



**Yukon**

Community Development Fund

Annual Report

2024–25

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Cover photo submitted by Teslin Historical & Museum Society

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Photo: Government of Yukon
Castle Rock sits along kilometer 56 of the Top
of the World Highway near Dawson City, Yukon.

About the fund

The Community Development Fund supports projects, events and initiatives that contribute to the Yukon’s cultural, economic and social development.

These projects:

- » generate local spending;
- » create employment opportunities;
- » build needed infrastructure;
- » bring new money into the Yukon;
- » develop skills, knowledge and experience;
- » facilitate community involvement; and
- » build partnerships.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants are Yukon-based and include:

- » registered non-profit societies;
- » not-for-profit corporations incorporated under the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act;
- » charitable organizations;
- » municipal and First Nations governments; and
- » First Nations development corporations engaging in community-level initiatives.

Project categories

Applicants can receive funding for:

- » new construction projects;
- » renovations, restorations and other physical improvements to buildings or lands;
- » knowledge or skill development;
- » research and planning; and
- » programs and events.

Funding levels and intakes

The Community Development Fund is structured into three tiers corresponding to different levels of funding. There are various application intake dates throughout the year for each tier.

Funding is available for up to 90% of the total project or event costs.

Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Funding levels		
Up to \$20,000	\$20,001 to \$75,000	Over \$75,000
Application intakes		
January May July October	April September	January



Message from the Minister

From the Sewing Maker Space in Haines Junction to the Arts, Music and Literature Festival in Keno, this year's Community Development Fund annual report is packed with exciting and innovative projects across the Yukon. Each of these projects demonstrates the creativity of our people and the enthusiasm that Yukoners share for improving the lives of their neighbours.

Our territory is home to a rich diversity of communities and traditional lands. While they are united by the Yukon spirit and many shared values, each bring their own distinct identity, strengths, and priorities. This diversity underscores the importance of the fund, which supports community members to shape and lead initiatives that reflect their unique needs.

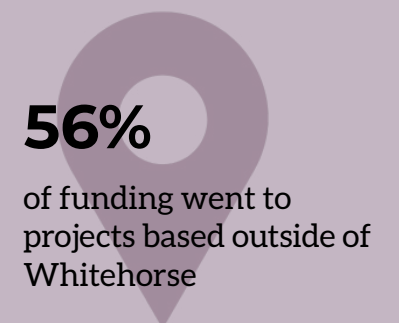
As government, our role is to listen to citizens and community advocates, understand their needs and priorities and support solutions that empower innovators to address them. The Community Development Fund has long been a key tool for achieving this, with a proven track record and a strong reputation among Yukoners.

I look forward to continuing this collaborative work and seeing all the fantastic ways that Yukoners utilize the fund to enrich our territory.

Jen Gehmair
Minister of Economic Development
Government of Yukon



Photo: Andrew Strain, Government of Yukon
An aerial view of the Da Ku Culture Centre /
Haines Junction Visitor Information Centre.



Project highlights

The following profiles depict some of the community projects that were supported by the Community Development Fund during the 2024–2025 fiscal year.



Teslin Historical & Museum Society
Amount approved: \$46,557

Humane Society Yukon

Amount approved: \$74,925

“The renovations supported by the CDF are key to improving the care and safety of the animals, the staff and volunteers and setting the stage for a new era of interaction with our community. The project includes upgrades to the bath/grooming room, the animal viewing room and the janitor room and sets the beginning stage for the community and Mae Bachur to thrive in a modern era.”

- Colleen Wirth

Biathlon Yukon

Amount approved: \$71,711

“The support provided through the Community Development Fund has been instrumental in helping Biathlon Yukon enhance our facilities. These improvements have strengthened our programs and created lasting benefits for both our athletes and the wider community, but also enable us to host major events that bring significant economic benefits to the Yukon.”

- Bill Curtis

Keno Community Club

Amount approved: \$11,813

“CDF funding has been so helpful for the development of collaborative, multi-community team building, within the Yukon. Through their partial financing of the producer costs of the Keno City Music, Art and Literature+ Workshop, it helped bring together community minded, creative producers (and thinkers) from Keno City, Teslin and Whitehorse. This culminated into a highly successful 12-day artist exchange in Keno City that brought together 12 other artists from across the Yukon. Artists were able to create, push their envelopes, share knowledge and build multi-community collaborative prospects for their creative endeavours.”

- Kim Beggs, Producer, Whitehorse



“As an assistant producer, participant, and resident, it was a joy to bring this project to Keno City. As an assistant, I gained valuable new skills and was able to work directly with an incredibly talented, and diverse group of Yukon artists. As a participant, I was given a chance to work in new and unfamiliar mediums, within a supportive environment. As a resident, I witnessed how our project brought the community together, provided a sense of pride in our community, and excitement to share what Keno City has to offer. It's official: good things and good art happen in Keno City. Thanks to CDF for helping fund the 2025 Keno City Workshop.”

