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## **GOVERNMENT RENEWS ITS SUPPORT OF CULTURAL INDUSTRY THROUGH COMMUNITY TRAINING FUNDS**

WHITEHORSE – The Yukon government is renewing its support of Yukon’s cultural industry through Community Training Funds. The Cultural Industries Training Fund, administered by Music Yukon, received \$75,000 in funding today.

“The Cultural Industries Training Fund is important to fueling and promoting Yukon culture,” Minister of Education John Edzerza said. “This government is continuing its support of these training funds because culture plays a significant role in the territory’s economy.”

"This fund is a hugely important resource for professional development within the cultural industries sector," said Mark Smith, executive director of Music Yukon. "In its history, the fund has provided means for a number of Yukoners to broaden their industry knowledge base, hone skills in specific applications and adapt to changes in technology that affect how they work on their product and on how they get that product to market."

“This renewed funding, in a two year agreement, will benefit individuals and groups that play an important role in Yukon’s rich culture,” said Edzerza. “By providing training opportunities for cultural industry workers, we are working to build capacity within Yukon’s work force.”

Cultural Industries Training Funds continue to be allocated by a committee comprised of representatives from the different disciplines within the heritage and culture sectors.

There are three main types of Community Training Funds: industry or sector based, community based and project specific. This year, the Yukon Government has allocated \$1.5 million dollars to Community Training Funds.

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