

News Release
R(16)190908092

YELLOWKNIFE (September 19, 2008) - As part of ongoing activities in support of arts and culture, Minister Jackson Lafferty made several announcements today including details of \$500,000 in additional funding, included in the 2008/09 Budget, and three new appointments to the Northwest Territories (NWT) Arts Council. The 2008 NWT Arts Council award winners and recipients of funding under the Northern Performers program were also announced.

The \$500,000 increase in funding to the arts will benefit both existing and new programs. Included among existing programs and organizations benefiting from this funding are the NWT Arts Council (\$49,000), the Support for Northern Performers Program (\$16,000), and the Northern Arts and Cultural Centre (\$80,000). Community heritage centres and cultural organizations will receive an additional \$220,000, and various cultural projects around the territory will receive a \$35,000 increase in recognition of the important role they play in supporting and presenting arts and culture.

Minister Lafferty also announced a new Northern Theatre Arts funding program with a focus on NWT youth. \$50,000 has been set aside for this program.

“I am pleased to be announcing details of this additional investment in arts and culture. I am particularly happy that it includes a new project for youth. Encouraging creativity and stimulating positive thought and ideas in our youth is critical to them being productive and healthy members of our communities and taking time to enjoy their formative years,” said Minister Lafferty.

As well, the Minister has appointed three new members to the NWT Arts Council: Lee Mandeville of Yellowknife, a well-known and respected performing artist; Julia Tsetso of Fort Simpson, a potter and community volunteer in the arts; and Peggy Pouw of Norman Wells, a public gallery manager. The NWT Arts Council provides recommendations to the Minister on financial awards for creative artistic projects in the visual, literary, media and performing arts, and on issues and policies associated with the arts and artists.

Minister Lafferty also announced NWT Arts Council and Support for Northern Performers recipients for the 2008/2009 funding year. Funding is provided each year for developing and promoting NWT artists through the NWT Arts Council. The Support for Northern Performers Program contributes to the development and promotion of performing arts in the NWT, and encourages local and regional festivals and events to feature local performers.

The NWT Arts Council allocated a total of \$355,000 to 77 recipients for the 2008/2009 year, while the Support for Northern Performers Program contributed \$87,000 to 19 festivals and events. Please see the attached backgrounder for details of recipients.

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Backgrounder
For R(16)190908092

NWT Arts Council Funding Recipients 2008/2009

Aklavik
Robert Buckle – Aklavik (crafts)

All NWT
Western Arctic Moving Pictures (film/media)

Deline
Deline Learning Centre – Deline (2 projects) (crafts)

Fort Good Hope
K'asho Got'ine Charter Community Council – Fort Good Hope (visual arts)

Fort Resolution
Lillian Mandeville – Fort Resolution (crafts)

Fort Simpson
Open Sky Creative Society – Fort Simpson (visual arts)

Fort Smith
Gerald Poitras– Fort Smith (audio recording)
Boreal Piecemakers – Fort Smith (crafts)
Colette Labine – Fort Smith (crafts)
Michel Labine – Fort Smith (crafts)
Nicole Labine – Fort Smith (crafts)
Laurie Young – Fort Smith (crafts)
Fort Smith Community Choir – Fort Smith (performing – music)
PWK HS Concert Band – Fort Smith (performing – music)
South Slave Friendship Festival – Fort Smith (performing – music)
Holly Darkes – Fort Smith (performing – music)
Karen Zaidan– Fort Smith (performing – music)
Northern Life Museum – Fort Smith (visual arts)
Marie-Christine Aubrey – Fort Smith (visual arts)
Chris DeWolf – Fort Smith (visual arts)

Hay River
Gypsy Raven – Hay River (audio recording)
Tyler Hawkins – Hay River (audio recording)
Karen Lafferty – Hay River (audio recording)
Terry Wood – Hay River (audio recording)
Kelvin Redvers – Hay River (film/media)
Hay River Artist Coop (Naaka Festival) – Hay River (visual arts)
Rodger Blake – Hay River (writing/publishing)

Inuvik

Great Northern Arts Festival – Inuvik (crafts)
Inuvik Quilting Guild – Inuvik (crafts)
Margaret Nazon – Inuvik (crafts)
Marnie Hilash – Inuvik (visual arts)

