



FOR RELEASE  
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## **Seven projects will foster safe and compassionate communities**

WHITEHORSE—The Crime Prevention and Victim Services Trust Fund is awarding more than \$95,000 to support seven projects aimed at crime prevention and victim services in four Yukon communities.

"Preventing crime and ensuring adequate support for victims in Yukon communities is a priority for the Government of Yukon," Attorney General and Minister of Justice Mike Nixon said. "I am continually impressed by the scope of projects and the dedicated organizations that help build stronger and more compassionate communities."

The funded projects cover a broad spectrum of activities ranging from helping youth make healthier life choices to a support group for people leaving Whitehorse Correctional Centre.

"The financial support provided by the trust fund has allowed the Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre to start up a survivor-model support group for women who experience violence," Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre women's advocate Diane Pétrin said.

The Crime Prevention and Victim Services Trust Fund awards funding twice a year to organizations with projects that help reduce crime, prevent violence against women and children, address the root causes of crime, or that provide services to victims and information about crime prevention and victimization.

"This funding allows us to share *The Hours That Remain*—a play addressing the topic of violence against women—with Yukoners in Whitehorse and Dawson City next February and March," Gwaandak Theatre managing artistic director Patti Flather said. "We're thrilled to feature talented Yukon actors in this show, and offer workshops for youth with our community partners on prevention of violence against women and girls, particularly Aboriginal and northern women."

The fund is financed by a variety of sources including proceeds from the Klondike Visitors Association slot machine agreement, victim fine surcharges, Criminal Code fines and seized proceeds of crime. The public is welcome to donate money to the fund. The next deadline for funding applications is February 17, 2014.

### **Learn more**

Visit [www.CrimePreventionFundYukon.ca](http://www.CrimePreventionFundYukon.ca) or call 867-456-6822.

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See backgrounder below.

Download high-resolution photographs:  
Gwaandak Theatre or Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre

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**Backgrounder**  
**Fall 2013 Crime Prevention and Victim Services Trust Fund awards**  
**Total \$95,482.50**

**Elizabeth Fry Society** received \$27,000 for its Group Therapy for Persons Exiting Whitehorse Correctional Centre project, which will provide gender-specific, open-session therapeutic groups for people exiting the Whitehorse Correctional Centre. This will include a trained counsellor to help clients with re-integration, addictions, violence, trauma, residential school impacts and mental health difficulties.

Contact: Katherine Alexander at 867-334-2419.

**Boys and Girls Club of Yukon** got \$20,000 for its Learn to Succeed pilot project. Learn to Succeed is a new project designed to help children and teens in Whitehorse learn the skills they need to become successful adults. This extra-curricular program will have an engaging learning environment to reinforce and strengthen literacy and other academic skills. The youth will also be guided towards developing the knowledge, self esteem and confidence to make better decisions and healthier life choices.

Contact: Duncan Johnstone at 867-393-2824.

**Gwaandak Theatre** was given \$14,000 for the The Hours That Remain project, a co-presented play with New Harlem Productions that will be shown in Whitehorse and Dawson City. The play highlights that women of all backgrounds are affected by violence and violence affects everyone. It will promote discussion and awareness about violence and will include information, public displays and a school study guide about crime prevention, personal safety and helping friends and family stay safe.

Contact: Patti Flather at 867-393-2676.

**Gentle Steps Family Support Centre** received \$10,812 for its Parent Support and Education project. Gentle Steps is a family support centre in Watson Lake that offers parents support, consulting and education and an equine-assisted program for children and youth. This project will provide parents the opportunity to attend a series of Neufeld courses, a widely accepted method of helping parents, foster parents, grandparents, teachers and professionals to better understand how to raise healthy children. Contact: Elisabeth Lexow at 867-536-7479.

**Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre** got \$10,450 for its Victim of Violence Support Group project for women. The group, which meets weekly from September 19, 2013 to July 24, 2014, is open and facilitates monthly workshops. Themes covered include defining abuse, the justice and medical systems, patterns of violence, triggers and coping mechanisms.

Contact: Diane Pétrin at 867-667-2693.

**Teslin Tlingit Council** received \$9,156.10 for its Girl Talk project, an after-school program. The program will include guest speakers and group activities on educational topics such as violence, safety, community violence and solutions, and local resources and supports.

Contact: Karen Keenan at 867-390-2532, extension 366.

**Lorne Mountain Community Association** was given \$4,064.40 for its Girls' and Moms' Club—Daughters of Destiny project. The association and parents will build the Girls' and Moms' Club, which will meet monthly for nine months. The girls will identify issues to discuss, attend six facilitated workshops and become familiar with local agencies and services. Workshop themes may include gender equality, where to go for assistance, the role of girls as they become young women, self-esteem, self-defence and a natural beauty class. Contact: Agnes Seitz at 867-667-7083.

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