



**Canada Council for the Arts
Funding to artists
and arts organizations
in the Yukon, 2010-11**



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des Arts
du Canada

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Note: A complete listing of grants awarded to individual artists and arts organizations in 2010-11 is available through the Searchable Grants Listing on the Canada Council's website:

<http://www.canadacouncil.ca/grants/recipients/ol127245536828281250.htm>

1.0 Overview of Canada Council funding to the Yukon in 2010-11

- In 2010-11, the Canada Council for the Arts provided \$399,280 in grants to artists and arts organizations in the Yukon.
- In addition to grants, \$9,140 in payments was provided to 30 authors through the Public Lending Right program.¹ This brings the total amount of Canada Council funding to the Yukon to \$408,420 in 2010-11.
- The Canada Council awarded \$49,000 to seven Yukon artists, and \$350,280 to 17 arts organizations in the Yukon in 2010-11.
- Grants were awarded in many disciplines – dance, media arts, music, theatre, visual arts, writing and publishing and through the Canada Council’s Aboriginal Arts Secretariat. The largest amounts of funding went to theatre (\$101,250), followed by visual arts (\$71,500) and media arts (\$68,220).
- 77 applications from Yukon artists and arts organizations were submitted to Council in 2010-11, representing 0.5% of the total number of received applications.
- In 2010-11, artists and arts organizations in Dawson, Burwash Landing and Whitehorse received funds, with 80.3% of funds (\$320,680) awarded to Whitehorse.
- In 2010-11, Yukon artists received 0.22% of Canada Council funding to artists and Yukon arts organizations received 0.29% of the funding to arts organizations. In total, Yukon artists and arts organizations received 0.28% of Canada Council funding. In comparison, the Yukon makes up 0.15% of artists,² and 0.10% of the Canadian population.³
- Seven Yukon artists and arts professionals served as peer assessors in 2010-11, making up 1.0% of all peer assessors.

¹ The Public Lending Right program provides payments to authors whose books are held in selected Canadian public libraries.

² Hill Strategies Research Inc. “Artists in Canada’s Provinces and Territories Based on the 2006 Census,” *Statistic Insights on the Arts*, Vol.7 No. 5, March 2009, <http://www.hillstrategies.com/docs/Artists_provinces2006.pdf>.

³ Statistics Canada: Canada’s National Statistical Agency. “Population by year, by province and territory,” September 2010, <<http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/l01/cst01/demo02a-eng.htm>>.

2.0 Statistical highlights about the arts in the Yukon⁴

- Over \$38 million was spent on culture by all levels of government in Yukon in 2008-09. Per capita cultural spending in the Yukon ranks second among provinces/territories in terms of federal contribution (\$576) and first in terms of the provincial/territorial investment (\$539).
- In 2006, there were 210 artists in Yukon, representing 1.04% of the overall territorial labour force.
- In 2006, the median earnings of artists in Yukon are \$12,000, just over one-third of the typical earnings of all Yukon workers (\$31,200).

⁴ Sources

Hill Strategies Research Inc. "Artists in Canada's Provinces and Territories Based on the 2006 Census," *Statistic Insights on the Arts*, Vol.7 No. 5, March 2009, <http://www.hillstrategies.com/docs/Artists_provinces2006.pdf>.

Statistics Canada: Canada's National Statistical Agency. "Government Expenditures on Culture: Data Tables 2008-09," <<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/87f0001x/2011001/part-partie4-eng.htm>>.

3.0 Highlights of Canada Council grants to the Yukon artists and arts organizations

Arts organizations

The Canada Council supports the work of arts organizations. In 2010-11, some of the Yukon arts organizations that received funding were:

Organization	Community	Total funding
Dawson City Arts Society--The ODD Gallery	DAWSON	\$34,500
Frostbite Music Society	WHITEHORSE	\$12,000
Magnum Opus Management	WHITEHORSE	\$23,455
Nakai Theatre Ensemble	WHITEHORSE	\$68,000
Yukon Arts Centre Public Art Gallery	WHITEHORSE	\$40,000
Yukon Film Society	WHITEHORSE	\$48,720
Yukon International Storytelling Festival	WHITEHORSE	\$18,900

Aboriginal arts organizations

The Canada Council supports the work of Aboriginal arts organizations. In 2010-11, two arts organizations in the Yukon that received funding were:

Organization	Community	Total funding
Council for Yukon First Nations	WHITEHORSE	\$16,000
Gwaandak Theatre Society	WHITEHORSE	\$48,950

Examples of Canada Council funding in the Yukon⁵

The Canada Council supports the endeavours of professional artists and arts organizations through its programs. The following selection illustrates some of the activities supported by the Canada Council in the Yukon.

