

Strategic Plan

2023-2028

January 12, 2024 (Final)

Dejā ahndey sòsin dahdèl Going forward in a good way









Dänk'e ye Dakwänje ye Dakwändur

OUR INDIGENOUS CULTURE, HERITAGE, AND LANGUAGE

Kwänlin Dän Najįį

COMMUNITY

Alhayea

CONNECTION

Nàts'etsat

STRENGTH



At KDCC, we are inspired by our ancestors and filled with hope and inspiration as we launch our second decade from a position of cultural and organizational strength, with the intent of deepening our cultural mandate for our Centre and community.

This includes strengthening our role as a **Kwanlin Dün Cultural Knowledge Keeper** and **cultural education programmer** for our **young people** through impactful collaborations.

THIS IS AN ERA OF CULTURAL ABUNDANCE, RECIPROCITY, and CELEBRATION

The reclamation of First Nation culture and heritage is one of the foremost achievements of and benefits to Indigenous peoples in this self-governance era.

Kwanlin Dün cultural heritage resurgence is driven by Kwanlin Dün peoples including its artists, the Kwanlin Dün First Nation government, Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre, and others supporting such important work.



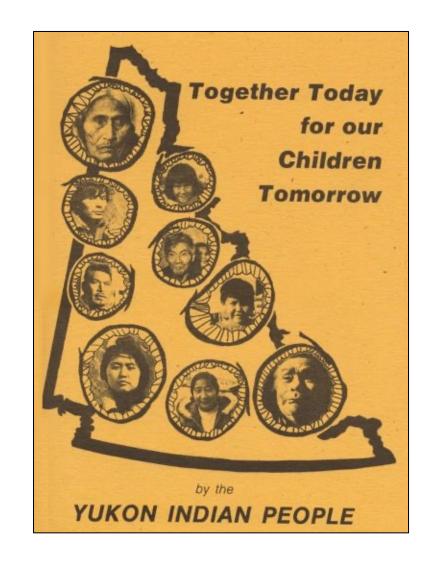
WE RECLAIM and CELEBRATE OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE

The historic document, **Together Today For Our Children Tomorrow**, was presented to the Prime Minister of Canada in 1973 by a delegation of Yukon Chiefs.

This paper paved the way for the negotiation of Final and Self-Government Agreements for Yukon First Nations.

The Umbrella Final Agreement (UFA) was signed in 1993, and The Kwanlin Dun First Nation Final Agreement and The Kwanlin Dün First Nation Self-Government Agreement were signed in 2005.

Within these agreements, the creation of the **Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre (KDCC)** built by the Chu Niikwän (Yukon River) on Settlement Land Parcel C-70FS was successfully negotiated. The KDCC opened in 2012.





Chief Sean Smith with Dakhká Khwáan Dancers

Dánän kay ts'än k'àkwädinge

Bless our land.

BACK TO THE RIVER

Opened in 2012 on the mighty Chu Niikwän (Yukon River) by the **Kwanlin Dün First Nation (KDFN)**, the **Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre (KDCC)** celebrates, values, and advances the Kwanlin Dün culture, history, teachings, traditions, and languages while being stewards of the building and land on behalf of **Kwanlin Dun First Nation**.

Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre's facilities and land are owned by the Kwanlin Dün First Nation. **Kwanlin Dün Cultural Society (KDCS)** is a registered not-for-profit organization governing, operating, and stewarding the **Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre**. The KDCS Governance Council was established in September 2013 through the appointment by KDFN Chief and Council.

KDCS embodies the KDFN Constitution Preamble which states that the Kwanlin Dün expect the Kwanlin Dün First Nation to foster Kwanlin Dün traditional languages, practices, and culture, and, that Kwanlin Dün citizens acknowledge their desire and commitment to honour and carry forward their culture, languages, traditions, clan system, and laws.



The intergenerational transfer
of the
knowledge of
culture and language,
including that of
our Elders to our
young people,

is **essential** for **Kwanlin Dün culture** to **survive and thrive**.



Judy Gingell, CM OY, Current KDCS Governance Council Chair, former Grand Chief of Council of Yukon First Nations, first First Nations Commissioner of Yukon, founding director (1969) and secretary/treasurer (1973) of the Yukon Native Brotherhood, past executive council member of the Yukon Indian Women's Association, and founding director of Northern Native Broadcasting Yukon.



KDFN youth at a KDCC cultural youth workshop.

The vision of long-term

preservation, survival, and

celebration

of

Kwanlin Dün culture, languages, and community

is at the core of KDCC cultural collections and programming.

We are dedicated to supporting our artists.





KDCC AS A CULTURAL CONNECTOR

KDCC celebrates Kwanlin Dün ways of life for the benefit of the Kwanlin Dün people and to share our culture with other First Nations and the public at large. The Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre collects and preserves cultural, historic, traditional, contemporary, and artistic objects, replicas, and artefacts.

At the KDCC, Kwanlin Dün artists celebrate and advance Kwanlin Dün's culture and heritage. KDCC operates First Nations emerging and established artist residencies and presents performing arts and community cultural events, including the Yukon First Nations Culture & Tourism Association's renowned Adäka Cultural Festival.

KDCC as a MEETING & CONFERENCE VENUE

The beautiful and unique Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre is one of Yukon's premier and busiest venues welcoming thousands of people into the world of Kwanlin Dün culture while creating a great sense of community belonging for the Kwanlin Dün First Nations citizens.

KDCC hosts 1,200 events a year within a diversity of spaces appropriate for conferences and conventions, community meetings, workshops, weddings, cultural events, artist residencies, and experiences.

2023-2028 KDCS Strategic Plan



VISION

By connecting people and place, we ensure Kwanlin Dün culture, languages, and traditions thrive for many generations.



MISSION

We walk on intertwining paths
by celebrating, honouring, and
advancing Kwanlin Dün
culture and languages while
being a gathering place and
outstanding venue.



