

# MACBRIDE MUSEUM FACT SHEET

MacBride is a charity, a non-profit and a society. We are not part of any government.

MacBride Downtown has over 30,000 visitors annually and 10,000 of those are winter visitors.

The City and Yukon say winter tourism is a priority.

MacBride applied to programs in three parts of governments and received capital money for construction of our expansion because MacBride was full and had no more room to showcase Yukon's collection and stories.

**MacBride did not receive any new funding for operations.**

MacBride owns possibly the most valuable piece of waterfront commercial real estate in Whitehorse. We are the public trustees of the land, the Yukon's stories and objects. We cannot afford to pay taxes and to operate.

**We have received 100% tax exemption for 67 years.**

MacBride operates on a cash basis from core funding provided by Yukon. MacBride receives \$10K O&M from the City.

We don't have savings, an annuity or any financial backstop.

MacBride is the Yukon's first museum and houses 45,000 objects entrusted to us by Yukoners.

MacBride also operates the Waterfront Trolley and the Copperbelt Mining Museum.

# TAX TIMELINE

- 1950 MacBride is established as a society to promote, protect and illustrate Yukon's history.
- 1951 to 2014 100% tax exemption
- 2014 City Council reviews "Grant Policy" and considers taxing MacBride and other charities and museums. Public push back. 100% tax exemption
- 2014 City passes updated Grant Policy with cap
- 2015 **City passes resolution exempting all museums who own their property from the policy** **100% tax exemption**
- 2015 Prior to election MacBride asks candidates to commit to 100% exemption. Many commit including several currently on Council.
- 2016 MacBride applies for capital for expansion. City writes letter of support. 100% tax exemption
- 2017 100% tax exemption

## 2018

June 25th Council vote to apply the policy over their 2015 resolution

MacBride gets tax bill 2 days later by email.

Mayor and Council refuse to meet with MacBride Board and Director

MacBride cannot pay the tax bill and stay open. Board opts to stay open and attempt to resolve tax issue with incoming 2018 Council.

**This is a significant departure from the past 67 years of 100% tax exemption.**



What is MacBride looking for?

100% tax exemption for perpetuity so we can use funding and earned revenues to serve Yukoners and visitors, to take care of Yukon's collection and to be open year round.

City Council has the authority to exempt MacBride from taxes or from the policy or to change the policy cap.

**50%**

**The portion of O&M from Yukon that MacBride would have to give to the City for taxes.**

MacBride will make significant operational cuts.

Members, visitors and citizens will lose access to the home of Yukon's largest artefact collection and programming will be greatly reduced.

City and Yukon will lose an attraction that is open year round and encourages people to stay another day and spend money in the City.

**Tax abatement is a commonly used tool for municipalities to support cultural attractions and museums across Canada.**

MacBride does not have savings. We cannot operate within our core funding and pay taxes as well. It is not possible. And it will seriously diminish our capacity to match grants and to earn revenue.

The City would not lose revenue as MacBride has been exempt for 67 years.