



# United Way

Northwest Territories

Change starts here.  
[nwt.unitedway.ca](http://nwt.unitedway.ca)

## Make a difference - choose to donate in 2015

United Way NWT is committed to building a strong and healthy community for all. We strive to bring people together to give everyone opportunities for a life filled with compassion, respect and dignity.

Last year, United Way NWT invested over \$92,000 in 20 different projects in the NWT.

This year, and on behalf of donors like you, we plan to give \$130,000 to the community!

United Way NWT raises and invests funds in projects that would normally not see the light. These

projects make a difference in our three focus areas:

- From poverty to possibility
- Healthy people, healthy communities
- All that kids can be.

Choose to make a difference in your community. Donate to the United Way NWT and watch change start right here in the North!

## AGM 2014

When you are a donor, you are a member of the United Way NWT. You are welcome to attend the Annual General Meeting of the United Way, which will take place on October 3rd 2015.

The United Way NWT leadership is:

- Tracy St. Denis, **Chair**
- Julie Green, (leave of absence) **Secretary**
- Katherine Macdonald, **Treasurer**
- David Connelly, **Past-chair**
- Kimberly Doyle
- Paul Gillard
- Jeff Fowler
- Deborah Ross
- Matthew Spence
- Craig Yeo



Photo Credit: Kimberly Doyle

United Way NWT Secretary Julie Green presents a cheque to one of the 20 funding recipients in 2015, the Yellowknife Family Centre.

## Why donate to United Way NWT?

There are many reasons why our growing list of donors choose to give to the United Way NWT. Some do it because they SEE the difference their donations are making. The success stories highlighted in this newsletter and on our website demonstrate the impact of United Way NWT.

**“I support the United Way because donations are used to fund local community needs - its important for me to support the programs that work to improve our community and territory’.**

- Laura Gareau, donor since 2003

Others donate because they want their donation to have an impact right here in the North. Unless a donor chooses to have their donation redirected to a non-profit elsewhere, it will automatically be invested in a charitable organization here.

There are also more practical reasons for choosing to donate to the United Way NWT. First it's easy, particularly through a payroll program or through [Canadahelps.org](http://Canadahelps.org); it's worry free, hassle free. Secondly, there are significant tax



credits, particularly for first time donors. See details on the last page.

If you have any questions about donating to the United Way NWT, please contact us at [office@nwt.unitedway.ca](mailto:office@nwt.unitedway.ca) or 867-669-7986.

## It's easy!

Donating to the United Way NWT is easy:

**1) Payroll program:**

To set one up, please call our office at 867-669-7986

**2) On-line:** Go to

[www.nwt.unitedway.ca](http://www.nwt.unitedway.ca) and click on the Donate Now button

**3) Cheque:** Send a cheque to our office

Box 1145, Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N8

**4) Credit card:** Call our office to make arrangements.

We will send you a tax receipt and information on the difference your donation is making in the community!

## Word from the Chair

I would like to thank all the donors and volunteers who made our campaign last year a success. This fall will be my second campaign as United Way NWT Chair and I am proud of all the support we are building for community development. This year we are hoping to reach our campaign target of \$110,000, which includes donations designated to United Way and to other

charities. Thank you to those donors who chose to give to United Way NWT. Because of you we are now able to provide grants to non-profits this year totaling \$65,000, up almost 25 per cent from 2012. We want to be able to continue increasing our support for NWT non-profits so we need your help. Make a one-time donation or even better sign up for a payroll deduction. If your company doesn't have a payroll deduction program, contact us and we can help make it

happen. Payroll deduction makes giving easy. You donations are recorded right on your T-4 - no need to search for donation receipts at tax time. It's a win win.

On behalf of the board I would like to thank everyone for their support and I look forward to an even more successful campaign this year. Change starts here!

Tracy St. Denis Chair,  
United Way NWT

## Camp Connections is a place for at risk youth in the north to 'just be kids!'

Organized annually by the Foster Family Coalition of the NWT (FFC-NWT), Camp Connections is an outdoor cultural and adventure camp for children receiving services from social services. It strives to be a place where youth from northern and remote communities can come and escape the stress and tension in their lives.

Children aged 7-18 learn from Elders about traditional knowledge and respect. There are games, sports, creative arts and other activities which encourage leadership skills, teamwork, social and interpersonal skills, as well as self-expression.

Camp Connections has grown from a two-week camp hosting 30 campers, to a territorial camp that runs all summer long, bringing over 100 campers from every region of the territory.



The site was borrowed from the Tree of Peace until they signed the lease over to the FFC in the fall of 2011. They are presently fundraising to build a new cookhouse as

the old building is in need of replacement. Funding received from United Way NWT allowed the organization to purchase new propane stoves.



## A word from the Inuvik Youth Center:

The Inuvik Youth Centre operates programming and a drop-in centre for youth aged 5-18 yrs. It gives youth a safe place to hang out, seek support and discover their individual strengths. Our FREE activities enable youth to participate in a wide variety of artistic, intellectual and athletic pursuits they may not otherwise have the opportunity to try.

For the past two years, United Way has funded the sports program at the Inuvik Youth Centre. With support from United Way, we have been able to purchase new softball and hockey equipment, two extremely popular sports in Inuvik. In addition, the youth centre was able to rent the school gym once a week for the entire school year. During this time, youth are able to try new sports in a non-competitive and fun environment.

