



**Yukon Historical &
Museums Association**



**heritage
yukon**
Step in to our story

Yukon Historical & Museums Association
Strengthening heritage in the Yukon

2021-22
ANNUAL REPORT

2021-22 Highlights

Committed nearly \$25,000 in grants through the Yukon Heritage Training Fund

Long-term capacity of our heritage sector grew through 11 training projects.

Recognized achievement through the 2021 Heritage Awards

Art Johns, Beth Hunt and Bruce Mitford, Kaitlin Normandin, Yukon Transportation Museum and Janna Swales, and Anne Morgan and Jamie Toole received awards for their contributions to Yukon heritage.

Documented and increased understanding of digital capacity and interest in Yukon museums and cultural centres

In partnership with the Yukon First Nations Culture and Tourism Association, YHMA conducted a Strategic Digital Needs Assessment that identified priority needs and opportunities in the digital realm.

Advocated for Yukon's heritage and heritage community

YHMA undertook advocacy at the local, regional, and national levels on a variety of issues relating to the Yukon and national heritage communities.

Grew partnerships within the national heritage community

YHMA took part in multiple national projects and initiatives in partnership with heritage organizations across the county.

Raised awareness and knowledge of the Yukon's heritage

Through public programming, YHMA worked to raise awareness and knowledge of the places, stories, and groups that contribute to Yukon heritage.

Strengthened the Yukon heritage community network

Through communication tools like our website and e-bulletin, YHMA reinforced the network that connects the Yukon heritage community with Yukoners, visitors, and the global heritage community.

Supported initiatives to protect and celebrate Yukon heritage

By providing advice, resources, contacts, letters of support, and other information, YHMA assisted both groups and individuals in heritage-related projects including research, designations, funding applications, and more.

Enhanced Lepage Park as a community space to connect with Yukon heritage

A new boardwalk and improved seating installed in Lepage Park during Phase 2 of renovations has created a more welcoming and accessible space.

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A message from The President



Sally Robinson
President

Members of the Yukon Historical and Museums Association, including our directors, represent an active heritage community dedicated to the identification, protection, conservation, and interpretation of Yukon history and heritage. I very much enjoyed working with the YHMA Board this past year as we managed to meet through Zoom and persevere through the difficulties of unstable or insufficient internet connections.

The Building Maintenance Committee remained actively involved with the City of Whitehorse in the maintenance of Lepage Park and the three heritage buildings that surround it. We greatly improved our situation as landlords to worthy tenants. This work has drawn our attention to the number of heritage buildings that Whitehorse is losing as it grows in population and infrastructure.

The Yukon heritage community remains strong and vibrant, and we held our annual Heritage Awards to honour deserving members in several categories. Last year's awards went to the late Art Johns, Bruce Mitford and Beth Hunt, the Yukon Transportation Museum and Janna Swales, and Anne Morgan and Jamie Toole for their conservation work on the *MV Sibilla* in Carcross. Remember that you can nominate individuals and organizations at any time throughout the year and the categories are listed on our website at heritageyukon.ca.

Our multi-tasking genius Executive Director Lianne Maitland showed extreme dedication in working through the pandemic. Many thanks to the outgoing board who donated hours of their time and considerable energy over the past year. Thanks also to the Government of Yukon and our sponsors for their support, as we could not do what we do without them.

A message from

The Executive Director



Lianne Maitland
Executive Director

Lianne Maitland

Another year has flown by, and it has been my pleasure to review our activities and achievements to compile this report. While we had to continue to adapt as circumstances changed, nevertheless YHMA had a very full year working to strengthen heritage in the Yukon.

Advocacy was very much a focus throughout the year. YHMA responded to the federal and Whitehorse municipal elections; questions posed to parties and candidates drew attention to heritage. We also took action on a variety of other advocacy issues at the local, territorial, and federal levels. Work continued on three major projects, with the Strategic Digital Needs Assessment of Yukon museums and cultural centres reaching completion, and two national projects, Reconsidering Museums and the Heritage Reset Framework, progressing significantly. Public programs, some new, some old, offered the opportunity for the broader community to connect with heritage. Meanwhile, we further developed core services and programs, including Yukon Heritage Training Fund, and, excitingly, the Yukon Stikine/Regional Heritage Fair, for which we took the first steps to run the fair again after a two-year hiatus.

