

Cranberry Fair

Whitehorse

Started: 1988

Contact: Northern Fibres Guild

The Cranberry Fair is a sale, held every year in early December, of unique and locally made artwork. About 20-25 people sell their jewelry, pottery, paintings, photography, woven goods, and other arts at the fair. The sale was started by a group of friends. Over the years, volunteer coordinators have organized sales from individual homes, the Catholic Church basement, and the Guild Hall. The Northern Fibres Guild took on organizing the fair in 1996.



Community benefits: The Cranberry Fair offers an outlet for local people to sell their high quality artwork at a busy time of year. The intimacy of the sale provides a pleasant and social environment for both buyers and sellers. It also provides an important showcase for Yukon artisans.

Lessons learned: Maintaining a reputation for selling high quality products has required screening of what can be sold at the fair. Historically, this was based on the collective vision of the organizers. This year, the Northern Fibres Guild established a jury to select people who will be provided space at the sale based on submitted slides of their work.

Future of the project: This year the sale will be held in the High Country Inn for the first time and the Northern Fibres Guild has received funding to provide an honoraria to the coordinator. There are no plans for any other significant changes to the event.