



**Yukon Historical &
Museums Association**



**heritage
yukon**
Step in to our story

Yukon Historical & Museums Association

Strengthening heritage in the Yukon

2022-23

ANNUAL REPORT



2022-23 Highlights

Hosted our first hybrid, multi-community conference

Yukon by Yukoners: Pleistocene to Present brought together participants in three different communities and online.

Committed over \$42,000 in grants through the Yukon Heritage Training Fund

Long-term capacity of our heritage sector grew through 18 training projects.

Recognized achievement through the 2022 Heritage Awards

Colleen James, Yann Herry, Paul Gowdie, Cole Pauls, and Karen Murray received awards for their contributions to Yukon heritage.

Went digital for the Yukon/Stikine Regional Heritage Fair

A new, dedicated program website supported the first virtual edition of the Yukon/Stikine Regional Heritage Fair, which featured group projects.

Collaborated with tourism sector partner organizations

A partnership of Yukon tourism associations including YHMA developed a joint strategic work plan to identify opportunities for collaboration and efficiencies.

Advocated for Yukon's heritage and heritage sector

YHMA undertook advocacy at the territorial and national levels on a variety of issues relating to the Yukon and national heritage sectors.

Grew partnerships within the national heritage community

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

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 share 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, funding applications, and more.

Table of Contents

Message from the President	4
Message from the Executive Director	5
YHMA Board of Directors, Staff, and Committees	6
About YHMA	7
Strengthening YHMA, Strengthening Community	8
Leadership & Advocacy	9
Tourism Industry Association of the Yukon (TIA)	9
National Conference and Meeting Attendance	9
Yukon Museums and Cultural Centres Roundtable	10
Yukon First Nations Cultural Centres and Museums Policy	10
Museum Contribution Program Operational Funding	10
Klondike National Historic Sites Advisory Committee	10
National Museum Policy	10
Bill C-23	11
Reconsidering Museums	11
Heritage Reset Framework	11
CMA Reconciliation Program	11
Memberships	11
Education and Awareness	12
Yukon by Yukoners: Pleistocene to Present	12
Yukon Heritage Training Fund	13
Yukon/Stikine Regional Heritage Fair	14
2022 Yukon Heritage Awards	15
Partnership with Whitehorse Aboriginal Women's Circle	18
Vintage & Antique Sales	18
New Website Launch	18
Thank You Supporters Circle	19

A message from The President



Janna Swales
President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J & S', followed by a long horizontal line.

It is a wonderful opportunity in our Annual Report to recollect our successes and challenges over the past year.

Each May we host the Yukon/Stikine Regional Heritage Fair, and it is nimbly changing with the times with the launch of a dedicated website and first online fair.

In October of 2022, we held the Yukon by Yukoners hybrid conference. This was an ambitious project, but having it live streamed in three locations connected the heritage sector and these communities in a new way that added depth to the event. This winter we also hosted the Yukon Heritage Awards. Congratulations and thank you again to the 2022 recipients.

Yukon Heritage Training Fund continues to be an important tool for the sector and this year we funded many applications from individuals and groups.

In terms of advocacy, we have been working hard to understand and represent sector issues, challenges, and goals. Of note is that YHMA played a key role in securing an approximately 15% operational funding increase for museums and cultural centres, which was drastically needed. We also participated in the public launch of Reconsidering Museums in partnership with museum association across Canada, which provides valuable tools, data, and resources for sector advocacy.

Finally, I would like to shine a spotlight on our people and warmly thank the staff, board, volunteers, and members of YHMA.

YHMA will continue to work hard to put heritage and culture at the centre of important conversations in our communities, while inspiring our next leaders, catalysing economic development, and supporting meaningful dialogue, mutual understanding, and personal and collective identity in a diverse world.

A message from

The Executive Director



Lianne Maitland
Executive Director

Lianne Maitland

It is my great honour to present YHMA's annual report and reflect on the past year.

