

NORTHERN POTENTIAL

Inspired partnerships: Forging new paths to education and opportunity.

Together, we're on the trail to student success:
An update from the Yukon University Foundation Board



On the trail to Yukon University

In just a few months, Yukon College will take the next step in its evolution as it becomes Yukon University. From its beginnings in 1963 as the Whitehorse Vocational and Technical Training Centre, the College has responded to the needs of the community and the territory, while leading the way in reconciliation and innovation.

We invite you to join us on May 9, 2020 as we celebrate our strengths, our commitment to the community, and our hopes for the future as the first Northern university in Canada.

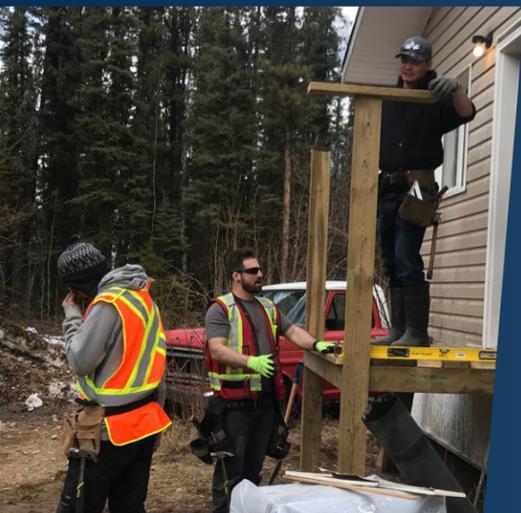
We're honoured that CIBC has committed \$500,000 over the next five years in support our transformation. Victor G. Dodig, President and CEO of CIBC, visited the Ayamdigut Campus on June 13 to make this exciting announcement. He had a chance to meet with student leaders and learn more about Yukon College as he toured the facility.

Community futures

The Yukon University Foundation and Yukon College were thrilled to welcome 50 business leaders, donors and partners to the inaugural YukonU Pop-Up Breakfast Bistro. President Karen Barnes highlighted the college's many successes over the past year, including the newly-approved Bachelor of Business Administration degree. She unveiled the brand for Yukon University and revealed the celebration plans for our official declaration as a university.

Eunjee Cho, a recent graduate from the Geological Technology program, spoke of her experiences as an International student from Vietnam who has fallen in love with the territory, and who plans to put her education to work in the Yukon's mining industry. Students from the Culinary Arts program gained valuable work experience as they crafted a delicious breakfast for our guests.

This event was made possible by our generous partnership with Northern Vision Development. Yukon College is thrilled that NVD recognized us as a valuable asset to the city, the territory and the country and invested in a partnership with us. Their generosity enables us to bring the community together to learn, while providing hands-on, real-life experience to our Culinary Arts students as they cater these gatherings from the commercial kitchens in the High Country Inn.



Building capacity

18 months ago, it was just an idea...

An idea to provide programming that would allow students to gather practical experience and the prerequisites to enter trades certification training. An idea fueled by a hope to address the skills gap in Yukon's rural communities and to profoundly change the lives of many Yukon First Nations citizens by providing quality housing.

A year ago, The W. Garfield Weston Foundation donated \$495,654 to bring this idea to life.

For 11 students in Watson Lake, the idea has become a reality. They developed a myriad of skills as they assessed, planned and installed. While they replaced lighting fixtures, laid flooring, renovated the bathroom and landscaped grounds, they completed the prerequisites for apprenticeship training in carpentry, electrical and plumbing systems.

The hope has become a reality. New employment opportunities exist for these students, and it has increased the capacity of the Facilities Department of the Liard First Nation. The hope has contributed a viable solution to the housing situation faced by many Northern communities, and provided a quality home that will ensure that a member of the Kaska Dena community can live with dignity and pride.

Yukon College is grateful to The W. Garfield Weston Foundation for believing in an idea that fosters individual success and economic prosperity. We're also grateful to the Liard First Nation for their partnership in this project.

THE W. GARFIELD WESTON
FOUNDATION

If you'd like to connect with us to discuss a way to support Yukon College students and initiatives, please email us at giving@yukoncollege.yk.ca