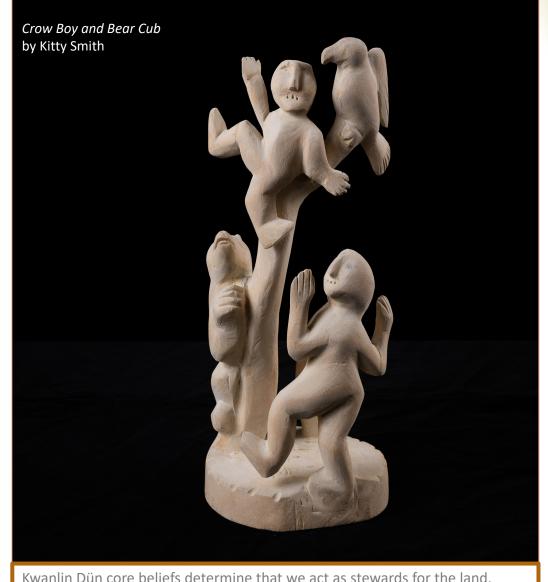
Kwanlin is our Southern Tutchone name for the canyon (currently called Miles Canyon) that carries Chu Niikwän ("Shining Waters") - the Yukon River - into Whitehorse.

Kwanlin means "water through the canyon." Dün is our word for People.

MISSION FOR OUR COLLECTION

The mission for our collection is the continued preservation, protection, and representation of material culture, and the resurgence of Kwanlin Dün cultural arts, languages, and activities.

KDCC Core, Living, Working, and Digital Collections



Kwanlin Dün core beliefs determine that we act as stewards for the land, listen to our Elders, and pass on knowledge and traditions to future generations.

Each object in our collection carries a story, and those stories need to be cared for and shared. The KDCC maintains its collections with these cultural values in practice.

MANDATE /1

Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre embraces the KDFN Heritage mandate.*

A. **ENGAGEMENT:** We promote public awareness, appreciation, and understanding of all aspects of culture and heritage in the Yukon and respect and foster the culture and heritage of the Kwanlin Dün people;

B. PRESERVATION: We promote the recording and preservation of traditional languages, beliefs, oral histories for the benefit of future generations;



MANDATE /2

C. HERITAGE RESOURCES: We promote the use of generally accepted standards of Heritage Resources management to ensure the protection and conservation of Heritage Resources;

D. ACCESS: We facilitate reasonable public access, except where the nature of the Heritage Resource or other special circumstances warrant otherwise;

E. ORAL HISTORY: We recognize that oral history is a valid and relevant form of research.



KDCS GUIDING PRINCIPLES /1

Responsible for KDCC's overall stewardship, we the Governance Council believe in the following guiding principles.

A. SPIRIT OF POTLATCH

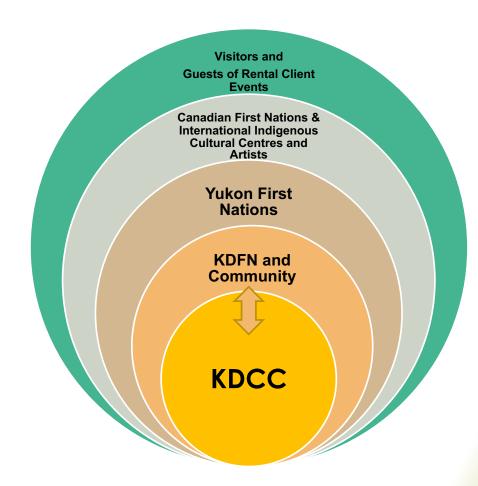
We believe in the spirit of the Potlatch, where KDCC is a safe, caring, healing, and inclusive place that fosters a great sense of learning, belonging, and respect for all.

B. YOUTH

We believe in providing a pathway for change for KD/YFN youth through cultural engagement to enable an increased sense of First Nations identity and community.

C. KWANLIN DÜN FIRST NATION

We believe in a strong and positive relationship with KDFN.



KDCS GUIDING PRINCIPLES /2

D. ARTISTS & KNOWLEDGE KEEPERS

We believe in actively supporting Kwanlin Dün and other Indigenous artists and knowledge keepers.

E. EXCELLENCE & PRIDE OF SERVICE

We believe in a devoted commitment to excellence in service and host our visitors and event participants with a spirit of pride and reciprocity.

F. FIRST NATION EMPLOYMENT AND LEADERSHIP

We believe that it is important to recruit, train, and mentor Kwanlin Dün citizens.

G. SUSTAINABILITY

We believe in working hard to maintain and ensure the KDCC's long-term sustainability.



Ann Smith, renowned Kwanlin Dün weaver, former KDFN Chief, and current KDCS Governance Council Member

KDCS STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2023-2028



1. DEEPENING CULTURE MANDATE





& BELONGING



4. FUTURE CONFERENCE CENTRE RELATIONSHIP



5. SUSTAINABILITY:

Financial and Property Management



3. OUR KDCS PEOPLE and FIRST NATION FOCUSED GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP





Priority Projects 2023-2028

A. DEEPENING CULTURAL MANDATE

- Digital Collection as resources for KDFN & public leading to KDCC as KD Cultural Knowledge Keeper (2023-2026)
- Youth Engagement programs in collaboration with KDFN Circle of Care programs and with other First Nations youth programs (2024-2028)
- Collection building with traditional and contemporary KD and YFN cultural works and artifacts (2023-2028)
- Annual Winter Storytelling Festival establishment with collaborating partners (2026/27)
- KDCC River Corridor Revitalization (main lobby display space) and creation of an engaging visitor cultural experience for the KDCC 15th Anniversary (2027/28)
- Year-Round Shakaat Artist Village (winterized cabins) logistical and funding research, including that for eco-friendly energy and heating (2027/28)

B. COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH NEW CONFERENCE CENTRE (2026)

- Operating and financial feasibility study (2024/25)
- ► Final contractual relationship (2025/26)
- Project Management Participation in architectural design and organizational governance and structure with CNLP, YCB, YG (2023-2026)
- KD/YFN Art Gallery and Retail Space (2023-2026)
- Construction scheduling logistics including business interruption funding and moving of KDCC smaller buildings and items (2024-2026)

C. REVENUE DIVERSIFICATION

- KDCC Funding/Fundraising Research, Plan, and Program Establishment (2024)
- KDCC First Nation retail operation (2024/25 at KDCC, 2026/27 at Conference Centre)



Sákw. To be.



2023 - 2028



Raven Releases the Light By Mark Preston

GOAL 1:

We will ensure that the long-term survival and celebration of Kwanlin Dün culture and languages are at the core of KDCC cultural and heritage collections and programming.

GOAL 1: CULTURAL MANDATE OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE A – Advance our Cultural Mandate and Building our Collection

We will uphold, grow, and deepen our cultural and collections mandate to preserve and celebrate our culture.

We will build our collection with Kwanlin Dün and YFN traditional and contemporary cultural works and artifacts.

