



FOR RELEASE  
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## **Youth passions highlighted in new video series**

WHITEHORSE—A unique video project inspired, filmed and produced by Yukon youth premiered at the Beringia Centre last night. The Yukon Passions Video Project included interviews with 28 young people who, in the videos, share their passions which ranged from carving, FASD prevention, basketball and mathematics to the environment. It was filmed by 21-year-old Heidi J. Loos.

"It was inspiring to see and hear the enthusiasm, thoughtfulness and determination of the young people featured in these videos," Health and Social Services Minister Doug Graham said. "Research shows that positive youth engagement is an important factor in the health and development of young people. When they set goals, challenge themselves and connect with others, they are healthier, happier and more engaged."

The Yukon Passions Video project was sponsored by Health and Social Services and cost-shared with Advanced Education through the STEP student program. The video project supports *Pathways to Wellness*, an initiative of Health and Social Services that focuses on improving the health and well-being of Yukon children and families.

"Working on this project has been such an exciting and challenging experience," Loos said. "My passion has been and still is creative writing but I may have sparked yet another passion, filmmaking. I could have made a full length documentary with all the rad footage I got. It was amazing and inspiring to see all of the local talent and passion we have here. Working on the Passions project has really made me proud to be from Yukon."

In addition to posting the videos on YouTube and the *Pathways to Wellness* website, they will also be used to spark discussion with groups and in communities about how adults working with youth can help and support young people find and pursue their passions. These discussions will help inform the *Wellness Plan for Children and Families* that is being developed and planned for release in 2014. For more information about the Passions project or the *Pathways to Wellness* project visit [www.yukonwellness.ca](http://www.yukonwellness.ca).

**Watch a preview of the Yukon Passions Video Project.**

## Yukon Passions Video Project - Preview



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