



TOGETHER, FOR THE NORTH

A \$5.5 million campaign investing in the future leaders, thriving economies, governments, and communities that sustain the North.



**Yukon
University**
FOUNDATION



THE NORTH IS SO MUCH MORE THAN A PLACE

It is a way of life inspired by a vast, magnificent landscape and steeped in First Nations' teachings and traditions. Our currency is connection. Adventure and opportunity are everywhere here.

Guided by the indomitable spirit of the wilderness and millennia of resilience and resourcefulness, the Yukon is an ideal training ground for future leaders and change-makers.

With shared purpose and respect, we break a trail toward a better tomorrow.

BUILDING A PROSPEROUS NORTH STARTS AT HOME

The Yukon is Canada's fastest growing territory or province and, as the home to 14 First Nations, our community is 25% Indigenous. We have a robust mining sector, a burgeoning entrepreneurial drive, and the opportunity to advance reconciliation and self-determination of Indigenous people.

Building a prosperous North begins with investing in education and educational infrastructure relevant to the next generation of northern leaders.

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THE SCIENCE BUILDING

Thanks to the incredible generosity of people like you, we have successfully raised \$4 million for our future leaders and change-makers of the North. We are now \$1.5 million away from achieving our campaign goal.

To raise the remaining amount, we hope the community will come together to invest in our transformative new science building and help make this vital facility a reality.



OUR VISION

Our new facility will allow students to learn in a state-of-the-art environment. This will immediately reduce instructional space constraints and allow us to expand existing priority programs and degree offerings. The new science building will support in-territory training for healthcare workers with cutting-edge laboratories, ensuring Yukoners receive exceptional health care delivered by professionals deeply connected to our communities.

This is an opportunity for us to deliver more than a learning building but a learning experience that encompasses our values as a University for the North.

2025

Site preparation and construction of Yukon University's new science building begins, following a ground-blessing ceremony with Yukon First Nations leaders.

2026

Construction continues, including lab spaces, classrooms, and culturally inclusive design features, all built to zero-carbon and accessibility standards.

2027

The building opens, offering state-of-the-art indoor and outdoor teaching and learning spaces that reflect northern and Indigenous knowledge systems.



ABOUT YUKON UNIVERSITY

We are a progressive post-secondary institution that supports learners, organizations, and communities on their paths of transformation. We deliver education that meets diverse northern needs: university access pathways, skilled trades certificates, academic programs, and continuing education.

OUR MISSION

We provide inclusive, quality education experiences that equip learners to seize opportunities, make change, and positively impact local and global communities.

THE FIRST UNIVERSITY NORTH OF 60° IN CANADA

In 2024 we marked another milestone by becoming the 97th member of Universities Canada. This affiliation strengthens our ability to grow and evolve, offering students expanded pathways for education, new degree programs, and greater access to library and research networks across the country. As we deepen our connections and build new opportunities, we remain focused on serving the North—just as we have for over sixty years.



YukonU graduates are bold, confident thinkers who are the leaders and decision-makers of tomorrow. They pursue educations here in the North for jobs that serve the North, strengthening our communities right at home.

- ▶ Frontline healthcare workers providing our critical care.
- ▶ Teachers reconciling our education system.
- ▶ Tradespeople building our infrastructure.
- ▶ Scientists working in industry and conservation.
- ▶ Advocates championing the land and the environment.
- ▶ Innovators and entrepreneurs driving our economies.
- ▶ First Nation and government leaders advancing self-determination.



Dr. Lesley Brown

President & Vice-Chancellor, Yukon University

"Our students are the future of the Yukon and the North. They come to us with aspirations of becoming – be it a business leader, a government worker, a health care practitioner, a welder, a carpenter, a community leader, a teacher, the list goes on. Our students are resilient; they are driven and they are proud. It is Yukon University's role to empower these students to reach their full potential as bold leaders and changemakers who will become powerful forces in shaping the future of the North."

OUR CAMPUSES

We have 13 campuses and land-based classrooms nestled within the ancestral and modern homelands of the 14 Yukon First Nations. Each campus provides education and training specifically aimed to serve those living and working within that region.



We are committed to expanding access to post-secondary education. No matter where you may live, our community learning hubs offer an extensive range of academic and vocational programs to meet learning goals.

