

November 24, 2025

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# City of Yellowknife

## Appeal for Arts

## Sector Support

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Presented by Adrian Bell, on behalf of the NWT Art Centre Initiative

**NWT Art Centre**  
INITIATIVE

# WE PROPOSED

City budget allocation for an artist-in-residence program to be delivered by a local non-profit organization. This would contribute to the City of Yellowknife's arts and culture sectors by **providing spaces for artists to develop and share their skills and networks**, but also for community members to engage with these sectors for their own **personal and professional betterment**.

# WHICH WOULD

Meet the commitments of the **Council Strategic Directions 2023-2026**, and the **City of Yellowknife Arts & Culture Master Plan**, which included establishing and running an Artist-in-Residence (AiR) program for the City of Yellowknife.

# Support through Leadership



On the basis of the **City of Yellowknife Arts & Culture Master Plan**, local organisations (including ours) began planning for Yellowknife's future.

But what does sector sustainability look like without the **support and leadership** of the City?

What does the future of Yellowknife look like from a 10,000 meter view?



# ABCD FOR YK

**We want to see the City of Yellowknife demonstrate support for the arts.**

Show an investment in our community by supporting projects that benefit Yellowknife through collaboration and innovation.

Read the *Arts and Culture Master Plan* again, and find a way to move it forward.

**Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD)** is a methodology for **sustainable development** that identifies and mobilizes a community's existing strengths and resources, individuals and organizations, focusing on **potential** rather than problems.

# OPPORTUNITIES FROM THE

Pillar 1, Objective 2:

**Facilitate capacity building for the art sector**

*Action: Formalize a City  
artist-in-residence program*

Pillar 2, Objective 1:

**Assess and plan for cultural infrastructure**

*Action: Explore formal partnership opportunities  
with existing non-City owned spaces*

Pillar 3, Objective 2:

**Celebrate and protect Indigenous culture**

*Action: Incorporate Indigenous knowledge into City-led  
programming through co-designed programs*

Pillar 4, Objective 2:

**Ingrain arts and culture into the identity of YK**

*Action: Incorporate arts and culture into City  
marketing campaigns*

# ARTS & CULTURE MASTER PLAN