- Amber Smith



Polarettes and Polar Tumblers Gymnastics Club

Amount approved: \$20,000

“There’s a real buzz around the brand-new Yukon Gymnastics Centre, home to the Polarettes and Polar Tumblers Gymnastics Club. More than 2,000 people came out on opening day to tour the facility—a clear sign of how excited Yukoners are about this new space. Here, athletes of all ages will learn to take risks safely, build resilience, and discover the joy of movement.

This milestone wouldn’t have been possible without the support of the Community Development Fund (CDF). Funding from CDF allowed the Polarettes to hire a project manager to coordinate the move into the new facility including moving equipment from the Riverdale location and ordering, shipping, and assembling brand-new equipment to transform the beautiful, brand-new building in Whistle Bend into a world-class gymnastics facility.

The Polarettes extend their deepest gratitude to the Community Development Fund and the Government of Yukon for their generous support in making this dream a reality.

- Amanda Janssens



Kwanlin Dün Cultural Society

Amount approved: \$88,791



Queer Yukon

Amount approved: \$20,280



Junction Arts and Music

Amount approved: \$17,910

Junction Arts & Music extends heartfelt thanks to the Yukon Government’s Community Development Fund for supporting our Mobile AV Booth project. The booth made its debut at the Glacier Nights Snow Festival in March, giving our DJ a warm, protected space to rock the night and keep the outdoor dance party going strong. Because it’s mobile, we’ll be able to use it at future events, keeping the music — and our community — alive in every season.

- Leigh-Anne Larsen | 10

Approved projects

Organization	Project name	Category	Funding amount
Carcross			
Carcross Tagish First Nation	Carcross Tagish First Nation Recovery Project	Programs and events	\$22,657
Dawson City			
City of Dawson	Crocus Bluff - Back Nine Tee Pad Installation New Construction	New construction	\$15,550
Dawson City Museum Society	Multimedia Digitization Equipment Purchase	Equipment/Capital Purchases	\$25,066
Dawson City Music Festival Association	Reliability & Accessibility of Event Rental In DC	Programs and events	\$90,515
Dawson City Arts Society	KIAC Renovations	Renovations or restorations	\$250,000
Faro			
Town of Faro	Joint Town-ARAS Arts Centre Feasibility Study	Planning	\$16,605
Faro Arts and Recreation Association	The Youth Groups Kettle Cafe	Knowledge or skill development	\$75,000
Town of Faro	Recreation Centre-Emergency Kitchen & Renovation Project	Renovations or restorations	\$250,000

Organization	Project name	Category	Funding amount
Haines Junction			
Shäwthän Näzhì Healing with the Land Society	Men Wellness Circles	Programs and events	\$20,000
Junction Arts and Music	Flatbed equipment for mobile audio visual booth	Equipment/Capital Purchases	\$17,910
Haines Junction Community Association	Dakwakada-HJ Farmers Market 2025	Programs and events	\$5,400
Sha Shäw Corporation	Lot 52 Pre-Feasibility, viability, assessment and infrastructure planning	Planning	\$50,892
Champagne and Aishihik First Nations	Sewing Maker Space	Planning	\$250,000
Keno			
Keno Community Club	Keno Arts, Music & Literature Festival	Knowledge or skill development	\$11,813
Mayo			
Na-Cho Nyäk Dun Development Corporation	Ihdzì' Food Innovation Hub: Pilot	Knowledge or skill development	\$75,000
Other			
Marsh Lake Community Society	Army Beach/South McClintock Bench Trail Project	Renovations or restorations	\$15,719
Braeburn Lake Christian Camp Association	Outhouse Replacement	New construction	\$68,616

Organization	Project name	Category	Funding amount
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Pelly Crossing

Selkirk First Nation	Selkirk Community Carpentry Training Program	Programs and events	\$70,603
Selkirk First Nation	Community Landscaping & Gardening Employment Projects	Knowledge or skill development	\$63,020

Ross River

Yukon University Ross River Campus	WRRAP Wellness for Ross River Art Project	Knowledge or skill development	\$15,000
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Teslin

Teslin Tlingit Council	Heritage Dock	Equipment/Capital purchases	\$60,000
Teslin Historical & Museum Society	George Johnston Museum 50th Anniversary Event	Programs and events	\$46,557
Village of Teslin	Teslin Trail System Phase 2	New construction	\$85,500

Watson Lake

Queer Yukon Society	Growing 2SLGBTQIA & Supports in Watson Lake	New construction	\$20,280
Watson Lake Ski Club	Ski Hill Groomer Purchase	Programs and events	\$107,747

Organization	Project name	Category	Funding amount
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Whitehorse