OBJECTIVE B – Increase Participant Engagement and Belonging

We will achieve fuller participant engagement and a sense of belonging with our community.

OBJECTIVE C – Be a Kwanlin Dün Knowledge Keeper

We will be a reputable Kwanlin Dün cultural knowledge keeper by establishing a KDCC digital collection on cultural practices with its active future use by the KDFN community.

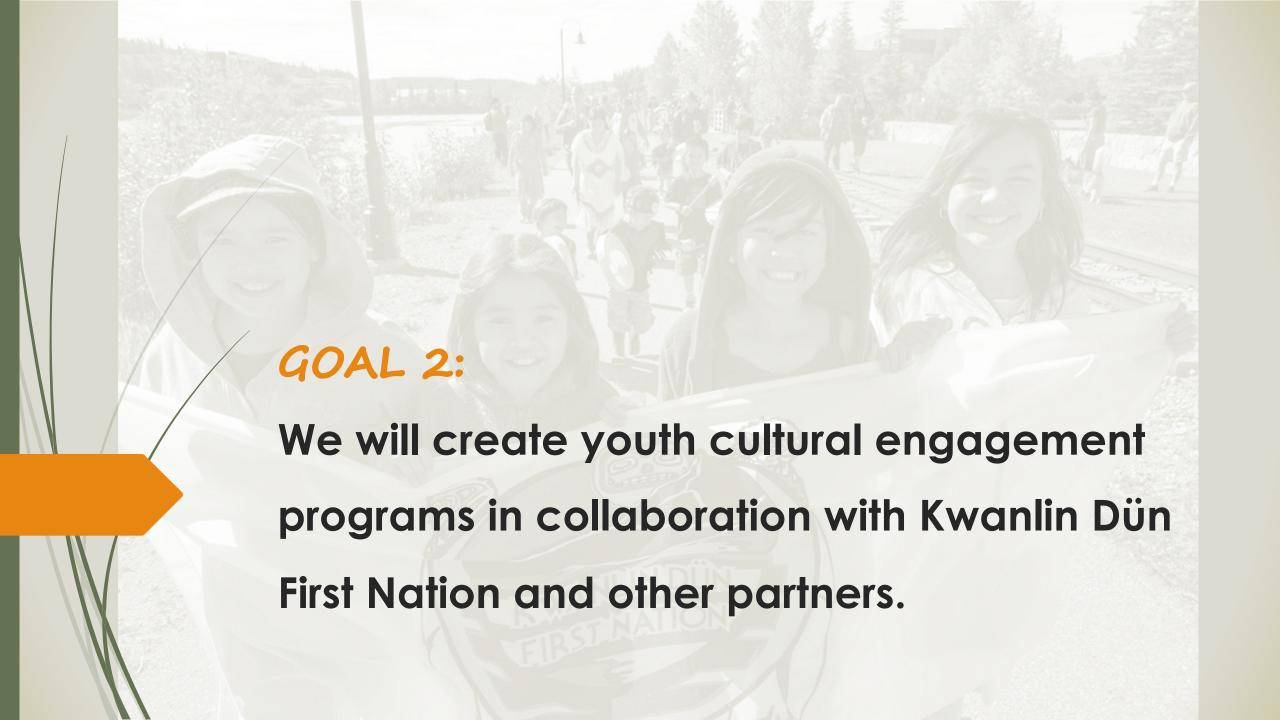
OBJECTIVE D – Support Kwanlin Dün and Other Indigenous Artists

We will support Kwanlin Dün and other Indigenous artists in our exhibits, events, artist residencies, and increased opportunities for artists to sell their works.

OBJECTIVE E - Embark on Cultural Collaborations with KDFN

We will grow our relationship and cultural collaborations, such as those with KDFN and the Adäka Cultural Festival, to increase KDCC's benefit for Kwanlin Dün citizens.





GOAL 2:

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE A – Create High Impact Youth Engagement through Collaborations

We will explore the co-creation of ongoing and financially sustainable KDFN/YFN youth cultural engagement programs with collaborating partners such as KDFN.

OBJECTIVE B – Create KDCC Youth Engagement Programs

We will explore and launch high-impact youth engagement programs at KDCC.



GOAL 3:

We will intentionally develop future KDCC
First Nation governance and staff leadership
and ensure a caring and professional
working environment for all our staff.



GOAL 3:

HUMAN RESOURCES AND FIRST NATION LEADERSHIP OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE A – Being Intentional on KDCC First Nation Leadership

We will deliberately identify and nurture relationships with future KDFN and YFN candidates with the potential for executive leadership and staff.

OBJECTIVE B - Ensure Succession Planning

We will ensure succession planning within the KDCS Governance Council for future leadership positions.

OBJECTIVE C - Provide Governance Training

We will institute governance and leadership training for our Governance Council members to ensure the knowledge of responsibilities and the KDCC mandate.

OBJECTIVE D – Ensure Staff Development and Support

We will provide our permanent and auxiliary staff with a caring, professional working environment with effective training, wellness support, and professional development opportunities.

GOAL 4:

We will establish a successful and mutually beneficial relationship with the new Conference Centre.

GOAL 4:

CONFERENCE CENTRE OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE A – Research Logistical and Financial Requirements

We will do our due diligence in researching the Conference Centre's logistical and financial requirements with CNLP.

OBJECTIVE B - Develop Collaborative Relationship with Conference Centre

We will ensure a mutually beneficial relationship with the new Conference Centre including the creation of an Indigenous Gallery and retail space.



Woosh eet yidashí.

Help each other.

GOAL 5:

We will ensure financial and operational excellence and sustainability.

GOAL 5:

EXCELLENCE &

SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE A – Ensure Financial Best Practices

We will commit to financial sustainability through best financial management practices.

OBJECTIVE B – Diversify Revenue Sources

We will diversify our revenues by establishing a philanthropy program and retail operation.

OBJECTIVE C – Ensure Pride of Service

We will ensure excellence in our services and that our venue, services, and equipment meet contemporary meeting and conference requirements.

OBJECTIVE D – Ensure Venue Maintenance and Repair

We will ensure the maintenance and repair of our building and land for long-term sustainability.





New KDCC Philanthropy Program

The purpose of our new philanthropy program is:

- to help KDCS realize its vision and mission to improve and enrich the lives within our community with cultural programs and gathering spaces through access to new project and operating revenues
- to contribute to the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre's sustainability, and
- to contribute to the flourishing of Kwanlin Dün cultural heritage for generations to come.

