

FOR RELEASE  
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#05-314

**COMMUNITY PROJECTS RECEIVE TIER 1 DEVELOPMENT FUNDING**

WHITEHORSE – Ten projects have been awarded \$137,345 from the Government of Yukon’s Community Development Fund.

“Many of these projects will encourage Yukoners to partake in more active, social living,” Economic Development Minister Jim Kenyon said. “Better physical health has immeasurable positive effects, both directly and indirectly, on every segment of society.”

The Yukon Association for Community Living received \$20,000 for its innovative venture “Universal Access to Culture,” a program designed to facilitate disabled participation in dance and other art forms.

“We’re overjoyed,” Yukon Association for Community Living coordinator Vicki Wilson said. “We’re going to try to link Yukon’s disability and culture communities. We’re looking at barriers for access, not just going to arts events, but participating in the arts.”

Skiers and snowboarders will benefit from a \$20,000 award to Great Northern Ski Society. The society plans to repair some equipment with this money.

“The society is delighted to receive assistance from the Community Development Fund for these repairs,” society president Ernie Berken said. “The snow groomer is a critical component for maintaining snow conditions at Mount Sima.”

The tenth anniversary of the Silver Sled Dog Race in Haines Junction will also be assisted by \$6,400 from the Community Development Fund.

"Receiving this funding to hire a coordinator for the tenth annual Silver Sled Race will ensure that we are able to put on the best quality event possible for mushers, sponsors and spectators," race committee president Sean Fitzgerald said. "It will also allow the race committee to avoid the volunteer burnout scenario which is so common to many volunteer organizations."

Tier 1 funding is for applications of \$20,000 or less. The next intake deadline is Jan. 13, 2006 for both Tier 1 and Tier 2 applications. Tier 2 is for applications of \$75,001 or more.

To earn more about the Community Development Fund and how it may benefit your community projects by visiting [www.gov.yk.ca](http://www.gov.yk.ca).

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Attachment: List of Tier 1 projects funded and photo.

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## **ATTACHMENT: Tier I Projects 20,000 and Under**

**Yukon Table Tennis Association** received \$8,000 to host the 2006 Western Canada Open Table Tennis Championships at the Jeux du Canada Games Centre from May 19 – 21. Contact Dave Stockdale at 668-3358.

**Yukon Alpine Ski & Snowboard Association** received \$20,000 to host the 2006 Canadian Junior National Freestyle Ski Championships, March 1 - 5. Photo attached. Contact Keith Thaxter at 668-4207.

**Yukon Association for Community Living** received \$20,000 for Universal Access to Culture; to develop links between the Yukon's disability and cultural communities through performance dance. Contact Julie Robinson at 667-4606.

**Yukon Council on Disability** received \$19,895 for Job Connections, a program to provide people with disabilities with an opportunity to develop skills and resources needed to access the labour market. Contact Colum McCready at 668-6703.

**Yukon Fish & Wildlife Management Board** received \$7,000 for the evaluation of the Community Stewardship Program, which promotes the direct involvement of community members in fish, wildlife and habitat stewardship. Contact Jocylyn McDowell at 393-6942.

**Whitehorse Youth Centre Society** received \$2,625 for the Art Therapy Project, to bring together Whitehorse-based art therapist, Katrina Brogdon, M.A. and youth from the Whitehorse Youth Centre to work on a series of art therapy projects. Contact Scott Marsden at 393-2824.

**Silver Sled Race Committee** received \$6,400 to hire a coordinator to assist in hosting the 10th Anniversary Silver Sled Dog Race. Contact Martin James at 867-634-2611.

**Ta'an Kwach'an Council** received \$13,600 for a Five-Year Strategic Heritage Development Plan. Contact Kristina Kane at 668-3613.

**Teslin Tlingit Council Daycare** received \$19,825 for Building Teslin Literacy, to hire a part-time coordinator to facilitate family literacy projects and activities in the community of Teslin. Contact Patty Wiseman at 867-390-2741.

**Great Northern Ski Society** received \$20,000 for a track overhaul on its older groomer so that it can be used to prepare man-made and natural snow on Mt. Sima. Contact Ernie Berken at 668-4557.



Minister Kenyon with recipient representative Keith Thaxter.