



FOR RELEASE
June 4, 2012

Funding will help groups address violence against Aboriginal women

WHITEHORSE—Eight organizations have received more than \$198,000 in funding under the Prevention of Violence Against Aboriginal Women Fund, the Minister responsible for the Women’s Directorate Elaine Taylor announced today.

Funding through this program is for projects designed and delivered by and for Aboriginal women to prevent violence in their communities. Seven of this year’s projects are one-year projects, and one is a two-year project.

“The Yukon government is pleased to offer this support to a number of worthy projects that will use innovative approaches to prevent and reduce violence in the lives of Aboriginal women in Yukon,” Taylor said.

Since the development of the Prevention of Violence Against Aboriginal Women Fund in 2004, the Women’s Directorate has contributed approximately \$1.3 million towards projects. The fund was established to help address the disproportionate levels of violence experienced by Aboriginal women in Yukon, and due to a high demand for funding it was doubled to \$200,000 annually in 2009.

The following seven groups received funding for 2012/13:

Kluane First Nation	\$25,000
Northern Tutchone Tribal Council	\$25,000
Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in	\$25,000
Yukon Women’s Transition Home Society (Kaushee’s Place)	\$25,000
Kwanlin Dün First Nation	\$24,000
Ta’an Kwäch’än Council	\$20,900
Northern Native Broadcasting Yukon	\$15,910

The following group received funding for the 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 fiscal years:

Whitehorse Food Bank Society	\$37,317
------------------------------	----------

The Prevention of Violence Against Aboriginal Women Fund initiative builds on other work done by the Yukon government to decrease family violence, such as public education, policy work and services to victims offered by the government and its partners.

See backgrounder below on the recipients of the Prevention of Violence Against Aboriginal Women Fund.

Contact:

Elaine Schiman
Cabinet Communications
867-633-7961
elaine.schiman@gov.yk.ca

Brenda Barnes
Communications, Women's Directorate
867-667-8269
brenda.barnes@gov.yk.ca

Backgrounder: Recipients of Prevention of Violence Against Aboriginal Women Fund

Building a New Story – Kluane First Nation

This project is designed to create a strong connection and productive community of women by reducing financial pressures and increasing employability, enhancing connections to culture, tradition and language, and creating a book of stories.

Contact: Angie Charlebois 867-634-7088

Community Building and Violence Prevention – Kwanlin Dün First Nation

This one-year project will offer a safe and supportive environment for 10 to 15 women to gain new skills, reduce social isolation and access important information through engaging workshops. The project is designed to focus on the development of stronger support networks for women within the community and help women feel comfortable to access support offered through the health center. This project also uses social marketing to engage men in creating a safer community for Kwanlin Dün women. The project will offer information and supports to men and will ask men to pledge non-violence by wearing a pin with a culturally-relevant symbol on it.

Contact: Courtney Quinn 867-334-6738

Speaking Honour to Women – Northern Native Broadcasting Yukon

This one-year project will develop and air six public service announcement messages that are aimed at honouring Aboriginal women and preventing violence against Aboriginal women in Yukon. These public service announcements will be in various Yukon First Nations languages and English and will be aired on CHON-FM.

Contact: Sophie Green 867-668-6629 ext. 252

SAFE (Self-Awareness for Empowerment) – Northern Tutchone Tribal Council

This one-year project is designed to encourage women to seek and develop a more positive self-image, which will contribute to the overall health of the community. This project will enable participants to better understand and identify negative behaviours, and work on reducing tolerance for violent behaviours, including lateral violence and secondary victimization.

Contact: Lois Joe 867-537-3821

Ta'an Kwäch'än Women's Circle – Ta'an Kwäch'än Council

This one-year project is designed to educate Aboriginal women about issues related to domestic violence, empower Aboriginal women and other women through a safe and inclusive atmosphere

that includes support networks, and create awareness of the options available to women should they need them.

Contact: Glenna Tetlich 867-668-3618 ext. 204

Quest for Balance – Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in

This one-year project is designed to share traditional knowledge, medicines, struggles and strengths of Aboriginal women while offering counselling and other tools for the growth of participants, as part of their healing journey. The project will increase participant awareness of the impacts of violence on families and of strategies that are proven to help address these impacts. It will also provide participants with tools for self-assessment so that they will be ready to develop personal growth/family wellness plans, including increasing awareness of the services available to stop the cycle of violence in their lives.

Contact: Freda Roberts 867-993-7150

Elder Mentor Project – Yukon Women’s Transition Home Society (Kaushee’s Place)

This is a one-year pilot project that will increase the sense of community support and cultural connections for Aboriginal residents of Kaushee’s Place by providing a safe space for them to learn and connect with other Aboriginal women. The project will also provide supports and guidance for Aboriginal residents at Kaushee’s with safety planning and healthy living skills, which will enrich the programming at Kaushee’s, and strengthen the ability of staff to meet the needs of Aboriginal residents.

Contact: Barbara McInerney 867-633-7722

Sally and Sisters – Whitehorse Food Bank Society

This two-year project will continue to provide a hot lunch twice a week to women and their children in a safe environment at the Food Bank. The project will also work to create a network of support between all women to help deal with difficult personal situations and provide a non-threatening space for vulnerable Aboriginal women to seek referrals to services and programs.

Contact: Stephen Dunbar-Edge 867-393-2265

News Release #12-107



Stay up to date with the latest Yukon government news by subscribing to our RSS feed here: <http://www.gov.yk.ca/news/rss.html>. Or follow us on Twitter @yukongov.