Burwash-based singer songwriter **Diyet** performed her debut single *The Breaking Point* at the 2010 Canadian Aboriginal Music Awards in Hamilton, Ontario. Performing with the house band – comprised of award-winning musicians and drummer/song writer Robert van Lieshout – allowed Diyet to meet other Canadian and American artists and make valuable contacts. The only artist from the Yukon to perform at the Awards, Diyet was able to build her fan base as the event was broadcast on public television and over the Internet. While in Ontario, she also performed in front of the Canadian and American spectators attending the Canadian Aboriginal Festival. Diyet received a \$2,100 grant through the Aboriginal Peoples Travel Grants program.

⁵ Unless otherwise indicated, project descriptions and quotations are drawn from documents in the grant application.

Jane Isakson traveled to Skidegate, B.C. to present and discuss her work at the opening of her first solo exhibition outside of the Yukon Territory at the Haida Gwaii Museum in September 2010. Being present at the opening gave her confidence and the opportunity to enhance understanding and appreciation of the work by the audience which included curators. The exhibition *From the Outer Edges* featured landscape paintings she created while visiting three national parks: Gros Morne in Newfoundland, Ivavik in the Yukon, and Gwaii Haanas in British Columbia. Isakson's large acrylic paintings "reflect the unique aspects of these most eastern, northern and western landscapes, as well as the natural and cultural histories that relate them to each other." The \$1,500 grant was awarded through the Travel Grants to Professionals in the Visual Arts program.

The **Council of Yukon First Nations** organized the *Lineage & Linkages Dance Program* consisting of training for five traditional dance troupes located in four communities in the Yukon and BC. The five groups are the TH Han Singers in Dawson City, the First People's Performances/Dakhká Khwáan Dancers and Ta'an Kwäch'än Dancers in Whitehorse, the Dakwäkáda Dancers in Haines Junction and the Taku Kwaan Dancers in Atlin. Elders and youth from each community worked together with senior artist Alejandro Ronceria to develop performances that blend new stage craft skills with the stories, songs, drumming and dance of each community. Through this program, the Council seeks to build support for the combined preservation of ancient wisdom and practice with contemporary creative innovation. A \$16,000 grant was awarded through the Elder/Youth Legacy Program: Support for Aboriginal Artistic Practices (Pilot Program).

In the summer of 2011, **Open Pit Theatre** employed five Yukon artists in the first stage of developing the Devised Yukon Project, a contemporary theatre production using devised theatre methods whereby a theatre company collaboratively creates their work. This stage of the project will include a guest artist workshop with actor-director Ker Wells on physical theatre, an exploration period consisting of gathering stories, audio and pictures centering around the theme 'outside,' and a public presentation for feedback on the work to date. The Devised Yukon Project will be further developed over a subsequent three year period, resulting in a full-length theatrical production slated for a national tour. Open Pit Theatre, an ad hoc collective consisting of artistic director Sam Bergmann-Good and producer Jessica Hickman, was awarded a \$7,000 grant through the Theatre Production Project Grants for Emerging Artists program.

Michael Mason will travel to Valdez, Fairbanks and Tok in Alaska to learn the stories of his ancestors as well as their traditional carving methods and materials from his relatives. While in Alaska, Mason will collect materials to use in the creation of new carvings drawing upon the stories he learned about his ancestors when they lived off the land. Mason has been creating work nurtured by his respect for the land and the teachings of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in community Elders and his family members in and around Dawson. He has developed a unique 'one-line' style that he says "starts and never ends, it is a continuous line that has numerous and endless stories from dreams that tell me of my ancestors' past." Mason received a \$15,000 grant through the Aboriginal Traditional Visual Art Forms Program for Individuals.

