

**Yukon Film & Sound Incentives
Program
Biennial Report**

April 1, 2004 to March 31, 2006

Yukon

Economic Development
Film & Sound Commission

Minister's Message

The Yukon Film & Sound Commission's programs and initiatives are designed to foster growth of the film, television and sound recording industries in the Territory, and to promote the achievements of the Yukon industry to the world. By actively consulting with industry and by participating in national and international events, we are able to monitor trends and respond to industry demands by refocusing programs to address issues in the ever changing marketplace.

The Yukon Film & Sound Commission provided training and mentoring to the local industry by partnering with Telefilm Canada and the National Film Board to provide training specifically designed to meet the needs of Yukon filmmakers.

The Yukon Film and Sound industry is a burgeoning community on the brink of moving from cottage industry to global business. Our Territory enjoys the competitive advantage of being a desirable northern landscape on the same time zone as California, the largest film production centre in the world. The incentive programs have played a crucial role at this stage of our economic growth, providing fast and efficient economic support. Our majestic scenery and local talent will only be enhanced and celebrated thanks to the prestige and recognition that this influential industry provides.

It is my sincere hope that all Yukoners share my pride in the many accomplishments of our Yukon Film and Sound industry.

Jim Kenyon
Minister of Economic Development

Yukon Film & Sound Incentive Program

Total Approved Amounts 04/05
\$783,829.15

Total Approved Amounts 05/06
\$693,455.25

Background

The Government of Yukon has been supporting film work in the Yukon since the mid 1980s through various programs and services. In 1990, with the impending “Klondike Gold Rush Centennial” celebrations, the government vested support for film within the Department of Tourism and Culture. In 1998 a formal “Film Commission” was established.

The Yukon Locations Incentive Program (YLIP) came into effect in November 1999 with an annual budget of \$175,000. This program encouraged outside production companies filming on location in Yukon to utilize local labour and services. For the first five years of the program, 28 productions accessed the program, spending \$6.5 million on Yukon labour and services. The YLIP contributed \$800,000 in rebates.

In April 2003, the Government of Yukon and a steering committee of industry stakeholders undertook a review of the Yukon Film Commission. During this review, and in recognition of the important role the industry plays in the Yukon economy, the Yukon Film Commission was relocated to the newly re-established Department of Economic Development. The Film Commission Review resulted in the addition of Sound to the mandate of the Yukon Film Commission – which was renamed “Yukon Film & Sound Commission” (YFSC) in October 2004.

At this time, the Government of Yukon updated the YLIP to accommodate changes in the industry and to provide additional support to the indigenous film industry in the form of the Film Production Fund and the Film Development Fund.

The goals of the Film and Sound Incentives Programs are to:

- 1 Maintain and ultimately increase the level of total independent film and sound recording production and expenditure in Yukon;
- 2 Maximize Yukon employment opportunities resulting from film and sound recording production in Yukon;
- 3 Encourage sustainable growth in the Yukon film and sound recording production sector resulting in a stronger infrastructure of skills and services.

In July 2005, a Sound Recording Program completed the suite of programs available to the film and sound industry.

Approval levels in the Filmmakers Fund and the Sound Recording Program generally remain constant from year to year, as these are both juried intakes with a specific annual allocation. However, the Film Location Incentive, the Film Development Fund and the Film Production Fund are subject to the volatility of qualifying projects brought forward in any given year. Approvals under those funds have fluctuated from 2004-2005 to 2005-2006 and can be expected to continue to fluctuate in the coming years. It is important to look at the average over a number of years, rather than short term trends or specific annual totals.

Yukon Film Location Incentive

Total Approved Amounts 04/05
\$168,233.84

Total Approved Amounts 05/06
\$130,282.70

The Film Location Incentive encourages production companies from outside Yukon to film in Yukon and hire and train Yukoners. There are three components to this incentive program.