I would like to express my sincerest thanks our board members for their dedication throughout the year. Thank you also to our summer student, Jonas Vasseur, who went above and beyond to make my work as Executive Director easier, while still excelling in the duties of his role. The value of the support I received from our Directors and from Jonas cannot be understated.

To our members, donors, sponsors, volunteers, partners, and other supporters, thank you also for being a part of what we do. I am pleased to submit this annual report for your consideration.

2021-22 Board of Directors

Sally Robinson, President
Judy Hartling, Vice-President
Cathy Hines, Secretary-Treasurer/
Past President
Allison Belshaw

Deborah Donnelly
Georgianna Low
Kaitlin Normandin
Janna Swales
Sylvie Binette

2021-22 Staff

Lianne Maitland
Executive Director

Jonas Vasseur
Community Relations Officer

Committees

Membership Committee: This committee is responsible for monitoring member satisfaction and reviewing YHMA's membership program.

Lease and Property Management Committee: This committee assists the Executive Director in property management issues.

Fundraising Committee: This committee meets as necessary to coordinate special fundraising efforts for the Association.

Heritage Training Fund Committee: This committee meets quarterly and as needed to review, select, and approve applications to the Yukon Heritage Training Fund (YHTF), monitors feedback from stakeholders, and reviews and updates the YHTF Fund Policy and related materials, including application guidelines and criteria, on a regular basis.

Heritage Fair Committee: This committee meets as necessary to assist in the planning and coordination of the annual Yukon/Stikine Regional Heritage Fair.

Awards Committee: This committee convenes annually to accept and review nominations for the Yukon Heritage Awards.

Conference Committee: A conference committee is struck as necessary to organize YHMA's conferences and symposiums.

Ad Hoc Committees: Ad hoc committees are struck as necessary to address special projects or issues that arise.

About YHMA

The Yukon Historical & Museums Association was established in 1977 by a group of concerned and passionate individuals to create a united voice for understanding and promoting heritage and history in the Yukon. Today, YHMA is a territorially-incorporated Society and a registered charitable organization whose membership reflects the scope and diversity of the Yukon heritage community, comprising heritage organizations, heritage sector workers, and others actively involved in the heritage sector or who have an interest in heritage.

We keep apprised of issues and advocate on behalf of the Yukon's heritage and heritage sector. We continue to build a learning environment for history and culture and the development of skills and best practices in the heritage sector. We share knowledge with the Yukon heritage community and support each other in protection and conservation projects.

Vision

Yukoners encounter and celebrate their heritage daily.

Mission

YHMA will strengthen heritage in the Yukon through leadership, advocacy and education.

Values

Vibrancy
Fun
Passion
Partnerships
Encouragement
Inspiration
Sharing

YHMA at the heart of the heritage community:

15+ volunteers

61 members

550+ participants in YHMA programs and services

Strengthening YHMA, Strengthening Community

YHMA serves to connect, engage, and share information among members of the Yukon heritage sector, and to raise awareness of and support for the territory's unique and diverse heritage. No easy feat for a community scattered across over 480,000 km²!

Over the past year, YHMA has undertaken a wide variety of activities aimed at strengthening the organization and improving our ability to support Yukon heritage and the heritage community.

We did this in a number of ways:

- Spotlighted heritage during the federal and municipal elections through **questions directed to parties/candidates**, collaborating with national and provincial counterparts where relevant.
- Completed a **Strategic Digital Needs Assessment of Yukon museums and cultural centres** in partnership with the Yukon First Nations Culture and Tourism Association, which identified priority needs and opportunities, providing guidance to YHMA on how to better support the sector.
- Continued to collaborate with the national and provincial museum associations on the **Reconsidering Museums initiative**, helping to develop a core platform. This project aims to provide museums with the tools and language to better communicate with and serve their communities.
- Continued as a partner in the national **Heritage Reset Framework project** lead by the National Trust for Canada, helping to define high-level approach to discussion sessions. This project aims to launch a public awareness campaign for heritage places in Canada.
- Partnered with the Yukon Art Society to offer a **“Sketching Heritage” workshop series**, connecting members of the art community with heritage places, and members of the heritage community with the arts.
- Raised awareness of YHMA and Yukon heritage among the public with a **“Taste of Whitehorse” tour and other activities** during the Street Eats & Beats and Culture Days festivals.
- Supported staff and board members in **attending national and regional conferences** for professional development and networking.
- Continued to deliver our **core programs and services**, advocate on behalf of heritage, share timely heritage news and information, respond to inquiries from the community, and maintain our national and territorial networks.