Friends of Mt. Sima Society	Sima Disc Golf	New construction	\$20,000
Golden Age Society	Upgrades for Golden Age Society	Renovations or restorations	\$1,832
Grizzly Bear Protection Yukon Society	Commercial Bear Proof Waste Container Pilot Project	Planning	\$15,732
Polarettes and Polar Tumblers Gymnastics Club	Project Manager	Planning	\$20,000
Pineridge Neighborhood Association	Pineridge Park Shed & Benches	New construction	\$8,775
Whitehorse Concerts	Marketing Strategy Modernization	Planning	\$6,374
Whitehorse Glacier Bears Swim Club	Strategic Plan	Planning	\$10,982
Sport Yukon	Reconciliation Action Plan	Knowledge or skill development	\$14,575
Whitehorse Nordic Ski Society	Event Coordinator	Programs and events	\$19,503
Golden Age Society	Upgrade Furnace and Air System Controls	Renovations or restorations	\$14,530
Nakai Theatre Ensemble	Theatre Based Training For Leaders And Organizers	Planning	\$15,375
Heat Yukon Volleyball Club	HITT Volleyball Camp	Programs and events	\$8,000
MacBride Museum Society	Restoration of Copperbelt Deck	Renovations or restorations	\$18,649
Les Essentielles	30th Anniversary	Programs and events	\$8,427
Yukon Arts Centre	In-Ear Monitor for Performers	Equipment/Capital Purchases	\$14,120
Yukon Rugby Federation	5 Year Strategic Plan	Planning	\$11,500
Sport Yukon	Fire Panel Replacement	Renovations or restorations	\$19,988



Photos provided by Teslin Historical & Museum Society

Organization	Project name	Category	Funding amount
Whitehorse continued			
Yukon First Nations Hockey Association	Tournament Ice Fees	Programs and events	\$71,106
Teegatha'Oh Zheh	TOZ Blueprint for Person Centred Planning	Knowledge or skill development	\$62,285
Guild Hall Society	Guild Hall Community Space Renovations	Renovations or restorations	\$69,873
Humane Society Yukon	Pawsitive Transitions	Renovations or restorations	\$74,925
Climb Yukon Association	Climbing Gym Business Plan Implementation	Planning	\$71,958
Hospice Yukon Society	Flood Mitigation Project	Renovations or restorations	\$54,196
Kwanlin Dün First Nation	Phase 1 Kwanlin Dün Film Timecodes & Descriptive Logs	Planning	\$67,500
Yukon Film Society	Yukon Theatre 2024 Upgrades	Planning	\$35,483
Biathlon Yukon	Trailwork Phase 3	Renovations or restorations	\$71,711
Polarettas and Polar Tumblers Gymnastics Club	Project Manager	Research	\$47,933
Yukon Anti-Poverty Coalition	Yukon Food security Conference 2025: Decentralizing Food Systems	Programs and events	\$32,327
Yukon Arts Centre	Moving LED Stage Lights	Renovations or restorations	\$74,193
Lorne Mountain Community Association	LMCA Wellness Park	New construction	\$95,029
Whitehorse Aboriginal Women's Circle	YANSI History Project-Publication Phase	Programs and events	\$120,753
La Société Des Immeubles Franco Yukonnais	Elevator Renovation	Renovations or restorations	\$91,666
Kwanlin Dün Cultural Society	The Sacred Fire Community Circle	Renovations or restorations	\$88,791

All approved projects are reflected in the table above, whether or not the project proceeds. Recipients have the ability to decline or return funding.

Funding statistics

The following section provides a detailed breakdown of how the Community Development Fund money was spent over the 2024–2025 fiscal year.

Applications

For the period April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025, the Community Development Fund program received 138 applications. As outlined in the chart below, 23 applications were withdrawn which left 115 to be processed. Of these 115 applications, 58 were approved and 57 were not supported. This represents an average approval rate of 50 per cent.

Figure 1: Application approval rates by tier

Tier	Number of applications received			Number of applications approved			
	Total received	Withdrawn	Total processed	Fully funded	Partially funded	Total funded	Approval rate
Tier 1	58	9	49	21	4	25	51%
Tier 2	52	9	43	16	5	21	49%
Tier 3	28	5	23	7	5	12	52%
Total	138	23	115	44	14	58	50%

