management.

### Spotlight on Teslin: strengthening asset management through ARO adoption

The Village of Teslin invested \$46,750 in adopting an Asset Retirement Obligation (ARO) framework, taking a proactive step toward stronger long-term planning and positioning the community for smarter, more sustainable asset management well into the future.

By formally recognizing the future costs associated with retiring municipal assets, the Village of Teslin is improving its ability to plan with clarity and confidence. An ARO makes end of life asset costs visible, predictable and financially manageable, reducing the likelihood of unexpected expenses and supporting more stable budgeting. This transparency enhances financial accountability and aligns retirement activities with both regulatory requirements and the community's sustainability goals.

The initiative also strengthens the Village of Teslin's overall asset management practices. Embedding retirement obligations into the full lifecycle of each asset improves the accuracy of asset data and supports more informed long-term planning. It enables the municipality to better assess risks, meet compliance expectations and optimize its asset portfolio by understanding the true cost of ownership from acquisition to retirement.

By adopting an ARO, the Village of Teslin is building clearer visibility into future needs, fostering stronger coordination across departments, and empowering more strategic decisions about how municipal assets are maintained, replaced and eventually retired. This forward-looking approach demonstrates Teslin's commitment to responsible stewardship and resilient community planning.

## CONCLUSION

The 2024–25 fiscal year marked the first under the new agreement and revised internal process for administering CCBF in the Yukon. These changes had a clear impact as ultimate recipients were able to recover nearly \$38 million from the trust to support various active projects, including 29 to completion.

The introduction of a consistent reporting system now allows ultimate recipients to recover eligible project costs more frequently. Combined with the newly established funding agreement, this approach reduces administrative burden, allows for over-programming, ensures funds move out of the trust and into communities more quickly and strengthens the Yukon's ability to advocate for additional infrastructure funding by reducing the amount left idle in the trust.

The 29 projects completed in 2024–25 represent 11 of the 19 infrastructure categories. The projects delivered practical benefits such as improving existing infrastructure, creating new facilities, strengthening asset management practices and supporting housing development. They reflect the ongoing collaboration between municipalities, Yukon First Nations governments and unincorporated communities for addressing infrastructure needs.

Looking ahead, CCBF will continue supporting ultimate recipients in advancing projects that align with their priorities, with a particular focus on housing-enabling infrastructure. A territorial housing needs assessment will guide these efforts, ensuring future projects respond directly to the growth and evolving needs of Yukon communities. By combining projects with immediate benefits with long-term planning, CCBF is helping build a Yukon that is vibrant, healthy and sustainable.

