



FOR RELEASE
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Government commits \$4.5 million towards second stage housing

WHITEHORSE—Minister responsible for the Women’s Directorate Elaine Taylor and Premier Darrell Pasloski announced today that the Yukon government has committed a total of \$4.5 million, subject to legislative approval, for the construction of a second stage housing facility in Whitehorse.

“The Yukon government is pleased to partner with the Yukon Women’s Transition Home on this important project that will offer secure and affordable housing for women and children who are fleeing abuse,” Taylor said. “We are both committed to the prevention of violence against women through the provision of infrastructure and relevant information, programs and services that support and encourage the self-determination of women.”

“Our government recognizes that affordable safe housing is fundamental in building and maintaining strong Yukon communities and families,” Pasloski said. “We also understand that both community and government involvement is required to help ensure housing needs for families at risk are being met. This new facility will contribute to the health and safety of families in need in our community and we are pleased to be part of this important initiative.”

The Yukon Women’s Transition Home Society Second Stage Housing Project will provide 10 transitional units of supportive, secure and affordable housing for 12 to 18 months to women and their children who are fleeing abuse. The program will provide support and advocacy to women establishing an individual plan that may include navigating legal matters, safety and health concerns, and referrals to other supports in the community.

“The facility will be named Betty’s Haven after Betty Sjodin, a Gwitchin First Nation woman and respected Elder, whose work with women experiencing violence is legendary,” Yukon Women’s Transition Home Society chair Kim Hawkins said.

Betty Sjodin worked at Kaushee’s Place from 1983 to 2011.

At the conclusion of the construction phase in 2013, the building will be owned and operated by the Yukon Women’s Transition Home Society.

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