Hungry Hill, a contemporary bluegrass band from Whitehorse, performed at the GrevenGrass Bluegrass Festival, Germany, in the spring of 2010. The \$7,500 Audience and Market Development Travel Grant allowed all five members of the band to travel to the festival and perform their music for new international audiences. As part of the European World of Bluegrass Festival series, GrevenGrass attracted presenters and promoters from across Europe. The group discussed future touring possibilities with presenters from international festivals that would further the international reach of their music. Hungry Hill garnered enough attention at the festival that their photo was on the cover of *Strictly Country Magazine*, a source of exposure that is “hugely important in continuing to build and develop audience markets in Germany and Europe.”

The **Yukon Public Libraries** organized readings by Richard Van Camp and Adwoa Badoe at 12 libraries across the Territory including those in Mayo, Beaver Creek and Haines Junction. In April 2011, Richard Van Camp, a renowned storyteller and best-selling author from Vancouver, gave a reading at the Yukon Writers' Festival in Whitehorse before touring to more remote communities. Adwoa Badoe, an author, storyteller, educator and African dance instructor from Guelph, has been invited to celebrate Canadian Library Month and Yukon Library Week by giving readings in several communities in October. The Yukon Public Libraries received \$5,650 through the Literary Readings and Author Residencies Program.

Jessica Hickman took part in *Way Out West (WOW)*, the Mascall Dance Society's summer intensive, which consisted of training for eight hours a day in a variety of classes including contemporary dance, action theatre and contact improvisation. These non-traditional dance classes allowed Hickman, a dance professional from Whitehorse, to work outside the boundaries of her usual repertoire and try new techniques such as improvisation with other professional artists. Through the Travel Grants to Dance Professionals program Hickman, a first-time grant applicant, received \$500 to go to Vancouver for an experience she says has given her a vast amount of inspiration and creative impulses. She later received funding from the Yukon Government's Culture Quest program to create new work using the techniques she learned and a scholarship from Leaping Feats Creative Dance Works to teach these techniques to her students in the Yukon.

David Skelton, Artistic Director of **Nakai Theatre Ensemble**, worked with Brian Quirt, Artistic director of Nightswimming Theatre to research and plan new production and commission related strategies for his company. Quirt developed an expertise in this area through his work as a playwright, dramaturge and his experience commissioning new works for Nightswimming. Located in Whitehorse, Nakai seeks to transition beyond production to also develop new works and create opportunities to collaborate with artists and companies from outside of the Yukon. Following his consultations with Quirt, Skelton will apply his knowledge to write Nakai's new three-year plan and accompanying budget to present to the board. Nakai Theatre Ensemble in Whitehorse was awarded \$4,000 through the Flying Squad: An Organizational Development Program for this project.

Audiences at festivals in Saskatchewan, Ontario and Nova Scotia will see Whitehorse band **Annie Lou** perform in 2011 thanks to her well-received showcases at the Ontario Council of Folk Festivals Conference (OCFF) in Ottawa. The four-member old-time band, consisting of Kim Barlow, Anne Louise Genest, Lindy Jones and Meredith Bates, impressed numerous festival directors, presenters, and industry professionals who enquired about possible performances in the future. Annie Lou wrote that attending the conference provided them with valuable showcase performance experience; introduced their music to a large group of presenters; and allowed them to network with other bands. The band's travel expenses were paid with a \$3,070 grant awarded through the Audience and Market Development Travel Grants program.

The **Yukon International Storytelling Festival** in Whitehorse presented national and international performers from Alaska, Arizona and Wales in June 2011. The three-day Festival features daytime programming for school children, families and Elders, as well as evening performances for people of all ages. Monthly storytelling circles are held during the year to promote the festival, encourage storytelling and discover new talent. With an \$18,900 grant awarded through the Literary Performance and Spoken Word Program, Festival organizers will continue to preserve cultural heritage material generated by the Festival including audio tapes and a directory of storytellers.

Lance Blomgren is currently developing the multidisciplinary work *Operation Northern Shield* (ONS), a speculative research project that hypothesizes the establishment of new urban settlements in Northern Canada. Through writing, photography, sound, sculpture, cartography and other forms Blomgren will create an exhibition inspired by Canadian sovereignty in the Far North consisting of posters, displays, broadcasts and a publication. ONS will be a means of exploring the social and narrative impulses inherent to our ideas of frontier, border, settlement and community. Currently based in Dawson City, Blomgren is a writer, artist and curator. He received an \$18,600 grant through the Integrated Arts and Contemporary Circus Art Program for Artists: Research/Creation, Production and Professional Development Grants.

