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**SPECIAL PROJECTS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SUPPORTS YUKON MUSEUMS**

WHITEHORSE – Tourism and Culture Minister Elaine Taylor has announced that ten Yukon museums, interpretive centres and First Nation cultural/heritage centres, along with the Yukon Historical and Museums Association, will share in \$300,000 to support special projects and new initiatives.

“The Yukon government provides financial, technical and conservation support to our Yukon museums,” Taylor said. “As guardians of our treasured artefacts and memorabilia, our museums tell the stories of who we are and where we came from. The Yukon government is pleased to be able to support these institutions with funding to ensure our collective legacy is safeguarded for today and into the future.”

The Special Projects Assistance Program was first announced in March 2006. In this second intake for the program, an independent technical review committee was struck to review applications.

Two projects for the Yukon Transportation Museum will receive funding. The museum can move forward with updating museum policies, developing a strategic plan, and installing electrical requirements for lighting and security at its new storage building.

Yukon Transportation Museum Board President Ken Jones said, “We are very grateful for this financial assistance from the Yukon government. Their continued support to Yukon museums and First Nation cultural/heritage centres shows the government’s commitment to help us preserve and protect our unique history. It is through special projects like this that we can compete in an ever-increasing competitive market by ensuring our infrastructure is sound.”

The Special Projects Assistance Program supports specialized exhibit and small capital projects. The program includes assistance towards joint marketing initiatives, artefact inventory and cataloguing, exhibit planning and installation, collections maintenance, and revenue generation.

In total, approximately \$1.29 million dollars in government funding will be provided to Yukon’s museums, interpretive and First Nation cultural/heritage centres in fiscal year 2007-08.

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Attachment: List of 2007-08 recipients attached.

Contact:

Roxanne Vallevand  
Cabinet Communications  
(867) 633-7949  
[roxanne.vallevand@gov.yk.ca](mailto:roxanne.vallevand@gov.yk.ca)

Brian Groves  
A/Manager, Museums Unit  
Tourism & Culture  
(867) 667-3582  
[brian.groves@gov.yk.ca](mailto:brian.groves@gov.yk.ca)

**ATTCHMENT: 2007-08 Special Projects Capital Assistance Program recipients:**

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Amount Allocated</b>
Campbell Region Interpretive Centre	Exhibit Planning – <i>Historic Mining Equipment</i> : support for an exhibit plan that includes an assessment of current interpretive displays and activities, a framework of interpretive themes, and a strategy to phase in interpretation over the coming years.	<b>10,388</b>
Copperbelt Mining Railway and Museum	Small Capital Improvements – support to improve exhibits inside the museum, purchase audio/visual equipment, complete a handicap accessible washroom, and purchase and install outdoor interpretive panels.	<b>19,957</b>
Dawson City Museum	Support for the replacement of period costumes for staff, and the purchase and installation of audio/visual equipment.	<b>15,100</b>
George Johnston Museum	<i>Teslin Radio Repeater Station</i> Exhibit Development – support to research and plan for a major exhibit about the advent of Yukon transportation and telecommunications in Teslin.	<b>19,940</b>
Keno City Mining Museum	Collection Management Project: support for work to enclose outdoor gazebos, purchase a new computer, printer, scanner and camera for the museum, and complete an artefact inventory.	<b>19,700</b>
MacBride Museum	<i>Collection Work is Where It's At</i> project to complete collection work including cataloguing and the digitization of photos.	<b>56,250</b>
Northern Lights Centre	Signage Installation project to purchase and install an LED sign for the centre.	<b>19,920</b>
Old Log Church Museum	Collection Backlog and Storage Organization project to complete records work, artefact selection for re-development of permanent exhibit, and storage reorganization.	<b>35,600</b>
Old Log Church Museum	Strategic Planning and Revenue Generation project to develop a strategic plan for the Old Log Church Museum.	<b>18,777</b>
Tagé Cho Hudän Interpretive Centre	Exhibit Development: <i>Boy Turning to Man</i> – support for the development of the exhibit and purchase materials for construction, mannequins, and outfits for the mannequins.	<b>10,560</b>
Yukon Transportation Museum	Museum Strategic Plan project to develop a strategic plan and update the museum's policies.	<b>16,850</b>
Yukon Transportation Museum	Storage Building and <i>Neecheah</i> Electric project to upgrade the museum facility by providing electricity to its new storage building and <i>Neecheah</i> to allow for the installation of lighting and security.	<b>16,708</b>
Yukon Historical and Museums Association	Yukon Heritage Attraction Joint Marketing project to review the existing <i>Guide to Heritage Attractions</i> , create a new cover, update the contents and print for distribution.	<b>40,250</b>
	<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>