2022-23 had some significant "firsts" for the organization as we moved to embrace the digital. Perhaps most exciting was our hybrid, multi-community conference. Taking place in three communities and online simultaneously, Yukon by Yukoners connected our heritage sector like never before—a challenging but rewarding feat. We also took the Yukon/Stikine Regional Heritage Fair online by launching a brand new, dedicated website that allowed us to showcase digital projects. We look forward to exploring opportunities to combine in person and virtual elements in future fairs.

Advocacy was another strong focus. New museum policies are under development at both the territorial and national level, and YHMA provided feedback for both. We also successfully advocated for increased operational funding for Yukon cultural centres and museums.

YHMA continued to develop partnerships and relationships with related organizations both within the Yukon and across Canada. Notable projects included a strategic work plan for Yukon tourism association partners, Reconsidering Museums, the Heritage Reset, and a Yukon Roundtable for the Canadian Museums Association's reconciliation program.

Like many other employers, YHMA struggled with staffing this. Despite the challenge posed by being unable to hire a summer student, we had a significant number of achievements. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our Board of Directors for their ongoing support and dedication to maintaining our momentum. Thank you also to all of our members, donors, sponsors, volunteers, partners, and other supporters. We could not do what we do without you.

2022-23 Board of Directors

Janna Swales, President
Georgianna Low, Vice-President
Cathy Hines, Treasurer
Christine de Brabandere, Secretary

Allison Belshaw, Director
Sally Robinson, Director
Sylvie Binette, Director

2022-23 Staff

Lianne Maitland
Executive Director

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

The Yukon heritage sector is interconnected with the community, well-resourced, and valued for its contributions towards an engaged and healthy future.

Mission

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

Values

passion trustworthiness
collaboration
storytelling
reconciliation

YHMA at the heart of the heritage community:

20+ volunteers

41 members

650+ 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 supporting Yukon heritage and the heritage community.

We did this in a number of ways:

- Hosted our first hybrid, multi-community conference, **Yukon by Yukoners: Pleistocene to Present**, which highlighted the exceptional work being done by Yukoners across the territory to protect and share Yukon heritage and offered greater accessibility than previous conferences.
- **Successfully advocated for additional operational funding** for Yukon cultural centres and museums, securing an approximately 15% increase to Museum Contribution Program funding.
- Participated in the **public launch of Reconsidering Museums**. This project offers tools and resources for the museum sector to better connect with and serve its myriad communities, including data on the value of museums to Canadians.
- Continued as a partner in the national **Heritage Reset Framework project** led by the National Trust for Canada. Sector and public surveys allowed project partners to refine and reshape the project, and begin development of key messaging. The final framework will support the effectiveness and relevancy of the heritage conservation field in Canada.
- **Partnered with the Whitehorse Aboriginal Women's Circle** to support their upcoming publication on the history of YANSI, an organization that gave a voice to Yukon people who had lost their Indian status.
- **Launched a new organizational website** that offers greater ability to internally manage both content and design.
- Supported staff in **attending national conferences** for professional development, networking, and strengthening working relationships with sector partners across the country.
- 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

1600+ 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, and in this role sat on the Yukon Recruitment and Retention Taskforce (YRRT). This group provides industry perspectives and strategic advice on labor-related issues to government, industry, and the business community. The YRRT released its Action Plan in March 2023.

Furthermore, YHMA Executive Director Lianne Maitland continued to participate in regular meetings with her counterparts at TIAY and the other DOs, together called the Tourism Association Partners (TAPs). The TAPs identify and discuss sector-related issues in order to develop, strengthen, and monitor coordinated responses and group initiatives that address them. This year, the TAPs worked with consultant Dr. Deb Bartlett to produce a joint Strategic Work Plan to identify and develop opportunities for partners to share resources, develop efficiencies, and work on projects of mutual benefit to support the delivery of their respective mandates. This initiative was spearheaded and primarily funded by the Wilderness Tourism Association of Yukon.