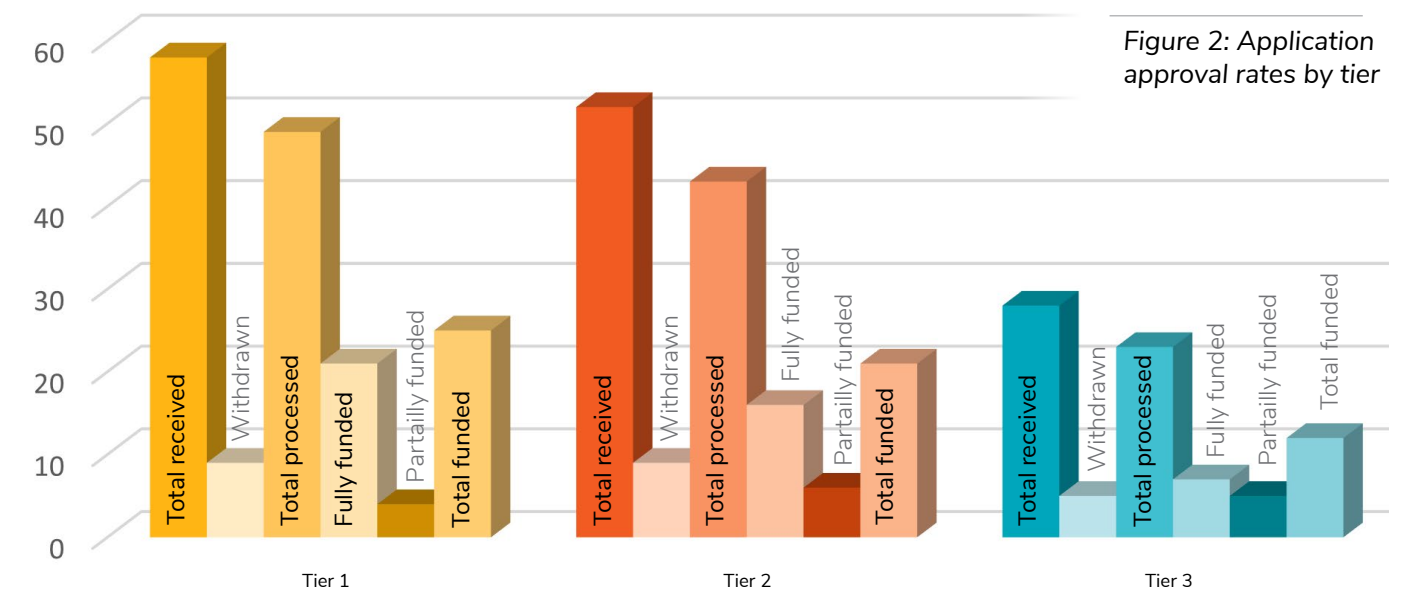


Figure 2: Application approval rates by tier

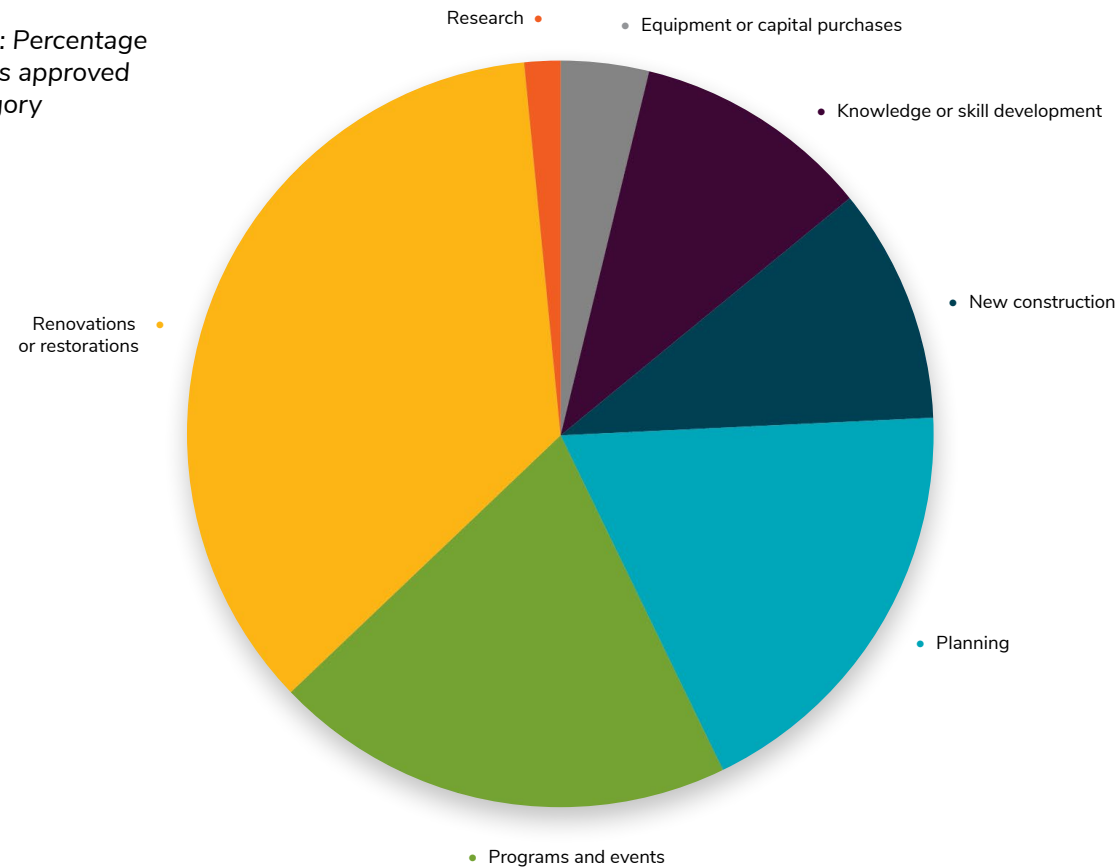
Distribution of dollars by project category

