

FOR RELEASE #09-168
July 22, 2009

Community Development Fund Awards 21 Projects

WHITEHORSE – The Community Development Fund (CDF) has contributed \$213,393 toward 21 community projects in the latest Tier 1 intake.

“The CDF is designed to accomplish a variety of goals that create economic and social benefits, provide long-term value and well being, and foster cooperation and partnerships,” Economic Development Minister Jim Kenyon said. “Skills development and information awareness are part of capacity building within our communities, and I am happy to see the projects in this intake contributing to this very important community need.”

The Learning Disabilities Association of Yukon (LDAY) is one of the successful applicants receiving \$19,900 in CDF funding for website development and conference coordination for the 17th Annual National Conference on Learning Disabilities.

“We are excited to be hosting this major conference that will include the largest and most dynamic group of speakers ever assembled at a learning disabilities event of this kind,” LDAY Executive Director Joel Macht said. “An array of innovative ideas, information and techniques on knowledge and skills acquisition for parents, families and professionals will be presented.

“The national conference will take place in Whitehorse for the first time and everyone who is interested in learning about appropriate education in these changing times will benefit from attending this major educational event,” Macht added.

The Elizabeth Fry Society is another successful applicant receiving \$11,380 to develop a resource kit for women who are making the transition from the Whitehorse Corrections Centre back into their communities.

“We consulted with the women in the corrections centre, and a resource kit like the one we are developing is something that was on the top of their list to meet their transition needs once released,” Elizabeth Fry Society President Cindy Chiasson said. “The kit will contain information for getting help with housing, employment and various types of counseling needs. The kit will also contain some basic personal essentials, such as hygiene items.”

The Community Development Fund offers three funding levels. 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 September 15 for Tier 2 applications.

Organizations are encouraged to contact the CDF office 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 1- 800-661-0408, ext. 8125.

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See backgrounder attached.

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Tier 1 Community Development Recipients

Association of Yukon Fire Chiefs – \$15,000 – 2009 Training and Education Conference. Funding for this project will provide training and education tools so Yukon's fire chiefs and senior fire officers can effectively train their firefighters and provide life safety to the communities they protect. Contact: Jim Regimbal at 867-993-7401.

Athletics Yukon – \$1,183 – Website Re-design. The re-design of the website will better inform the membership, runners and walkers in Whitehorse and the communities about athletic events taking place throughout Yukon. The project will create 50 hours of employment for one person. Contact: Nicole Hulstein at 867-668-2549.

Boreal Adventure Running Association – \$1,500 – Course Trail Signage. Funding will be used to purchase, create, and install trail marker signs on the Yukon River Trail Marathon course. The project will create 200 hours of employment for five people. Contact: Keith Thaxter at 867-667-8547.

Breakdancing Yukon Society – \$5,703 – Youth Business Leadership. Through mentorship, learning by action, and skills application, the business intern will learn essential business and administrative leadership skills needed for a career, and will share those skills with other interns as they provide services for summer camps in Whitehorse and communities. The project will create 525 hours of employment for one person. Contact: Patti Balsillie at 867-334-2522.

Carcross/Tagish First Nation – \$12,530 – Waterfront Improvement. Funding for this project will build a concession stand, benches and picnic tables on the waterfront, making a new meeting place that is more accessible to the community for special events and informal gatherings. The project will create 45 hours of employment for four people. Contact: Anura Withanage at 867-821-4265.

Child Development Centre – \$7,945 – Acoustic Sound Panels. This project consists of building acoustic sound panels for the therapeutic pre-school. The project will create 210 hours of employment for three people. Contact Irena Szabala at 867-456-8182.

Dawson City Music Festival Association – \$6,365 – Infrastructure Refurbishment. This project involves various infrastructure improvements to enhance the festival's Minto Park venue. The project will create 120 hours of employment for eight people. Contact: Amy-Lynn Karchut at 867-993-5584.