National Conference and Meeting Attendance

YHMA Executive Director Lianne Maitland attended two Canadian Museum Association's (CMA) virtual national conferences, Dismantling Foundations to Build a Better Tomorrow in May 2022 and Moved to Action in February 2023. Attendance at these national conferences 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 importance within the museum community. Together our associations coordinated joint national advocacy efforts on topics relevant to the Canadian museum sector, including developing key messaging from the museum community for the National Culture Summit held in May 2022 by former Minister of Canadian Heritage, the Honourable Pablo Rodriguez.

In October, Lianne attended the National Trust for Canada's national conference, The Heritage Reset: Making Critical Choices, during which she attended sessions related to Indigenous heritage, socio-cultural reset, economic reset, and environmental reset. In addition, Lianne presented as part of a panel presentation on the Reconsidering Museums project (see below) and its relevancy to the wider heritage community and to the National Trust-led Heritage Reset project. Lianne also continued to represent YHMA on the Trust's National Council.

Yukon Museums and Cultural Centres Roundtable

YHMA President Janna Swales attended the Yukon Cultural Centres and Museums Roundtable hosted by the Museums Unit, Department of Tourism and Culture, Government of Yukon in November 2022. She represented YHMA as an observer, and the Yukon Transportation Museum as an active participant.

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

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.

Yukon First Nations Cultural Centres and Museums Policy

The Government of Yukon (YG), Department of Tourism and Culture is in the process of developing a new Policy on Yukon First Nations Cultural Centres and Museums. YHMA was invited to participate in the consultation process alongside Museums Unit clients and other stakeholders, meeting with a consultant to provide input on the policy.

YHMA successfully advocated for YG to hold a live session with participating stakeholders to review and give feedback on the draft report on these consultations. YHMA both participated in this session and submitted written feedback. We also advocated, unsuccessfully, for a more inclusive consultation process, which

Museum Contribution Program Operational Funding

Continuing the advocacy work we began in 2022, YHMA was successful in securing a 13.2% increase to Museum Contribution Program (MCP) operational funding for all client cultural centres and museums in the 2023 fiscal year, as well as a further 2% increase to be applied to 2023-2026 MCP funding agreements. While this represents a significant increase to investment in local heritage infrastructure on the part of the Government of Yukon, YHMA has also recommended that an annual escalator clause be included in MCP funding agreements, ensuring funding increases each year to reflect inflation. We are committed to continuing to advocate for funding that supports long-term sustainability and a high level of professionalism in the sector.

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.

National Museum Policy

YHMA Executive Director Lianne Maitland took part in a national consultation session with museum and related associations, led by the Department of

Canadian Heritage, regarding the renewal of the National Museum Policy. Lianne and other participants provided input regarding the role of museums in society; resilience and sustainability in the museum sector; advancing reconciliation with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples; embracing equity, diversity and inclusion; and preservation and access as core museum functions.

Bill C-23

YHMA co-signed a letter with recommendations for amendments to Bill C-23, *An Act respecting places, persons and events of national historic significance or national interest, archaeological resources, and cultural and natural heritage*, in partnership with a wide variety of heritage organizations from across the country. The submission was prepared by the National Trust for Canada and included a total of nine recommendations.

Reconsidering Museums

In March, alongside a consortium of museum associations across Canada, YHMA took part in the public launch of Reconsidering Museums, closing out this project that was started in 2020. Through a rearticulation of the value of museums and a rebrand of the sector, Reconsidering Museums supports museums with the tools and language necessary to better connect with and serve their communities, deepening their relationship, and therefore their relevance, to the Canadian public and enabling more effective advocacy. The resources and toolkit can be found at reconsideringmuseums.ca.



**RECONSIDERING
MUSEUMS**

Heritage Reset Framework

Over the last year, YHMA continued its involvement in the Heritage Reset project, led by the National Trust for Canada and a variety of sector partners from across Canada. This national, strategic project aims to address barriers both inside and outside the Canadian heritage conservation sector to ensure the effectiveness and relevancy of the field. This year saw the completion of sector and public surveys and the start of key messaging development.

