



YWCA YELLOWKNIFE REVENUE TOPS \$5 MILLION; NEW BOARD ELECTED

Yellowknife (Sept. 27th, 2010): YWCA Yellowknife made solid progress toward fulfilling its mandate of increasing the well-being and independence of people, particularly women, in the last fiscal year. YWCA Yellowknife, now in its 45th year of operation, held its annual general meeting on Saturday.

Some 2010-11 highlights include:

- ❖ 300 women and children fleeing family violence stayed at Alison McAteer House in Yellowknife; staff responded to almost 1100 calls for support, safety planning and information;
- ❖ Project Child Recovery reached out to 176 children who witnessed violence to help them process their experiences and learn about violence prevention;
- ❖ Helped to strengthen all NWT family violence shelters with training and support
- ❖ Lead a pilot project that is looking for ways to protect women from family violence in communities without police;
- ❖ The purchase of another home for clients with developmental disabilities or mental health issues, bringing the total number of YWCA homes to 6;
- ❖ Engaging in the search for more affordable housing for women and women with children, now focused on the BETTY House (Better Environment to Transition in Yellowknife);
- ❖ Provided 99 adults and 127 children emergency and transitional housing at the Rockhill apartments;
- ❖ Support for the creation of YWCA Agvvik, Nunavut with Qimaavik Women's Shelter and Sivummut House for homeless women and children;
- ❖ Served 170 families with fee-for-service afterschool programs;
- ❖ In its second year, GirlSpace attracted 42 girls to a free afterschool program for empowering girls to deal with the pressures they face;
- ❖ 80 girls went to camp – including a week-long Mackenzie River canoe trip – through our affiliate, Taiga Adventure Camp
- ❖ The agency's revenue topped \$5 million;

Members also elected several women to the YWCA Yellowknife board of directors, including Janet Toner, Kayla Cooper, Caroline Wawzonek and Jennifer Hunt-Poitras. Returning board members include: Yasemin Heyck, Karin Taylor, Jennifer Harris, Roberta (Bobbie) Parkin, Amy Lizotte and Alayna Ward. The board will meet within the next two weeks to elect an executive.

The YWCA Yellowknife annual report was included as an insert in the September 16th *Yellowknifer*. It is also available online at the YWCA Yellowknife website: www.ywcanwt.ca/annual_reports.html

The board's role is to set the overall direction of the organization and to represent the women who are stakeholders in YWCA Yellowknife in decision-making.

About YWCA Yellowknife:

YWCA Yellowknife is the largest provider of residential support for people with disabilities, with 18 clients living in six homes. YWCA Yellowknife also operates Yellowknife's only family violence shelter, the 12-bed Alison McAteer House and the 39-unit Rockhill transitional and emergency housing programs for families. We also offer confidence-building programs for girls and fee-for-service after-school programs for children ages 5 to 11 at every school in the city. YWCA Yellowknife has been serving the people of the north since 1966.

For more information, contact Julie Green, Director of Community Relations at 920-2777, ext 303.