

Your support is helping us break trail towards becoming the first University north of 60°



Impact Report for: Yukon University Foundation

REPORTING PERIOD: JULY 1, 2018 – JUNE 30, 2019

YUKON  Foundation



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I live in a very remote northern community, Mayo. It is there that I have raised my two boys, with the assistance of my family ... The option for distance learning through Yukon College has significantly improved my ability to obtain the credentials that I hope to apply in continued work for my [First] Nation ... [and it has allowed] my children to be raised in a safe family structure ... These initiatives [are] vital to our rural community students...

Teresa Samson
Bachelor of Indigenous Governance student

**Thank you for your
generous support
this year.**

Your gift is inspiring northern learners to reach their highest potential.

As we build toward May 2020, Yukon College's transition to Yukon University, we have much to celebrate! First of all, we would like to celebrate you, our donors and partners, who are making more than 50 years of ambitions for a Canadian university north of 60° a reality.

In the 2018-19 year, support from believers in northern potential like you helped the College achieve a number of significant milestones on the trail to YukonU, including:

- Launching the first two “made-in-Yukon” degrees – the **Bachelor of Arts in Indigenous Governance** and the **Bachelor of Business Administration**
- Improving remote and on-demand course offerings to “meet students where they are” – whether in terms of their location, or scheduling needs to accommodate their family or work commitments
- Piloting the **Students in Leadership** program, where students work alongside staff to plan, deliver, and advance every aspect of the College now and in the future as Yukon University
- Hitting the road with STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) Kids Camps for 7 remote northern communities with the creation of the “**MoLab**” – a fully-equipped mobile laboratory that is igniting a love of learning for 129 future YukonU students
- Increasing and diversifying our **scholarship and bursary fund** so that barriers to higher education can be removed for deserving students

But most importantly, your support is **empowering the leaders of tomorrow** with skills and knowledge to build vibrant, healthy, and prosperous communities – throughout Yukon and across Canada.

Your support is affording pivotal experiences for northern learners



Last year over **1,500 students** were enrolled in over **35 programs** at Yukon College. Generous gifts from supporters like you provided **over \$42,000** in scholarships and bursaries to **47** of these students.

Your gift is creating high-quality learning experiences that are uniquely relevant to a northern context. Your support is positioning Yukon University as a leader in education that bridges Indigenous traditional knowledge with Western schools of thought. Your investment is affording northern learners, like David Gatensby, with pivotal experiences that will propel their contributions to vibrant communities in the North.

“

My name is David Gatensby. I was born in Whitehorse and my hometown is Carcross, which is a small community that is located about 75 km to the south of Whitehorse. I am 36 years old, I earned a Diploma of General Studies from Yukon College when I was in my early twenties. I wasn't prepared to leave [Yukon] to continue my studies, so at that point, I temporarily put an end to my education. Yukoners tend to have their roots in the ground and it can be a challenge to relocate. After receiving a diploma, I did a number of different jobs, and eventually built a roofing business and a logging business. I learned from experience the struggle of operating a business when you just don't know how to.

I went into the Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) program [at Yukon College] with the hopes of better understanding how business runs. I quickly realized that [what I am] learning goes beyond business ... the education that I am receiving finds context in all aspects of my life, and has helped me to grow as an individual.

Yukon is rich with opportunities ... For me personally, I am not sure what the future holds, but I do know that by getting a BBA from Yukon University, it will present me with more opportunities to find meaningful work and to be successful at it. Whether it is more effectively running the businesses I've already built, continuing to build more businesses, or working within my First Nation to unlock the potential in my community, I know that by getting a BBA, I will have a better chance of success at any or all of these.

David Gatensby
Bachelor of Business Administration Student
Carcross/Tagish First Nation Citizen



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Partnerships are building capacity for northern learners and communities



The W. Garfield Weston Foundation is extremely proud of its long history of supporting excellence in education across Canada ... This pilot program with Yukon was developed to provide students with the support they need to complete their training while responding to the real needs of their communities. We are extremely impressed with the success of the first year of the program, and we look forward to welcoming more recipients this year and helping them to pursue valuable and long-lasting careers in the trades.

Eliza Mitchell

Director, The W. Garfield Weston Foundation



Housing Maintainer Program Pilot

Support from **The W. Garfield Weston Foundation**, and local businesses including **Home Hardware**, **Northern Enviro Services**, **Liard Basin Environmental Services**, **How Yea Doin Electric**, and **Cassiar Jade Contracting**, paved the way for the successful launch of the Housing Maintainer program pilot in Winter 2019. In partnership with Liard First Nation and Kwanlin Dün First Nation, Yukon College offered the first two deliveries of the Housing Maintainer 20-week training program in Whitehorse and in Watson Lake for 22 northern learners this year.

Yukon communities have a significant need to build capacity in the field of housing maintenance to ensure that existing housing can be kept in good condition. With the often very limited availability of qualified tradespeople in the North, the Housing Maintainer program was developed so that local participants could develop a practical skillset to diagnose and repair general housing maintenance issues. In addition to helping First Nation citizens launch a career in the building trades, the program will aid communities to see an overall reduction of housing cost and an extended life span of housing units. Under the guidance of the program instructors, two buildings received much needed repairs through the learning-by-doing work of the students. Win-win for all!

