

FOR RELEASE #08-168  
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**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND SUPPORTS YOUTH PROJECTS**

WHITEHORSE – The Yukon government’s Community Development Fund (CDF) is awarding \$177,928 in funding to a wide range of community projects.

“CDF continues to support various community groups and organizations making Yukon communities better places to live, work, play and invest,” Economic Development Minister Jim Kenyon said. “Many of these projects will serve to engage and educate young Yukon residents over the summer months.”

The funding will be divided among 14 successful applicants and is coming from the CDF’s Tier 1 level funding. Tier 1 funding allocates up to \$20,000 per request. Tier 2 funding covers requests between \$20,001 and \$75,000, and Tier 3 funding supports requests above \$75,000. The next deadline for Tier I applications is July 15.

The Village of Teslin was one of the 14 successful applicants and received \$5,550 for the Elephant Thoughts Project Earth summer science camp for youth in Teslin.

“Youth in our community are really looking forward to this science camp,” Village of Teslin’s Recreation Co-ordinator Nataschaa Chatterton said. “The Elephant Thoughts Global Development initiative is a group of educators and facilitators who travel all over the world teaching youth in rural communities about science in an earth-friendly, fun and interactive way.”

The Carcross/Tagish First Nation received \$20,000 in funding to host a Tagish-Tlingit Immersion summer camp that will employ local youth.

“This camp experience will not only revitalize, perpetuate and preserve our language and culture but will give youth the opportunity to explore career development in education, language, culture and the environment,” Carcross/Tagish First Nation’s Curriculum Developer Norma Shorty said. “When I was new to the employment field, it was summer camps like this that helped me realize my own career.”

To learn more about the CDF, visit [www.economicdevelopment.gov.yk.ca](http://www.economicdevelopment.gov.yk.ca) or contact the CDF office at 867-667-8125 where Community Development Advisors are there to assist with project ideas and the application process.

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A complete list of recipients follows.

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## Tier 1 Community Development Fund Recipients

**Breakdancing Yukon Society (BYS) – \$7,240 Youth Leadership:** Breakdancing youth interns will be taught essential leadership skills that they will be able to use in any aspect of their lives and careers. The project will create 3,750 hours of employment for 11 people. Contact Patti Balsillie at 867-334-6629.

**Carcross/Tagish First Nation – \$20,000 Summer Camp:** To put on a Tagish Tlingit Immersion Summer Camp to preserve the Tagish and Tlingit language and traditional practices while encouraging respect for community, self and the environment. The project will create 3,290 hours of employment for eight people. Contact Meghan Colgan at 867-821-8232.

**Carmacks Christian Fellowship – \$13,726 Summer Day Camp:** To put on a Summer Day Camp for the month of July. The project will create 480 hours of employment for three people. Contact Sherry Whittle at 867-863-6444.

**Dawson City Football Club – \$11,165 Upgrade & Create A Soccer League:** To form, create and implement an outdoor soccer league in the community of Dawson City. Contact Vera Holmes at 867-993-6610.

**Keno City Community Club – \$12,399 Rec Hall & Gazebo Improvements:** To complete renovations and improvements to the Rec. Hall and gazebo at the community campground. The project will create 200 hours of employment for three people. Contact Greg Keitel at 867-995-3103.

**Marsh Lake Community Society – \$4,050 Community Recreation Survey:** To obtain community-wide feedback from the residents of Marsh Lake regarding their experiences and satisfaction with the operation of the community centre. Contact Judy Corley at 867-660-4999.

**Percy DeWolfe Memorial Race Committee – \$12,450 Heritage Interpreter:** To increase awareness of Percy DeWolfe and the modern dog mushing events organized in his memory. The project will create 400 hours of employment for one person. Contact Anna Claxton at 867-993-6326.

**Recreation & Parks Association Yukon – \$15,560 Ice Makers and Playspace Safety Courses:** To host a Recreation Facilities Association of British Columbia (RFABC) Arena Three-day Ice Maker Workshop and One-day Playspace Safety Course. Contact Anne Morgan at 867-668-3010.

**Ross River Dena Council – \$17,740 60 Mile Healing Camp:** To take 10 members of the RRDC out on the land with Elders and counsellors so they can participate in a traditional teaching/healing camp. The project will create 336 hours of employment for seven people. Contact May Bolton at 867-969-2722.

**Salvation Army – \$3,638 Front Doors:** To replace the broken doors at the Soup Kitchen/Shelter with new metal doors. Contact Robert Sessford at 867-393-8329.

**Village of Teslin – \$5,550 Earth Science Camp:** To bring an Elephant Thoughts Project Earth Summer Science Camp to the Youth of Teslin. The project will create 300 hours of employment for nine people. Contact Nataschaa Chatterton at 867-390-2530.

**Village of Teslin – \$11,793 Friendship Park Swings and Benches:** Add swings and benches to the Friendship Park in Teslin. The project will create 100 hours of employment for eight people. Contact Nataschaa Chatterton at 867-390-2530.

**Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation – \$10,899 Elders Gazebo:** To build a gazebo for use by the Elders and others along the banks of the Porcupine River in Old Crow. Contact Eyvi Smith at 867-966-3066.

**Yukon Amateur Radio Association – \$19,968 YARA Network Extension to Watson Lake:** The Yukon Amateur Radio Association (YARA) has an extensive radio network covering most Yukon communities, mostly in support of emergency preparedness. A link to Watson Lake is missing. The project will create 32 hours of employment for three people. Contact Eric Irvine at 867-668-7290.

**Yukon Shooting Federation – \$11,750 2009 Championships:** To expand range by 50 per cent (and accommodate 12 shooters at a time instead of eight) in order to successfully host the 2009 National Rifle Silhouette Competition in Whitehorse. The project will create 50 hours of employment for four people. Contact Lyle Thompson at 867-668-6171.