

FOR RELEASE #05-173
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GOVERNMENT CONTINUES SUPPORT FOR LITERACY

WHITEHORSE –Another round of Literacy Action Committee (LAC) funding has been awarded to literacy projects throughout the territory.

Nearly \$60,000 has been awarded to 12 groups operating literacy initiatives throughout the Yukon. LAC met this month to consider 18 proposals totaling nearly \$86,500.

“Literacy is a priority for this government because it’s an important component of lifelong learning,” Education Minister John Edzerza said. “We are pleased to continue our support of the Literacy Action Committee.”

The funding for LAC is made possible through the government’s Yukon Literacy Strategy. The Yukon government committed \$100,000 towards LAC in the 05/06 budget.

“The Literacy Action Committee is pleased to fund such an exciting variety of literacy projects across the territory,” LAC Chair Shelagh Beairsto said. “The committee is confident the literacy initiatives supported by this round of funding will greatly contribute toward reducing literacy barriers.”

To date, 95 literacy projects have been funded throughout the territory by the LAC. The next call for proposals for funding will be September 2005. Contact Carol Leef at (867) 667-8682 for an application.

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Backgrounder: LAC Funding Awarded for May Intake

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Literacy Action Committee Funding Awarded for May Intake

Organization	Activity	Total Approved
SOFA Yukon	Tales on Wheels - A series of meetings with families during which themed kits that include books, games, nursery rhymes, a blanket and stuffed animal are used for live story telling sessions and game playing.	\$4,000
Ndasadaye Day Care	Sign Language - A project to teach children and have better pre-speech communication skills.	5,732
Nlaye Ndasadaye Day Care	Purchase of Books for Day Care - This project funds the purchase of books and resources to help develop children's language and reading skills.	3,250
Child Development Centre	Music Therapy Program - This project provides music therapy to a preschool population in order to enhance language skills and maximize potential for preschool literacy.	5,880
Carole Bookless # 2005-1782	Youth Book Club – A summer book club for youth ages 11-15 that meets three times over the summer and a Mangathon (graphic novels using the Japanese Manga type of art) where the youth will be able to share books and draw as well as watch and read Manga.	370
Teslin Community Library	Story Hour - A project to get children ages 5-9 to engage in after school literacy events that will strengthen their skills and enhance their love of reading and books.	2,520
Literacy Is For Everyone Society	Story Sacks - “Story Sacks” provide a fun, imaginative way for parents to help their children establish an early love of reading. These sacks will be provided for parents at a lending library for the children of Watson Lake and the surrounding area.	5,412

Organization	Activity	Total Approved
Teslin Tlingit Council Daycare	Teslin Literacy Fair - A project to bring together resources from the community as well as Whitehorse to offer mini workshops and interactive literacy based activities for the children and families of Teslin and other communities that are interested.	4,625
Teslin Tlingit Council Daycare	Teslin Reading Programs - A project to provide the community with literacy-rich activities.	5,149
Yukon Family Services Association	Parent-Child Mother Goose Training - A project that provides Parent-Child Mother Goose training for 20 individuals (9 from the communities and 11 from Whitehorse) in the fall of 2005.	6,000
Learning Disabilities Association of the Yukon	Literacy Computer Lab - This project is to create a Literacy Computer Lab that will enable individuals with learning disabilities to use state of the art technology.	5,633
Partners For Children	Literacy Theatre - A project which brings children, adults and local celebrities together in celebration of literacy. Local celebrities read and perform books and songs that are developmentally appropriate for young children in Whitehorse childcare settings.	4,825
Total Project Funding:		\$59,396