The **ODD Gallery's** ongoing, annual project *The Natural & The Manufactured* involves visual, media and interdisciplinary artists, curators, art historians, writers and cultural thinkers through residencies, exhibitions, lectures, essays and workshops. In 2011, the project will include two seven-week exhibition/creation residencies; an outdoor installation by the artists' collaborative *SIMPARCH* and a gallery installation by Toronto sculptor Bill Burns. Ken Gregory of Winnipeg will be in Dawson City for a week in August 2011 to prepare and install a public sound installation, for which he conducted site research in 2010. The Dawson City Arts Society ODD Gallery received a \$12,000 grant to support the project through the Project Grants for Organizations in the Visual Arts program.

4.0 Overall arts and culture funding in the Yukon by all three levels of government⁶

- Arts and culture funding to the Yukon from all three levels of government stood at \$38.3 million in 2008-09 (the latest year of overall data from Statistics Canada).
- Federal funding to the Yukon made up the largest share at 51% (\$19.4 million), followed by provincial funds at 47% (\$18.2 million). Two percent (\$774,000) of total government expenditures to the Yukon came from municipal sources.
- Federal government cultural funding to the Yukon, totalling \$19.4 million, is primarily concentrated (92%) in two areas – heritage resources (historic parks/sites and nature/provincial parks) and broadcasting. The remaining 8% of funding (\$1.2 million) is allocated to areas including performing arts (\$568,000), multidisciplinary arts (\$533,000), and film and video (\$322,000). In the comparable year (2008-09), Canada Council funding accounted for about 2% of all federal cultural spending in the Yukon.
- Between 2004-05 and 2008-09, federal cultural spending to the Yukon increased from \$17.8 million in 2004-05 to \$19.4 million in 2008-09 (an increase of 9%). During the same period, Canada Council funding in the Yukon increased from \$345,915 to \$511,427.
- The largest part of provincial government funding is concentrated in three areas – heritage resources, libraries and multidisciplinary arts (89% or \$16.1 million). However, funding is also allocated by the provincial government to film and video (\$705,000), visual arts and crafts (\$550,000) and sound recording (\$293,000).

⁶ Source:

Statistics Canada: Canada's National Statistical Agency. "Government Expenditures on Culture: Data Tables 2008-09," May 2011, <<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/87f0001x/2011001/part-partie4-eng.htm>>.

Table 1: Government expenditures on culture, to the Yukon, 2008-09¹*(in thousands of dollars)*

	Federal	Provincial	Municipal	Total
Libraries ²	\$0	\$3,008	\$0	\$3,008
Heritage Resources ³	\$11,357	\$9,834	\$497	\$21,688
Arts Education	\$0	\$24	\$0	\$24
Literary Arts	\$57	\$75	\$0	\$132
Performing Arts	\$568	\$103	\$138	\$809
Visual Arts and Crafts	\$75	\$550	\$0	\$625
Film and Video	\$322	\$705	\$0	\$1,027
Broadcasting	\$6,471	\$0	\$0	\$6,471
Sound Recording	\$12	\$293	\$0	\$305
Multiculturalism	\$0	\$277	\$0	\$277
Multidisciplinary and Other Activities ⁴	\$533	\$3,297	\$109	\$3,939
Total	\$19,395	\$18,165	\$744	\$38,304

¹As a result of changes in methodology, data for 2008-09 should not be compared with data that were released prior to the revised 2003-04 data.

²Federal spending on national libraries is included in federal spending on heritage resources.

³Federal spending on heritage resources also includes federal spending on national libraries.

⁴Includes funding given to cultural facilities, centres, festivals, municipalities, cultural exchange programs and other activities.