Growing an Audience

1500+ social media followers

400+ e-bulletin subscribers

Leadership & Advocacy

Tourism Industry Association of the Yukon (TIAY)

As a Designated Organization (DO), YHMA maintains a permanent seat on the TIA Yukon Board of Directors. Through this position, we continued to share the interests and concerns of the heritage community with the broader tourism sector and to play an important connecting role between these groups. YHMA Director Janna Swales acted as our representative on the TIAY Board of Directors.

Furthermore, YHMA Executive Director Lianne Maitland continues to participate in regular meetings with her counterparts at TIAY and the other DOs to identify and discuss sector-related issues in order to develop, strengthen, and monitor coordinated responses and group initiatives that address them.

National Conference and Meeting Attendance

In May, YHMA Executive Director Lianne Maitland attended the Canadian Museum Association's (CMA) Moving Forward virtual national conference. Attendance at the national conference offers an opportunity to collect ideas and resources to support museums, and to better understand different perspectives and contexts across the country.

Lianne also participated in regular meetings with the CMA and other provincial/territorial museum associations (PTMAs) as part of a national museum association network. Through these meetings the PTMAs and CMA strove to develop a more effective working relationship in order to present a strong, unified voice on matters of national and international importance within the museum community. Together our associations coordinated joint national advocacy efforts on topics relevant to the Canadian museum sector, as well as an appeal to the Federal government, led by the CMA, to secure safe passage for Afghan refugees from the Afghanistan Center for Memory and Dialogue.

In September/October, Lianne attended the National Trust for Canada's national conference, Heritage and the Global Reset: Seizing the Moment, during which she attended sessions related to timely topics such as climate change, building and material re-use, accessibility, and inclusion. She also continued to represent YHMA on the Trust's National Council.

Other Conference Attendance

In addition to national conferences, YHMA staff and board members attended regional conferences. Executive Director Lianne Maitland and a selection of board members attended the Alberta Museums Association annual conference series. Lianne also attended the 2022 Yukon Council of Archives Summit, Visioning Our Future, in March.

Attending these events offered opportunities to connect with colleagues in the Yukon and western region, identify topics of shared interest, and gain a fuller understanding of the state of the Yukon heritage sector and how it compares to those of neighbouring provinces.

Yukon Museums and Cultural Centres Roundtable

YHMA Executive Director Lianne Maitland attended the Yukon Museums and Cultural Centres Roundtable hosted by the Museums Unit, Department of Tourism and Culture, Government of Yukon in October 2021 as an observer.

The Roundtable provides Museums Unit clients the opportunity to come together to connect, discuss matters of mutual interest, and set shared goals. Participating as an observer allows YHMA to stay connected with the museum community and apprised of current activities, issues, and initiatives.

Acting on behalf of membership and in partnership with heritage-related stakeholders, **YHMA will advocate on significant and relevant heritage-related issues.**

Klondike National Historic Sites Advisory Committee

Sally Robinson continued to represent YHMA on the Klondike National Historic Sites Advisory Committee. The goal of the twice-yearly meetings is to find appropriate uses for some historic buildings currently owned by Parks Canada. YHMA continues to advocate for a protection-based approach to built heritage and for more attention to be given to the extensive artefact collection.

SS Klondike Draft Management Plan

YHMA participated in a stakeholder visit and public engagement session held by Parks Canada regarding the *SS Klondike* Management Plan, providing input on the vision and priorities outlined in the plan.

Federal Election Advocacy

In partnership with the Canadian Museums Association and provincial/territorial museums associations, YHMA issued an open letter to all party leaders that urged them to prioritise the museum sector and commit to modernizing the national museums policy. It also included a short questionnaire asking the political parties to share their vision for Canada's museums. While only two parties responded, the letter made the sector's priorities clear and highlighted museums' unique ability to help advance constructive dialogue and action on issues like climate change, reconciliation, and diversity, equity, and inclusion. This was further reinforced by a follow up letter to the newly appointed Minister of Canadian Heritage Pablo Rodriguez upon his taking office.

Territorial Advocacy

Following the election of the Yukon Liberal Party and appointment of the Honourable Ranj Pillai as Minister of Tourism and Culture, YHMA President Sally Robinson and Executive Director Lianne Maitland met with the new minister to highlight the value and contributions of the heritage sector, share areas of concern, and learn about the government's commitments to the sector.

