



ANNUAL REPORT 2025



Leadership Message

2025 was an incredible year for the Yellowknife Community Foundation, and we want to start by saying thank you to everyone who was involved in the Foundation this year. The Foundation received over \$600,000 in donations, strengthening our ability to serve the community. We continued to offer the student awards and grants that we have been offering for decades and that are made possible through donations made not only this year, but for the last 32 years. In addition to this, 2025 was a year of many firsts:

1

Our student award program debuted its universal application form in April. This form makes it easier for students to access awards that they are eligible for, as they are all connected to one universal form. This reduces the amount of work for students and led to a massive increase in applicants, allowing us to provide 67 students with over \$130,000 in student awards this year! We celebrated the recipients with a grand ceremony at Somba K'e Civic Plaza in July during the Yellowknife Farmers' Market.

2

We also administered our first-ever third-party scholarships in partnership with Housing NWT, Parsons, and Sport North. This highlights that we can now offer scholarship administration to other organizations, since student award administration is our 'bread and butter', and we want to be a central location for Northern students to be able to apply to student awards.

3

For our grants, this was the first year we had the ability to fund non-profits directly, regardless of their charitable status. This was due to a recent change in rules from the CRA. The Foundation received 109 applications for community initiatives across the NWT, which is more than twice the amount we normally receive. All in all, the Foundation gave out over \$225,000 in 39 grants for the year.

4

In late 2025, we launched the new Yellowknife Small Grants Program, which offers \$1,000 grants to residents who want to improve their community in some way. We especially love this program because it is open to anyone aged 12+ and can support a range of amazing projects. In 2025, we supported a clothing swap, a neighborhood beautification project, yoga for seniors, and skateboarding for youth, among other projects.

5

In November, we hosted a legacy planning workshop in partnership with estate lawyer, Michael Gannon. Over 40 people attended to learn more about wills and estates, and we were able to share about the benefits of charitable giving included in a will.

Finally, the following funds were established and/or saw their first-ever disbursements:

6

- Bella's Veterinary Student Award Fund
- Darrel Mack Memorial Fund
- Ian Legaree Youth Leadership Fund
- Maureen Tonge "Living Your Legacy" Fund (Student Award)
- Midnight Sun Aviation Fund
- Milo Martin Memorial Fund
- Yellowknife Seniors' Society Fund

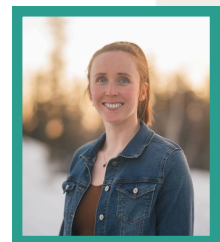
All these firsts were made possible by the generosity of our donors, the commitment of our sponsors, and the support of our volunteer and community ambassadors. In 2026 and beyond, we look forward to continuing our work in Yellowknife and with communities across the Northwest Territories!

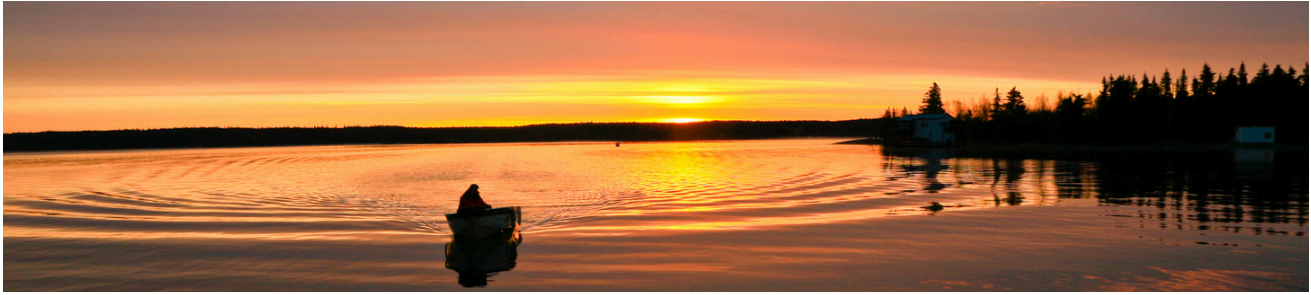


Sara Brown
Chair



Korry Garvey
Executive Director





Our 2023-2028 Strategic Plan

MISSION

The Yellowknife Community Foundation is a charitable organization that inspires and enables impactful giving in Yellowknife and the Northwest Territories. We strive to align donor interests and community needs through evidence-based grant-making, fundraising, strategic investment, public education, and community relations.

