

FOR RELEASE
December 4, 2008

08-306

TEN COMMUNITY PROJECTS TO RECEIVE CDF TIER 1 FUNDING

WHITEHORSE – The Yukon government's Community Development Fund (CDF) is investing over \$143,500 in 10 community projects under its Tier 1 funding intake.

"I am pleased to see such an array of great community projects spread throughout Yukon communities," Economic Development Minister Jim Kenyon said. "Some of these projects relate to planning and development, which are important to sustaining and building community infrastructure and involvement."

The Champagne and Aishihik First Nation is receiving \$19,870 to host a cultural event highlighting the Kwaday Dan Ts'inchi discovery.

"Kwaday Dan Ts'inchi, which means 'long-ago person found' in Southern Tutchone, represents the discovery of the remains of an Aboriginal man found in the traditional territory of the Champagne and Aishihik First Nation," Champagne and Aishihik First Nation Heritage Resource Officer Sheila Greer said.

"This will be the first time that the results of the analyses of the 'Iceman' will be shared with Yukoners. The two-day event will be held in Haines Junction and will be open to the public with specialists, scientists and community members sharing all the knowledge gathered about the discovery," Greer added.

"I'm pleased to see the Dawson City Chamber of Commerce receive funding to build a new website that will serve its members," Klondike MLA Steve Nordick said. "This project will not only provide valuable information but also enables additional employment opportunities in the community."

The Skookum Jim Friendship Centre is receiving \$20,000 in funding to undertake a feasibility study of its functional space and infrastructure options.

"With the increase in the programs offered at the Centre over the past few years, we need to examine our functional space," Skookum Jim Friendship Centre Executive Director Michelle Kolla said. "This study will help determine the spatial needs of all our programs and also provide us with some options in changing our current infrastructure to meet our needs today and into the future."

Community development funding can cover up to 90 per cent of project costs. Tier 1 funding is available for requests up to \$20,000. Tier 2 funding is available for applicants requesting \$20,001 to \$75,000 and Tier 3 funding is available for requests over \$75,000 in funding. The next intake deadline is Jan. 15 for both Tier 1 and Tier 3 applications.

Organizations are encouraged to contact the CDF office with their project ideas well before the deadline date. CDF staff is available to help proponents develop project ideas and guide applicants through the application process.

To learn more about the CDF, visit www.cdf.gov.yk.ca or contact the CDF office at 867-667-8125.

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Attachment: List of Tier 1 projects funded.

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Tier 1 Community Development Fund Projects

Champagne and Aishihik First Nation - \$19,870 Kwaday Dan Ts'inchi (Long Ago Person Found) Community Event - Champagne and Aishihik First Nations will host a two-day public event featuring scientific and cultural talks, hosted displays, and other activities related to the Kwaday Dan Ts'inchi discovery. The project will create 424 hours of employment for 26 people. Contact: Sheila Greer at 867-634-4010

Dawson City Chamber of Commerce - \$16,861 Chamber sets its 'site' on the web - To create and develop a website for the Dawson City Chamber of Commerce. The project will create 310 hours of employment for four people. Contact: Dina Grenon at 867-993-5274

Lorne Mountain Community Association - \$4,712 Technical Equipment Purchase - Purchase of a public address system for performers. Contact: Ruth Lera at 867-667-7083

Skookum Jim Friendship Centre - \$20,000 Feasibility Study – To undertake a needs analysis and provide a functional space program report, including infrastructure options that will reflect the needs of the Skookum Jim Friendship Centre. The project will create 545 hours of employment for one person. Contact: Michelle Kolla at 867-633-7687

Teslin Tlingit Council - \$19,260 Excellence Seminars - To provide seats in the Teslin Tlingit Council (TTC) sponsored "Pursuit of Excellence" personal development/training seminars for non-TTC residents of Teslin. The project will create 392 hours of employment for 18 people. Contact: Brenda Oziewicz at 867-390-2532, ext. 484

Town of Faro - \$6,505 Community Quilting Project - To create a community quilt which will be displayed in the Campbell River Interpretative Centre. The project will create 192 hours of employment for one person. Contact: Jessica Guest at 867-994-2375

Town of Watson Lake - \$19,656 Programmer for Watson Lake Recreation Centre - Hire one employee to work part-time as an Assistant Recreation Programmer at the Watson Lake Recreation Centre for one year to facilitate an increase in hours of operation and programs available for users. The project will create 1300 hours of employment for one person. Contact: Terry Colebrooke at 867-536-8000

Watson Lake Daycare Society - \$11,663 Feasibility Study - To complete a feasibility study on the Watson Lake Daycare to determine what requirements have to be met in order for the Daycare to operate long term or whether it should permanently close. The project will create 80 hours of employment for one person. Contact: Vanessa Law at 867-536-7690

Whitehorse Curling Club - \$10,980 Website Development and Tour Event Planning Support - To assist with the costs of hosting the 2008 World Curling Tour Spiel Nov. 20 - 23 and the professional development of the Whitehorse Curling Club website. The project will create 220 hours of employment for four people. Contact: Jon Solberg at 867-667-2875

Yukon Quest International Association - \$14,000 Business Plan Implementation Project - To engage a professional consulting company to provide Yukon staff with advice, guidance and resources to commence implementation of their business plan. The project will create 370 hours of employment for four people. Contact: Stephen Reynolds at 867-668-4711