



2020/2021 Climb Yukon Annual Report

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A Word from our President





It's been a milestone year. Despite the many challenges we have all faced, 2020 has presented many opportunities for Climb Yukon. With limited access to our facility in Porter Creek, we took on projects to build on the foundation of our organization in preparation for the future.

Becoming recognized as Canada's first Territorial Sport Organization (TSO) for Sport Climbing and a member of Climbing Escalade Canada (CEC) has been a significant step forward. Thank you to all the volunteers past and present who have put in countless hours of work to achieve this milestone. We couldn't have done this without you. I'm looking forward to seeing what the future brings and the progress we will make as a community, bringing climbing to everyone in the Territory.

- Samantha Li -

About Us

Our Board 2020-2021

President- Samantha Li
Vice-President- Sara Bradley
Secretary- Sara Bradley
Treasurer- Taylor Eshpeter

Director- Max Parker
Director - Kayla Yeulet
Director- Charles Kalinsky

This annual report showcases the main activities that occurred between April 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021. The main area of focus for 2020-2021 has been on navigating climbing during Covid, obtaining the TSO designation, identifying funding streams and working with YG to further the Climbing Facility Project.

“Providing greater opportunities and responding to the community’s ever-growing interest in climbing.”

Our Mission

Promoting the sport of Climbing in the Yukon through education, programs, and access to climbing facilities





Covid Impacts

- Late AGM last year due to limitations around holding AGMs as video conference
- Subsequent bylaw change and update. This is the second year we will be holding the AGM online which has increased turnout due to accessibility
- Significant effort spent creating and implementing Covid 19 protocols in preparation for possible opening
- No access to Porter Creek until April 2021
- Full year without Youth Team or Public Drop In
- Impacts to membership numbers as no incentive for reduced rate Drop In and community events
- Wall improvements to Porter Creek with funding from YG initiatives

Climbing Activities

Yukon Youth Climbing team

Sept. 2020 to Apr. 2021

Coaches:

Max Parker (head coach)

Samantha Li

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, high school aged youth were restricted to their school bubbles. As the Youth team welcomes youth from high schools across Whitehorse, we were unable to operate this program this year.

As the pandemic progressed and access was modified, youth were invited to train and climb on Mondays while adhering to Climb Yukon's approved Covid plan.





- **Climbing skills Courses**
- **Climbing Competitions**
- **Youth Drop in**
- **Public Drop in**

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic which resulted in limited access to our climbing facility, Climb Yukon was unable to operate any of the programs it might normally have been able to offer throughout the year.



Territorial Sport Organization (TSO)

Climbing Escalade Canada (CEC) is the national governing body of the sport of competition climbing in Canada. The purpose of the CEC is to be a leader in the promotion and development of competition climbing in Canada. As the newest member of the CEC, Climb Yukon is the official governing body for sport climbing in the Yukon, opening the door to a diversity of funding streams. Climb Yukon has been working with the Community Services branch to explore this new status and will be an important voice for athletes from the Yukon Territory and help them achieve their highest potential.

Climb Yukon's designation as the official Territorial Sport Organization is another step towards building the sport of climbing locally in the Yukon. We look forward to working with the CEC and YG to continue our mission to promote youth climbing both recreationally and competitively.

Funding

Under YG's, A Path Forward, local Sport and Recreation Organizations were required to adjust how they operate and run programming.

The Federal Government created a temporary relief fund to help support Culture, Heritage and Sport Organizations to continue to operate through COVID 19. The \$72 million identified for Sport Organizations was divided amongst NSO's and P/TSOs to distribute to their local sport and recreation organizations.

Climb Yukon Association received a total of \$5,647. Funding was used to pay for expenses typically covered by income earned from events, drop-in fees from Porter Creek and memberships.

The result is that we have a safe clean space for the youth to climb when available, we have liquid chalk available for use, and a beautiful newly painted climbing wall that we can limit the use to supervised hours.

Climb Yukon Funders and Sponsors



Main Sponsors and Funders

- Lotteries Yukon
- Government of Canada
- Flashed Climbing
- Petzl Canada

Climbing Facility Project

In October 2019, YG released the Whitehorse Gymnastics and Climbing Feasibility report.

Summary of findings:

- The report concluded that a Climbing gym could be successful within Whitehorse
- A Consolidated Facility between Climb Yukon and Polarettas makes the most economic sense
- The financial impact is proportional for gymnastics and Climbing with respect to initial expenditure and the return on investment is similar between the groups
- Operational efficiencies could be realized between the clubs by sharing support and program space
- A location is needed to be identified

Where we are today:

- Climb Yukon has been working with YG on architectural designs for the building
- A location has been identified as meeting the requirements of the build
- Recognition of increased costs due to economic impacts of Covid, material and labor shortages
- The Liberal Party, Yukon Party and NDP all committed to moving forward with the joint climbing and gymnastics facility pending federal budget approval
- Project is at the Federal funding application stage

Promotion and Communication

Online Presence- Facebook Followers

2018 - 2019

394

2019 - 2020

564

2020 - 2021

770

Climb Yukon Association Members 2020/2021: **11**

*Due to Covid 19 and restricted access to the facility, Climb Yukon did not actively sell memberships

2021/2022

- Carcross Drop In
- Policy advancement
- Paid position and association manager
- Communities development and outreach
- Professional development for coaches and board member
- Programming
- Events