VISION

Our vision is to be a catalyst for sharing, supportive, and connected communities.

VALUES

Generosity, Integrity, Learning, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion, Fiscal Prudence

GOALS

- Inspire and enable a broad range of people, organizations, and businesses to contribute to their community through charitable giving
- Transform our organization and practices to better represent, reflect, and serve our community
- Strengthen our ability to understand, communicate and respond to community needs
- Enable the Board of YKCF to focus on governance and strategic initiatives supported by policies
- Strengthen organizational capacity and resilience

Our Funds

The Foundation continues to grow and provide impact to our communities. See below for our fund balances as of December 31 2025.

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Administration Funds | \$442,277 |
| Funds to offset the costs of operating the Foundation | |
| Student Award Funds | \$2,129,525 |
| Funds created to enable deserving studies to continue their education | |
| Yellowknife Community Fund | \$2,576,090 |
| Collective pool of donations for community program and activities in the Yellowknife area | |
| Resilient Communities Fund | \$189,500 |
| To support communities across the Northwest Territories in long-term recovery efforts to rebuild after emergency response and environmental crisis | |
| Northern Legacy Funds | \$643,500 |
| Collective pool of donations and funds for community programs and activities across the Northwest Territories | |
| Field of Interest | \$1,592,619 |
| Funds identifying an area of interest to target supports | |
| Designated Funds | \$410,436 |
| Funds that are specified to a particular qualified donee | |
| Hybrid Funds | \$811,953 |
| Funds that have two different fund types within their Fund (e.g. student award and field of interest) | |
| Small Grants Funds | \$224,667 |
| Funds that provide small grants to residents of Yellowknife to improve their community. | |
| Pending Funds | \$181,583 |
| Funds that have been donated, but are waiting to be allocated to a specific fund | |
| Total | \$9,202,150 |

As the Yellowknife Community Foundation continues to grow, so does our list of donors!

We have transitioned to publishing our annual donors list on our website. Please visit ykcf.ca/our-donors

New Funds

Bella's Veterinary Student Award Fund
Darrel Mack Memorial Fund
Ian Legaree Youth Leadership Fund
Yellowknife Small Grants Program
Yellowknife Seniors' Society Fund

Community Impact - Student Awards

In 2025, we provided over \$130,000 to students in the North.



Mina Lockhart,
Adolf Duesterhus
STEM Fund



Alexander
Ketchum, Alice
and Randy Daniels
Music Fund



Niobe Darku,
Butler-Hushagen
Health Education
Fund



Carter Stirling, Con
Employees'
Benevolent Fund



Jada Beck,
David J. Ramsden
Memorial Fund



Kira Young, David
Sutherland
Memorial Fund



Sarah Fleming,
Doug Bothamley
Memorial Fund



Cohen Shaffer,
Dustin
Pidborochynski
Memorial Fund



Micheal Le,
Enough Talk, Hurry
Up and Do It
Already Arts Fund



Anonda Canadien,
Fine and
Performing Arts
Fund



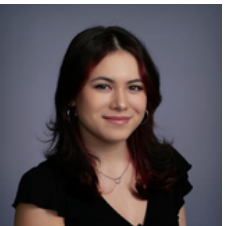
Loraine
Menicoche, Fine
and Performing
Arts Fund



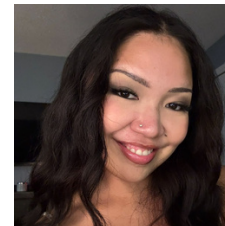
Lucas Huber-
Pilgrim,
Gary Robinson
Memorial Fund