CMA Reconciliation Program

With the assistance of the Canadian Museums Association (CMA), YHMA organized a formal Yukon Roundtable as part of the CMA's consultation and engagement process for the development of their *Moved to Action* report in response to TRC Call to Action #67. Held in April, the Roundtable included eight sector professionals and Yukon First Nation individuals.

Memberships

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

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.

Education and Awareness

Yukon by Yukoners: Pleistocene to Present

With the decline of the pandemic, this year represented an opportunity to reconnect and share the progress and changes made during this time of upheaval. YHMA seized on this opportunity to host our first hybrid conference. Yukon by Yukoners: Pleistocene to Present took place from October 4-6, 2022, in person in Whitehorse, Dawson City, and Tagish, as well as online. Connected via Zoom, all participants both online and in person experienced the conference together in real time. The conference and associated events attracted over 150 participants.

Inspired by a proposal from YHMA member Michael Gates, Yukon by Yukoners celebrated the work that Yukoners are doing to study, conserve, and share Yukon heritage. In the past, Yukon heritage has often been the purview of a primarily southern, scholarly community. Today, there are many Yukoners conducting work in heritage, including First Nations, sector professionals, and amateur enthusiasts, all of whom can learn from one another.

A total of 25 live presentations from 33 speakers made up the bulk of the conference program. Presenters were able to speak from the in-person location of their choosing or online, offering more accessible opportunities to be involved than previous conferences.



Former Yukon MP Larry Bagnell shares a story at the Yukon Tales event. Credit: Erik Pinkerton

Presentations covered a wide range of topics, from an Indigenous language project, to history podcasts and websites, to reframing narratives at historic sites, and much more. In addition, YHMA produced two pre-recorded sessions shot on location in Fort Selkirk and Watson Lake, which were screened during the conference.

Two evening events took place in conjunction with the conference. On October 4, Michael launched his new book, *Hollywood in the Klondike: Dawson City's Great Film Find*, which reflects several elements of the conference theme. On October 6, YHMA hosted Yukon Tales: An Evening of Storytelling, which featured a wide range of speakers, many of whom would not necessarily consider themselves part of the



Speaker Annie Auston at the Tagish venue. Credit: Atsushi Sugimoto

heritage sector. They shared their personal experiences and perspectives as Yukoners in an exploration of Yukon identity and heritage: a collection of oral histories. A pre-recorded interview with Murray Lundberg, creator of the ExploreNorth website and founder of the Yukon History and Abandoned Places Facebook group, was also shared at this event.

All pre-recorded sessions can be found on our YouTube channel at youtube.com/@Heritage_Yukon.

The conference would not have been possible without the hard work of the organizing committee and event volunteers, and the support of our funders and sponsors: Government of Yukon, What's Up Yukon, Yukon Heritage Resources Board, Midnight Sun Emporium, Yukon Brewing, Basket Bonanza, Bean North, Bullethole Bagels, Cultured Fine Cheese, Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre, Free Pour Jenny's, and Tum Tum's Black Gilt Meats.



*In Dawson, Colleen Dunn begins a presentation on Parks Canada's Red Serge, Red Tape program.
Credit: Lianne Maitland*

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. Applications levels increased from the 2022 fiscal year, as more in-person training options became viable.

Between April 1, 2022 and March 31, 2023, over \$42,000 in funding was committed to 18 different training projects, from which over 25 individuals directly benefitted.

YHTF is funded by the Government of Yukon Department of Economic Development, 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.



YUKON HERITAGE TRAINING FUND

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

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.

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

2022 was an exciting year for the heritage fair, with the launch of our first ever dedicated fair website and virtual fair. Another change was a shift to group projects rather than individual projects, allowing classes to work on one project together. These changes, and the fair itself, were made possible by funding from the Department of Education.



Our first dedicated Yukon/Stikine Heritage Fair website, by Yukon Web Services.

people, places, events, and things that illuminate our diverse past. Yukon partners include YHMA, the Yukon Heritage Resources Board, and Parks Canada, with Canada's History offering support and guidance at the national level.