Table 2: Government expenditures on culture, to all provinces and territories, 2008-09¹*(in thousands of dollars)*

	Federal	Provincial	Municipal ²	Total
Libraries ³	\$0	\$1,036,462	\$1,867,382	\$2,903,844
Heritage Resources ⁴	\$1,138,178	\$890,285	\$108,437	\$2,136,900
Arts Education	\$23,459	\$121,612	\$0	\$145,071
Literary Arts	\$136,864	\$28,312	\$0	\$165,176
Performing Arts	\$248,936	\$242,802	\$76,049	\$567,787
Visual Arts and Crafts	\$23,830	\$72,309	\$0	\$96,139
Film and Video	\$329,509	\$122,443	\$0	\$451,952
Broadcasting	\$1,899,341	\$220,983	\$0	\$2,120,324
Sound Recording	\$25,889	\$5,681	\$0	\$31,570
Multiculturalism	\$13,100	\$27,550	\$0	\$40,650
Multidisciplinary and Other Activities	\$167,190	\$272,778	\$649,067	\$1,089,035
Total⁵	\$4,006,297	\$3,041,216	\$2,700,935	\$9,748,448

¹As a result of changes in methodology, data for 2008-09 should not be compared with data that were released prior to the revised 2003-04 data.

²Municipal spending is on a calendar year basis.

³Federal spending on national libraries is included in federal spending on heritage resources.

⁴Federal spending on heritage resources also includes federal spending on national libraries.

⁵Includes inter-governmental transfers of about \$489 million.

**Table 3: Government expenditures on culture, \$ per capita
by province and territory, 2008-09¹**

	Federal	Provincial	Municipal	Total
Canada	\$119	\$90	\$80	\$289
Newfoundland and Labrador	\$94	\$139	\$30	\$262
Prince Edward Island	\$148	\$121	\$33	\$303
Nova Scotia	\$117	\$98	\$47	\$261
New Brunswick	\$84	\$106	\$31	\$220
Quebec	\$178	\$120	\$72	\$370
Ontario	\$111	\$68	\$89	\$268
Manitoba	\$74	\$115	\$50	\$239
Saskatchewan	\$56	\$130	\$90	\$276
Alberta	\$58	\$102	\$82	\$243
British Columbia	\$50	\$61	\$96	\$208
Yukon	\$576	\$539	\$22	\$1,137
Northwest Territories	\$821	\$199	\$54	\$1,075
Nunavut	\$356	\$237	\$12	\$605

¹Per capita figures were calculated using information from Statistics Canada: "Table 1: Government expenditures on culture, by province or territory and level of government, 2008-09" (May 2011) and "Population by year, by province and territory, 2009" (July 2009).

Note: As a result of changes in methodology, data for 2008-09 should not be compared with data that were released prior to the revised 2003-04 data.

Includes funding to libraries, heritage resources (museums, historic parks and sites, nature and provincial parks), arts education, literary arts, performing arts, visual arts and crafts, film and video, broadcasting, sound recording, multidisciplinary and other activities.

5.0 Detailed tables of Canada Council funding to the Yukon

Canada Council for the Arts funding to the Yukon

- Since 2001-02, Canada Council funding to the Yukon has decreased by 2.12% from \$407,925 in 2001-02 to \$399,280 in 2010-11.
- Grants to the Yukon as a percentage of total Canada Council funding has been stable over the past ten fiscal years, ranging from 0.28% to 0.42%. In 2010-11, it stands at 0.28%.

Table 4: Canada Council grants to the Yukon and Canada Council total grants, 2001-02 to 2010-11

Fiscal year	Grant \$ to Yukon Territory	Canada Council total grant \$	Yukon Territory as % of total
2001-02	\$407,925	\$123,777,539	0.33%
2002-03	\$481,456	\$129,467,062	0.37%
2003-04	\$421,400	\$125,957,452	0.33%
2004-05	\$345,915	\$121,455,742	0.28%
2005-06	\$504,800	\$120,519,422	0.42%
2006-07	\$582,225	\$140,838,547	0.41%
2007-08	\$453,555	\$152,803,607	0.30%
2008-09	\$511,427	\$145,639,343	0.35%
2009-10	\$524,510	\$146,136,164	0.36%
2010-11	\$399,280	\$142,324,085	0.28%
% Change	-2.12%	14.98%	