Serenity Grenier,
George Cleary
Memorial Fund



Saia Brown, Ian
Legaree Youth
Leadership Fund



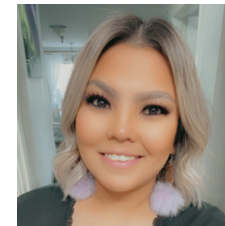
Danielle Pike,
Jerry and Monica
Loomis Sahtu
Education Legacy
Fund



George
Camamile, John
Tumchewics
Memorial Fund

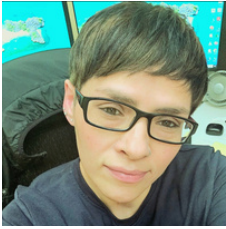


Margaret Namyalo,
Jonas Konge
Memorial Fund



Treyleen Neyelle,
Lena Gosselin
Memorial Fund

Community Impact - Student Awards



Glennnda McGee,
Maureen Tonge
'Living Your
Legacy' Fund



Annabella
Churchill, Midnight
Sun Aviation Fund



Fraser Dumont,
Midnight Sun
Aviation Fund



Ty Laffery, Milo
Martin Memorial
Fund



Rylie Strowbridge,
Northern Aviation
Scholarship Fund



Faith Gaudet, Rio
Tinto Diavik
Diamond Mine
Community
Scholarship Fund



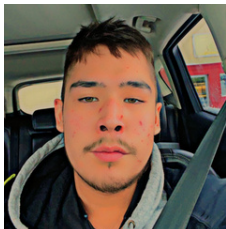
Mira Mercer, Pat
McMahon
Memorial Fund



Emma Carey,
Randy McBride
Hockey Project
Fund



Jonathan Gillingham,
Rio Tinto Diavik
Diamond Mine
Community
Scholarship Fund



Jayden Kochon,
Rio Tinto Diavik
Diamond Mine
Community
Scholarship Fund



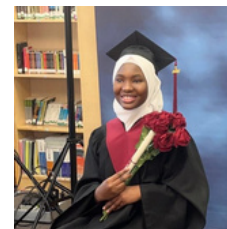
Mason Kelsey,
Travis Booker
Memorial Fund



Cole Clinton,
United Soccer
Coaching Fund



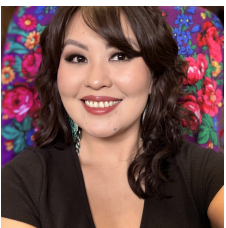
Miranda Currie,
Wally 12Million Arts
Fund



Sokhna Asta
Mbacké, Rio Tinto
Diavik Diamond
Mine Community
Scholarship Fund



Cheyenne
Fontanilla,
Yellowknife
Community
Student Award



Mariyah
Snowshoe,
Housing NWT
Scholarships



Michelle Lavoie,
Housing NWT
Scholarships



Natalie
Villeneuve,
Housing NWT
Scholarships

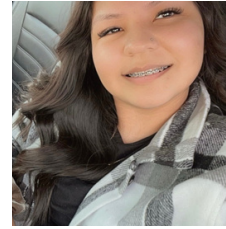
Community Impact - Student Awards



Olivia Cox,
Housing NWT
Scholarships



Sara Anderson,
Housing NWT
Scholarships



Sierra Apples,
Housing NWT
Scholarships



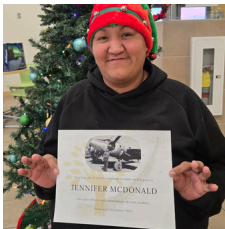
Amber Aleekuk,
Friends of Fred
Carmichael
Student Award
Fund



Zhanayii Drygeese,
Parsons Giant
Mine Remediation
Project Scholarship



Rebecca
MacLellan,
Parsons Giant
Mine Remediation
Scholarship



Jennifer
McDonald, Friends
of Fred Carmichael
Student Award
Fund



Keesha Antoine,
Friends of Fred
Carmichael
Student Award
Fund



Leighanna Lennie,
Friends of Fred
Carmichael
Student Award
Fund



Robert Furlong,
Friends of Fred
Carmichael
Student Award
Fund



Topsy Cockney,
Friends of Fred
Carmichael
Student Award
Fund

Recipients with multiple awards:

Jada Beck, Housing NWT Scholarships

Faith Gaudet, Housing NWT Scholarships

Jayden Kochon, Housing NWT Scholarships

Loraine Menicoche, Housing NWT Scholarships

Mira Mercer, Housing NWT Scholarships

Ty Lafferty, Parsons Giant Mine Remediation Project Scholarship

Treyleen Neyelle, Parsons Giant Mine Remediation Project Scholarship

Victoria Wedzin, Sharon Morrison Memorial Indigenous Education Fund

Kandis Villebrun, Bella's Veterinary Student Award Fund

Victoria Wedzin, Elaine 'Sweet' Whitford Scholarship Fund

Grace Clark, Eugène Roach Memorial Fund

Katie Weaver-Charpentier, Haylee Carlson Memorial Legislative Assembly Fund

Karen Lepine, Ian Legaree Youth Leadership Fund

Maura Smith, Jenny Gamble-Fournier Memorial Fund

Dorota Medrzycka, John Tumchewics Memorial Fund

Matthew Brien, Lilly Borges-Oldham Language Scholarship Fund

Paige Kochon, Sharon Morrison Memorial Indigenous Education Fund

Antonia Dryneck, Housing NWT Scholarships

Divine Sanspariel, Parsons Giant Mine Remediation Project Scholarship

Claudia Koe, Friends of Fred Carmichael Student Award

Community Impact - Grants

In 2025, we granted a total of \$229,827 to organizations and individuals in the NWT.

| Fund | Impact | |
|---|--|----------|
| | Program / Initiative | Awarded |
| Barb Bromley Fund for Seniors and Elders | Avens - A Community for Seniors – Let’s Sing with Kerry Wheler | \$4,800 |
| | Western Arctic Moving Pictures – Senior Filmmaking Workshop | \$3,200 |
| Chris Argue Memorial Fund | NWT Literacy Council – Water Safety Course for Newcomers | \$1,500 |
| Elliot Michael Brown Fund | Kristielyn Jones – Sweetgrass Healing Centre Inc. | \$5,000 |
| Eva Henderson Memorial Fund | Alzheimer Society of Alberta and Northwest Territories – Palliative Approach and Grief Support Program | \$1,500 |
| Gary Robinson Memorial Fund | Yellowknife Search and Rescue – Wilderness First Aid and Basic Searcher Training | \$11,000 |
| Gladys and Albert Eggenberger Agricultural Fund | The Tahiuqtiit Women's Society – Traditional Cooking Classes and Food Hampers | \$14,000 |
| Helen and John Parker Community Fund | Tin Can Collective – Degrees of Separation: A Staged Adaptation | \$17,500 |

| Fund | Impact | Awarded |
|--|--|----------|
| Holy Family Lutheran Legacy Fund | Yellowknife Women's Society – Spruce Bough Resident Decision-Making Initiative | \$10,000 |
| Lorraine Minish-Cooper Garden of Hope Fund | City of Yellowknife – Garden of Hope Upkeep Costs | \$3,577 |
| Luke Charpentier Memorial Fund | Old Town Community Association – Music Equipment for Ramble & Ride | \$3,500 |
| Mary Beth Miller Memorial Fund | Special Olympics NWT – Speed Skating | \$1,000 |
| Sharon Morrison Memorial Indigenous Education Fund | We Always Remember: Circle for Northern Residential School Survivors – Healing Workshop and Sharing Circle in Fort Providence | \$2,000 |
| Women's Leadership Fund | Equal Voice Foundation – Campaign Season Series | \$5,000 |
| 100 'Knifers Who Give A Damn Flow-Through Fund | Northern Journalism Training Initiative – Operational Costs | \$6,700 |
| | YWCA NWT – PCR Dudes Club and GirlSpace | \$6,450 |
| | Western Arctic Moving Pictures – YKids Year-Round Programming | \$5,800 |
| | Yellowknife Day Care Association – Food Program Expansions | \$8,800 |

