



FOR RELEASE  
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## **Yukon government provides unique opportunity for heritage and cultural workers**

WHITEHORSE—Yukon's museum sector is receiving a boost from a one-time fund providing fifty Yukoners with assistance to attend the Canadian Museums Association (CMA) annual conference in Whitehorse May 27 to June 1.

"We want as many Yukon cultural workers and students as possible to participate in the conference," Tourism and Culture Minister Mike Nixon said. "This unique professional development opportunity will strengthen the sector and help ensure Yukon's heritage and cultural resources are preserved for years to come."

Yukon government is providing a total of \$25,000 to cover registration fees for Yukon residents, especially those working as heritage or cultural professionals in museums, cultural and interpretive centres, heritage sites, art galleries and the wildlife preserve. Yukon students pursuing post-secondary studies outside Yukon are also eligible.

The Yukon Historical and Museums Association (YHMA) is part of the local conference arrangements committee and is also administering the special fund.

"We had a great response to the fund and lots of people from Yukon's cultural community will be attending the conference," YHMA executive director Nancy Oakley said. "We are excited to be hosting the event and pleased that so many Yukoners will have the opportunity to exchange ideas with their colleagues from across Canada and around the world."

The conference theme is cultural collaboration. Conference participants will share how museums can utilize partnerships to create successful programs, improve visitor experience, leverage resources and rally community support.

Conference organizers expect approximately 175 delegates will attend the conference, while the Yukon Convention Bureau estimates the conference will contribute \$240,000 to the Yukon economy.

For more information on Yukon government support to culture, visit [www.tc.gov.yk.ca](http://www.tc.gov.yk.ca).

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