Benefits of our Philanthropy Program

The purpose of philanthropy is to invest in and benefit others.

With trust-based philanthropic support through the new KDCS philanthropy program, we are **creating spaces** of:

- Learning
- Innovation
- Relationship-building
- Co-creation, and
- Activation.



Philanthropic Values

Our philanthropic values are based on our ability to share our own culture, languages, and stories in the spirit of **ABUNDANCE**:

In the spirit of **RECIPROCITY**

In the spirit of **COLLABORATION**

In the spirit of **GRATITUDE**

In the spirit of ACCOUNTABILITY and TRANSPARENCY

In the spirit of **DISCOVERY**

In the spirit of **CELEBRATION**.

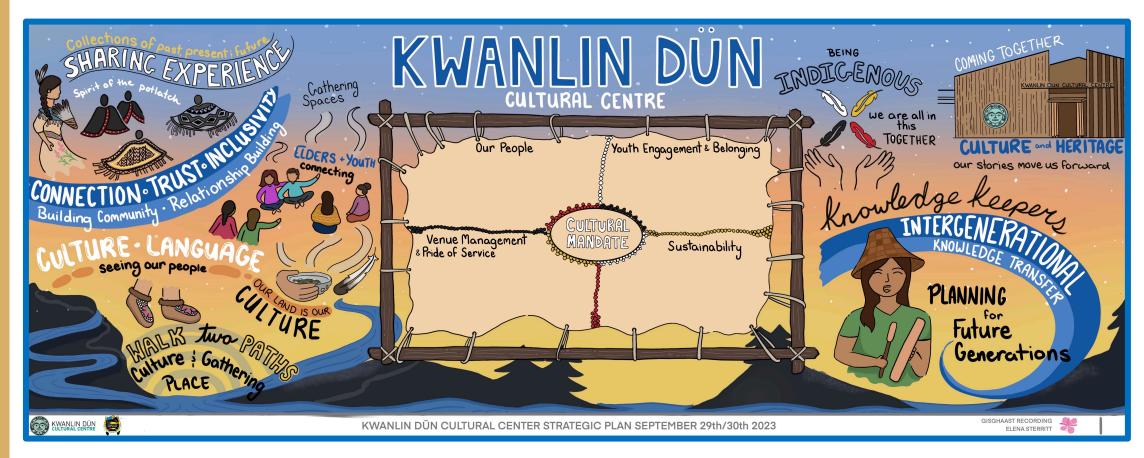




Mike Smith Dak'laweidí Vest by Wanda Webb

Goals of Retail Operation

- To partner with and support Kwanlin Dün and First Nations Artists as well as experts in the cultural retail field.
- To enrich the visitor experience enabling visitors to "take home" a part of their KDCC experience.
- To build a new revenue stream at KDCC as potentially at the new Conference Centre.



Graphic Illustration of the collaborative KDCS strategic planning sessions by Elena Sterritt.



Gunałchîsh, Mähsi' cho, Shäw níthän, Sógá sénlá, Thank you

Kwanlin Dün First Nation

KDCS Governance Council and Staff

Many Community Stakeholders - Individuals and Organizations and our Consulting Team:

Lord Cultural Resources

Gail Lord, President

Kathleen Brown, Vice President

Hanna Cho, Associate Consultant

Sa'hetxw Consulting

Jamie Sterritt, President

Gisghaast Recording

Elena Sterritt,

Graphic Recorder

Ry Moran (for Digital Collection)

Inaugural Associate University Librarian - Reconciliation, U. Vic.,

Founding Director of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation





Thank you KDCS team for all your wisdom, ideas, and work in this collaborative planning process that is very appreciated.

KDCS Governance Council

Judy Gingell, Chair

Cheryl McLean, Secretary/Treasurer

Stormy Bradley

Gavin Gardner

Karen Lepine

Ann Smith

Teagyn Vallevand

Alicia Vance

Joan Viksten

Colleen Williams

KDFN Staff

Dorothy Sam, Acting ED, KDFN

Caleb Kelly, Director of Finance



KDCS Staff

Tricia Baldwin, Executive Director

Kailen Gingell, Cultural Director

Adam Easton, A/V Services Manager

Patrick Matheson, Operations Manager

Jackueline Rodrigue, Comptroller and Anna Dai, Bookkeeper

Danette Skakun, Events Manager

Shirley Smith, Elder-in-Residence

Hannah Tolman, Collections Specialist

Eila Vallevand, Acting Cultural Assistant

Anita Golpaldresg, Acting Reception/Events Coordinator

Client Services Team (CST)

Henry Taylor, Client Service Team Supervisor

Dion Sheldon, CST Shift Supervisor

Stewart Bond, Brianna Cabot-Blanc, Connor Cathers, Nigel Charlie, Michelle Charlie, David Guenette, Mandeep Kaur, Shabagjot Kaur, Klawana Leas, Cameron Lindstrom, Mohit Mahajan, Isaac O' Brien, Philip Peterson, Romeo Ponto, Ben Power, Joelien Sheldon, Gurpartap Singh





OBJECTIVE A: We will uphold, grow, and deepen our cultural and collections mandate to preserve and celebrate our culture.

Year	Action Steps
2023/24	 Implementation of 3D scanned objects into permanent display and for Digital Collection Research into potential partnerships (e.g., Gwaandak Theatre, Nakai's Pivot Theatre Festival) for a future Annual Winter Storytelling Festival Purchase a new work for the Collection* Creation of KDCC Collections Booklet Organization and protection of physical collection To develop a national Indigenous network, renew Canadian Museum Association membership and join Indigenous Curatorial Collective*
2024/25	 KD language named collections and gallery space. Community and youth engagement plans accompany the launch of all new exhibits Launch Winter Storytelling event (leading up to the creation of a Winter Story Telling Festival in 2026/27) – in-bound and outbound (e.g. KDCC, First Nation seniors' homes, KDFN Potlatch House), film KDFN storytellers for Digital Collection* To connect KDCC regionally, nationally, and internationally, visit Yukon, Northern (Yellowknife, Iqaluit), Canadian cultural centres for learning, building relationships and networks, and possible collaborations and exchanges, and participate in regional, national, and international (in future years) conferences/gatherings* A/V and other departmental support of Cultural Programming* Visit Canada House UK for Honouring our Future exhibition to grow international contacts, with Travel Grant support Cultural onboarding package developed for all new staff so that all staff know KDCC's cultural purpose* Create year's cultural activity listing, ensure event listings through KDFN newsletter*

OBJECTIVE A - continued: We will uphold, grow, and deepen our cultural and collections mandate to preserve and celebrate our culture.