In response to concerns and inquiries from the Yukon museum community, YHMA met with representatives from the Cultural Services Branch to gather more information regarding the proposed Arts and Heritage Resource Centre announced by the Liberals during their electoral campaign, and reaffirmed following their election. We shared this information with Yukon museums and

cultural centres at a virtual meeting. The following discussion allowed us to gain a deeper understanding of the sector's concerns, which we passed on to the Minister and Cultural Services Branch. We secured a commitment from the Minister to discuss the Department's plans for the centre at the Museums and Cultural Centres Roundtable, which took place in October.

In early 2022, again in response to concerns and needs expressed by the Yukon museum community, YHMA began an advocacy initiative to secure increased operational funding for clients of the Museum Contribution Program. Together with all current program clients, YHMA developed a request and rationale for increased funding that focused on current challenges and inequities among client museums and cultural centres, as well as the potential for increased social and economic value as a result of improved support. As of the end of the year, this initiative was still in progress.

Local Advocacy in Whitehorse

In response to plans for a significant retrofit of City Hall involving the demolition of the original section of the building and removal of the Mayday tree associated with Martha Black, YHMA submitted a letter to Mayor and Council calling for consideration of the historical, cultural, and environmental impacts of the proposed demolition and tree removal, as well as mitigation measures. As a result, YHMA attended several meetings with City officials to discuss the reasons behind the proposed approach and possible mitigation measures. While we were not successful in securing retention of the original building, our efforts helped initiate several measures to address the significance of the Mayday tree, including a public give-away of seedlings harvested from the tree.

Leading up to the 2021 municipal election, YHMA wrote to all candidates posing questions related to heritage, the heritage sector, and the City's management of heritage resources. All responses were shared on our website and through our weekly e-bulletin. This served to draw attention to heritage issues and secure a number of commitments from candidates. Our Executive Director later discussed these efforts as a panelist in a virtual workshop on advocacy during municipal elections hosted by the National Trust for Canada.

In addition, YHMA took action to address several other heritage issues within the municipality, lending our support to individuals and organizations seeking to protect or strengthen heritage buildings and institutions within the city. This includes the Purple Cabin and MacBride Museum of Yukon History.

Strategic Digital Needs Assessment

2021 saw the completion of the Strategic Digital Needs Assessment of Yukon museums and cultural centres, a joint initiative of YHMA and the Yukon First Nations Culture and Tourism Association, funded by the Yukon Department of Education and conducted by consulting firm Nordicity.

The goal of this project was to build a stronger, more cohesive heritage sector while exploring opportunities to use digital tools to share the history of Yukon and its First Nations more widely. The final report was delivered in late August

Recognizing that everyone can have a role to play, YHMA will develop long-lasting, respectful and innovative partnerships for the promotion, protection and preservation of Yukon heritage.

and outlines the priority digital needs of Yukon museums and cultural centres as well as opportunities to address these needs. The contents of the report provide a basis for identifying avenues to support the sector or an individual institution's digital needs, as well as requests for funding.

Reconsidering Museums

Begun in 2019, Reconsidering Museums is a joint initiative undertaken by a consortium of museum associations across Canada, including YHMA, and led by the Alberta Museums Association. This initiative seeks to understand and communicate the value of museums to Canadians, and will produce tools and resources related to advocacy and public engagement. A portion of this project is also referred to as Museums for Me.

Throughout the year YHMA participated in consortium meetings, providing feedback at each stage of the project. Of particular note is the development of a core platform that speaks to multiple audiences, including Canadian museums, museum goers, the Canadian public, the GLAM sector, and funders.

Heritage Reset Framework

In 2020, the National Trust for Canada applied for funding for a multi-year national project entitled Expanding the Audience for Heritage Places, in which YHMA committed to participate. This multi-year project will culminate in a national awareness campaign for heritage places.

After funding was confirmed, the project was rebranded as the Heritage Reset Framework. Partner organizations, including YHMA, reviewed a draft discussion paper and helped to define a high-level approach to discussion sessions that took place at the 2021 National Conference.

CMA Reconciliation Program

YHMA participated in a one-on-one meeting with the Canadian Museums Association as part of its response to TRC Call to Action #67, providing background information on the Yukon context and activities towards reconciliation. Planning also began for a Yukon roundtable.