Elizabeth Fry Society – \$11,380 – Women Coming Home: Transition Back to the Community. This project involves the development of a resource kit for women who are making the transition from the Whitehorse Corrections Centre back into the community. The kit includes essential information on resources and support available. The project will create 180 hours of employment for one person. Contact: Cindy Chiasson at 867-334-2419.

Haines Junction Development Society – \$18,000 – Expansion Plan: Planning Stage. Funding will be used to compile the planning, design and associated estimates for two construction projects expanding the current scope and capacity of the greenhouse project. Contact: Darlene Sillery at 867-634-7127.

Humane Society Dawson – \$7,438 – Winterizing Humane Society Building. This project will save the society money on heating, make the facilities more comfortable for the animals, and enable employees to spend less time on cleaning and more time on animal care. The project will create 68 hours of employment for one person. Contact: Tash Salé at 867-993-6900.

Klondike Placer Miners' Association – \$8,850 – Tribute to the Miner: Phase 1. This project will complete the *Tribute to the Miner* statue as an interpretive landmark showcasing the progression from historical to present day placer mining in the Dawson City area. The project will create 57 hours of employment for eight people. Contact: Zodie Groves at 867-335-0878.

Learning Disabilities Association (LDAY) – \$19,900 – Website Development and Conference Coordination for the 17th Annual National Conference on Learning Disabilities - *Minds of Gold*. LDAY will host a major national forum on knowledge and skills acquisition for parents, families and professionals. The project will create 1,200 hours of employment for two people. Contact: Joel Macht at 867-668-5167.

Les EssentiElles – \$11,217– Port@il branché. This project will create a virtual portal for women's health and social justice issues for francophone and all Yukon women. The project also includes training staff on how to maintain and update the website. The project will create 182 hours of employment for three people. Contact: Ketsia Houde at 867-668-2636.

Ross River Dena Council – \$14,315 – Ross River Youth Paintball Field. This project will build a paintball field for the youth of Ross River. The project will create 420 hours of employment for six people. Contact: Fran Etzel at 867-969-2216.

Ross River Dena Council – \$20,000 – Environmental Studies and Cultural Awareness. This 21-day field course will introduce 12 aboriginal youth to northern ecology, environmental science and Athabaskan culture to develop awareness and skills to participate in environmental monitoring and heritage studies, and to also encourage post-secondary schooling. The project will create 1,200 hours of employment for 10 people. Contact: Norman Sterriah at 867-969-2278.

VeloNorth Cycling Club – \$2,283 – Safety Equipment. Funding will be used to acquire cycling race marshalling safety equipment. Contact: Michael McCann at 867-668-3531.

Village of Teslin – \$13,100 – Skills Development. This project consists of skill enhancement through sport, safety and knowledge development. The project will create 250 hours of employment for six people. Contact: Nataschaa Chatterton at 867-390-2530.

Watson Lake Day Care Society – \$19,294 – Coordinator – Partnerships: Phase 2. Read the news release entitled *Funding to Determine Feasibility of Daycare for Watson Lake* for more information.

Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition – \$2,723 – Website Design and Development. Funding for this project will provide an up-to-date, user friendly way to communicate with the public, donors, volunteers and those in need about local anti-poverty initiatives, upcoming events, where to get support, and how to provide support. The project will create 60 hours of employment for two people. Contact: Kristina Craig at 867-668-2636.

Yukon Church Heritage Society – \$10,850 – Brand Strategy, Marketing and Tactical Plan. This project will develop a brand strategy, marketing and a tactical plan for the Old Log Church Museum. The project will create 320 hours of employment for one person. Contact: Taryn Parker at 867-668-2555.

Yukon Development Education Centre – \$6,540 – Workshop Event on Sustainable Community Development. This project, a kick off to YDEC's annual speaker series, is a two-day awareness building and skills learning workshop on local/global sustainable community development. The project will create 144 hours of employment for two people. Contact: Susan Thompson at 867-667-4422.