All projects are assigned to specific categories. The information below reflects the number of projects approved in each category for the 2024–2025 fiscal year, and the distributional breakdown of dollars.

Figure 3: Distribution of dollars by project category

Category	Number of projects	Amount approved	Percentage of funding approved by category (rounded)
Equipment or capital purchases	4	\$117,096	4%
Knowledge or skill development	7	\$316,693	11%
New construction	7	\$313,750	11%
Planning	12	\$572,401	20%
Programs and events	13	\$623,595	17%
Renovations or restorations	14	\$1,096,073	35%
Research	1	\$47,933	2%
Total	55	\$3,087,541	100%

Figure 4: Percentage of dollars approved by category



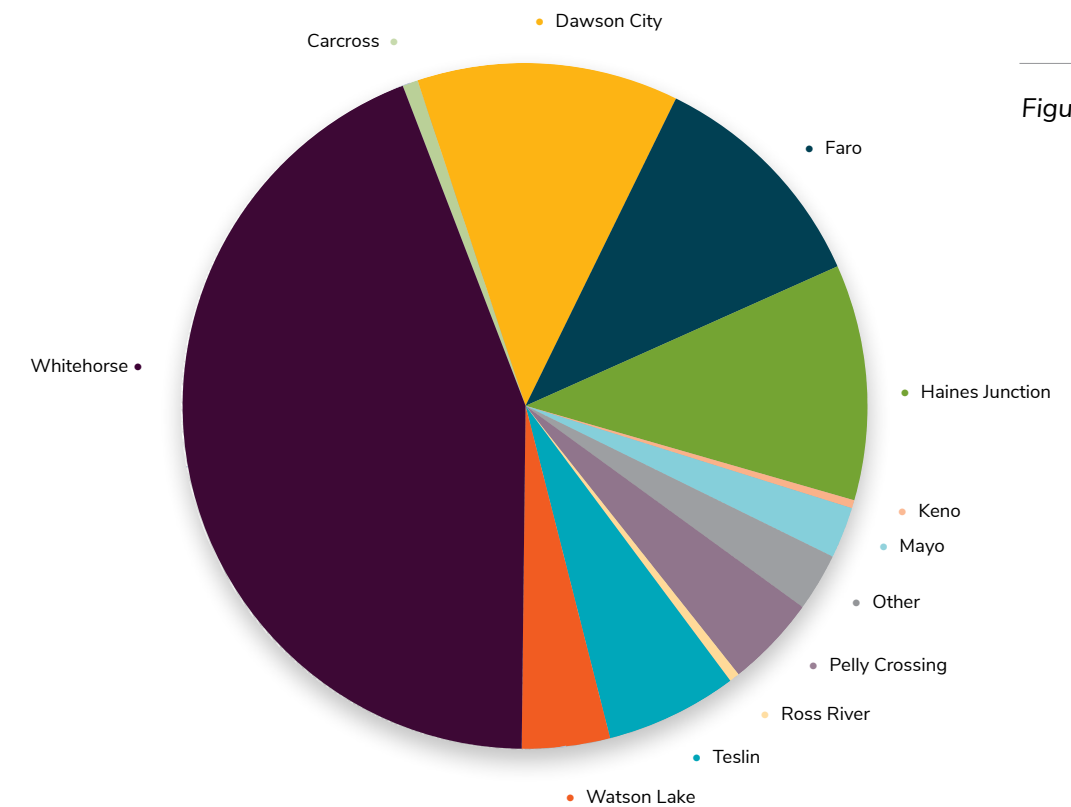
Distribution of dollars by community

For the 2024–2025 fiscal year, the communities receiving the most dollars were Whitehorse at just over 46 per cent, followed by Dawson City at just over 12 per cent. When comparing, Whitehorse received over 46 per cent and rural Yukon received over 53 per cent of funding.

