

Hello,

Many of you may know me as I have been very involved with the local non-profit community for over 10 years.

I am dedicated to supporting the important work our non-profit agencies do and totally appreciate the hard work and monetary value our many volunteers contribute to our community in so many ways. Whitehorse is a healthier, safer, more dynamic and culturally richer community thanks for the work of our non-profit associations and their crews of volunteers.

Over the years, I have worked with many organizations to access funding for projects by completing grant applications, filing final reporting documents, and working with sponsors to ensure so many important projects were completed.

I am proud to have worked on projects that enrich our community such as the dug-out canoe that sits in Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre and the healing totem on the waterfront.

Currently, I am the longest serving member of Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre collective. I am also a board member of Volunteer Bénévoles Yukon and proud Rotarian. I strongly believe in diverting waste from our dump and as a step to address recycling and reusing, and because I love to thrift, I am a member of the steering committee that has founded the new Whitehorse Community Thrift Store.

Over the years, I have learned a lot about how to support and sustain non-profit organizations. I know that we all need more funding, which is an ongoing issue. However, I also realize that NGO's are often run by volunteers or a small number of staff . Therefore, making it easier to access funds is a welcome relief as it would reduce the administrative burden on applicants and City staff.

I was involved with the revamping of a major funding program with Lotteries Yukon and have seen changes other large funders have made to make accessing funding easier for applicants as well as their own staff.

If elected, I will be a strong voice for our non-profit community.

If elected, I will make it a priority to reduce the administrative burden of applying for funding from the City as well as examine how the City could implement long-term funding arrangements, for instance three-year funding agreements, with its long-term, low risk applicants who need the reassurance of planning over several years.

I would then meet with our non-profit community to establish open communication and see how we could work together more cohesively.

Thank you for your time.

Eileen Melnychuk