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YUKON HIGH PERFORMANCE GRANTS ANNOUNCED

WHITEHORSE – High performance athletes, coaches and officials are being awarded \$47,000 for 2006-07 under the Yukon High Performance Assistance Program, announced Glenn Hart, minister responsible for Sport and Recreation.

The Yukon High Performance Athlete Assistance Program provides grant assistance to selected Yukon athletes who have demonstrated skills and achievements beyond the territorial level at provincial, national and international events.

“This funding provides support to Yukon’s developing high performance athletes, coaches and officials,” Hart said. “We have a number of conscientious, high level athletes who are pursuing demanding training programs and are very successful in meeting their competition goals. We also have a number of high level coaches and officials who are striving to upgrade their skills and certifications.”

This year the jury adjudicated 24 applications requesting over \$66,000 in support.

A jury of members from the sport community and the Yukon government decided on the individual applications. The levels of funding are Gold, Silver and Bronze. These levels relate to an athlete’s performance at a national or international level, a western Canadian level or a provincial level, respectively. Performance and potential of the individual determines funding levels.

“The Yukon Lotteries Commission is a proud funding partner for our high performance athletes,” Jim Kenyon, minister responsible for the Yukon Lotteries Commission, said. “This funding allows our athletes to focus on their training and improving their performance so that they can better compete against athletes of similar caliber in national and international competitions.”

The Yukon High Performance Coach Assistance and High Performance Official Assistance programs help coaches and officials upgrade their training beyond a level that is available in the Yukon.

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Attachment: Yukon High Performance Assistant Program Funding

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Yukon High Performance Assistance Program Funding

Athletes receiving funding to assist with their training and competition in 2006-2007 under the Yukon High Performance Athlete Assistance Program are:

Name	Sport	Level	Amount
Graham Nishikawa	Cross Country Skiing	Gold	5,000
Zach Bell	Cycling	Gold	5,000
MacKenzie Downing	Swimming	Gold	4,000
Alexandra Gabor	Swimming	Gold	3,800
Daniel Sessford	Cycling	Gold	3,800
Brent Langbakk	Orienteering	Gold	2,500
Brittany Greer	Cross Country Skiing	Gold	2,000
Kevin Caron	Figure Skating	Silver	2,500
Bryn Knight	Cross Country Skiing	Silver	2,500
Emily Nishikawa	Cross Country Skiing	Silver	2,500
Bronwyn Pasloski	Swimming	Silver	2,500
Ray Sabo	Cross Country Skiing	Silver	2,500
Shane Carlos	Athletics	Silver	2,000
Justine Scheck	Orienteering	Silver	2,000
Andrew Craigen	Volleyball	Bronze	1,000
Melissa Laluk	Volleyball	Bronze	1,000

Total for athletes **\$ 44,600**

Coaches receiving funding to assist with upgrading in 2006-2007 under the Yukon High Performance Coach Assistance Program are:

Tim Brady	Basketball	800
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Officials receiving funding to assist with upgrading in 2006-2007 under the Yukon High Performance Coach Assistance Program are:

Richard Farnell	Judo	800
Lori Muir	Squash	800

Total for Officials **\$ 1,600**

Special International Competition Funding: Any of the Elite Athletes receiving funding may also be eligible for an additional \$1,000 or \$500 if they represent Canada in their sport at a world championship or major international competition in 2006-07.