Sustainable Tourism Framework

As a tourism sector association, YHMA provided a letter of support for the Yukon Department of Tourism and Culture's application to the United Nations World Tourism Organization's (UNTWO) International Network of Sustainable Tourism Observatories (INSTO), which has since been accepted.

Joining INSTO fulfills the goal of establishing a framework to measure the sustainability of tourism, outlined in the Yukon Tourism Development Strategy. Implementing the framework will make data and information regarding the sustainability of the sector easily accessible, allowing for collaboration, informed decision making, and increased sustainability and resiliency.

Memberships

YHMA maintained paid or reciprocal memberships with a variety of other heritage-related organizations in the Yukon and nationally. These memberships help YHMA to stay up-to-date on important issues within Yukon and across the country, promote Yukon heritage, and make valuable connections.

Education and Awareness

Yukon Heritage Training Fund

YHMA administers the Yukon Heritage Training Fund (YHTF), which supports opportunities for Yukon residents to increase their skills and knowledge in the heritage sector. Although uptake was lower than usual as a result of the pandemic, the YHTF continued to provide much-needed assistance to a number of projects.



YUKON HERITAGE TRAINING FUND

Between April 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022, nearly

\$25,000 in funding was committed to 11 different training projects, from which 17 individuals directly benefitted as participants.

In addition, we conducted a follow up to our previous stakeholder survey to collect input on how the fund could better serve the Yukon heritage community. Feedback informed several updates to the fund policy, released in March 2022, that adjusted funding and expense maximums, removed some restrictions on eligibility, and clarified several policy elements.

YHTF is funded by the Government of Yukon Department of Education, Labour Market Development unit. All training approved through this fund supports objectives to increase the employability of Yukon's heritage workers and provide Yukon heritage employers with a better-trained workforce.

YHMA is committed to leveraging the impact of YHTF to develop the capacity and long-term sustainability of the heritage sector. This is achieved by increasing the number of people with the skills necessary to obtain and maintain work in the heritage sector, increasing job satisfaction and labour market competitiveness, and by providing human resources that enable the Yukon to develop its heritage resources at a world-class, professional level.

Yukon/Stikine Regional Heritage Fair

Due to the pandemic, the Yukon/Stikine Regional Heritage Fair did not run in 2021. In late 2021, however, the Heritage Fair Committee developed a plan to hold a fair in May 2022. After securing funding from the Department of Education, preparations for the 2022 fair began in earnest. The shifting realities

YHMA will support education and provide training opportunities for heritage professionals and non-professional members. In doing so, we will help encourage a deeper commitment to Yukon history and heritage and improve the tools and practices that are used in interpreting and conserving Yukon heritage.

of the pandemic necessitated a new approach, with the Committee opting to take the fair online and focus on class projects rather than individual projects.

The Heritage Fairs program gives students aged 9 to 18 the opportunity to explore a story that is important in their community's past and to share the people, places, events, and things that illuminate our diverse past.

Sketching Heritage Workshops

YHMA partnered with the Yukon Art Society to offer a series of three art workshops over August and September that focused on connecting art with heritage. Funding from the City of Whitehorse's Environmental Grant allowed us to offer the workshops for a significantly lower price than would normally be possible.

Each workshop was held at a heritage place, and at each a local artist led



Participants in a Sketching Heritage workshop. Credit: Jonas Vasseur

Yukon Beringia Interpretive Centre that focused on prehistoric Ice Age mammals.

These workshops were relatively small as they were designed with pandemic protocols in mind, but everyone who participated had a fun time. Special thanks to the Old Log Church Museum and Yukon Beringia Interpretive Centre for providing space and interpretation for the workshops.

Street Eats & Beats Festival

September 9-11 marked the first Street Eats & Beats Cultural Festival from the City of Whitehorse and Yukon Arts Centre (YAC), which combined elements of the Street Eats and Culture Days festivals. Invited by YAC to participate, YHMA developed a food-themed mystery tour for the festival with President Sally Robinson, entitled A Taste of Whitehorse.

Three groups of participants were led on a walking tour of downtown Whitehorse, visiting three food service locations, undisclosed in advance, located in heritage buildings. At each location participants got to try a selection of refreshments and learn about the history of the buildings. Participants also learned more about the history of the area between stops.

The tours were extremely successful, filling up very quickly and even prompting a waiting list. Participants enjoyed both the food and the heritage tidbits. Thank you to Bullet Hole Bagels, Woodcutter's Blanket, and the Dirty Northern/Miner's Daughter for hosting the tour groups and providing delectable samples.