Figure 5: Distribution of dollars by community

Community	Total amount for all tiers	Percentage of funding approved by community (rounded)
Carcross	\$22,657	1%
Dawson City	\$381,131	12%
Faro	\$341,605	11%
Haines Junction	\$344,202	11%
Keno	\$11,813	0.5%
Mayo	\$75,000	3%
Other	\$84,335	3%
Pelly Crossing	\$133,623	4%
Ross River	\$15,000	0.5%
Teslin	\$192,057	6%
Watson Lake	\$128,027	4%
Whitehorse	\$1,358,091	44%
Total	\$3,087,541	100%

Figure 6: Distribution of dollars by community



Distribution of dollars by tier

The Community Development Fund approved \$3,087,541 for projects in the fiscal year April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025. Some of these projects are multi-year initiatives. The largest portion of this funding went to Tier 3 projects followed by Tier 2 and Tier 1.

Figure 7: Distribution of dollars per tier

Approvals by tier	Number of approved projects	Amount approved
Tier 1	25	\$346,359
Tier 2	21	\$1,173,968
Tier 3	12	\$1,567,214
Total	58	\$3,087,541

Figure 8: Dollar amount approved by tier

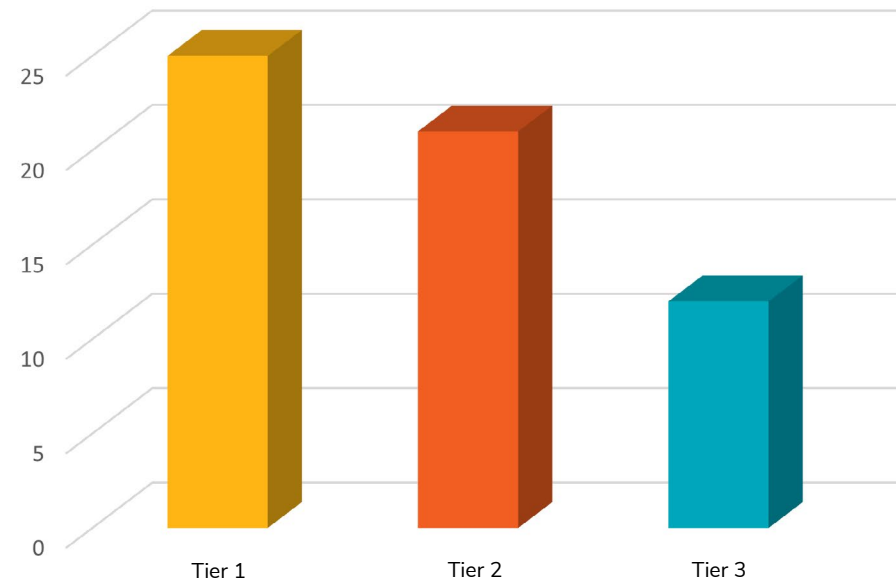
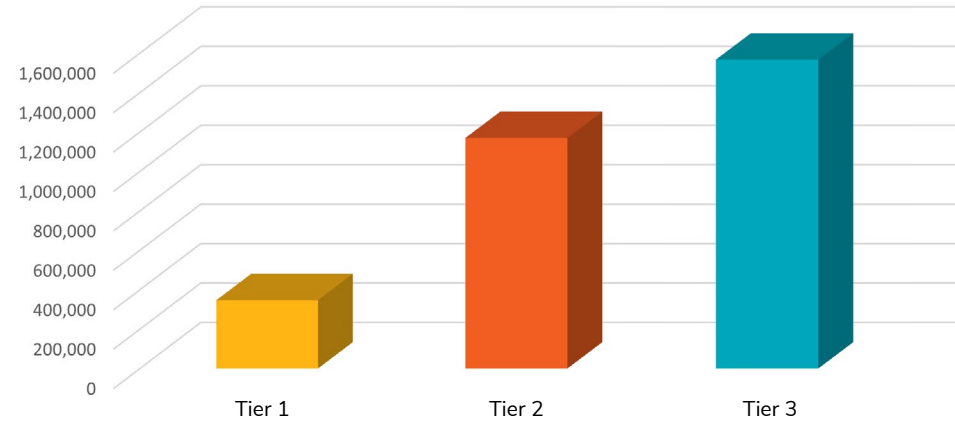


