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**YUKON FILMMAKERS FUND AWARDED TO DECEMBER 2004 APPLICANTS**

WHITEHORSE – The Yukon Filmmakers Fund has awarded a total of \$12,500 to five Yukon filmmakers. The Filmmakers Fund was created in 1999 and has distributed over \$130,000 to help Yukoners establish careers in film and enhance the Yukon film industry.

The successful applicants are:

*The Man Who Wouldn't Fit In* – Allan Code will develop a historical documentary about “The Mad Trapper of Rat River.”

*The Weasel Who Came in from the Cold* - Andrew Sharpe will develop an animated short film about a weasel that moves into a family's house and is blamed for almost everything until the tables are turned.

*Yukon Quest: A Documentary* – Marten Berkman will produce a tale of human and canine teamwork, courage, and determination through some of the most harsh, remote and pristine wilderness in the world. The documentary will track the 1,600-kilometre sled dog race from Whitehorse, Yukon to Fairbanks, Alaska.

*The Hip Hop Bears* – Michael Brooks will develop an animated short film aimed for children two to seven.

*Eagle Touch* – Jeremiah Percival will produce an animated short film using mixed media format.

“Projects like these show how important our local film sector is to the Yukon,” Economic Development Minister Jim Kenyon said. “Once the five productions have been completed, the projects will generate a total of \$544,551 in economic activity here.

“It's truly exciting to see our local filmmakers take their creative ideas and turn them into reality.” Kenyon added.

The Yukon Filmmakers Fund is one of the programs within the Yukon Film Incentive Program. The fund is designed to grow the local film industry, whereas the other programs are designed to attract film business to the Yukon such as the Big White film project which injected \$2 million in to the Yukon's economy and employed 202 Yukoners while the project was here.

The next deadline for Yukon Filmmakers Fund applications is June 1.

To learn more about the various funds available for Yukon filmmakers and our growing film industry, visit the Yukon Film and Sound Commission's Web site [www.reelyukon.com](http://www.reelyukon.com) or call (867) 667-5400.

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