



FOR RELEASE
November 5, 2013

New facility to serve adults with disabilities officially opens

WHITEHORSE—Minister of Health and Social Services Doug Graham joined staff, clients and board members today to officially open the new premises of Teegatha'Oh Zheh (TOZ) in the renovated Canadian Tire building.

"Today marks a new beginning for all those involved in this important community program," Graham said. "This bright spacious premise will provide new opportunities for both clients and staff."

Teegatha'Oh Zheh provides day programming and residential programming for adults with cognitive disabilities. Founded in 1989 by a group of parents and other interested citizens, TOZ was originally established to provide necessary supports and services for Yukoners with intellectual challenges who were being repatriated from programs in British Columbia and elsewhere.

Health and Social Services provides \$1.6 million per year to support individuals in both day and residential programs.

Chris Almstrom is the chair of the TOZ board of directors.

"This new location is ideal for us. It is built for our programs and the needs of our clients, and is flexible enough to allow for new programs," Almstrom said. "Community inclusion is central to who we are. This location allows our clients to interact more with the community. We think that this benefits the community as much as it does our clients. The board is very appreciative of the support the minister and the government have shown to our move."

TOZ is the first tenant in the building.

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