A total of five classes representing 97 students—our highest participation ever—and three different communities submitted four projects to the fair, which were formally judged via Zoom in early May. All projects took the form of video presentations, and covered topics ranging from family histories to historic buildings. One project even recreated Yukon communities in the popular video game, Minecraft.

Projects were then made available on the new website, where the public were invited to view them and vote for their favourite project for the People's Choice Award, sponsored by Parks Canada. The projects continue to be available for public viewing at yukonstikineheritagefair.ca. This database will continue to grow, with fair projects being added each year.

YHMA also participated in a consultation session with Canada's History alongside other fair coordinators from across the country, providing feedback on challenges, desired supports and other resources, and potential program changes in order to assist this organization in updating the national Heritage Fairs program. We look forward to seeing the results of this work.

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

2022 Yukon Heritage Awards

Returning to the Yukon Archives this year, the 2022 Annual Yukon Heritage Awards ceremony took place on February 20, 2023 in front of an audience of over 40 people. These awards recognized five people who have made significant contributions to Yukon heritage. With the success of the previous year's inaugural livestream, the event was once again livestreamed over Facebook, where the recording continues to be available to view.

Kicking off the evening was an inspirational talk by Bobbi Rose Koe, generously sponsored by Dinjii Zhuh Adventures. Bobbi Rose spoke about the importance of travelling on the land, sharing stories, and passing on heritage and culture, drawing on her experiences growing up in Gwich'in Country and being taught the Gwich'in way of life, as well as her experience in running land-based educational programming for youth. This teaching and sharing, and connection to traditional ways of life, are deeply connected to wellness and resiliency. The talk was well-received and set an appropriately reflective yet positive tone for the evening.

The awards recognized the following inspirational and accomplished recipients:



Bobbi Rose Koe. Credit: Bruce Barrett

Colleen James (Annual Heritage Award): The Carcross/Tagish Traditional Territory is home to Colleen James, or Wolf Mother, Ghoóch Tlâ in Tlingit. Colleen has shown outstanding service to the protection, conservation, promotion, and development of Tséi Zhéle / Sinwaa Éex'í Yé / Conrad Historic Site, from 2014 to the present. Among other roles in her community and First Nation, Colleen acted as a representative on the Tséi Zhéle / Sinwaa Éex'í Yé / Conrad Historic Site Steering Committee. Her traditional knowledge and enthusiasm to conserve the site were a catalyst to finalizing the management plan, signed in July 2022 by Carcross/Tagish First Nation (C/TFN) and the Government of Yukon (YG). She conducted research to identify traditional use areas and practices of the C/TFN people at the site and in the surrounding area and brought guidance and traditional knowledge that helped build a solid and trusting partnership between C/TFN and YG. Colleen is also involved in a C/TFN project to revitalize the Tagish and Tlingit languages by remembering and using Tagish and Tlingit place names. She researched the Tagish and Tlingit names for Tséi Zhéle / Sinwaa Éex'í Yé / Conrad Historic Site and named the new walking trail, Łèihú Déi (Butterfly Trail), that was developed in summer of 2022 at the Conrad Campground, adjacent to the historic site, for Yukon Parks. Colleen will continue with the Tséi Zhéle / Sinwaa Éex'í Yé / Conrad Historic Site Working Group to ensure the site endures as a living cultural landscape.