**Table 5: Canada Council grants to the Yukon
by discipline, 2010-11**

Discipline	Artists	Arts organizations	Total
Aboriginal Arts Office	\$3,000	\$39,200	\$42,200
Audience & Market Development	\$6,800	\$36,360	\$43,160
Dance	\$500	\$0	\$500
Director Arts Disciplines	\$0	\$0	\$0
Endowments & Prizes	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equity Office	\$0	\$0	\$0
Inter-Arts Office	\$18,600	\$0	\$18,600
Media Arts	\$0	\$68,220	\$68,220
Music	\$3,600	\$17,400	\$21,000
Theatre	\$0	\$101,250	\$101,250
Visual Arts	\$16,500	\$55,000	\$71,500
Writing and Publishing	\$0	\$32,850	\$32,850
Total grants to the Yukon	\$49,000	\$350,280	\$399,280
Total Canada Council grants	\$22,066,385	\$120,257,700	\$142,324,085
Grants to the Yukon as a % of total Canada Council grants	0.22%	0.29%	0.28%

Grant applications from the Yukon

- Since 2001-02 the total number of grant applications from Yukon artists and arts organizations has increased from 61 in 2001-02 to 77 in 2010-11, an increase of 26.23%. In 2010-11, the Yukon share of grant applications (0.50%) is over three times its share of artists and five times its share of population – see Table 7.

Table 6: Grant applications to the Canada Council from the Yukon and total grant applications to the Canada Council, 2001-02 to 2010-11

Fiscal year	Grant applications from Yukon Territory	Total Canada Council grant applications	Yukon Territory as % of total
2001-02	61	14,586	0.42%
2002-03	75	15,592	0.48%
2003-04	72	16,085	0.45%
2004-05	69	16,572	0.42%
2005-06	106	15,831	0.67%
2006-07	86	15,663	0.55%
2007-08	58	14,768	0.39%
2008-09	64	15,305	0.42%
2009-10	75	16,139	0.46%
2010-11	77	15,443	0.50%
% Change	26.23%	5.88%	

These numbers include applications not assessed, deemed ineligible or transferred to another program.

The Yukon – Various comparisons with other provinces⁷

- The Yukon is in first place in terms of its level of Canada Council grant funding on a per capita basis per province at \$11.57, due to its small population of 34,500 people.¹ The Yukon's share of grant funding is significantly higher than the province's percentage share of population and share of artists.

**Table 7: Yukon – various comparisons
with other provinces, 2010-11**

Province or territory	per capita Canada Council Grant	% share of grant funding	% share of Canada Council grant applications	% share of population	% share of artists
Newfoundland and Labrador	\$2.78	1.00%	1.10%	1.49%	0.86%
Prince Edward Island	\$2.49	0.25%	0.36%	0.42%	0.34%
Nova Scotia	\$4.40	2.91%	2.82%	2.76%	2.67%
New Brunswick	\$2.62	1.38%	1.33%	2.20%	1.36%
Quebec	\$5.64	31.34%	31.89%	23.18%	21.54%
Ontario	\$3.64	33.74%	31.42%	38.73%	40.60%
Manitoba	\$5.12	4.44%	2.66%	3.62%	2.80%
Saskatchewan	\$3.38	2.48%	1.81%	3.07%	2.17%
Alberta	\$2.55	6.67%	7.79%	10.91%	8.68%
British Columbia	\$4.52	14.37%	14.69%	13.28%	18.49%
Yukon	\$11.57	0.28%	0.50%	0.10%	0.15%
Northwest Territories	\$5.23	0.16%	0.22%	0.13%	0.13%
Nunavut	\$8.48	0.20%	0.15%	0.10%	0.18%
Other	...	0.78%	3.26%
Total	(Mean: \$4.17)	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

⁷ Sources:

Statistics Canada: Canada's National Statistical Agency. "Population by year, by province and territory," September 2010, <<http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/l01/cst01/demo02a-eng.htm>>.

Hill Strategies Research Inc. "Artists in Canada's Provinces and Territories Based on the 2006 Census," *Statistic Insights on the Arts*, Vol.7 No. 5, March 2009, <http://www.hillstrategies.com/docs/Artists_provinces2006.pdf>.

**Table 8: Grant funding by community,
Yukon, 2010-11**

Community	Amount
BURWASH LANDING	\$5,100
DAWSON	\$73,500
WHITEHORSE	\$320,680
Total - Yukon	\$399,280
Total - Canada	\$142,324,085
Grants to Yukon as a % of total Canada Council funding	0.28%