

FOR RELEASE
October 6, 2017

Salvation Army Centre of Hope Officially Opens

The Salvation Army Centre of Hope celebrated its official opening today. Located at the corner of 4th Avenue and Alexander Street in Whitehorse, the new centre will have 25 emergency shelter beds and 20 transitional housing apartments. The centre will also offer community meals and drop-in programs.

Many programs and services will be phased in gradually. The emergency shelter and community meals service are planned to begin operation by the end of October, while the transitional housing apartments and drop-in program are planned to open in early 2018.

Member of Parliament for Yukon Larry Bagnell, on behalf of the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development and Minister Responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) Jean-Yves Duclos, as well as Yukon Premier Sandy Silver and Minister responsible for Yukon Housing Corporation and Health and Social Services Pauline Frost, and the Salvation Army's chief secretary Colonel Lee Graves, attended the event.

Quotes

"Our Government is investing in affordable housing in Yukon and throughout Canada to help create jobs and improve the quality of life for those individuals and families who need it most. The funding offered to the Salvation Army Centre of Hope will help people in need in Whitehorse find a safe place to live."

–Member of Parliament for Yukon Larry Bagnell

"We are pleased to see the official opening of The Centre of Hope. This project is the culmination of hard work and dedication from a number of departments and agencies. This facility will provide programs and services to our community's most vulnerable citizens. In particular, I am pleased to see a new collaboration that will improve programming."

–Minister of Health and Social Services and Minister responsible for Yukon Housing Corporation Pauline Frost

"This Centre will truly be a place that restores hope for those in need. Not only do we have more emergency shelter beds, but we have transitional rooms to assist those who have experienced homelessness or housing-instability transition into permanent housing and provide them with structure and support during a time of stabilization."

–Salvation Army Centre of Hope executive director Ian McKenzie

Quick facts

- The Salvation Army is the largest non-government direct provider of social services in Canada.
- The shelter will be open 7 days a week. During the day citizens can access community meals and drop-in programs.
- The governments of Canada and Yukon provided \$1.1 million under the Investment in Affordable Housing and \$3 million under the Northern Housing Trust.
- The Government of Yukon also invested \$10.2 million for the lot purchase, design development and construction of the Centre.

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