Tsiigehtchic
Hummingbirds – Tsiigehtchic (audio recording)

Wha Ti
Lisa Mantla – Wha Ti (visual arts)

Yellowknife
3-Across-Dee-Eye – Yellowknife (audio recording)
Abel Mervyn – Lutsel K'e/Yellowknife (audio recording)
Raven Bedingfield– Yellowknife (audio recording)
Mary Cox – Yellowknife(audio recording)
Jesse James Gon – Yellowknife (audio recording)
Sophie Leger – Yellowknife (audio recording)
Jasmine Netsena – Yellowknife (audio recording)
Stephen Pretty – Yellowknife (audio recording)
Association franco-culturelle de Yellowknife – Yellowknife (crafts)
YK Guild of Arts and Crafts – Yellowknife (crafts)
YK Quilt Guild – Yellowknife (crafts)
Efrain Perdomo– Yellowknife (crafts)
John Sabourin – Yellowknife (crafts)
Erin Suliak – Yellowknife (crafts)
France Benoit – Yellowknife (film/media)
Crazy Legs Dance - Yellowknife (performing – dance)
Aurora Fiddle Society – Yellowknife (performing – music)
Carmen Braden – Yellowknife (performing – music)
Classics on Stage (COSY) – Yellowknife (performing – music)
Folk on the Rocks – Yellowknife (performing – music)
Kole Crook Fiddle Association – Yellowknife (performing – music)
YK Choral Society – Yellowknife (performing – music)
Eva Apsimik – Yellowknife (performing – storytelling)
Pat Braden – Yellowknife (performing – storytelling)
Joyce Caines – Yellowknife (performing – storytelling)
Northern Arts & Cultural Centre – Yellowknife (performing - theatre)
Kirsten Carthew – Yellowknife (performing - theatre)
Reneltha Marie- Yellowknife (performing - theatre)
Aurora Arts Society – Yellowknife (visual arts)
Centre for Northern Families – Yellowknife (visual arts)
NWT Council of Persons with Disabilities – Yellowknife (visual arts)
Taiga Adventure Camp – Yellowknife (visual arts)
Tom Andrews – Yellowknife (visual arts)
Diane Boudreau – Yellowknife (visual arts)
Courtney Chetwynd – Yellowknife (visual arts)
Ozgur Culha – Yellowknife (visual arts)
Sheila Hodgkinson – Yellowknife (visual arts)

Diane Mercredi – Yellowknife (visual arts)
Ann Timmins – Yellowknife (visual arts)
NorthWords Festival – Yellowknife (writing/publishing)
Edwin Kolausok – Yellowknife (writing/publishing)
Erika Wallbridge – Yellowknife (writing/publishing)
Yellowknife/Fort Good Hope
NACC & FOTR – Yellowknife/Fort Good Hope (performing – music)

Support for Northern Performers 2008/2009
South Slave/Deh Cho Regions
South Slave Friendship Festival - Fort Smith
Open Sky Festival - Fort Simpson
Enterprise Gateway Jamboree - Enterprise
Yellowknife Choral Society Age of Aquarius Concert – Fort Smith
Kole Crook Fiddle Association - Hay River Reserve Fiddle Camp
Pat Braden Storytelling Concert – Fort Simpson
Sacred Circle Project / NCS NWT, Sundance Ceremony – Fort Smith

Beaufort/Inuvik/Sahtu Regions
Razzamajazz! – Inuvik
The Great Northern Arts Festival - Inuvik
Midway Lake Festival - Ft. McPherson
State of the Art: Concert Tour - Inuvik, Fort Smith, YK

North Slave/Tlicho Regions
Solstice Festival - Yellowknife
Folk on the Rocks - Yellowknife
NACC Festival of Stories - YK, Ft. Smith, Enterprise, Hay River
Dene Nation Aboriginal Day - Yellowknife
Aurora Fiddle Association – Behchoko Fiddle Camps
Foster Family Coalition NWT, Camp Connections – Yellowknife
North Words Literary Festival – Yellowknife
Crazy Legs Contemporary Dance - Yellowknife