Yann Herry (History Maker Award): Yann has been a key contributor to the development of the Yukon francophone community and its heritage since his arrival to the territory in 1981. As a French immersion and second language teacher (1986-2006), Yann organized numerous student exchanges and

outdoors camps focusing on Yukon francophone history and Yukon historical connections with places like France and the Netherlands. As a researcher and historian, he has taken part in many projects, including the Alaska Highway Heritage Project, Whitehorse: An Illustrated History, Linda Johnson's research project on François-Xavier Mercier and The Kandik Map, an exhibition on Yukon francophone aviation history for the Yukon Transportation Museum, multiple projects for l'Association franco-yukonnaise, and many more. In 2006,



Cole Pauls accepts his award remotely from BC. Credit: Bruce Barrett

Yann completed his master's thesis on francophones' contribution to Yukon heritage, leading him to publish *La francophonie, Northern Portraits* in collaboration with Ruth Armson. His expertise has established him as a popular reference on Yukon and francophone history for media requests across Canada. Also a dedicated volunteer, Yann has served on the Board of YHMA and currently sits on the Board of the Yukon Council of Archives as well as the Société d'histoire

francophone du Yukon, which he helped found in 2021 and now chairs. In 2002 Yann's contributions to his community were recognized with the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal. His work continues to grow our understanding and appreciation of Yukon francophone history and heritage.

Paul Gowdie (Helen Couch Volunteer of the Year Award): Paul's involvement on the Board of the Hidden Histories Society Yukon (HHSY) and in their various activities has made him an invaluable member of the Yukon heritage community. For over a decade, he has generously offered his impressive design and photography skills whenever needed, worked tirelessly behind the scenes on a wide variety of projects, and publicly represented HHSY with deep knowledge and passion. Paul has increased the profile of HHSY by providing professionally designed displays and promotional materials that have captured the interest of the public because of their visual appeal and content. He has also been a passionate speaker and coordinator of activities about the importance of telling stories and the history of Black and Asian Yukoners, especially their historical contributions to the cultural, social, and economic development of our communities. Notable projects for HHSY include the development of the organization's first website, the design of HHSY's visual identity, setting up Black History and Asian Heritage Month displays, coordinating the launch of HHSY's oral history guidebook, the nomination of Black soldiers on the Alaska Highway as a National Historic Event, and numerous speaking engagements. Through countless volunteer hours devoted

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.

to the activities of HHSY, Paul has made, and continues to make, an outstanding contribution to the awareness and inclusion of Black and Asian histories in the Yukon.

Cole Pauls (Education, Innovation, and Community Engagement Award):

Cole is a Champagne and Aishihik First Nations Citizen and Tahltan comic artist, illustrator, and printmaker hailing from Haines Junction. Cole's 2022 graphic novel, Kwändūr ("story" in Southern Tutchone), is a creative, captivating celebration of the language, culture, and heritage of Dene and Arctic peoples. Kwändūr features a collection of short stories told in the form of comics, ranging from personal experiences, to narratives featuring traditional activities and stories, to documentary-like profiles, and more. The rich illustrations, variety of stories, and use of Southern Tutchone and Tahltan languages come together in a unique publication that engages new audiences with Yukon heritage and provides existing audiences with a new perspective. In addition, through the inclusion of personal stories and discussions on topics such as Indigenous representation in pop culture, this work offers insights into the lived experiences of the creator as an Indigenous person and furthers discourse on Indigenous allyship, a vital part of work in heritage. Like its predecessor, Kwändūr also contributes to language revitalization; Cole's previous graphic novel, Dakwākāda Warriors (2019), is a bilingual collection of three short comics in

Southern Tutchone and English and was created as a language revitalization project. Cole holds a BFA in illustration from Emily Carr University and is a multi-award winner, having previously received the Indigenous Voices Award for Dakwākāda Warriors, and Broken Pencil Magazine's Best Comic and Best Zine of the Year Awards for Dakwākāda Warriors II. He now resides in Vancouver.