Figure 9: Number of projects approved by tier

Distribution of dollars by community per tier

Tier 1 dollars approved by community

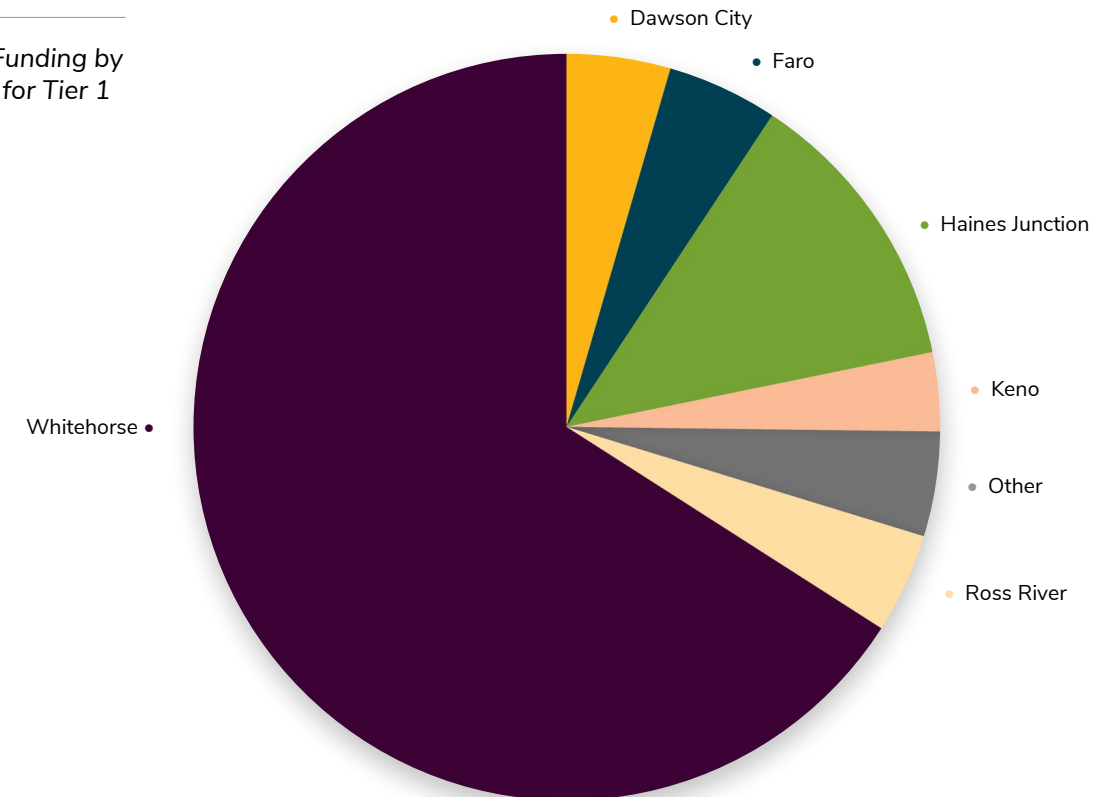
Funding requests up to \$20,000

In Tier 1, the communities receiving the most dollars were Whitehorse at 66 per cent, followed by Haines Junction at 13 per cent, and Faro at 5 per cent.

Community	Approved funding	Percentage of funding approved by community (rounded)
Dawson City	\$15,550	4%
Faro	\$16,605	5%
Haines Junction	\$43,310	13%
Keno	\$11,813	3%
Other	\$15,719	5%
Ross River	\$15,000	4%
Whitehorse	\$228,362	66%
Total	\$346,359	100%

Figure 10: Distribution of dollars by community for Tier 1

Figure 11: Funding by community for Tier 1 projects



Tier 2 dollars approved by community

Funding requests from \$20,001 to \$75,000

In Tier 2, the highest percentage of funding went to Whitehorse at 56 per cent, followed by Teslin which received 9 per cent and Faro and Mayo both receiving 6.5 per cent.

Community	Approved funding	Percentage of funding approved by community (rounded)
Carcross	\$22,657	2%
Dawson City	\$25,066	2%
Faro	\$75,000	6.5%
Haines Junction	\$50,892	4%
Mayo	\$75,000	6.5%
Other	\$68,616	6%
Pelly Crossing	\$70,603	6%
Teslin	\$106,557	9%
Watson Lake	\$20,280	2%
Whitehorse	\$659,297	56%
Total	\$1,173,968	100%

