



FOR RELEASE
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Yukon donates \$25,000 to assist Syrian refugees

WHITEHORSE—Yukon's territorial parties are jointly supporting a \$25,000 donation by the Government of Yukon to aid the Canadian Red Cross in its efforts to assist Syrian refugees.

"The images that we have all seen are a stark reminder of the human toll of civil wars, like the one going on in Syria today," Premier Darrell Pasloski said. "By joining with the other parties to call on everyone to donate to this cause, we are doing what Yukoners do naturally – working together to find a way to alleviate the suffering we see around us."

Donations to the Canadian Red Cross will support the Syrian Arab Red Crescent in its efforts to provide food, shelter and health services to displaced people in Syria and to the nearly four million refugees who have fled the country.

"Yukoners have a history of responding with compassion when these types of tragedies happen," NDP Leader Liz Hanson said. "We only have to look back decades ago to the warm response to the Vietnamese boat people and they in turn have enriched our community."

Liberal Leader Sandy Silver said: "Yukoners are a generous group who always dig deep when people are in need, whether it is rallying behind a local tragedy or it is an international incident on the scale of what is happening now in Syria and beyond. I know Yukoners will contribute meaningfully to this very worthy cause."

Yukoners are encouraged to support the Syrian people by making a donation to the Canadian Red Cross Syria Crisis Fund at www.redcross.ca or by calling 1-800-418-1111.

For Yukoners interested in getting involved in sponsoring families to settle in Yukon, a public meeting hosted by non-governmental community groups will be held on Monday, September 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the Whitehorse Public Library.

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