Community Impact - Grants

| Fund | Impact | |
|--|--|----------|
| | Program / Initiative | Awarded |
| Yellowknife Community Fund - Community Enrichment | Food Rescue Yellowknife – New freezers to expand operations | \$5,000 |
| | Yellowknife Seniors' Society – Lunch with a Bunch | \$8,000 |
| | Sir John Franklin High School – Metis Fiddle and Rock Band Programs | \$17,000 |
| | Territorial Agrifood Association – Tents for the NWT Culinary Festival | \$6,825 |
| | NWT Literacy Council – Building Renovations | \$9,675 |
| | Yellowknife Curling Club – Community Curling Events | \$3,500 |
| | We Always Remember: Circle for Northern Residential School Survivors – Wages for an Administrative Coordinator | \$25,000 |
| Yellowknife Community Fund - Organizational Capacity | Yellowknife Women's Society – Non-profit Management Training for Executive Director of Raven's Nest | \$3,375 |
| | Yellowknife Ski Club – Train the Trainer | \$4,625 |
| | Food Rescue Yellowknife – Nonprofit Management Essentials | \$2,000 |
| | Northern Journalism Training Initiative (MakeWay) – Staff Capacity Building and Curriculum Design Certification | \$5,000 |

| Fund | Impact | |
|------|--------|--|
|------|--------|--|

| | Program / Initiative | Awarded |
|---|---|----------|
| Resilient Communities Fund | Community Government of Whati – Whati Resilience and Preparedness Initiative | \$15,000 |
| Albert and Hilya Hall Seniors' Enhancement Fund | Avens - A Community for Seniors – Intergenerational Connection | \$3,000 |
| Yellowknife Historical Society Fund | Yellowknife Historical Society – Yellowknife Historical Museum | \$1,000 |
| Walter Gibbins Memorial Fund | Yellowknife Historical Society – Maintenance of the Walter Gibbins Mineral Collection at the Yellowknife Historical Museum | \$1,500 |
| Yellowknife Small Grants Program | Alysha Mosher – YK Community Swap | \$1,000 |
| | Forrest Doctor – Skate North | \$1,000 |
| | Jay Mauchan – Family Soccer | \$1,000 |
| | Jill Christensen – Chronic Pain Support Group (CPSG) | \$1,000 |
| | Jonathon Lafferty – Dene Drum Dance and Hand Games | \$1,000 |
| | Lani Cooke – Yeah for Yoga | \$1,000 |
| | Sandie Redon – Food Resistance through Fishing | \$1,000 |
| | Stacey Sundberg – Revitalizing Wiilideh | \$1,000 |

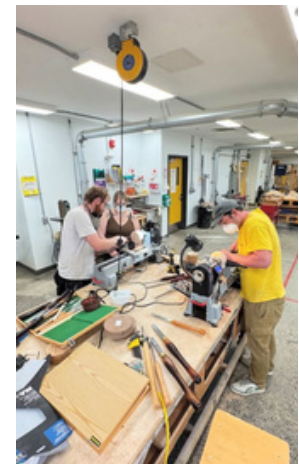
Community Impact - Highlights

Building Skills and Confidence

In the Summer of 2025, Makerspace YK rolled out their Shop Skills Development Initiative to great success.

The basic idea was to expand their available Woodshop and Trades programming. The end product was a mix of one-off classes and multi-week workshops. The longer courses allowed beginners to literally build confidence through a series of projects. With each session, participants could see their skills manifest into completed objects. Participants came away with a foundation of skill and comfort, which empowered them to return to the space and continue to create on their own.

Through the Yellowknife Community Fund, Makerspace YK was able to hire multiple instructors and draw from their different skillsets. With this increased capacity, the initiative saw over one hundred and fifty different makers partake in ten new workshops, including: “Building with 2x4s”, “Techniques and Confidence”, and the “Raised Planter Bed” workshop. One student went from having zero experience with tools to designing and building two planters by themselves!



Community Impact - Highlights

Dene Nahjo Hide Camps

The Hide Tanning Mentorship Program is a ten day camp for Indigenous people to gather on the land and practice traditional hide tanning skills. In 2025, the camp took place from May 14th to May 24th.