Year	Action Steps
2025/26	Establish 3-year exhibit planning framework for main and touring exhibitions*
	Research the creation of a collection acquisition fund through fundraising and government grants to enable constant growth of
	the KDCC collection
	With the Culture Committee, determine what objects currently do not meet the criteria of the Collections Policy and what to do
	with them (deaccession)
	Plan KDCC 15 th anniversary – including revamping the KDCC River Corridor to be more 3-dimensional, experiential, participative
	with deeper knowledge sharing, seek \$150,000 in funding, seek contractor help to organize this
2026/27	• KDCC 15 th Anniversary - revamp River Corridor Interpretive displays and ensure Kwanlin Dün citizen representation of hanging
	photos
	Annual Winter Storytelling Festival established with collaborating partners*
2027/28	Develop a Yukon First Nation Cultural Centre Summit
	• Visit to New Zealand Māori and Scandinavian Sámi cultural centres for learning, building relationships and possible collaboration,
	with travel grants

OBJECTIVE B: We will achieve fuller participant engagement and a sense of belonging with our community.

Year	Action Steps
2023/24	Professional Development on community and digital engagement strategies with Hanna Cho, Lord Cultural Resources
	Research funding for a Community and Youth Outreach Manager
	Creation of collection booklet for KDCC staff and GC to broaden collective knowledge
	Create event marketing plan and templates
2024/25	Youth and community engagement plans accompany the launch of all new exhibits*
	Ensure event marketing online and at KDFN*
	Research on roles of Elders in Residence
	Research partnerships for KD/YFN artistic workshops
	Build relationship with Queer Yukon for increased Indigenous Pride programming and increase presence during Pride Month
	(August) and become a leader in promoting and facilitating Indigenous Pride in Whitehorse.
	 QR code information on River Corridor exhibited items to provide greater context for the visitors and staff
2025/26	Work with KDFN Elder's Council to learn what they would like to see and do at KDCC
	Shakaat Mentor/mentee program established*
2026/27	• See above
2027/28	• See above

OBJECTIVE C: We will grow our role as a reputable Kwanlin Dün cultural knowledge keeper by establishing a KDCC digital collection on cultural practices with its active future use by the KDFN community.

Year	Action Steps
2023/24	 \$388,000 Canadian Heritage Funding Secured Determine project scope, project/archival staffing/consultant roles and responsibilities, budget, secure advisory services from Ry Moran, founding director of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, now at UVic, and Tracy Makarewich for archival system advice Project management and partnerships for the multi-media Digital Collection articulated KDFN-KDCC Guiding Document for shared Digital Collection Policy Initial research on archival and front-end access software and the physical computer home Research into how restricted access for KDFN citizens will be operationalized Research into legal copyright, ownership of content, Informed Consent Contracts for Year 2 contracting Content creators chosen and contracted* 3-D scanning of collection Cashflow and Year 1 reports to Canadian Heritage
2024/25	 Content Creation for the Digital Collection – in sync with Shakaat artist residencies and Winter Storytelling events Apply for Digital Museum Canada Funding to create front/user end of collection Apply for Archives Canada funding (with KDFN) for archive software funding Translations started (Athabascan languages, French)* Finalization of front end and backend software and where this will be stored and maintained. Development of the shared cataloguing system for KDFN and KDCC Confirmation on how restricted access for KDFN/YFN citizens will be operationalized A/V support of content creation Cashflow Year 2 reports to Canadian Heritage

OBJECTIVE C - continued: We will grow our role as a reputable Kwanlin Dün cultural knowledge keeper by establishing a KDCC digital collection on cultural practices with its active future use by the KDFN community.

Year	Action Steps
2025/26	Cataloguing and labeling of data
	Testing of user access and security
	Front end user access development
	Public launch
	Working with KDFN and KDFN community to train on access
	Research on user satisfaction
	Cashflow and Year 3 reports to Canadian Heritage
2026/27	Further KDFN Education and engagement activities
	Cleaning up of Digital Collection access issues
	Annually add modules to Digital Collection*
2027/28	• See above

OBJECTIVE D: We will support Kwanlin Dün and Indigenous artists in our exhibits, events, artist residencies, and increased opportunities for artists to sell their works.

Year	Action Steps
2023/24	 Research mechanisms and collaborations to create curated but limited KDCC retail space for KDFN/YFN artistic sales (e.g., beaded work such as jewelry) with Unorthodox NIPD artist sales* Shakaat artist residencies and sales* Research funding to support increased Culture Department staff funding
2024/25	 Continue research and set up of retail operations Create the criteria for the Culture Committee to assess submission, and create the criteria for KDFN/YFN artists to submit their submissions With Finance, set up inventory system Set up terms and agreement with Unorthodox Yukon Branded KDCC First Nation retail store opens Research conference centre related funding on the creation and funding for four-season cabins for ongoing KDFN/YFN artist creations and sales (in sync with Conference Centre plans of moving the cabins) for an "Artists Village" Hire third member of the Culture Department for community outreach, youth outreach, KDFN/YFN artist retail sales
2025/26	• See above
2026/27	• See above
2027/28	Research the creation of a year-round Shakaat Artist Village (winterized cabins)

OBJECTIVE E: We will grow our relationship and cultural collaborations with KDFN for the increased benefit of KDCC for Kwanlin Dün citizens.

Year	Action Steps
2023/24	Annual Presentations to KDFN Chief and Council and KDFN General Assembly*
	See Objective C for KDCC-KDFN Digital Collection collaboration
	Create a guiding document for shared digital resources
	KDCS-KDFN Agreement (may be delayed with KDFN staff change)
2024/25	 Create an MOU for KDCS and KDFN (Education, Lands & Heritage) on how we work together
	 Explore in-bound, out-bound collaborations at KDFN and KDCC such as Winter Storytelling event
	 Work with KDFN Elder's Council to learn what they would like to see and do at KDCC
	Explore Elder(s) in Residence role development
	Research transportation solutions for participation
2025/26	See Objective B re: KDFN Elder collaboration research
2026/27	KDCC-KDFN Education department youth collaborations*
	KDCC-KDFN Elder Council and Elder collaborations*
2027/28	• See above*

GOAL 2: KD/YFN YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

OBJECTIVE A: We will explore the co-creation of ongoing and financially sustainable KDFN/YFN youth cultural engagement programs with collaborating partners.

