



## Government of Yukon

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**NEWS** release

FOR RELEASE #09-272  
November 24, 2009

### Yukon Talent Will Take to the Stage at 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games

WHITEHORSE – Yukon kicks off Yukon Culture at 2010 with today's announcement of the upcoming visual performances, art exhibitions and traditional sport demonstrations that will showcase Yukon at the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games.

"The 2010 Winter Olympics will give Yukon artists and performers an unprecedented opportunity to showcase their talents before a worldwide audience," Tourism and Culture Minister Elaine Taylor said. "We are especially proud that support for programs like Culture Quest has helped strengthen Yukon's tourism, investment and creative opportunities aimed at growing Yukon's art and culture sectors."

"The Yukon Arts Centre is pleased that Yukon Culture at 2010 coordinator Michele Emslie and her team have taken on the challenge of showcasing Yukon's diverse talent at the upcoming Vancouver 2010 Winter Games," said Al Cushing, CEO Yukon Arts Centre. "The team has brought together an incredible cast to represent Yukon at celebration sites across the greater-Vancouver area."

The creative components and their team leaders are:

- Yukon Culture at 2010 coordinator Michele Emslie and assistant Andrea Burgoyne.
- Yukon Victory Celebration artistic director Celia McBride, working with Vancouver producer Patrick Roberge.
- *Sewing Our Traditions: Dolls of Canada's North*, Mary Bradshaw and Jennifer Bowen, curators.

Many of Yukon's cultural activities are in partnership with the Yukon First Nation 2010 Project led by the Council of Yukon First Nations working with the Four Host First Nations, and Yukon is also working closely with Nunavut and Northwest Territories to create a pan-northern experience. Traditional Inuit and Dene Games athletes will do demonstrations at various venues throughout the Olympic Games.

Yukon's investment of \$2.6 million for the games is aimed at showcasing Yukon as a visitor destination; promoting Yukon as a great place to invest and do business; celebrating Yukon First Nations culture; exposing Yukon artists and performers to the world and engaging youth and sport development.

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Background information attached.

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**Yukon Culture at 2010 Schedule of Events (subject to change)**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
Feb. 8 to Mar. 5	<b>Ted Harrison</b> Exhibition	Daily	West Vancouver Ferry Gallery
Feb. 12 to 28	<b><i>Sewing Our Traditions: Dolls of Canada's North</i></b> Exhibition	Daily	Gateway Theatre, Richmond
Feb. 15 to 26	<b>West Van Day Camp workshops/performances</b> featuring Root Sellers Soir de Semaine Youth hip hop dancers Visual artists	Daily	West Vancouver Community Centre
Feb. 15 to 26	<b>Visual Art installations/workshops</b> Meshell Melvin and Nicole Bauberger	Daily	West Vancouver Community Centre
Feb. 16	<b>Victory Ceremony Performance preview</b>	8 p.m.	Yukon Arts Centre, Whitehorse
Feb. 17	Cultural Olympiad presents <b>Gordie Tentrees</b>	TBD	TBD
Feb. 17 to 26	<b>Yukon Performances</b>	TBD	Canada's Northern House
Feb. 17 to 26	<b>Inuit and Dene Games</b> featuring Yukon, NWT and Nunavut athletes	Ongoing	Various venues
Feb. 17	<b>Arts Gala</b> featuring Yukon, NWT and Nunavut artists	6 to 8 p.m.	Canada's Northern House
Feb. 17	<b>Pan-northern Presentation</b> featuring Yukon, NWT and Nunavut artists	12 to 1 p.m., 3:30 to 6 p.m.	Vancouver Celebration Site
Feb. 18	<b>Yukon Music Showcase</b> featuring Root Sellers	8 p.m. to 2 a.m.	Railway Club, Vancouver

and 19	Soir de Semaine Spring Breakup Sophisticated Cave Men Sasquatch Prom Date		
Feb. 19	<b>Pan-northern Presentation</b> featuring Yukon, NWT and Nunavut artists	3:30 to 7 p.m.	Surrey Celebration Site
Feb. 19	<b>Sasquatch Prom Date</b>	6:30 to 9 p.m.	West Vancouver Atrium
Feb. 20	<b>Yukon Day Victory Ceremony Performance</b> Artistic Director – Celia McBride	6:30 p.m.	<b>BC Place Stadium</b> <b>Live audience of 20,000+</b> This internationally broadcast multimedia event will showcase Yukon culture and heritage through video and live performance
Feb. 20	<b>Sophisticated Cave Men</b>	6:30 to 9 p.m.	West Vancouver Atrium
Feb. 21	<b>Yukon Performances</b>	All day	Whistler Athletes Village
Feb. 21	<b>Soir de Semaine</b>	6:30 to 9 p.m.	West Vancouver Atrium
Feb. 22	<b>Yukon Presentation</b> including YFN performers	6:30 to 9 p.m.	West Vancouver Atrium
Feb. 23	<b>Pan-northern Presentation</b> featuring Yukon, NWT and Nunavut artists	3:30 to 7 p.m.	Richmond Celebration Site
Feb. 23	<b><i>Sewing Our Traditions: Dolls of Canada's North</i></b> Opening reception	7:30 p.m.	Gateway Theatre, Richmond
Feb. 24	<b>Arts Gala</b> featuring Yukon, NWT and Nunavut artists	6 to 8 p.m.	Canada's Northern House
Feb. 24	<b>Yukon Performances</b>	All day	Vancouver Athletes Village
Feb. 25	<b>Root Sellers</b> Youth performance	6:30 to 9 p.m.	West Vancouver Atrium

Feb. 26 and 27	Cultural Olympiad presents <b>Soir de Semaine</b>	TBD	Winterruption – Granville Island
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Contacts:

**Yukon Victory Celebration – BC Place, February 20, 2010:**

Coordinator: Celia McBride 867-456-7830.

**Cultural activations:**

Culture Quest coordinator Michele Emslie 867-667-8476 and assistant Andrea Burgoyne 867 667 8476.

**Pan-northern artists:**

Organizers Mary Bradshaw 867-667-8485 and Jennifer Bowen 867-667-8460.

**Cultural Olympiad:**

Laurel Parry, Tourism and Culture, Yukon Government 867-667-5264.

**Yukon First Nations:**

CYFN Coordinators Patti Balsillie 867-393-9221, Katie Johnston 867-332-5283 and Charlene Alexander 867-334-3523. [www.yfn2010.org](http://www.yfn2010.org)

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