

FOR RELEASE
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Government support for community-driven projects

Government of Yukon's Community Development Fund recently awarded \$182,210 to 13 community organizations through its most recent funding intake. These projects will help enhance community wholeness and provide over 2,235 hours of employment for more than 35 people throughout Yukon.

The projects include an annual workshop to be held by the Yukon Research Centre and improvements to the Tagish Community Association.

The Yukon Research Centre has been awarded \$19,958 to hold the annual Resources and Sustainable Development in the Arctic network workshop in October 2017. In its seventh year, this wrap-up event will highlight key findings, tools and resources created, methods to support community research and some of the best practices found from this work. The workshop will engage Yukon communities and organizations in sharing knowledge and experience, and contribute to the discussions on resource development in the North. The project will create 480 hours of employment for four people.

The Tagish Community Association has been awarded \$20,000 to replace the roof on the Quonset hut section of the community centre. The centre acts as a hub for the area providing community participation in a wide range of recreation, educational and social activities.

Quotes

"Community-driven projects help Yukoners prosper and thrive. By funding these projects, the Government of Yukon is encouraging wellness and fostering economic activity within our Yukon communities. We're proud to support these community organizations in attaining their goals and achieving success."

–Minister of Economic Development Ranj Pillai

Quick facts

- The Community Development Fund's primary goal is to support projects that provide long-term benefits and value to Yukon communities. The projects are awarded based on merit and the ability to demonstrate social, cultural and economic benefits.
- The Community Development Fund is divided into three tiers with five intake deadlines:
 - Tier 1: Applications of \$20,000 or less (intake deadlines in January, May, July and October).
 - Tier 2: Applications of \$20,001 to \$75,000 (intake deadline in May and September).
 - Tier 3: Applications of \$75,001 or more (intake deadline in January).

Learn more: [Community Development Fund](#)

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Backgrounder: CDF July 2017 Tier 1 Intake Approved Projects

Selkirk First Nation – \$19,999 – To purchase and install a new playground for the community of Pelly Crossing. The project promotes positive outdoor activities which fosters healthy and active living for children and families and contributes to the community's wellbeing. The project will create employment for seven people. Contact: Darcy Marcotte at (867) 537-3060.

City of Whitehorse – \$17,348 – To install five new interpretive panels along the Lower Escarpment Trail in downtown Whitehorse to encourage trail use, provide interpretive and reflective opportunities and facilitate visitor appreciation of the City's natural, cultural and historic attributes. The project will create 200 hours of employment for three people. Contact: Kinden Kosick at (867) 668-8348.

Yukon Association for Community Living – \$5,125 – To hire a conference planner to develop a detailed work plan for a Yukon Family/Caregiver Conference to take place in 2018. The purpose of the conference is to raise awareness of services and options for people with disabilities, build an understanding of best practices and encourage advance planning regarding the transition of a special needs child from childhood to adulthood. The entire project will create up to 80 hours of

employment for one person. Contact: Colette Acheson at (867) 667-4606.

(s)hiver Arts Society – \$7,872 – To develop a brand identity and create a multi-year communications strategy. A recognizable logo and brand, as well as a communications strategy, will improve future marketing efforts and increase the exposure of the organization and its main activity (winter festival). This will encourage increased participation of both artists and the general public, including targeted groups such as youth and seniors. The project will create 80 hours of employment for two people. Contact: Ben Labranche at (867) 993-4499.

Whitehorse Fire Fighters Association – \$13,547 – To design, develop and launch a new website and brand identity. A professional website and a strong brand identity will provide the Whitehorse Fire Fighters Association with a means to appropriately communicate with the public and collaborate with other organizations. The project will create 156 hours of employment for four people. Contact: Nicholas O'Carroll at (867) 333-0931.

Yukon Research Centre – \$19,958 – To hold the Resources and Sustainable Development in the Arctic network workshop in October 2017. This wrap-up event will highlight key findings, tools and resources created, methods to support community research and some of the best practices found from this work. The workshop will engage Yukon communities and organizations in sharing knowledge and experience, and contribute to the discussions on resource development in the North. The project will create 480 hours of employment for four people. Contact: Valoree Walker at (867) 668-8857.

Tagish Community Association – \$20,000 – To replace the roof on the Quonset hut section of the community centre. The Tagish Community Centre is considered the hub of the community and provides community participation in a diversity of recreation, educational and social activities. Contact: Doug Heynen at (867) 399-3220.

Yukon Art Society – \$9,800 – To develop a formal marketing plan. This project will help Yukon Art Society to remain current and strong in a changing art marketplace, to develop a consistent and united look and message, to further reach and expand their customer base, and to increase financial and professional opportunities for the artistic community. The project will create 55 hours of employment for one person. Contact: Courtney Holmes at (867) 667-4080.

Yukon Conservation Society – \$18,062 – To host social enterprise expert, Shaun Loney, for workshops and public presentations in Whitehorse and Watson Lake to learn about social enterprise and to discuss how it could diversify the Yukon economy, create meaningful jobs and protect the natural environment. The project will create 337 hours of employment for five people. Contact: Anne Middler at (867) 668-5678.

Yukon Climbing Access Society – \$13,800 – To engage a consultant to develop a database of contacts relating to land ownership and land access for rock climbing; provide a roadmap document for YCAS for developing positive, respectful relationships with landowners; and work towards written agreements with landowners and governments identifying designated climbing areas in Yukon that adhere to the Yukon Lands Policies. This work will help protect landowners from risk of litigation from climbers using their properties or accessing climbing areas through their property. The project will create 360 hours of employment for one person. Contact: Vanessa Scharf at (867) 332-0038.

Downtown Urban Gardeners' Society – \$8,500 – To remove the three largest and oldest raised garden beds at the Whitehorse Community Garden and replace each with four new smaller beds. The Whitehorse Community Garden is a community-based sustainable food security initiative that provides accessible space within the city where community members and clients of social services agencies can grow their own nutritious and affordable food. The garden promotes healthy living through gardening as an outdoor activity that creates physical and mental health benefits and encourages the sharing of knowledge and community-building. The project will create 180 hours of employment for one contractor and a crew of three people. Contact: Randy Lamb at (867) 393-7410.

Kluane First Nation – \$18,750 – To conduct and record life history and community oral history interviews with Kluane First Nation Elders, including visual portraits and biographical memories, together with significant oral traditions about themselves, their families and the community over time. This project will create a rich web of unique visual portraits and oral traditions to support interpretive and educational programs for many years. The portraits will be a visual legacy of foundational people in the community and the recorded biographies, life lessons and other narratives will contribute many new threads of connection between individuals, families, events, traditional teachings and points of interest in Kluane First Nation traditional territories. The project will create 307 hours of employment for four Yukon researchers. Contact: Mary Jane Johnson at (867) 841-4274.

Town of Watson Lake – \$9,450 – To purchase and install new trail signs along the municipality's trail system. The trails provide residents and visitors with important access to green spaces and wilderness experiences year-round and the addition of signage will increase trail users confidence that they can navigate the trails safely. Contact: Alyssa Magun at (867) 536-8020.

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