Travel Rebate

- *Commercial and documentary productions are eligible for 50% of travel costs to a maximum of \$10,000 or 10% of all Yukon expenditures, whichever is the lesser.*
- *Television program, television Movie of the Week (MOW), and feature film productions are eligible for 50% of travel costs to a maximum of \$15,000 or 15% of Yukon expenditures not assisted under any other portion of the Yukon Film Incentive Program, whichever is the lesser.*

Labour Rebate

- *Television program, television Movie of the Week (MOW), documentaries, and feature films (but not commercials) are eligible for a rebate of up to 35% of wages paid for eligible Yukon labour, provided criteria are met.*

Training Program

- *As with the Labour rebate, the production is eligible for a rebate of up to 35% of wages paid to individuals providing on-set training (techniques and equipment) to eligible Yukon labour.*

Name of Applicant	Project Information	Approved Amount	Project status
Pinewood Films Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Pinewood Films Inc. shot the documentary "Popcorn with Maple Syrup" in April 2004.▪ Pinewood Films Inc spent a total of \$4,258.12 while in the Yukon. Two Yukon residents worked on this production.	\$340.95	Project complete.

Name of Applicant	Project Information	Approved Amount	Project status
Engel Brothers Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engel Brothers Media shot the documentary "Split Second" in July 2004. ▪ A review of the invoices provided shows they spent a total of \$2,611.21 in the Yukon. The company also provided information that three Yukon residents worked on this production but Engel Brothers Media did not claim a labour rebate. 	\$250.00	Project Complete
Fresh From the Yukon Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The National Film Board and Fresh from the Yukon Inc. shot the documentary "Dogs In Concert" in April 2004. ▪ This production spent a total of \$16,263.85 in the Yukon. Six Yukon residents worked on this production. 	\$2,123.00	Project Complete
Mitch Miyagawa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The National Film Board and Mitch Miyagawa shot the short film "<i>Selling Faro</i>" in July 2004. ▪ This production spent a total of \$15,174.47 in the Yukon. A total of six eligible Yukon residents worked on this production as crew. 	\$2,962.50	Project Complete
Millennium Pictures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Millennium Pictures shot a commercial for Chevrolet in October 2004. ▪ They spent a total of \$49,714.26 in the Yukon. Twelve Yukon residents worked on this production. 	\$4,000.00	Project Complete
Gearhead Entertainment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gearhead Entertainment shot a commercial for Lexus in December 2004. ▪ A review of the invoices provided, shows they spent a total of \$70,236.97 in the Yukon. A total of 20 Yukon residents worked on this production. 	\$6,065.14	Project Complete

Name of Applicant	Project Information	Approved Amount	Project status
Third Eye Mind Ltd.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Third Eye Mind Ltd. shot the educational documentary "Ernie's Earth - Room to Roam Part 1-3" between July 2004 and March 2005. ▪ They spent a total of \$95,546.69 while in the Yukon. Nineteen Yukon residents worked on this production. 	\$16,519.31	Project Complete
Man Its Cold Productions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Man its Cold productions shot the feature film "The Big White" in April 2004. ▪ Man It's Cold Productions spent a total of \$972,206.43 in the Yukon. A total of 202 Yukoners worked on this production. 	\$135,972.94	Project Complete
BBC South (Broadcasting House)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BBC South (Broadcasting House) shot the documentary "Incredible Journeys: Caribou" in the Yukon between March and June 2005. ▪ BBC South (Broadcasting House) spent a total of \$171,834.20 while in the Yukon. Fifteen Yukon residents worked on this production. 	\$12,031.65	Project Complete
Darlow Smithson Productions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Darlow Smithson Productions shot the docudrama "Survivor: Soldier in the Snow" in the Yukon between March and May 2005. ▪ Darlow Smithson Productions spent a total of \$183,122.10 while in the Yukon. Thirty-four Yukon residents worked on this production. 	\$19,100.00	Project Complete
Fresh from the Yukon Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fresh from the Yukon Inc. shot parts of the documentary "One Clap" in July 21 & 22, 2005. ▪ Fresh from the Yukon Inc. spent a total of \$1,500.00 in the Yukon. Two Yukon residents worked on this production. 	\$280.00	Project Complete

