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**Yukon Sourdough Rendezvous Celebrates 45 Years**

WHITEHORSE – Government of Yukon supports Yukon Sourdough Rendezvous as a community festival that enlivens the Yukon winter and contributes to tourism, Tourism and Culture Minister Elaine Taylor said.

“Yukon Sourdough Rendezvous demonstrates how partnerships and volunteerism are important to the social and economic well-being of a community,” Taylor said. “We congratulate them on 45 years of successfully staging a much loved winter event.”

The Rendezvous Society received \$50,000 from the Department of Tourism and Culture to help with the marketing and promotion of Yukon Sourdough Rendezvous, a winter festival that showcases Yukon’s diverse culture.

“We are proud of our Yukon history and the annual celebration of Sourdoughs,” Rendezvous Society President Marj Eschak said. “Our volunteers are positive, reliable and caring individuals who make the best mix for friendships. These friendships have helped grow Rendezvous into one of the cornerstones of winter tourism for Yukon.”

One of the specialized events showcased at Rendezvous is the snow sculpture. This year, the Department of Tourism and Culture’s Arts Fund provided \$23,000 to the Whitehorse International Snow Sculpture group that will work with the young members of the Sundog Carvers Centre taking part in the Challenge.

The Department of Tourism and Culture also provided \$10,000 through the Touring Artist Fund to the Whitehorse International Snow Sculpture group for their national and international tours to Quebec, the U.S. and China earlier this year.

The Yukon Sourdough Rendezvous three-day festival runs February 20 to 22 in Whitehorse. Most of the activities take place at Shipyards Park, with other events happening around the city. The Rendezvous air show is staged at the Eric Nielsen Whitehorse International Airport.

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