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NO LIMITS.
ONLY POSSIBILITIES.

RIC Workshop

A REVIEW OF THE EVENT

On January 23rd and 24th 2012, the Yukon Research Center's Cold Climate Innovation (CCI) and Technology Innovation (TI) hosted its first Research, Innovation and Commercialization (RIC) Workshop. We are pleased to say that 98 people attended the day sessions, and 63 people joined us for the Innovation Think Tank.

The Yukon Research Center's Data Server session was a gathering of researchers and people who have, need, or use Yukon data to present this [prototype](#) and to gather their needs and suggestions. The objective is for it to eventually become the central Data Server for Yukon data, with interoperability with many other data bases (such as the Polar Data Catalogue).

Presentations from funding agencies that support research, innovation and commercialization. We wanted to help bridge the gap between Yukon inventors, researchers, individuals and businesses and the agencies that can support their work.

4 Vignettes of innovative projects happening in the Yukon were presented over the course of the two days.

The Innovation Think Tank on Monday night was a lively evening of discussions around themed challenges. The discussions' summaries are on the following page. The aim was to bring inventors, thinkers, tinkerers, curious and brilliant minds together to collectively work on solutions to northern challenges we face. Keep your eyes open and your ideas churning, we plan to make this a regular event!

A big thank you to everyone who attended RIC. We hope that you had a great time and walked away with new knowledge, good networking opportunities and a head full of ideas.

Thank you, from all of us at
Cold Climate Innovation
& Technology Innovation,
Yukon Research Center



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INNOVATIVE MYSTERIES GUESS THE INNOVATION GAME

THE ITEMS:

- ◆ CHERRY PITTEr
- ◆ JAPANESE POPPER BEER OPENER
- ◆ CORN COB KERNELS CUTTER
- ◆ COURTING CANDLE HOLDER
- ◆ HAND SEEDED
- ◆ APPLE/POTATO PEELER, CORER, SLICER
- ◆ BALL MILL BALL

- ◆ OLD WASHING MACHINE'S TIMER CLOCK
- ◆ MINERAL CORE ORIENTATION MARKING DEVICE
- ◆ VARIABLE RESISTOR

THE WINNER OF THE CONTEST IS WARREN ZAKUS! He's walking away with some TAKU WILD SMOKED SALMON AND A BOTTLE OF UNCLE BERWY'S YUKON BIRCH SYRUP.

THE INNOVATION THINK TANK

THEMES & DISCUSSION SUMMARIES

The 5 challenge themes and the highlights of those discussions at the special evening event.

GREEN HOUSING

- Earth-bag Housing Challenges— a variation of rammed earth/adobe more amenable to self-builders • Self-Building as a way to reduce cost of construction, create enhanced buy in by the resident, and improve the strength of the community through a right pride
- District heating systems sized for small communities • The development of shutter systems for northern houses • Super insulation systems which are in place and working • Heat recovery windows •

ENERGY CHALLENGES

- Heat recovery from grey-water lines • Wind Power Generation • Smart-Grid
- Biochar • Biofuel • Continue research and experimentation on Passive Home Designs • Funding assistance for “Green Energy” Implementation Projects • Super Insulation Initiatives • Micro Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Co-generation • Do with Less! • Motion sensors to control lighting
- Modulating lighting controls •

COLD CLIMATE CHALLENGES

- Snow loading • Frost on signs • Food Security
- Keep root crops in sand
- Heating compost year-round using a magnifying glass to concentrate light onto a rod inserted into compost pile • Issue of salt on the roads • Recycling of crushed gravel to coat roads • Intelligent Parking lot controllers • Reconnecting people with winter • Disappearing street lines • Vertical gardening • Social Parameters • Change by-laws to allow chickens
- More permafrost research • Smart road technology • Car idling • Arm-bands with chips for finding lost tourists • Reclaim public spaces: Using existing public spaces more efficiently • Energy audits for all buildings •

TECHNOLOGY

- Lack and cost of bandwidth (hindrance to innovation, business and development) • Bad reception deters people traveling here on business to invest further • SeaBoard group's report of the \$61.00 BigMac • Sole sourced IT “Outside” business and development • Policy or incentive for YG to look for local communication and software solutions • Invest in local companies/

individuals so they can be part of solutions • Children in schools loose the most • Yukon Emergency Measures Organization sidestepping local Emergency Messaging • Access to Canarie Research network • Y-Tunes • E-commerce portal for local musicians and other multimedia • E-government services and application development •

ENVIRONMENT

- Energy • Isolation • Seasonal and weather extremes • Disturbance • Food security • Water
- Wasters • Housing (construction, permafrost conservation, industrialization) • Natural hazards (earthquakes, fire, flood, avalanche) • Politics/ social/culture • Priority areas identified were:
- Food security • Habitat conservation • Appropriate agriculture (a spin-off topic from food security) Idea: Building a modular housing kit that was lightweight, efficient, affordable, made of local materials •

PLASTOVAC VIGNETTE:

Plastic Separation System



Garret Gillespie presenting a vignette on one of his inventions: The Plastovac. This machine separates plastics from compost.

The introduction of plastics in municipal composts is a difficult and widespread problem that is attributed to “compostable” plastic bags (which don’t actually compost for many years), and carelessness from the compost contributors.



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NO FULLY HATCHED IDEAS CAME OUT OF THIS EVENING, BUT MANY IDEAS ARE IN PROGRESS AND WE HOPE THAT THIS EVENING, ALONG WITH THE THINK TANKS TO COME, WILL FACILITATE YOUR IDEAS INTO CCI FUNDED PROJECTS!

OUR PRESENTERS & THEIR PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTER (Chronologically)	PRESENTATION TITLE (Click HERE to access the presentations, they are under "RIC Workshop Results".)*
Rick Steele	Data Server scope
Doug Tremblay	Data Server policy
Dave Rogers	Data Server's content
Julien Plourde	Demonstration of Northwestel Environmental Data Acquisition Project
Julie E. Friddell	The Polar Data Catalogue: Data and Information Portal for Northern Research and Monitoring
Rick Warner	NSERC A Many Splendored Agency
Rob Hopkins	Vignette: User Generated Community Radio using Open Source Technology
Martyn Ward	How IRAP can Help Your Company Grow through Technology and Innovation
Joe Bradley	CanNor, Canada's Northern Economic Development Agency
Harry Borlase	LOOKNorth: investing in remote sensing for a changing Northern Canada
Treharne Drury	Vignette: Northern Greenhouse Project
Thomas Hu	Scientific Research & Experimental Development (SR&ED) Investment Tax Credit Program
Terry Hayden	Context of Research, Innovation and Commercialization in Yukon
Tess Menges	The Canadian Innovation Commercialization Program (CICP)
Garret Gillespie	Vignette: Plastovac Plastic Separation System
Olivier Pellegrin	How can an Organization Grow and Expand with a Best Chance of Success and Governmental Support

* If for some reason any links don't work, you may contact us at: krobichaud@yukoncollege.yk.ca and we will forward the presentations to you electronically.