Name of Applicant	Project Information	Approved Amount	Project status
Haeckle Hill Productions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Haeckle Hill Productions shot the short film "Artifacts" in the Yukon in August 2005. ▪ Haeckle Hill Productions spent \$77,770.69 in the Yukon. Sixteen Yukon residents worked on this production. 	\$9,966.66	Project Complete
National Film Board of Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The National Film Board of Canada shot the live action animation of "How People got Fire" in Yukon in March 2006. ▪ Awaiting final accounting prior to release of funds. 	\$38,900.89	Project in Post Production
Whisper Productions Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Whisper Productions Inc. shot part of the feature film "Whisper" in the Yukon April 2005. ▪ Whisper Productions Inc. spent a total of \$264,100.55 while in the Yukon. Forty-two Yukon residents worked on this production. 	\$21,275.00	Project Complete
R.A. Stringer Cinematography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ R.A. Stringer Cinematography shot the documentary "The Bishop who ate his boots" in the Yukon in August 2005. ▪ R.A. Stringer Cinematography spent a total of \$3,658. Two Yukon residents worked on this production. 	\$937.50	Project Complete
Quixote Films Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quixote Films Inc. shot the commercial "Landrover Sled" shot in the Yukon November 21 – 26, 2005. ▪ Quixote Films Inc. spent a total of \$262,330.27 while in the Yukon. Twenty-one Yukon residents worked on this production. 	\$10,000.00	Project Complete
Mad Films Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mad Films Inc. shot the commercial "AIM Trimark: Tire" in the Yukon December 2 & 3, 2005. ▪ Mad Films Inc. spent a total of \$79,975.28 while in the Yukon. Twenty-two Yukon residents worked on this production. 	\$4,000.00	Project Complete

Name of Applicant	Project Information	Approved Amount	Project status
Unique Factuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="440 300 1037 394">▪ Unique Factuals shot the docudrama "Survivors: The Lost Snowboarder" in the Yukon between April 11 – 25, 2005. <li data-bbox="440 432 1037 556">▪ Unique Factuals spent a total of \$46,855.67 while in the Yukon: Six Yukon residents worked on this production. 	\$13,791.00	Project Complete

Yukon Film Development Fund

Total Approved Amounts 04/05
\$65,900.39

Total Approved Amounts 05/06
\$0.00

Up to 50% of the actual Yukon expenditures to a maximum of \$35,000 or 33% of total project expenses (whichever is the lesser) can be available to Yukon residents or Yukon corporations to assist with the costs of development of film projects in Yukon. The applicant is required to have market place support in the form of either a broadcast development agreement, which is a broadcaster's cash contribution to a production in order to acquire the rights to air the program on their station during a specified period, or a distribution arrangement, which similarly shows there is a market for the project.

An additional \$10,000 may be available to an applicant if the broadcaster/distributor requires more senior personnel not available in Yukon to be attached to the project.

Name of Applicant	Project Information	Approved Amount	Project status
Northern Town Films Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Northern Town Films Inc. received funding for the development of a six-part television series "Northern Town". ▪ Total Development Budget was \$171,000. 	\$40,362.00	Project Complete
Thing with Feathers Production Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Thing with Feathers Production Inc. received funding for the development of the six-part animated series "Anash and the Legacy of the Sun-Rock. ▪ Total Development budget was \$77,739.87. 	\$25,538.39	Development Complete

Yukon Film Production Fund

Total Approved Amounts 04/05
\$500,000.00

Total Approved Amounts 05/06
\$495,036.30

Up to \$500,000/project is available to Yukon corporations who financially and creatively control projects to assist with the costs of producing a film in Yukon. The applicant is required to have marketplace support in the form of either a broadcast license, which is a commitment by a licensed broadcaster to participate financially in the production of the project, or a distribution arrangement.

For productions solely controlled by a Yukon resident or corporation, the contributions will be based on 30% of Yukon expenditures or 30% of total production costs whichever is the lesser.

For co-productions the contribution will be based on 30% of Yukon expenditures or 20% of total production costs whichever is lesser.

Name of Applicant	Project Information	Approved Amount	Project status
Tagish Lake Films Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Tagish Lake Films Inc. filmed "Northern Town", a six-part television series in Yukon in Feb and March 2005.▪ Total Yukon spend during production was \$1,315,632.64▪ 252 Yukoners worked on this production	\$500,000.00	Project Complete
Sun Rock Productions (1-6) Yukon	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ "Annash and the Legacy of the Sun-Rock" filmed Sept – Nov 2006.	\$465,036.30	Awaiting final report.
Northscape Productions Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ "Climate Change North & South"▪ March 2006	\$30,000.00	

Yukon Film Training Initiative

Total Approved Amounts 04/05
\$25,485.92

Total Approved Amounts 05/06
\$0.00

Up to \$3,000/person/year is available to Yukon residents for training for a career in film. Applicants must have demonstrated a commitment to a career in this field (such as significant recent course work and/or work experience).