- 1 Alice Frost Community Campus, Old Crow**
Traditional territory of the Vuntut Gwitchin Government
- 2 Tr'odëk Hätr'unohtän Zho, YukonU Dawson City**
Traditional territory of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in
- 3 YukonU Mayo**
Traditional territory of the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun
- 4 Hets'edän KÚ', YukonU Pelly Crossing**
Traditional territory of the Selkirk First Nation
- 5 YukonU Faro**
Traditional territory of the Kaska Dena people
- 6 Dän Hänádän K'enjik, YukonU Carmacks**
Traditional territory of the Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation
- 7 Dena Cho Kê'endj, YukonU Ross River**
Traditional territory of the Kaska Dena people
- 8 Dakwäkäda Dän Kenädän Yū, YukonU Haines Junction**
Traditional territory of the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations
- 9 Ayamdigut Campus, YukonU Whitehorse**
Traditional territory of the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council and Kwanlin Dün First Nation
- 10 YukonU Whitehorse Correctional Centre**
Traditional territory of the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council and Kwanlin Dün First Nation
- 11 YukonU Watson Lake**
Traditional territory of the Kaska Dena people
- 12 Yà Khusgé Dàkahídi, YukonU Teslin**
Traditional territory of the Teslin Tlingit Council
- 13 YukonU Carcross**
Traditional territory of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation

We are guided by the Yukon First Nations people who have lived, worked and thrived on the land through time immemorial.

We acknowledge the visionaries, thinkers, and leaders who first set the course for this university in the seminal 1973 document *Together Today for our Children Tomorrow*.

Our journey of learning is also a journey of reconciliation.

We are committed to meeting our shared responsibilities in advancing reconciliation with all Yukon First Nations and honouring the teachings that emerge from these lands and her people. Their stories and memories are imprinted into the land and span generations of knowledge keepers and knowledge seekers.



Shaan Tlein Carol Geddes

Chancellor, Yukon University

"Having been involved in higher education for decades, its a great personal pleasure to witness a small revolution at Yukon University wherein Indigenous education has achieved an entrenched status that truly marks a transformational vision for the future of education.

I raise my hands to the leaders that dreamed of a University in the Yukon that would support Indigenous students. I am so grateful for the trails they blazed and for the journeys our leaders-in-training will take."



Nicole Rondeau

*Alumn and Faculty, Bachelor of Arts in Indigenous Governance
Community Leader*

"It's important for me to stay in Carmacks while working on my degree because I am contributing to the community and building capacity here. Living on my Traditional Territory is a piece of who I am. My children are here with me and they have a strong sense of community. This is where their language, culture, friends, and family are. YukonU in Carmacks has really supported me – from helping me understand how to apply for grants and awards, to opening up the campus when I needed internet access, and fostering me through the process of online learning. With YukonU, the possibility is there to stay home and get an education."

RESEARCH AND PARTNERSHIP

Our research is rooted in real-world outcomes that directly impact Canadians and influence global decision-makers.

Research is integrated into many classroom experiences, providing knowledge and outcomes from a uniquely northern perspective. Some of the North's most perplexing challenges are actively being addressed, providing our researchers the opportunity to solve real-world problems.

- Climate change impacts and adaptations
- Impacts of permafrost thaw
- Renewable energy production
- Geology and geosciences
- Community-based health research
- Indigenous research approaches
- Food security
- Self-governance
- Conservation and land-use planning
- Environmental stewardship

We are a key partner for research with industry, other post-secondary institutions, all levels of government including First Nations governments, and we play a prominent role in research partnerships within the circumpolar network of educational institutions.



~2x
in research
expenditures in the
last three years



65+
current research
projects



4
active research chairs
*+ 3 new Chairs poised
for recruitment*



Our researchers have conducted, mobilized, and shared research on northern topics for over three decades.

Our **Northern Energy Innovation** team is applying unique expertise in northern electric power systems to support communities and the energy industry across the territories with the energy transition. We specialize in integrating renewables in remote communities, electrification of heat and transportation, and grid modernization through smart grids, microgrids, distributed energy resources, and demand side management as it pertains to our unique northern context.

The **Yukon Strategy for People and Patient-Oriented Research** (YSPOR) works to transform healthcare research for better health outcomes in the Yukon. Housed at YukonU and part of a national network, YSPOR is a collaboration between the Government of Canada, and the Yukon, offering specialized services to researchers, patients, clinicians, policymakers, and SPOR-funded entities, enabling patient-oriented research and evidence-based healthcare solutions.



Tristan Sparks

Bachelor of Science in Northern Environmental and Conservation Sciences, 2024 Graduate

"I have been lucky enough to participate in different opportunities in research and academic settings including a forestry project in Haines Junction, groundwater research at Marsh Lake, a solar panel installation in Peru, and much more..."

OUR COMMITMENTS

We are proud of our potential to impact the future for the North. Our 2022–2027 strategic plan sets forward a bold aspiration to continue to develop northern expertise.

We will work to become a recognized leader and catalyst for education and knowledge that is relevant to the North. We will remain committed to the value of skilled trades training in creating an agile workforce to bring prosperity and sustainability to the North, and we will conduct teaching and research that prioritizes northern relevance and strengthens northern cultural heritage for generations to come.



Our programs position graduates to live and work in the Yukon, creating social and economic prosperity for Northerners and all Canadians.

- Experiential learning, in the classroom, in the workplace, and on the land
- Integrating leading-edge technologies into learning experiences
- Strengthening northern cultural heritage for generations to come
- Creating an agile workforce through skilled trades training
- Teaching and research of relevance to the North
- Pathways to post-secondary education and employment aspirations
- Creating leaders for tomorrow

How does our university contribute to a vibrant and prosperous Yukon?

