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YUKON CONTINUES SUPPORT FOR ACCREDITED VISUAL ARTS PROGRAM

WHITEHORSE – Education Minister Patrick Rouble and Klondike MLA Steve Nordick are pleased to announce an additional \$270,000 under the 2007-08 budget, pending legislative approval, to support the delivery of the School of Visual Arts program at the Klondike Institute of Art and Culture in Dawson City.

“The Government of Yukon is pleased to support this new education opportunity in the Klondike,” Rouble said. “We are committed to providing the education and training that Yukoners need to take advantage of local economic opportunities.”

In 2006-07, Yukon College received \$500,000 from the Yukon government in order to develop the Klondike Institute of Art and Culture (KIAC) School of Visual Arts collaboratively with Dawson City Arts Society and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in.

“Funding this initiative is positive for my constituents here in the Klondike region. This additional funding will ensure that the School of Visual Arts opens its doors with the resources and support necessary to make this program a success for students and staff,” Nordick said. “Providing this important and unique education opportunity is a landmark for Yukoners.”

The program provides post-secondary students with a year of instruction in the fundamentals of visual arts. Students enrolled in the School of Visual Arts will earn Yukon College credits that will be transferable to educational institutes, outside of the territory, where students can complete a degree.

The KIAC School of Visual Arts has articulation agreements with Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design, Alberta College of Art and Design and the Ontario College of Art and Design.

“The government is pleased to support the work of Yukon College, Dawson City Arts Society and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in,” Rouble added. “We anticipate providing additional support for the KIAC School of Visual Arts in future budgets.”

The visual arts foundation program begins this fall and will be housed in the recently renovated Old Liquor Store building in Dawson City.

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