

FOR RELEASE #10-136
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A wide cross-section of community projects receive Tier 1 funding

WHITEHORSE – Nineteen community projects will receive over \$263,000 in Community Development Tier 1 funding.

“Even smaller projects can mean a great deal to the lives of Yukoners and the many dedicated groups and individuals in our communities,” Economic Development Minister Jim Kenyon said. “The Community Development Fund program has been designed so that there are four opportunities each year to apply for funding at the Tier 1 level, which is for \$20,000 or less.”

Blood Ties Four Directions is receiving \$10,500 to hire a housing navigator to help clients find adequate housing.

“We are seeing many of our HIV and Hepatitis C-positive clients struggling to find safe and affordable housing as the demand for housing continues to increase,” Blood Ties Four Directions executive director Patricia Bacon said. “This new staff member will be able to help our clients navigate between landlords, housing authorities and social services, providing advice and support where ever possible. A new half-time person has already started with us and will be in the job for one year.”

The Village of Carmacks, another successful Community Development Fund (CDF) applicant, is receiving \$6,378 for new safety and program equipment at the community swimming pool.

“With the funding we are purchasing a new spinal board and oxygen tank for lifeguarding as well as a tot dock which will be placed at the bottom of the pool making the water shallower for toddlers and smaller children when doing their swimming lessons,” Carmacks pool manager Cindy Underhill said. “We are seeing more interest in swimming lessons so we are happy to get this new equipment.

“The CDF program staff was very helpful and accommodating. We emphasize safety and education at our pool, and thanks to the CDF, we are able to get exactly what we need,” Underhill added.

The Community Development Fund offers three funding levels. Tier 1 funding is available for requests up to \$20,000. Tier 2 funding is for requesting between \$20,001 and \$75,000, and Tier 3 is available for requests over \$75,000. The next intake deadline is September 15 for Tier 2 applications.

Organizations are encouraged to contact the CDF advisors, well before deadlines, for assistance with their applications and developing project ideas. To learn more about the CDF, visit www.cdf.gov.yk.ca or contact the CDF office at 867-667-8125 or toll-free at 1-800-661-0408, extension 8125.

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See backgrounder attached.

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Backgrounder: List of CDF Tier 1 recipients

Association Franco-Yukonnaise will receive \$20,000 to host a series of 20 themed activities over 40 weeks to celebrate the 20th Anniversary Celebrations of Café Rencontres. The project will create 900 hours of employment for one person. Contact: Roch Nadon at 867-668-2663, ext. 321

Blood Ties Four Directions Centre Society will get \$10,500 to hire a housing navigator who will assist Whitehorse residents, affected or infected by HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C, to obtain safe, affordable and sustainable housing. The project will create 1,040 hours of employment for one person. Contact: Patricia Bacon at 867-633-2437

Conservation Klondike Society will be awarded \$13,250 to construct a small addition on the existing downtown recycling depot to facilitate increased handling of recyclable material as a result of the paper collection service. The project will create 360 hours of employment for three people. Contact: Caili Steel at 867-993-6666

Dawson Child Care Association will get \$20,000 to host a summer camp for children ages six to 10, offering a variety of workshops such as arts and crafts, French, literacy, sports, science and gardening. The project will create 1,100 hours of employment for three people. Contact: Stephanie Davidson at 867-993-5167

Fireweed Community Market Society will receive \$19,253 to research and make recommendations on how to enhance Yukon's local food system and food production through agriculture expansion models, membership-based or consumer-led projects, and institutional procurement. The project will create 560 hours of employment for two people. Contact: Stephane Aucoin at 867-334-1834

Helpful Friends Cultural Awareness Society will be awarded \$20,000 to hold a Youth Geological Adventure Camp that will build self-respect and respect for others by studying the earth, culture, land and the mining industry. The community will be involved in the program to enhance knowledge about prospecting, sample preparation, GPS use and cultural respect for the land. The project will create 1,232 hours of employment for 11 people. Contact: Stella Hearty at 867-536-5219

Learning Disabilities Association of Yukon will get \$8,300 to hold a two-week mid-summer literacy/wilderness skills daycamp for children ages six to nine. The project will create 320 hours of employment for three people. Contact: Helen Tardif-Poole at 867-668-8796

Polarettes & Polar Tumblers Gymnastics Club will receive \$17,110 to upgrade the mezzanine, which includes extending the plexi-glass wall, installing a sink, counter, lower cupboards, vinyl flooring and an office window. The project will create 70 hours of employment for four people. Contact: Kimberley Henney at 867-668-4794

Village of Carmacks will get \$6,378 to purchase new safety equipment to further develop the swimming pool program and enhance safety. Contact: Cindy Underhill at 867-863-6512

Village of Teslin will receive \$6,920 to deliver its Teslin Mind and Body Activity project with the goal of increasing participation in local events, enhancing skills and developing knowledge for youth. The project will create 112 hours of employment for two people. Contact: Kevin Cameron at 867-390-2530

Whitehorse Women's Hockey Association will get \$11,651 to host a series of skating theory and skills training camps for women. The project will create 71 hours of employment for four people. Contact: Michelle Rabeau at 867-667-7528

Yukon Amateur Radio Association will receive \$19,563 to replace batteries at three repeater sites. The project will create 10 hours of employment for one person. Contact: Eric Irvine at 867-667-3338

Yukon Anti Poverty Coalition will get \$6,500 to bring a variety of organizations, businesses, governments, churches, schools and individuals together to raise awareness and take action on reducing poverty, particularly in Whitehorse, during Poverty and Homelessness Action Week (Oct. 10-16). The project will create 360 hours of employment for one person. Contact: Kristina Craig at 867-334-9317

Yukon Bird Club will receive \$12,656 to conduct a six-month project investigating the biological, chemical and physical features of the Whitehorse sewage lagoon and to further understand what makes the lagoon so attractive to birds. The project will create 400 hours of employment for two people. Contact: Devon Yacura at 867-667-7597

Yukon Church Heritage Society / Old Log Church Museum will get \$14,067 for small improvements and upgrades to the museum experience by aligning its new brand with consistent communication messaging. The project will create 71 hours of employment for one person. Contact: Taryn Parker at 867-668-2555

Yukon Circle of Social Change Society will receive \$8,325 to hold a three-day workshop that dovetails the results from Challenge Day - Be the Change Movement at F.H. Collins, Porter Creek Secondary, and Ecole Emile Tremblay schools. The Next Step to Being the Change project will connect youth, teachers, Elders and staff from the Department of Health and Social Services, Many Rivers Counselling, Bringing Youth Towards Equality Society, and business. The goal is to address social oppression, substance abuse, gender roles, stereotyping, bullying and racism. The project will create 25 hours of employment for 11 people. Contact: Christine Klaassen-St Pierre at 867-667-7408

Yukon Indian Hockey Association will be awarded \$14,000 to provide First Nations youth with a leadership development program, Learning to Lead, by participating in a hockey school. The project will create 556 hours of employment for 14 people. Contact: Karee Vallevand at 867-334-6548

Yukon Invasive Species Council will receive \$15,300 to develop a strategic plan and expand community involvement by means of organizing invasive plant pulling events, developing best management practices, and upgrading the council's website. The project will create 420 hours of employment for two people. Contact: Toos Omtzigt at 867-333-9386

Yukon River Marathon Paddling Association will get \$20,000 to supply and install a safety hut at Kirkman Creek, along the Yukon River. The project will create 56 hours of employment for four people. Contact: Jean-Francois Latour at 867-333-5628