

NEWS RELEASE #07-160

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COMMUNITY PROJECTS FUNDED TO IMPROVE YUKONERS' QUALITY OF LIFE

WHITEHORSE – Community Development Fund (CDF) has awarded grants to 18 community based projects working on improving the quality of life for Yukoners. This spring's Tier 2 funding totals over \$750,000 and supports projects across Yukon.

“The high quality of projects is a testament to the dedication our residents have to improving their communities,” Economic Development Minister Jim Kenyon said. “An amazing amount of community work is being done to improve the quality of life of Yukoners.”

The Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Society (FASSY) received \$25,000 for their Sharing and Celebrating Our Lives initiative. This program will take adults with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders on a seven-day camp designed to enhance their skills and self-esteem levels.

“This program gives our clients a chance to spend time on the land with elders from their community, sharing stories and skills,” FASSY Executive Director Judy Pakozdy said. “It provides some normalization for our clients and is a great opportunity for them to learn new skills and share their skills with each other.”

CDF also awarded \$61,874 to the Youth of Today Society's Life Skills Project. The funding will help create employment and training opportunities for three youth workers as well as provide front line intervention workers at the Blue Feather Youth Centre.

“It's important to support the social needs of the economy,” Victoria Durrant, executive director of the Youth of Today Society said. “Our program will strengthen our social fabric and help build a healthy society by creating employment for high risk youth and supporting them as they develop new skills.”

Tier 2 level of funding is available for applications of \$20,001 to \$75,000. Community development funding is available for large and small projects, with Tier 1 awards for applications of \$20,000 or less and Tier 3 awards for applications over \$75,000.

Learn more about the Community Development Fund and how it may benefit your community projects by visiting www.gov.yk.ca. The Community Development Fund office is open to assist with the application process.

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Attachment: List of Tier 2 projects funded and photos of Minister Kenyon with recipients.

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ATTACHMENT: List of Tier 2 Projects Funded

Champagne/Aishihik First Nation received \$43,066 to install playground equipment in the communities of Champagne and Klukshu. **Contact:** Rick Mazur at (867) 634-4220.

Dawson City Sled Dawgs Association received \$18,821 to reopen, map and mark the Caulder Creek Trail with signage. **Contact:** Sue Lancaster at (867) 993-7669.

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Society received \$25,000 to take up to 12 adults with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders on a seven-day camp, Sharing & Celebrating Our Lives, designed to enhance their skills and self-esteem levels. **Contact:** Judy Pakozdy at (867) 393-4948.

First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun received \$75,000 to continue restoration work of the old Legion building by lifting it up off the ground to upgrade and stabilize the building. **Contact:** Denise Simmons at (867) 996-2195.

Great Northern Ski Society received \$56,000 to excavate and repair 1,000 meters of snowmaking line on the upper section of the ski hill and undertake modifications to the snowmaking pipes, including the installation of electricity and heat tapes. **Contact:** Dan Boyd at (867) 668-5447.

Klondike Active Trails & Transport Society received \$27,843 to increase the social and recreational benefits realized in the Dawson City area through continued development and promotion of multi-use recreational trails. **Contact:** Alex Brook at (867) 993-5478.

Kwänlin Dun First Nation received \$32,400 to provide extra support to First Nation children in the school and involve families in the educational process to develop community support for education during the early years of a student's life. **Contact:** Carolyn Simmons at (867) 667-5992.

MacBride Museum received \$70,000 to repair and replace the centennial log building and NWMP cabin the roof structures. **Contact:** Patricia Cunning at (867) 667-2709

Miles Canyon Historic Railway Society received \$44,728 to build a roofed picnic pavilion at the Copperbelt Railway and Mining Museum. **Contact:** Dave Layzell at (867) 667-6355.

Rendezvous Rotary Club of Whitehorse received \$66,394 to develop, launch and facilitate the Imagination Library – Yukon, a family literacy program in all rural Yukon communities beginning September 2007. **Contact:** Claire Derome at (867) 667-5633.

Ross River Dena Council received \$21,615 aimed at community beautification through the collection and removal of garbage from in and around Ross River. **Contact:** Barbara Etzel at (867) 969-2278.

Silver Trail Tourism Association & Chamber of Commerce received \$49,568 to continue restoring the historic riverboat the M.V. Loon, the "Loon" Project. **Contact:** Nancy Hager at (867) 996-2265.

Softball Yukon received \$75,000 to complete repairs and renovation projects at the Pepsi Softball Complex in Takhini. **Contact:** George Arcand at (867) 667-4487.

Village of Carmacks received \$49,000 to develop a park and playground in the urban residential area of Carmacks, lot 90 along Rowlinson Road. **Contact:** Cory Bellmore at (867) 863-6271.

Village of Teslin received \$75,000 to replace the existing marina shelter with a larger shelter with a fireplace and proper washroom facilities. **Contact:** Wes Wirth at (867) 390-2530.

Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation received \$32,845 to provide 'on the land' activities for youth where it is safe and they are encouraged to experience and participate in their traditional culture. **Contact:** Joseph Tetlichy at (867) 966-3261.

Whitehorse Curling Club received \$23,023 for ice technician training, extraordinary costs, and the World Curling Tour event in November 2007. **Contact:** Susanne Hingley at (867) 667-2875.

Youth of Today Society received \$61,874 for their Life Skills Project, to provide frontline intervention workers at the Blue Feather Youth Centre and create employment and training opportunities for three youth workers. **Contact:** Victoria Durrant at (867) 633-9687.



Youth of Today Society member Lance Burton receives a CDF cheque from Economic Development Minister Jim Kenyon.



FASSY President Richard Johnson receives a CDF cheque from Economic Development Minister Jim Kenyon.