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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Hotiì ts'eeda and Aurora College awarded \$78,500 Connections Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)**

*Yellowknife (September 25, 2019)* Hotiì ts'eeda: NWT SPOR SUPPORT Unit and Aurora College are pleased to announce that they have received a SSHRC Connections Grant of a value of \$78,500 to develop a Grant Proposal Workshop for participants across the Northwest Territories.

The North is a vibrant hub for research and innovation. It is common for Northern organizations and Indigenous governments to conduct or partner on community-driven research programs. However, Northern and Indigenous governments, organizations and individuals often lack the resources to develop and access funding opportunities.

In response to this need, Aurora Research Institute, Aurora College's research division, and Hotiì ts'eeda are developing an intensive three-day grant-writing workshop for independent researchers, Indigenous Knowledge Holders, non-governmental organization (NGO) program staff, and the non-academic community. Attendees will apply with their own or partner project ideas, and will be guided collectively through the stages of a grant proposal by qualified experts and mentors: from developing their project idea to evaluating partner proposals to fully developing a competitive proposal. Following the workshop, attendees will have one year to work with a mentor to develop their proposals, build relationships, and apply to funding opportunities for their work.

ARI and Hotiì ts'eeda aim to host this workshop in Inuvik in spring 2020.

"Accessing research funding puts NWT communities and individuals in the driver's seat when it comes to doing research. This initiative will enable NWT based individuals to translate their community research priorities and ideas into accessing funding. Building this capacity among NWT-based researchers and organizations will result in Northern residents accessing new funding for quality Northern research based on community needs and priorities."

- Dr. Stephanie Irlbacher-Fox, Scientific Director, Hotiì ts'eeda

"ARI is grateful for the generous support from SSHRC. This project has the potential to significantly increase the research capacity of Indigenous Knowledge Holders, independent academics, and non-government organizations (NGOs) in the north."

- Pippa Seccombe-Hett, Vice President, Research, Aurora College

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