- A skilled workforce across a wide range of industries and sectors
- Leaders for Indigenous self-determination
- Stewards for the land and the environment
- Innovative adaptations for climate change
- Creative solutions to northern challenges
- Champions of northern cultural heritage



YOUR IMPACT

Investments in recent years have led to tangible, real-world outcomes.

A \$2.5 million, five-year generous investment from the Walter Duncan Gordon Foundation towards empowering Canada's North, arctic science, and Indigenous self-determination through Yukon University.

A \$1 million gift from Northern Vision Development (NVD) to establish and maintain a Research Chair for the Indigenous Governance Degree program. The Research Chair conducts research related to concepts associated with northern governance, particularly as they relate to collaboration between the four levels of government in the Yukon.

An anonymous Yukoner pledged \$250,000 over five years towards establishing a Northern Social Work Chair position; a program very close to their heart and how they would like to invest in the future of the North.

A \$225,000 gift (pledged over 10 years) from Borealis Fuels. This gift builds capacity for Yukon University to develop new programming, giving flexibility and stability to support growth and development in the early years of these programs.

A \$40,000, five-year investment from Eagle Hill Energy Ltd. A partnership to establish the Thäy Tăw Energy Trust to support YukonU's land-based programming and decrease barriers to access. This gift will provide students with hands-on, culturally relevant learning experiences that connect them to the land, Indigenous knowledge, and sustainable practices.

A \$250,000, ten-year investment from Ketza Construction enables an additional 12-student carpentry cohort, addressing an urgent demand for up-to-date skilled workers in this field. In honor of this gift, Ketza Construction Carpentry Shop is the new name for our carpentry training space at Ayamdigut – Yukon University in Whitehorse.

A \$250,000, five-year investment from Whitehorse Motors is helping support student accessibility, mental health, and wellness in trades at Yukon University. This transformational give is helping students enhance their academic success, safety, and overall well-being. By providing mental health resources, students can develop resilience, manage stress effectively, and improve focus.



Michael Hale
*Chief Executive Officer
Northern Vision Development*

"NVD is deeply committed to being a part of Yukon and the entire North realizing its full potential. We see Yukon University as a partner that shares our values and our commitment to this place and its people."



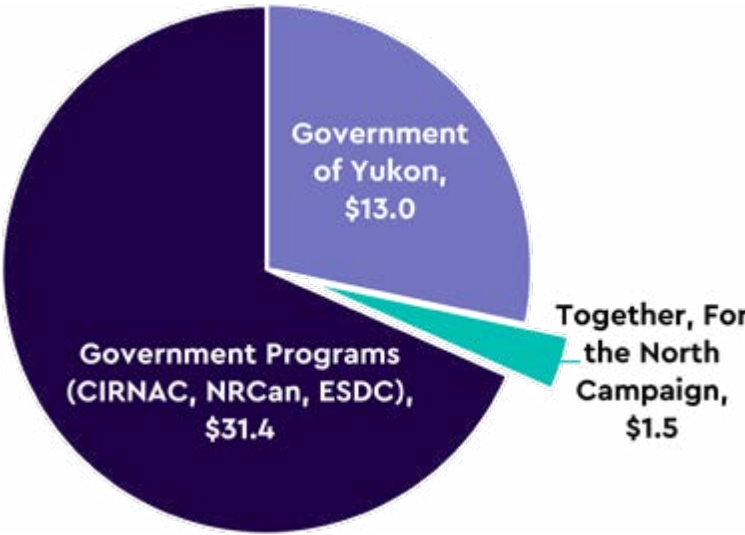
Katriel Villacorta
*Bachelor of Indigenous Governance,
2024 Graduate*

"During my time at YukonU I faced numerous health issues, a few hospitalizations, and some diagnoses that changed my life and how I function daily. That never stopped my ability to get through courses. Teachers and campus staff always went above and beyond to accommodate me academically, support me as a student, and as a single mom striving to chase my education.

I will never forget the amount of support, understanding, and grace bestowed on me during my time right to the very end. Big strong Mahsi to all the incredible staff at YukonU!"

With your support, we can make it possible.

Together, we can foster the Yukon's next generation of leaders in the fields of Indigenous self-determination, northern entrepreneurship, climate change adaptation, and sustainable resource development.



We're so close — thanks to Yukoners' incredible generosity, we've raised \$4 million, and now we need our community to come together for the final \$1.5 million to make the transformative new science building a reality and build even more opportunities for Yukoners.

You are paving a new path for future leaders. You are investing in the future of the North.

TOGETHER, WE CAN REALIZE A THRIVING YUKON

A place where we walk together in reconciliation to fuel a strong economy, resilient organizations, and capable governments with bold leaders and change-makers who are shaped by Yukon University.

We are thrilled to discuss the impact your investment can make.

Michael Hale

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