

FOR RELEASE
February 22, 2017

Heritage projects promote Yukon First Nations language and oral history

Two heritage projects are sharing \$17,000 from the Yukon Historic Resources Fund (YHRF).

The Dusk'a Head Start Family Learning Centre in Whitehorse is receiving \$9,600 for *Southern Tutchone Literacy: Voices of Our Ancestors*. The project will create a series of bilingual children's books and educational videos in English and Southern Tutchone. The resources will teach everyday conversation and support efforts to revitalize the Southern Tutchone language.

The First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun is receiving \$7,400 for *Mayo Legion Hall – Documenting Our Memories*, an oral history project and an interpretive display that will describe the hall's history. The territorially designated historic site has served many community and commercial purposes over its 80-year history.

The Yukon Heritage Resources Board (YHRB) reviewed applications to the YHRF and recommended the two selected projects to Yukon's Minister of Tourism and Culture.

Quotes

"It is vital that we ensure our territory's rich heritage is protected and preserved today and for future generations. The Government of Yukon values the important roles played by the Yukon Heritage Resources Board and the Yukon Historic Resources Fund in helping to achieve this. The two exciting and valuable projects funded by YHRF this year are using highly creative and practical ways to promote Yukon First Nations languages as well as appreciation of our cultural values."

–*Minister of Tourism and Culture Jeanie Dendys*

"The Yukon Heritage Resources Board was pleased to make funding recommendations to Minister Dendys on these exciting projects. We believe they will make significant contributions to the preservation and sharing of Yukon history, heritage and culture."

–*Yukon Heritage Resources Board chair Anne Leckie*

"We are very proud of the new and creative ways Dusk'a Head Start Family Learning Centre expands the reach of our language revitalization efforts. Our Elders are welcomed and involved at Dusk'a and ready to assist our young to learn and respect their language and culture. We are grateful for this funding from Yukon Historic Resources Fund to create a series of tools to promote the Southern Tutchone language in our children's daily lives and activities."

–*Kwanlin Dün First Nation Elder councillor Judy Gingell*

"The Legion Hall building is important in the history of our community and the Silver Trail area, in particular as a place where many of our Elders gathered for initial land claim discussions. This project will dig deeper into the stories and connections between the building, the people and the Stewart River. We will use this to plan for the building's future and, in the long term, to revitalize Mayo's waterfront and vibrant culture."

–*First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun heritage and culture manager Joella Hogan*

Quick facts

- The YHRF provides funding for projects that promote the study and interpretation of Yukon's historic resources and further the promotion, appreciation, preservation and development of Yukon's heritage.
- The mandate of the YHRB is to provide advice to governments on issues that affect the Yukon's heritage resources. It was established in 1995 in accordance with Chapter 13 of the Umbrella Final Agreement.
- The annual deadline for applications to the Yukon Historic Resources Fund is April 1.

Learn more: Yukon Historic Resources Fund, Yukon Heritage Resources Board

Contact:

Sunny Patch
Cabinet Communications
867-393-7478
sunny.patch@gov.yk.ca

Lucie Wright
Communications, Tourism and Culture
867-667-5318
lucie.wright@gov.yk.ca

News Release #17-036



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