Figure 12: Distribution of dollars by community for Tier 2

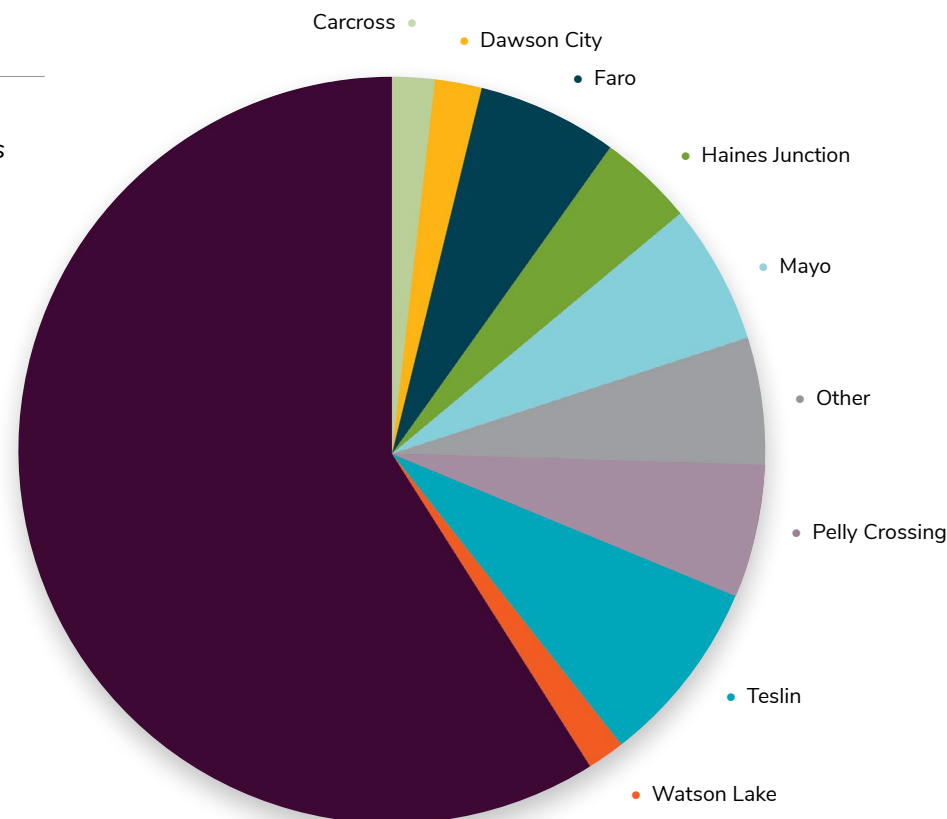


Figure 13: Funding by community for Tier 2 projects

Tier 3 dollars approved by community

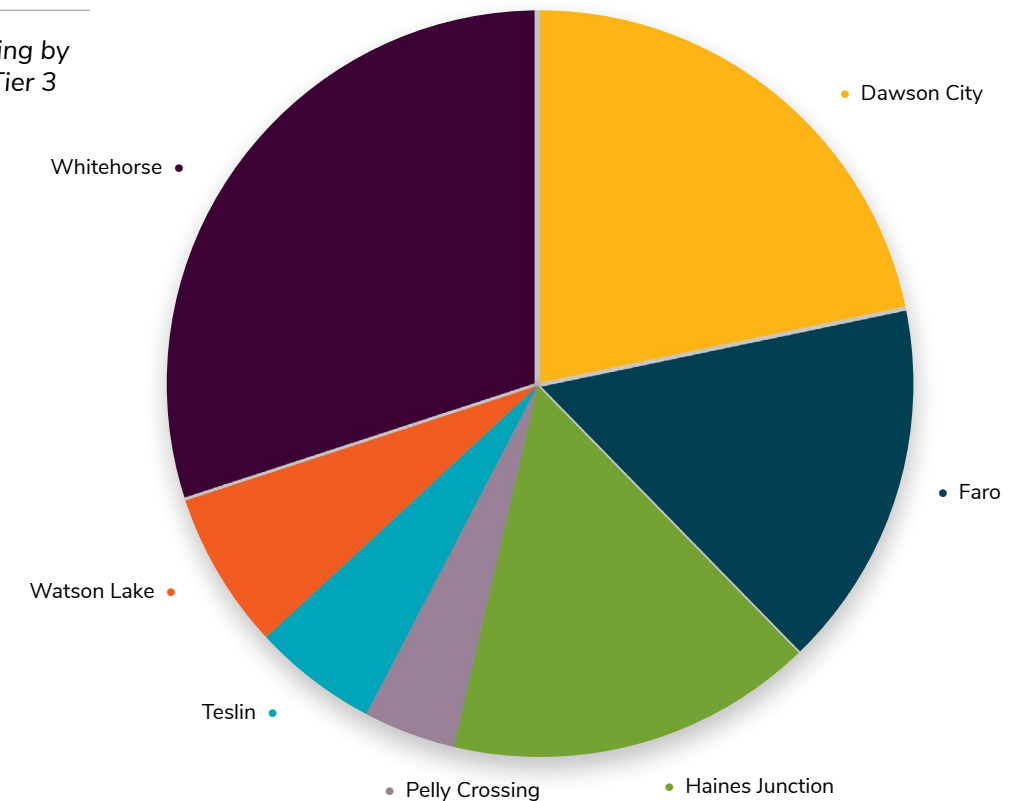
Funding requests over \$75,000

In Tier 3, 30 per cent of the funding was awarded to Whitehorse, with Dawson City receiving 22 per cent and Faro and Haines Junction both receiving 16 per cent.

Community	Approved funding	Percentage of funding approved by community (rounded)
Dawson City	\$340,515	22%
Faro	\$250,000	16%
Haines Junction	\$250,000	16%
Pelly Crossing	\$63,020	4%
Teslin	\$85,500	5%
Watson Lake	\$107,747	7%
Whitehorse	\$470,432	30%
Total	\$1,567,214	100%

Figure 14: Distribution of dollars by community for Tier 3

Figure 15: Funding by community for Tier 3 projects






Yukon