Year	Action Steps
2023/24	 Learn about KDFN Education plans Research on youth and Indigenous training funding to ensure multi-year sustainability of significant, impactful cultural youth programs Focus on ways to strengthen the youth-Elder connection
2024/25	 Research on youth engagement collaborations with KDFN through their Circle of Care programs, NCES, YFNed, First Nations School Board (FNSB) Research on possibility of accreditation or certificates of completion Research on youth training funding with Yukon University and First Nation School Board Explore in-bound, outbound education activities at KDFN and KDCC, transportation solutions to lower barriers of participation Seek youth input into what they want and need from youth cultural education and engagement programs
2025/26	 Ensure a holistic approach to training programs including expertise on artistic activity, cultural learning, life skills for resilience, building community and support network, time with Elders, land-based learning, and leadership skills Build KDCC and NCES, YFN, FNSB collaborations* Test drive collaborative youth engagement program around a specific art form or activity that involves ongoing touch points with the youth cohort
2026/27	 Youth program curriculum development Test drive collaborative youth engagement program around a specific art form or activity that involves ongoing touch points with the youth cohort with youth participant feedback Youth Council established KDCC-KDFN Education department youth collaborations* KDCC-KDFN Elder-Youth collaborations*
2027/28	 Significant Youth Cohort learning and leadership training programs fully operational Plan for youth exchange program in 2028/29

GOAL 2: KD/YFN YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

OBJECTIVE B: We will explore and launch high-impact youth engagement programs at KDCC.

Year	Action Steps
2023/24	Cultural youth workshops and displays of KDFN/YFN youth work*
	Including youth artwork in the gallery*
2024/25	Research feasibility of a co-op or placement program for First Nations youth with various KDCC departments
	Foster youth-Elder connection in youth engagement programs*
2025/26	Explore and research the foundation of a KDCS Youth Council
	Use KDCC A/V technologies to support language revitalization
	KDCC-KDFN Education department youth collaborations—inbound at KDCC and outbound at KDFN
2026/27	Youth Council established
2027/28	• See above

OBJECTIVE A: We will deliberately identify and nurture relationships with future KDFN and YFN candidates with the potential for KDCS First Nations executive leadership and staff.

Year	Action Steps
2023/24	Identify talented and experienced KDFN or YFN cultural or facility leaders.
2024/25	 Job fair at KDFN* Employment posters at KDFN* Establish a relationship through conversations or activities such as presentations to enable all parties to be familiar with each other*
2025/26	• See above
2026/27	• See above
2027/28	• See above

OBJECTIVE B: We will ensure succession planning within the KDCS Governance Council for future leadership positions.

Year	Action Steps
2023/24	Recruit 4 new Governance Council Members bringing First Nation, cultural, financial, and legal expertise
	New Chair and Secretary/Treasurer appointed
2024/25	Identify future Governance Council leadership (succession planning)*
	Assign committee roles and job descriptions
	Ensure Vice Chair role is filled, with ideally one of the non-Chair Executive Council members identified as the future Chair
	Establish mentor relationship with current Governance Council
2025/26	Governance Council recruitment based on the balanced desired skillsets, and future Kwanlin Dün governance leadership*
2026/27	• See above
2027/28	• See above

OBJECTIVE C: We will institute governance and leadership training for our Governance Council members to ensure the knowledge of responsibilities and the KDCC mandate.

Year	Action Steps
2023/24	Review and update 2014 Governance Council Terms of Reference (governance policies) with Governance Council
	Create individual Governance Council agreements
	Update Bylaws
	Ensure Governance Policies and Agreements are in sync with updated Bylaws
	Creation of Governance binder
2024/25	Annual Governance workshop*
	Governance session and mentor for new members*
2025/26	• See above
2026/27	• See Above
2027/28	Review 2023/24 Governance Council Terms of Reference (governance policies)
	Review 2023/24 Bylaws
	Ensure Governance Policies and Agreements are in sync with updated Bylaws

OBJECTIVE D: We will provide our permanent and auxiliary staff with a caring, professional working environment with effective training, wellness support, and professional development opportunities.

Year	Action Steps
2023/24	Collective strategic planning with Governance Council, staff, and renowned cultural consultants - Lord Cultural Resources and Sa'hetxw Consulting Creation of Joint Health and Safety Committee (JHSC) with collective responsibility for a physically and psychologically safe workplace, JHSC staff training, JHSC Terms of Reference, monthly inspections, WHMIS updating of KDCS Chemical Safety Data Sheets, project management system through the minutes Distributed personal wellness resources to permanent and auxiliary staff Trying out drop-in in-house counselling for personal wellness Create updated Emergency Response Manual that now outlines responses to forest fires and floods CST Staff training Strablish CST Shiff Supervisor role Document CST processes First Aid Certification for participating staff Conflict Management workshops for de-escalation Emergency/evacuation training Strengths-based annual feedback Professional development opportunities

OBJECTIVE D - continued: We will provide our permanent and auxiliary staff with a caring and professional working environment.

Year	Action Steps
2024/25	Cultural learning orientation and opportunities for staff*
	Focus on Personal Wellness training, resources for all staff*
	Review auxiliary to permanent staff practices and future processes
	Increase number of full staff meetings*
	Continue CST Training Manual compilation*
	Reviewing organizational structure to assess whether it is meeting our needs
	Staff Training: Invest in staff and supervisors for professional development and training to ensure consistent completion
	and quality of work*
	Provide onboarding training for all new CST employees and cultural training for all new employees*
	Recruitment: If a position opens, promote opportunities for advancement. Advertise at KDFN to ensure KDFN citizen
	opportunities as well as through YuWin that mentions KDFN preferred hiring policy*
2025/26	Produce a video for new staff on the purpose of the KDCC and its history
	See above
2026/27	• See above
2027/28	• See above

OBJECTIVE A: We will do our due diligence in researching the Conference Centre's logistical and financial requirements.

