



## yukon wildlife preserve

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August 14, 2019

We are excited to announce that Yukoner, Steve Smyth, will be make a \$25,000 donation to the Yukon Wildlife Preserve. A presentation will happen on Monday, August 19th, 2019 at 10:00am as part of the Preserve's Run Wild Fundraising event.

"I am very pleased to be able to assist the Yukon Wildlife Preserve in its efforts to promote tourism, foster the rehabilitation of injured wildlife, conduct research, and to educate people about our precious wildlife resources." said Smyth.

"Steve's donation is humbling, gratifying and energizing," said Executive Director, Jake Palency. "We're just so grateful to have his support. His trust in our organization made it possible for us to put the money where we need it most, and to commit to major projects like the master plan and a new barrier-free bus this year."

The Yukon Wildlife Preserve is currently undertaking a master planning process that will guide the next 10-15 years. An important part of the master plan will be to identify major capital and program developments to enhance the visitor experience. The planning process includes a stakeholder engagement report and business plan. The planning team is currently working to refine the conceptual designs.

"This donation marks a turning point for the Preserve," said Paleczny. "Steve and his family are showing our community that the Preserve has an important role in the community and that we're on a very exciting trajectory."

Smyth is a long-time supporter of the Preserve. This is the largest donation the Preserve has received to date and will bring Smyth's donations to the Preserve to more than \$35,000.

### **Run Wild and Wildlife Rehabilitation**

Run Wild is the Yukon Wildlife Preserve's Annual fun run fundraiser. Proceeds from the event go to support the Preserve's wildlife rehabilitation program. In 2018 99 registrants raised \$1,100.

August 19th, 2019, Run Wild Schedule:

- 9:00am: Registration
- 10:00am: Welcome and Presentation
- 10:30am: Race Start

The Preserve provides care and a home for Yukon's sick, injured or orphaned wildlife to give them a second chance at life. But with increasing demand and rising costs, support like this is critical to the Preserve's ability to accept and care for Yukon's most vulnerable animals. More information is available at <http://donate.yukonwildlife.ca/>.

### **About the Preserve**

The Yukon Wildlife Preserve is a zoological institution and a non-profit charity dedicated to connecting our visitors with the natural world. As ambassadors of the Yukon Wildlife Preserve's animals, lands, and operations, the operating society proudly displays populations of 11 species of Yukon wildlife in large natural habitats. The society also conducts educational programming and funds a wildlife rehabilitation program for Yukon's injured and orphaned wildlife. The facilities and the level of care provided to our animals successfully meets the stringent criteria of Canada's Accredited Zoos and Aquariums, to which the Yukon Wildlife Preserve is a long-time member.