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30 12th Ave Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 4K3
867.332.7108 / 867.689.9061
www.irpotential.com

June 13, 2022

**Selena Zhang
Future Skills Centre
Skills Development in Northern Canada**

Dear Ms. Zhang:

Re: Letter of Support for Yukonstruct Society expression of interest: Future Skills Centre - Skills Development in Northern Canada.

It is my pleasure to write to you on behalf of IRP Consulting to express our support for Yukonstruct Society's response to your call for EOIs centred around skills development in Northern Canada.

IRP Consulting works with Indigenous, Federal, and Territorial governments, post-Secondary institutions, private sector business and individuals to support Indigenous self-determination and to amplify reconciliation efforts that support Nation building. We proudly anchor our work in our Yukon First Nation ways of doing, being and knowing and have decades of experience creating a safe space for transformational work to occur.

IRP Consulting fully supports Yukonstruct Society's approach to skills development in the Yukon. In particular, we will partner with them to meet their commitment to identifying and addressing social issues as key barriers to inclusion in entrepreneurship and innovation. This includes piloting a lab model that will develop the Yukon into a hub for social innovation, while also addressing key issues in the Territory that present current barriers to inclusion and skills development in the North.

The lab model pilot will address the impact of the opioid crisis, low availability of housing, and poor affordability on inclusion and social innovation in the Yukon.

We believe that addressing these issues is fundamental to FSC's mandate to help build more resilient and sustainable livelihoods within Northern Canada. We believe that building the Yukon's capacity as a hub for social innovation in a remote setting, and with focus on Indigenous self-determination as part of inclusion and entrepreneurship, will develop a framework and approach that could serve as a role model for social innovation and inclusion across the region.



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Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you require any further information about IRP Consulting and our support for this project, at tosh@irpotential.com.

Sincerely

Tosh Southwick
Co-owner, IRP Consulting