Year	Action Steps
2023/24	Write RFP for an Operational, Financial, and Market Demand Feasibility study for future release with partners covering a
	study of operations aspects such as:
	Organization chart and logistical requirements
	Market feasibility
	Market segment research on corporate, association, not-for-profit, government, post-secondary/university, and
	other sectors
	Hotel Accommodation feasibility
	Labour feasibility
	Out of territory air transportation availability/feasibility
	Financial feasibility with 5-year pro forma statements created to identify net loss (and need for annual YG
	funding)
	Governance options

OBJECTIVE A – continued: We will do our due diligence in researching the Conference Centre's logistical and financial requirements with CNLP.

Year	Action Steps
2024/25	 Review Conference Centre construction schedule - Disruption timeframes when KDCC cannot rent and support for this lost revenue Work with CNLP on conference centre design and moveable properties (gas tank, canoe pavilion, cabins, sacred garden) Disruption timeframes when KDCC cannot rent and support for this lost revenue (possible cancellation of KDCC rental contracts?) Ensure that the Financial, Operating, and Market Demand Feasibility Study (RFP already written) is funded (currently, CNLP has \$75k for this study) and released and the winning expert proponent completes the study. Review Feasibility Study with the KDCS Governance Council, distribute study to YCB, CNLP, KDFN, YG in collaboration with Conference Centre organizing committee for discussion on KDCS's role in operating the conference centre. Assuming the Conference Centre will be set up as a separate entity for financial and legal reasons, review options: KDCC as full operator Shared service model – with identified services only (as is the case with KDCC providing CST services to WPL), with New Co as the operator KDCC and Conference Centre completely separate operators KDCC as part of the conference booking for use of KDCC space KDCC as booker for local/regional events, YCB does the MICE booking and we figure out some accountability for goals on their end Other options or combination of options. Ensure that YG annual operating funding is in place for the 25-year period for the identified difference between revenues and expenses for the Conference Centre (a loss leader that produces a large economic impact for the region)
2025/26	 Operating and booking policies, role definition with YCB Staff and organizational planning Construction disruption timeframes when KDCC cannot rent spaces or be open and support for this lost revenue Collaboration and Service Agreement negotiated with CNLP and KDFN.
2026/27	Opening of Conference Centre (Fall 2026) – in collaboration with CNLP, YG, Federal Government, Yukon Convention Bureau
2027/28	Ongoing development and analysis of policies and procedures

OBJECTIVE B: We will ensure a mutually beneficial relationship with the new Conference Centre including the creation of an Indigenous Gallery and retail space.

Year	Action Steps
2023/24	Participate in Conference Centre planning with CNLP, YCB, YG
	Work with CNLP on design, moveable properties (gas tank, canoe pavilion, cabins, sacred garden)
	Work with CNLP on \$5M allocated to KDCC improvements
2024/25	Participate in Conference Centre planning with CNLP, YCB, YG
	CNLP-YFN contract negotiations – mitigate impact on KDCC
	KDCS Cultural Spaces Canada application for Category A art gallery, retail space, and/or winterized Shakaat cabins –
	with plans coordinated with CNLP and Conference Centre organizing committee
	Work with CNLP on \$5M allocated to KDCC improvements
	 Identify and articulate the level of operational collaboration between KDCC and the new Conference Centre
	Identify KDCS and YCB booking responsibilities
	• Identify ongoing income to KDCC for ongoing use of KDCC premises (e.g., fee, building and land upkeep, consumables)
	Negotiate governance structure of Conference Centre with a match of responsibility and authority to make decisions

OBJECTIVE B - continued: We will ensure a mutually beneficial relationship with the new Conference Centre including the creation of an Indigenous Gallery and retail space.

Year	Action Steps
2025/26	 Cultural Spaces Canada funding decision for First National art gallery and retail space Negotiate agreement with CNLP on operational and financial relationship with KDCS Conference Centre human resource planning and organizational structure Management staff hiring for Conference Centre KDCS human resource planning including possible restructuring Final governance structure of the Conference Centre Recruit Board of Directors, determine ex-officio members of the Board Conference Centre bookings
2026/27	 Further staff hiring for Conference Centre Media preparation for opening Fall 2026 opening
2027/28	Further tuning of the relationship and activities

OBJECTIVE A: We will commit to financial sustainability through best financial management practices.

Year	Action Steps
2023/24	See Objective B for plans to diversify and increase revenues
	New rental and AV services pricing developed for 2024/25 and 2025/26
	Institute quarterly forecasts and KDCS and PMT financial trend documents 2016/17-present
	Training and Involving KDCS managers in forecasts and budgeting of their areas
	Create Finance Manual documenting financial processes and timelines
	Organize digital files by season to compile institutional knowledge and the inheritability of institutional knowledge in the
	future
	Transition to Cloud computing and updating of local server to ensure preservation of financial and organizational data
	Comprehensive asset plan with replacement values and warranty expiration for insurance and asset planning purposes.
	Provide KDFN with KDCS asset list
	Negotiate financial support for projects and staff salaries
	Cleaning up of KDCS and PMT early records so that financial records are clean going forward.
	Create Fundraising Plan
	Create Marketing Plan
	Research collection valuation options
	Create Master list of building services suppliers to be distributed to staff and incorporated in Emergency Response Plan
	Negotiate/Update KDCS-KDFN Agreement
	Full Asset list creation

OBJECTIVE A - continued: We will commit to financial sustainability through best financial management practices.

Year	Action Steps
2024/25	Continue quarterly forecasts for KDCS and PMT
	EFT payment research and implementation
	Update Asset Plan*
	Collection valuation
	Institute revenue building in fundraising and marketing plans
	Building A/V Business: Advertise KDCC AV Services to clients booking events, accompanied by Technical Specifications
	list, update website and paperwork showcasing A/V department and value
	Relationship Building with KDCC Rental Clients: Create a KDCC client list (from 2018 – present) to create ongoing
	communications on:
	Links to website for availability of each KDCC room
	KDCC A/V Services
	Convert PMT on Quickbooks to Sage
2025/26	 Continue quarterly forecasts for KDCS and PMT, fundraising, marketing* Update room rental pricing, coordinating with Conference Centre*
2026/27	See above
2027/28	See above

OBJECTIVE B: We will diversify our revenues by establishing a philanthropy program and retail operation.