Heritage Contests

Once again we ran our annual Heritage Highlights Scavenger Hunt, this year from September 9 to 27, coinciding with both the Street Eats & Beats and Culture Days festivals. Culture Days is a nationwide festival that aims to foster appreciation, support of, and participation in the cultural lives of communities amongst all citizens through free or low-cost activities.

Participants had to explore downtown Whitehorse to find the answers to 11 trivia questions related to Yukon heritage, drawing from interpretive signage, visual elements, and a unique sign posted specifically for the contest. Participants with completed entries had a chance to win a prize pack.

During the same period, we also ran a virtual contest, Your Heritage, on the YHMA Facebook page. Every Tuesday and Thursday we shared a photo of a current or former heritage building from Whitehorse and invited community members to comment with their stories, photos, and memories of the building. For every comment, respondents received an entry to win a prize pack. The contest was inspired by the rapidly diminishing numbers of heritage buildings in Whitehorse, and the many changes to those that remain. We were pleased with the wide variety of comments and photos.



Heritage Highlights Scavenger Hunt map

Winners for both contests were drawn randomly. A big thank you goes to our prize pack sponsors, Angellina's Toy Boutique, Baked Café, Barbers II, Coast Mountain Sports, Cultured Fine Cheese, Mac's Fireweed Books, Winterlong Brewing Co., Woodcutter's Blanket, and Yukon Brewing, as well as to Bearpaw Gifts for hosting a scavenger hunt clue.

2021 Yukon Heritage Awards

On March 29, YHMA hosted the 2021 Annual Yukon Heritage Awards ceremony at the Yukon Beringia Interpretive Centre, honouring people and organizations who made significant contributions to the Yukon heritage sector. For the first time, the event was also livestreamed via Facebook so that those who were unable to attend in person could join in the celebration.

Prior to the awards presentation, guest speaker and filmmaker Andrew Gregg gave a very well-received talk entitled *The Power of Objects*, delving into the emotional connections we forge with objects and the meanings behind them. The talk connected with his recent documentary, *Skymaster Down*, and the ongoing search for the USAF C-54 Skymaster airplane featured in the film.



Andrew Gregg. Credit: Bruce Barrett

Special thanks go to Andy for being part of the event.

The awards recognized the following inspirational and accomplished recipients:

Art Johns (Posthumous Annual Heritage Award): Art called the mountains of the Carcross/Tagish traditional territory his home, and was extremely generous with his knowledge of its geography and resources. He provided immeasurable assistance to the Yukon Archaeology and Historic Sites programs, leading them to outstanding discoveries that will endure as monuments to Yukon First Nation land use and culture, including a number of ice patches. Art believed in maintaining the integrity of his territory, and he understood that required being responsible not only at camp, but in

the decisions made in the board room as well. He was an enthusiastic contributor to many management initiatives on behalf of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation, most recently serving as the designated Elder to the Conrad Historic Site Steering Committee. Art helped Yukon's archaeologists and historic sites staff understand and interpret the places and artifacts they study. He was proud of his people's history and he shared his sense of place with all Yukoners.

Beth Hunt and Bruce Mitford (History Makers Award): The Lansing Post Historic Site, situated at the confluence of the Stewart and Lansing Rivers, has a rich heritage that reflects the culture and history of the Na-Cho Nyäk Dun as well as the economic history of fur trading in the Yukon. Since 1979, Bruce and Beth have trapped in the area and for the most part lived at the heritage site while raising their two daughters. Respecting the integrity of this remote site, they have cared for the historic structures, kept the area clear, and added new structures that do not detract from the site's heritage character. The Lansing Post Heritage Management Plan was approved by the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun and Government of Yukon in 2018. Bruce and Beth were active participants in the management planning process, sharing their understanding of the site and providing information about their time there. These two remarkable individuals have been diligent stewards of this historic site, while writing their own chapter and generously welcoming all who venture there.

