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**Call for Proposals for Third Round of Northern Strategy Trust Funding**

WHITEHORSE – The Yukon Forum is seeking project proposals from Yukon First Nation governments and Yukon government departments for the final round of Northern Strategy Trust funding.

“Yukoners continue to benefit from a highly successful partnership between First Nations and Yukon government in which we jointly manage the \$40 million Northern Strategy Trust fund,” Premier Dennis Fentie said. “As before, we will be supporting projects that bring lasting benefits to Yukoners and contribute to social, political, economic or cultural development, or preserve our environment, culture or heritage.”

This year more than \$16 million is expected to be allocated to projects with half of these funds available for projects that address specific Yukon government or Yukon First Nation priorities. Yukon government has determined that it will use its priority funding to offset costs associated with an ongoing project to upgrade the emergency Mobile Radio System. The First Nations’ priorities are in two areas: an initiative to collect, analyze and store statistical information, and projects aimed at revitalizing First Nations’ languages.

The remaining half of the funds will be allocated to projects that support the priorities set out in the Northern Strategy, which were developed in partnership with First Nations and in consultation with Yukoners.

“The Northern Strategy Trust initiative continues as a prime example of the ability for Yukon First Nation governments to design, implement and manage, whether independently or collaboratively, effective programs that provide substantial long-term benefits for all Yukoners,” Council of Yukon First Nations Grand Chief Andy Carvill said. “Such programs will further enable Yukon First Nation governments to tell our stories from our perspective and in the interests of our people.”

Only Yukon First Nation governments and Yukon government departments are eligible to submit proposals, either separately or jointly. They may also champion a proposal on behalf of a non-governmental organization.

A joint committee of senior officials from Yukon and First Nation governments will review applications and invite more detailed proposals from those screened into a second phase. Final funding decisions will be made by the Yukon Forum.

To apply, a one-page conceptual proposal form must be submitted by June 30. For more information visit [www.eco.gov.yk.ca/northern\\_strategy\\_trust.html](http://www.eco.gov.yk.ca/northern_strategy_trust.html).

-30-

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