The Housing Maintainer program is a shining example of how the generosity of donors, like you, is creating important new learning experiences and positive community outcomes in the North.



CIBC stepped forward to become a lead supporter in marking the transition of Yukon College to Yukon University. Victor G. Dodig, CIBC President and Chief Executive Officer, along with members of the Yukon University Foundation Board, were at Ayamdigtug campus in Whitehorse on June 13th to announce CIBC's commitment of \$500,000 in support of community outreach and flexible learning opportunities for students.

Inspiring northern innovation

Whitehorse, Yukon was named Canada's most entrepreneurial city by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business in 2019. Yukon College's Innovation & Entrepreneurship program (formerly Cold Climate Innovation) made the move to the newly opened NorthLight Innovation Hub in downtown Whitehorse, where plans are in the works to engage students in a business incubation program.

Given the small population of Yukon, every graduate from our new degrees will have the capacity to create positive change.

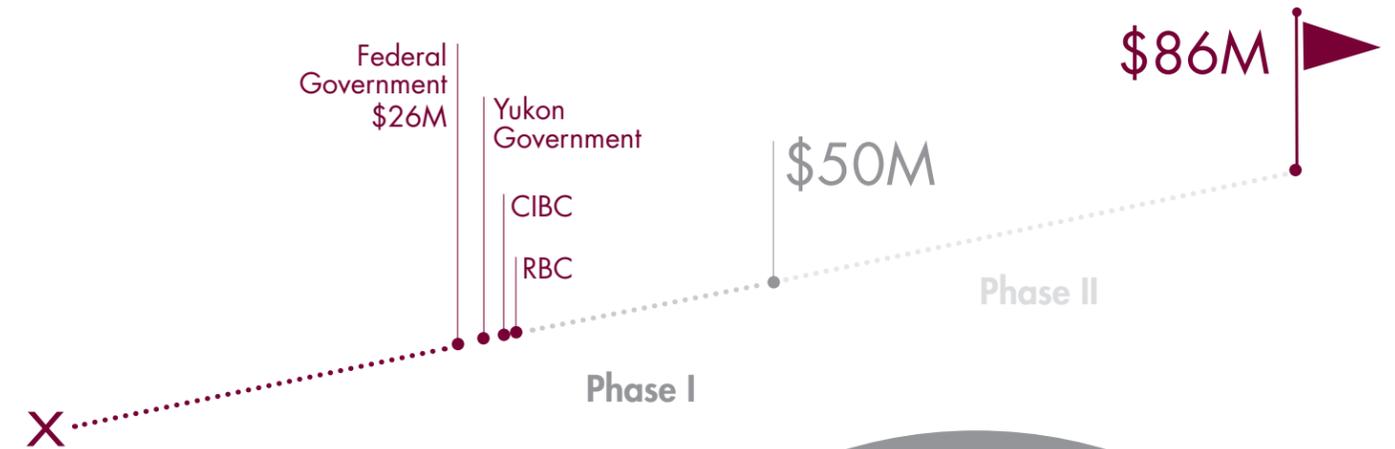


YukonU will enable students in Yukon, the North, and from across Canada and the world to receive made-in-Yukon degrees. Each will graduate in dynamic, relevant fields where they will be able to find good jobs, contribute to the vibrancy of the North, and create a legacy of future leaders who live, work, and understand the territory. This is key to our journey of reconciliation.

Dr. Karen Barnes
Yukon College President and Vice Chancellor

The trail to YukonU

Our capital campaign is underway to help realize Yukon University. Building support for Phase I of the campaign is our top priority:



Phase I: \$21M Private Sector

- \$11.5M
Facilities and Technology
- \$6M
Northern Research and Innovation
- \$3.5M
Inspiring Northern Potential





SAVE THE DATE **MAY 2020**

May 9th, 2020 | Ayamdigut campus celebration | Whitehorse, Yukon

Join us in the launch of Yukon University, Canada's first northern university

See yourself in YukonU



Thank you for inspiring student success and helping realize northern potential

Dear YukonU Partners and Supporters,

The Yukon University Foundation Board, through the generosity and support of contributors like you, is making the achievement of a rich and diverse northern education, shaped by northerners, a reality.

The Yukon University Foundation, established in 2015, consists of staff, past students, and community supporters who see benefit and value in the existence of a northern-centric university.

Together we are passionate about Yukon University and advancing its potential. I encourage you to approach any one of us to learn more about the work we are doing and explore how you might continue to support us in these efforts.

During the past year, we were excited to host industry and business leaders at our first "Pop-up Bistro," which enabled us to reach out and share our vision and goals for Yukon University in a fun and meaningful way. The success of this networking breakfast has encouraged us to host a number of "Pop-up Bistros" in the coming year.

To date, the extent and breadth of community support both at the local and national level has been outstanding. Southern institutions as well recognize the need and value of establishing a university in the north, shaped by the interest, values and unique perspectives of the north.

Yukon College will celebrate its transition to university status on May 8-9, 2020. Please join us for this exciting time in our history. We look forward to seeing you.

Warmly,
Joy Waters
Chair, Yukon University Foundation



Yukon University Foundation Board of Directors

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