Kaitlin Normandin (Helen Couch Volunteer of the Year Award): Kaitlin's dedication to Yukon heritage is clear from her ongoing volunteerism. After joining YHMA in 2016, Kaitlin stood for election to the board in 2017 and upon her success accepted the role of Treasurer. The following year she moved into the role of President and remained in that position for two years. Not only did she take on these important offices, but Kaitlin also joined the Yukon Heritage Training Fund Adjudication Committee and served as the YHMA representative on the Tourism Industry Association of Yukon board, for which she filled the roles of Secretary and Chair, Human Resources Committee as well. Following her terms as Treasurer and President, Kaitlin remained on the YHMA board as a director until early 2022. She continues to volunteer with a variety of other

local heritage organizations, including the Yukon Council of Archives and Hidden Histories Society of Yukon. Most recently, Kaitlin has extended her volunteer work to the national stage, becoming Secretary of the Association of Canadian Archivists in 2021.

Yukon Transportation Museum (YTM) and Janna Swales for Yukon Spin (Innovation, Education, and Community Engagement Award): Yukon Spin is a digital wellness offering that combines the history of Yukon biking, at home exercise, and interactive digital tourism. The pandemic had a significant impact on YTM, which closed for large swathes of time. YTM's Executive Director Janna Swales, who had videotaped her bike rides in previous years for personal use, recognized the potential for a digital offering for YTM's local and global audience during the pandemic, and beyond. Over the summer of 2020, Janna recorded several high-quality, first-person point-of-view cycling videos on routes all over the territory. With the help of Strategic Moves' Inga Petri and local video editor Heather Von Steinhagen, the museum used these recordings to produce six videos and made them available through the Canadian streaming platform PPN. Each 45-minute video includes a timer, elevation and route maps, and facts about Yukon history. The project demonstrates great creativity in response to the challenging circumstances of the last two years, opening up a new revenue stream for the museum as well as a new, accessible way for the public to engage with Yukon heritage.

Anne Morgan and Jamie Toole for the MV Sibilla (Heritage Conservation Project of the Year Award): The *MV Sibilla* is one of the few largely intact British Yukon Navigation Company (BYN) vessels remaining in the territory. It was built in 1932 and was in BYN service until 1955, when it became a private yacht. The vessel had been hidden from view and set on an inadequate rotting trailer beside the Carcross Barracks since 1998, but through diligently following the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada, Jamie and Anne have successfully relocated the *Sibilla* to a prominent site on Tagish Avenue. Before the vessel was moved, extensive documentation occurred to ensure that the heritage character and value



2021 Yukon Heritage Awards recipients pose with the Honourable Ranj Pillai, Minister of Tourism & Culture and the Honourable Angélique Bernard, Commissioner of Yukon. Credit: Bruce Barrett

YHMA will strengthen the ties of the heritage community through the facilitation of interaction among all stakeholders with an interest in Yukon heritage. This will be accomplished through fun and memorable events and activities that encourage learning and sharing.

YHMA will inspire a passion for heritage by raising awareness. YHMA will raise awareness both within and outside of the Yukon, and in doing so, we will encourage people to see history and heritage as fun, interesting and vibrant.



Anne Morgan & Jamie Toole. Credit: Bruce Barrett

of the *Sibilla* were not harmed during its relocation. In addition to now being visible to the public, the vessel's hull has been stabilized, arresting deterioration. Further conservation measures are being evaluated. This project took a key element of Yukon's navigation history, made it visible once more, and secured a future for it. This award is sponsored by the Department of Tourism and Culture, Government of Yukon.

The Yukon Heritage Awards honour individuals, organizations, and businesses that have made a special contribution to the conservation or interpretation of some aspect of Yukon's heritage. Nominations are invited from the public and are reviewed by the Awards Committee, which selects the recipients.

Vintage & Antique Sales

YHMA hosted two vintage and antique sales in Lepage Park, once again sharing our passion for all things historic with members of the public, and spreading awareness of the organization and the importance of heritage conservation. The sales attracted dozens of curious visitors and vintage enthusiasts. YHMA's table was stocked with generous donations from the public, the sale of which raised funds for the maintenance of the Lepage Park historic buildings.

Lepage Park Construction

In 2021 we continued our efforts to make Lepage Park a more welcoming space to enjoy and connect with heritage by replacing the old, deteriorating wooden walkway and seats with a new composite boardwalk and seats. This option was selected due to its durability and slip resistance.

This project was made possible by Northern Vision Development LP, Yukon Energy, Whitehorse Motors, Kilrich Building Centres, Norcope Construction Group, Iris Daniels, The Government of Yukon's Community Development Fund, and individual donors.



The new boardwalk in Lepage Park. Credit: Lianne Maitland

Thank You | Supporters Circle

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