Over its course, the camp saw around one hundred daily visitors and fifty tanners. People were excited to bring in their unfinished caribou and moose hides at all different stages of the tanning process. Beyond the tanning itself, the success of the camp was seen in the exchange of language, mutual aid, and delicious food. Yellowknives Dene First Nation's Wellness Division even provided a shuttle that transported Elders to and from the site.

The popularity of the camp shows its importance to the community. With so many new learners, Dene Nahjo recognized there would be a greater need for caribou bone scrapers and other tools for next year. So, they plan to host tool-making workshops in February 2026 to support that demand and the continued growth of the camp.

Indigenous revitalization initiatives, by their nature, are full circles of self-sustaining growth. The Sharon Morrison Memorial Indigenous Education Fund is dedicated to supporting this focus area through collectives like Dene Nahjo.



Annual Connections Barbeque and Grantee Ceremony

On September 18th 2025, we held our annual appreciation BBQ for fund holders, sponsors, volunteers, and community partners. This year, a new element was added to the event: a ceremony celebrating our newly-awarded grant recipients.

Through the evening, the room hummed with chatter, as everyone felt a mutual admiration for each other's work and role in the community. Congratulations once again to our grantees, and thank you to our fund advisors and sponsors.



Photos by Tommy Jorge, Uplift Media

BUILD YOUR LEGACY.



Over the past three decades, the Yellowknife Community Foundation has steadily expanded its impact beyond Yellowknife. Currently, 75% of our grant and student award funds are available to residents and organizations across the Northwest Territories.

Given the evolution of the Foundation, we identified the need for a broad granting fund dedicated to the entire territory. So, we created the Northern Legacy Fund. This endowment is designed to support a wide range of vital community needs with the flexibility to adapt as needs emerge and change over time.

In 2024, Rio Tinto Diavik Diamond Mine became the lead partner of the Northern Legacy Fund by establishing the Rio Tinto Diavik Legacy Contribution. As Diavik prepares to close in 2026, their support reflects their commitment to the continued development and wellbeing of the Northwest Territories.

In that spirit, we invite you to add your own name and legacy to the Fund by making a Named Contribution. Your Named Contribution will help build a permanent financial base that generates grants for years to come. We have established different levels to recognize our founding donors. Details about benefits for each giving tier can be found at northernlegacyfund.ca.

Visionary: \$5000 +

Silver: \$15,000+

Gold: \$50,000+

Platinum: \$150,000+

Diamond: \$250,000+

RioTinto | Diavik

Closing responsibly, Closing with care



In late 2024, The Explorer Hotel donated \$1,000 for every year of the hotel's history. Pictured: Doug Cox, CEO of Nunastar Properties with YKCF's Korry Garvey and Laurie Gault.

Photo by Stacy Roteliuk

Why do people give through the Foundation?

100 ‘Knifers Who Give A Damn

100 Knifers is a group of community-minded residents who pool funds to support local charities and non-profit organizations. The group meets four times a year, with each member donating \$100 per meeting. Members nominate organizations for consideration and the group votes on where the funding should go.

Our partnership with 100 Knifers entails collecting donations, issuing charitable tax receipts, and disbursing the funds in a single lump sum to the chosen organizations.

“Having been a member since 2018, I can say 100 Knifers is one of the most rewarding and fulfilling charitable organizations I’ve ever been a part of.

The simple time commitment of 4 hours and \$400 a year, combined with the enjoyment of getting a direct say in allocating the funds, makes it an easy and social endeavour. It’s rewarding to see the projects come to fruition and know we all had a hand in it.

Everyone in Yellowknife should be a member and see the direct impact this organization has on our community.”

Rylund Johnson, Member of 100 ‘Knifers Group



Pictured: Brendan Hancock and Rana Saghafi from YWCA NWT, Landon Kowalzik from 100 Knifers, and Alexander Weir from the Yellowknife Community Foundation, at the 100 Knifers event in June 2025.



Why do people give through the Foundation?