Year	Action Steps
2023/24	FUNDRAISING
	Funder/donor research for government funding, foundations, local/national corporations.
	Create case for support.
	Creation of a Fundraising Plan and Program with funding priorities, case for support, and timeline
	RETAIL
	Ensuring quality items, initiate discussions with Unorthodox for a limited retail operation for KDFN/YFN artists' works with a
	commission flowing to KDCC
	Begin work on inventory systems
	Determine sales personnel required during tourist season

OBJECTIVE B - continued: We will diversify our revenues by establishing a philanthropy program and retail

Year	Action Steps
2024/25	FUNDRAISING
	Explore Charitable Status with KDFN with possibility of creation of a KDFN/KDCS Foundation
	Explore Collaborative Fundraising with other organizations
	Research major gifts (individuals) with major gift process: →Identify prospects → Qualify their interest and ability to support KDCS
	→ Cultivate relationship → Solicit major gift → Recognize and steward the donor and the gift
	Create Circles of Philanthropy as advisory groups, e.g., Connector Circle, Advisory Circle, Promising Futures Circle (for Youth)
	Programs)
	Create donor stewardship policy and practices
	Fundraising proposals for priority requests for Foundations, Government Grants, including Cultural Spaces Canada for potential
	Conference Centre First Nation Art Gallery and retail space*
	Relationship building with potential funders/donors*
	RETAIL
	Develop system and criteria with Culture Committee for whose art will be exhibited and sold
	Develop systems for KDFN/YFN artists to make a submission for their works to be displayed/sold
	Develop retail policies, procedures, retail logistics, staff sales training, and inventory systems
	Creation of a limited retail space with a branded presence
	Analyze sales and demand for specific products*
	Explore display and retail space in the Conference Centre

OBJECTIVE B - continued: We will diversify our revenues by establishing a philanthropy program and retail operation.

Year	Action Steps
2025/26	FUNDRAISING
	• Explore creation of events (e.g., fundraising dinners, auctions, or parties) and participatory fundraising (e.g., walk-a-
	thons)
	Ongoing Fundraising
	RETAIL
	Retail logistics and inventory systems
2026/27	FUNDRAISING
	Ongoing Fundraising
	RETAIL
	Operating First Nations retail space in Conference Centre (tbc)
2027/28	FUNDRAISING
	Fundraising proposals for priority requests
	Relationship building with potential funders/donors
	RETAIL
	Retail logistics and inventory systems
	Operating First Nations retail space in Conference Centre (tbc)

OBJECTIVE C: We will ensure excellence in our services and that our venue, services, and equipment meet contemporary meeting and conference requirements.

Year	Action Steps
2023/24	CST Staff training*
	CST supervisor training*
	Establish CST Shift Supervisor role
	Document CST processes
	Create KDCC Technical Specifications document for clients
	Create comprehensive KDCC Asset List
	Create updated KDCC Emergency Response Manual
	Master list of building services suppliers
	Annual Evacuation training*
	Annual Lift training review*
	Year-end strength-based reviews

OBJECTIVE C - continued: We will ensure excellence in our services and that our venue, services, and equipment meet contemporary meeting and conference requirements.

Year	Action Steps
2024/25	Rigorous training for new employees using training documents to ensure completeness of training and including the Kwanlin Dün purpose of the building
	Developing the leadership position of KDCC A/V services and advertise to clients
	A/V team training on new equipment – lighting board, Tricaster features, research plug and play streamers beyond the
	OWL and laser short-throw projectors (2)
	Develop A/V packages for clients
	Continue to ensure that supervisors get supervisor training in assigning and following up on task completion to ensure
	consistent completion and quality of work
	If a position opens, promote opportunities for advancement. Advertise at KDFN to ensure KDFN citizen opportunities as
	well as through YuWin
	Research opportunities for longer-tenured auxiliary staff to become permanent staff, create policy approved by GC
	Add position of wedding host as a billable service
	Add one more shift supervisor to ensure all CST shifts have a supervisor who is assigning and following up on tasks
2025/26	See above for continuous training
	Prepare for Conference Centre tasks and responsibilities assigned to KDCS
	Prepare training documents for Conference Centre training
2026/27	Conference Centre staff hiring, contracting, and training
2027/28	Conference Centre staff hiring, contracting, and training

OBJECTIVE D: We will ensure the maintenance and repair of our building and land for long-term sustainability.

Year	Action Steps
2023/24	 Identify capital projects for future seasons (e.g., Fire Pit, Longhouse Front Doors, KDCC lettering/signage) in discussion with KDFN. Apply for Fire Pit construction funding Expand the Emergency Fund definition and funds from 2023/24 to include equipment replacement Purchase of Meyer speakers for audio excellence Purchase of new lighting board for greater lighting design possibilities Purchase of Smart Board for current meeting practices. KDFN/KDCC agreement: Responsibilities for capital projects, repairs, and upkeep to ensure KDCC continues to be the jewel in the crown and does not fall into disrepair. Clarify existing practices in writing. Clarify process for approval of capital and large repair projects

OBJECTIVE D - continued: We will ensure the maintenance and repair of our building and land for long-term sustainability.

Year	Action Steps
2024/25	 Capital Plan (Part 1, tied into Conference Centre Plans)*: Create a 4-year capital plan and budget in collaboration with KDFN and in sync with CNLP Conference Centre plans in alignment with available KDFN funding or other grants: Longhouse entrance Fire Pit LED conversion HVAC Solar and wind power Ceiling fans at reception, near kitchen lobby, north entrance Exterior KDCC signage Acoustical treatment of Longhouse, Multi-Purpose Room, River Corridor as per the acoustic engineer recommendations
	 ca. 2014 Staff room ("Cave") – larger, more amenities Storage solutions and potential consolidation Property Use Plan in sync with Conference Centre (CNLP, KDFN) Landscaping Waterfront – Wayfinding and Knowledge Sharing
	 Sacred Garden – new location Canoe Pavilion and Cabins – new location Sea cans – new location Equipment Replacement Plan: From the Asset List, identify aging equipment that may need to be replaced within the next 4
	years. Ensure equipment balance sheet fund has regular investment to help fund big purchases.
	 Conference Services: Identify conference services technology options and prices and apply for funding to underwrite this equipment. Research funding to purchase equipment.
	Conference Centre related actions

OBJECTIVE D - continued: We will ensure the maintenance and repair of our building and land for long-term sustainability.

Year	Action Steps
2025/26	• Capital Plan Part 2 (see 2024/25)*
	Reduction of carbon footprint in sync with Stantec Report and Conference Centre build
	Purchase conference services technology
	Conference Centre related actions
2026/27	Capital/Property/Equipment plan implementation*
	Conference Centre related actions*
2027/28	See above