



FIRST YWCA YELLOWKNIFE “YES WE CARE DAY”

ATTRACTS 150 PEOPLE



YELLOWKNIFE, MAY 12: The auditorium at Northern United Place hummed with activity on Tuesday, May 10th for the first “Yes We Care Day.” About 150 people visited, staying long enough to eat a bowl or stew, or for a couple of hours waiting their turn for a haircut.

Stylists from Vixen Hair Den performed an astonishing 50 haircuts for people in need, working tirelessly through the four hour event. As well, staff from the YHSSA Healthy Families program, Public Health, the dietician, poverty lawyers and a relaxation specialist provided services to anyone who wanted them. Canadian North donated 200 amenity kits containing hotel size toiletries, and For Women Only, Marks Work Wearhouse and the Salvation Army donated new socks and underwear. Food Rescue provided enough food for everyone, including a delicious stew, buns, turkey, cookies and beverages.

The event was advertised to non-profits providing emergency and transitional housing, as well as clients at the John Howard Society Day Shelter, the Tree of Peace and Public Health. The total cost for the event was under \$200. Planning will soon begin for a second Yes We Care in the fall.

The idea behind Yes We Care Day is to show compassion for the most needy people in our community, and to demonstrate yet again the number of people who would benefit from an integrated and fully funded anti-poverty strategy. YWCA Yellowknife will continue to work with its colleagues in the No Place for Poverty Coalition to lobby government to lift people out of poverty and social exclusion.

For more information, contact Julie Green, YWCA Director of Community Relations at Julie@ywcawt.ca or at 920-2777 ext 303