Bella's Veterinary Student Award Fund

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) recommends that Canada currently needs 700 new vets a year to replace retiring workers, deal with a surging demand for support for rising pet ownership, and provide services for small communities.

This is especially true In Northern Canada, where residents rely on Veterinarians, Veterinary Techs, and Veterinary Assistants to play critical roles in protecting the health of both animals and people.

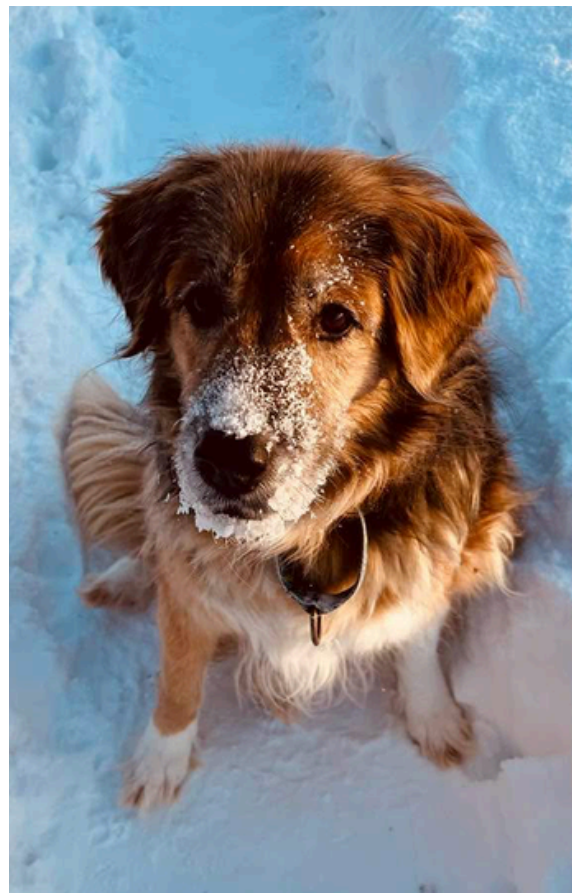
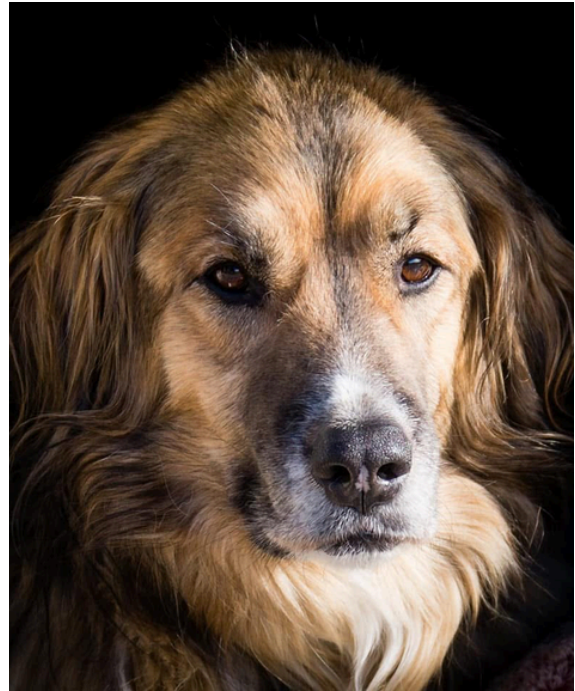
Bella's Veterinary Student Award Fund was created to provide financial support for NWT students interested in securing Veterinary qualifications to work in the NWT. It is hoped that this fund will attract and retain qualified animal support workers.

Bella was a typical Northern Special NWT SPCA rescue... a six week husky-beagle cross from a community north of Yellowknife. To no one's surprise, with her charming and lovable personality, she made a Foster Failure out of her mom, Amanda Mallon. Bella lived an energetic, adventurous, happy 12 years supported by a loving community and wonderful vet clinics with dedicated, committed staff.

Amanda Mallon, Fund Holder



Pictured: Laurie Gault from the Yellowknife Community Foundation, Amanda Mallon, and 2025 Bella awardee, Kandis Villebrun.