2022 Yukon Heritage Awards recipients and their designates pose with the Honourable Angélique Bernard, Commissioner of Yukon, and the Honourable John Streicker, Minister of Tourism & Culture Credit: Bruce Barrett

Karen Murray (Heritage

Conservation Project of the Year Award): Built in 1902 by its namesake, the Melanie Morico House remains a contributing element to the historic residential character of the east slope area in Dawson City. Karen is being recognized for the conservation of this property and specifically the foundation repair. The slope of the property and the adjacent street produced drainage issues that caused pressure on the basement walls. If the problems had not been addressed the building would have become increasingly unstable. To repair the foundation and deal with the drainage problems the house was moved away from its original foundation, the basement filled, and the house returned to its original position on a new foundation. Throughout the project Karen showed a passion for maintaining the historic features of the house such as its prominent bay window and its position on the lot. This

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.

conservation project was successful in following the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada through the evaluation of structural systems, planning, and thorough documentation of each project stage. The critical foundation repairs will ensure the Melanie Morico house will remain part of Dawson City's heritage fabric well into the future. 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.

Partnership with Whitehorse Aboriginal Women's Circle

In early 2022, YHMA was approached by the Whitehorse Aboriginal Women's Circle (WAWC) with a proposal to partner on the production of a history of the Yukon Association of Non-Status Indians (YANSI), an organization that gave a voice to Yukon people who had lost their Indian status and was instrumental in the foundation of the Council of Yukon First Nations. YHMA and WAWC entered into a partnership agreement and together secured funding from the Yukon Foundation for this valuable project. Work on this publication continues under the leadership of Elders who were involved in YANSI, with an estimated release in early 2024.

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. Vendor registration fees and sales from YHMA's table, which was stocked with generous donations from the public, raised funds for the maintenance of the Lepage Park historic buildings.

New Website Launch

After nearly a decade, YHMA's website was experiencing many issues caused by an outdated content management system that could no longer be properly maintained. In response, we launched a new website, built in WordPress, that allows for easier ongoing maintenance and content management. Due to the extent of the change and difficulty in extracting data from our previous website, further development of the new website is still required. Once completed, it will allow for more nimble restructuring and redesign as needed.



YHMA's new website at March 31, 2023

Thank You | Supporters Circle

The Yukon Historical & Museums Association is pleased to recognize the support of our community. Every year, dozens of individuals, organizations, businesses, and governments help us to safeguard, conserve, and share the Yukon's rich and diverse heritage, whether as members, volunteers, donors, partners, sponsors, funders, or otherwise. Your ongoing support ensures Yukon heritage enriches the lives of current and future generations.

Thank you...

- To the many volunteers who commit hundreds of volunteer hours to our programs and activities, year after year.
- To all our conference speakers who generously shared their knowledge and experiences with other participants.
- To our generous individual donors, community organizations, and corporate partners who support our activities through sponsorship and donations.
- To our local, territorial, and federal government funders for their continued support of important heritage initiatives.

Annette Sinclair
Atsushi Sugimoto
Basket Bonanza
Bean North
Bobbi Rose Koe
Bruce Barrett
Bullethole Bagels
Canada's History
Carrie Boles
Cathy Hines
Chantal Rousseau
Christine de Brabandere
City of Whitehorse
Cultured Fine Cheese
Dānojà Zho Cultural Centre
Deborah Donnelly
Dinjii Zhuh Adventures
Erik Pinkterton
Ellen Johnson
Free Pour Jenny's
Georgianna Low
Glenda Bolt
Government of Yukon
Gúnta Business Team
Janna Swales

Janet Trim
John Firth
Julie Ourom
Kaitlin Normandin
Karl Gurcke
Krystalee Johns
Leslie Piercy
Linda Johnson
Michael Gates
Midnight Sun Emporium
Old Log Church Museum
Pam Hureau
Parks Canada
Petrus Lommerse
Red Grossinger
Roch Shannon Fraser
Sally Robinson
Sylvie Binette
Ted Ackerman
Tracy Erman
Tum Tum's Black Gilt Meats
What's Up Yukon
Yukon Archives
Yukon Brewing
Yukon Heritage Resources Board

YHMA also extends a special thank you to Angélique Bernard for her patronage of the association during her tenure in the office of Commissioner of Yukon.



@Yukonheritage

Yukon Historical & Museums Association
3126 3rd Avenue
Whitehorse YT Y1A 1E7
P: 867-667-4704
F: 867-66704506