Recipients in Fiscal Year 2004/2005 were Adam Green, Jessica Hall, Linda Talbot and Neil MacDonald, Dawson City Arts Society & Yukon Film Society.

Yukon Filmmakers Fund

Total Approved Amounts 04/05
\$24,209.00

Total Approved Amounts 05/06
\$25,000.00

Up to \$5,000/applicant is available to Yukon resident film and video professionals to assist them in developing viable careers and businesses making films and videos for broadcast or commercial release. Two intakes per year – June 1 and December 1.

Name of Applicant	Project Name	Approved Amount	Project Status
Haeckel Hill Productions	Documentary film performance based on historic silver mining towns of Keno City and Elsa.	\$4,167.00	Complete
Andy Crowther	Roberts Float	\$3,375.00	Complete
Carol Geddes	The Feast	\$4,167.00	Complete
Marten Berkman	Yukon Quest: A Documentary	\$2,000.00	Complete
Michael Brooks	The Hip Hop Bears	\$1,000.00	Complete
Jeremiah Percival	Eagle Touch	\$1,000.00	Complete
Andrew Sharpe	The Weasel who Came in From the Cold	\$4,000.00	Complete
Treeline Productions	The Man Who Wouldn't Fit In: Documentary	\$4,500.00	Complete
Mitch Miyagawa	Secret Life of Geriatrics	\$2,500.00	In Progress
Patricia Robertson	Ice Palace	\$3,500.00	In Progress
Michael Wood	Street Dream	\$1,500.00	Complete
Marie Carr	Klondike Sabu	\$2,500.00	Complete
Patti Flather	Kiss the Klondike Goodbye	\$5,000.00	In Progress
Elsa Entertainment Inc.	Borderlands	\$3,000.00	In Progress
Troy Suzuki	Winter Stories	\$3,000.00	In Progress
Arthur Mercredi	Cheechako's Run	\$3,000.00	Complete
Andrew Whittaker	Frolf	\$1,000.00	In Progress

Yukon Sound Recording Program

Total Approved Amounts 05/06

\$43,136.25

The Yukon Sound Recording Program was put in place to support the Yukon recording industry, to further develop the cultural industries sector, and to encourage a business focus among those in the Yukon music industry. This program assists Yukon sound recording professionals in developing viable careers and businesses. Two intakes per year: May 1 and November 1.

There are two components to the Sound Recording Program:

- *Professional Demo Recording of up to \$2,000 for producing a CD with a minimum of 2 tracks or 5 minutes*
- *Professional Sound Recording of up to \$5,000 for producing a CD with a minimum of 6 tracks or 20 minutes*

Name of Applicant 05/06	Project Name	Approved Amount	Project Status
Danette Readman	Undone	\$2,000	In Progress
Heather Loewen	Black Widow Death Drive	\$2,000	Complete
Kate Weekes	Lake Laberge	\$2,000	Complete
Michael Brooks	Buffalo Bob's Big Beef Burgers on a Bun	\$2,000	In Progress
Gordie Tentrees	Gordee Tentrees Band	\$5,000	In Progress
Caribou Records	Valle Son	\$3,766.25	Complete
Ken Hermanson	Greyhound	\$2,000	In Progress
Derek Holmes	Honey One	\$2,000	Complete
Brian Foulds	Far Away	\$1,370	In Progress
Soir de Semaine	On part en vacances	\$2,000	Complete
Seaweed Music	Big Mistake	\$2,000	In Progress
Barbara Chamberlin	Buckshot Betty	\$2,000	In Progress
Grant Simpson	New Orleans North	\$5,000	Complete
Kim Beggs	Up From the River	\$5,000	In Progress
Kate Weekes	Land Shaping the People	\$5,000	In Progress

Statistical Summary

	2004/2005	
Yukon Film Location Incentive		\$168,233.84
Development Fund		\$65,900.39
Production Fund		\$500,000.00
Yukon Film Training Initiative		\$25,485.92
Yukon Filmmakers Fund		\$24,209.00
	Total Film Incentive Funds Contributed 04/05	\$783,829.15
	2005/2006	
Yukon Film Location Incentive		\$130,282.70
Development Fund		\$0.00
Production Fund		\$495,036.30
Yukon Film Training Initiative		\$0.00
Yukon Filmmakers Fund		\$25,000.00
Yukon Sound Recording Program		\$43,136.25
	Total Film Incentive Funds Contributed 05/06	\$693,455.25