Our Volunteers

We are grateful to our dedicated volunteer board of directors for their guidance and support. Many of our directors also contribute their time and expertise by serving on our committees.

2025 Board of Directors



Sara Brown
Chair



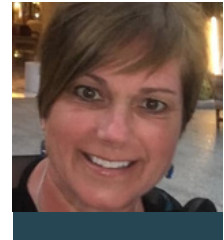
Patrick Wrigglesworth
Vice-Chair



Laurie Gault
Past Chair



Roman Asmundson
Director of Finance



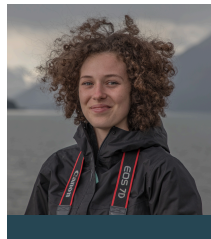
Marta Moir
Director



Alison Erlwanger
Director



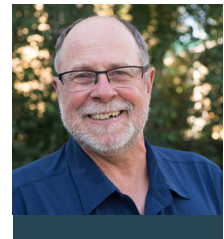
Stephen Dunbar
Director



Meaghan Brackenbury
Director



Megan Holsapple
Director



Robin Greig
Director

External Committee Members

Student Award Review Committee

Amanda White
Angela Nuliyayok
Beverly Pilgrim
Brandon Pludwinski
Dian Papineau-Magill
Erin Dean

Iris Kehler
Isabella Zytaruk
Lana De Bastiani
Laura Hodgins
Lea Lamoureux
Lisa Marie Van de Water Harvey

Maria Paz G. Mariano
Mary Buckland
Melanie Gentles
Sara Komarnisky
Sophie Kirby
Val Janz
Zainab Oladipupo

Investment Committee

Charles Dent
David Gilday

Grants Committee

Jignasa Anand
Jashandeep Singh
Richard Francisco
Mary Buckland

Fundraising Committee

Fiona Jones

Longstanding Volunteer

Alexander Legaree

Our Staff & Support



Korry Garvey
Executive
Director



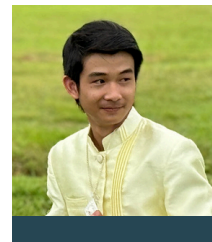
Alexander Weir
Administration
and Grants
Coordinator



Lunar Hall
Summer Student



Sophie Kirby
Support



Sovannratanak
(Rust) Lim
Support

In Memory

John Argue // July 10, 1943 – October 31, 2025
(with excerpts and photo from *The Yellowknifer*, November 25, 2025)

We were deeply saddened to learn of John's passing in October 2025. John was widely known and respected throughout the North for both his love of the outdoors and his contributions to the development of local government in Nunavut and later in the NWT. John's adventurous spirit led him to Churchill in 1966, beginning a lifelong connection to the North.

With his partner Marsha, he later spent four years in Iqaluit and six years in Rankin Inlet before making Yellowknife their home for the past 45 years. John lived a full and spirited life, bringing boundless energy and enthusiasm to everything he pursued, whether through community service or his work. He contributed greatly to many community organizations, including the Yellowknife Ski Club, Yellowknife Rotary Club, Lakeshore Co-op and the Yellowknife Guild of Arts and Crafts.

When John and Marsha's eldest son Chris passed away in 2002, the family wanted to create a legacy in Chris' honour; hence, the Chris Argue Memorial Fund was established to encourage the growth and safe enjoyment of self-propelled wilderness travel and wilderness education. Chris' passion for the outdoors—skiing, mountaineering, canoeing, along with leadership skills and concern for others—echoed his dad's, and dozens of individuals and organizations have been beneficiaries of Chris' fund.

John, Marsha, and family have been gracious ambassadors and supporters of the Foundation and John truly embodied the vision of sharing, supportive, and connected communities. He will be truly missed by all who knew him and we offer our gratitude and warmest regards to his family.





Yellowknife

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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Yellowknife Community Foundation

Land Acknowledgement

The Yellowknife Community Foundation's physical office is located in Sòmba K'è on Chief Drygeese Territory in Treaty 8, the traditional home of the Yellowknives Dene and the North Slave Metis, also known as Yellowknife, Northwest Territories.