Many youth do not have the means to participate in organized sports. Thanks to the generosity of United Way, more youth in Inuvik can get involved in sports and live a healthier lifestyle. The Inuvik Youth Centre is extremely thankful for their continued support and looks forward to continuing its partnership with United Way.

By Ali McConnell,  
Executive Director



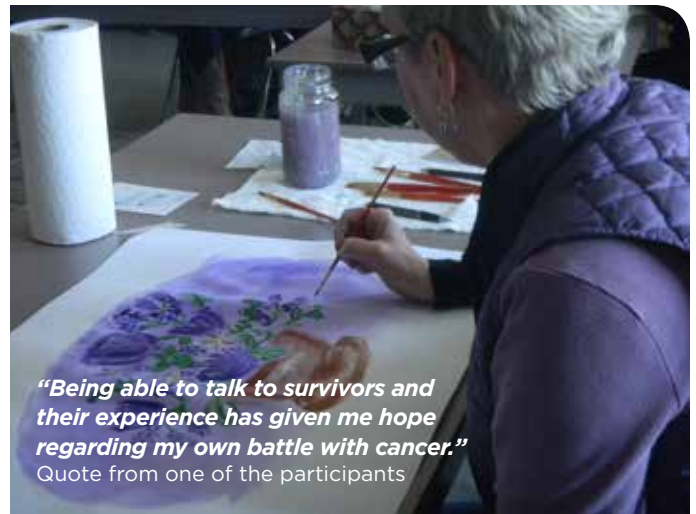
Credit: A. McConnell



## The Art of Healing

The cancer journey brings with it many physical, emotional and practical challenges, and experience elsewhere in Canada has shown that psycho-social support can contribute to better health outcomes for cancer survivors. However there are no ongoing cancer psycho-social support programs in the Northwest Territories.

In 2010, the NWT Breast Health/Breast Cancer Action Group (Action Group) responded to this need by developing an NWT psycho-social support program model that utilizes facilitated discussion and creative artistic expression to provide healing and support for breast cancer



*"Being able to talk to survivors and their experience has given me hope regarding my own battle with cancer."*  
Quote from one of the participants

survivors. After holding several successful sessions, the Action Group decided to broaden the program to also include women experiencing other types of cancer.

Thanks to funding received from the United Way NWT, the Action Group offered this

pilot program in Yellowknife in the spring of 2014. Entitled "Visualizing the Journey Within", expert facilitators guided the participants through discussion and creative expression activities. The two sessions were a success and it is hoped that more will be held.

## A safe place to call home

The YWCA transitional housing program at Rockhill Apartments in Yellowknife is often the last resort for families who are homeless. Many arrive after family break up, or having lived in overcrowded conditions, sometimes without their children. In the last fiscal year, Rockhill housed 64 families, with one hundred children.

Thanks to United Way NWT funding, the YWCA could invest more resources on staffing, which is essential to building capacity amongst the tenants. The staff assists clients in acquiring skills that enable them to stabilize their families and living situations, and move into permanent housing. They increased their skills in tenancy education, problem



Credit: Kirsten Murphy

solving, general life skills, and advocacy; they also learned about different community resources. Families also had opportunities to bond together to develop extended support networks and healthy friendships through participation in various holiday activities, summer barbeques, beach parties and meet and greet lunches.

The YWCA Transitional housing program is the only resource in the territories that provides housing with supportive services to families experiencing housing instabilities and homelessness. It is the second chance families need to regain their independence and move on with their lives.

## Thank You!

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, the United Way NWT was able to provide financial assistance to 16 organizations. We wish we could have portrayed all 16 in this newsletter, but space is limited. Here is a brief of the other 11 organizations and projects, which we supported:

- Canadian Hard of Hearing Association of Yellowknife: Sound Sense Program
- East Three Secondary School: Lights On!
- Food First Foundation NWT
- Girl Guides of Canada-NWT: Area Camp
- Special Olympics NWT: Active Start and FUNdamentals
- Stanton Territorial Hospital Foundation
- Yellowknife Association for Community Living: Community Inclusion
- Yellowknife Catholic Schools - Family Center
- Yellowknife Food Bank
- Yellowknife Seniors' Society - Lunch with a Bunch
- YWCA - Boy's Summer Camp

We want to thank the volunteers and staff of these organizations for contributing to this newsletter and more importantly for contributing to making the NWT an even better place to live!

**If we have not yet convinced you of donating to the United Way NWT, maybe the incredible tax credits will do it!**



## Incredible people to the rescue!

Food Rescue plays an important role in making sure no one goes hungry in Yellowknife! Since 2008, Food Rescue has been providing healthy reclaimed food to social organizations that assist people in need, such as the Centre for Northern Families and the Salvation Army. They even started making deliveries to Dettah!

In the last year, Food Rescue redistributed 174,000 kilograms of food, a 35% increase from the previous year.

Volunteers are key to the success of this organization. 50 volunteers help with the pick-up, deliveries, inventory, as well as sorting and cleaning the products received. Food Rescue employs only one person- the driver! Funding received from the United Way NWT helped Food Rescue cover a portion of the driver's salary.

Thanks to Food Rescue, less food is wasted and our local social organizations can invest more money into programming instead of food!



## TAX CREDITS ON DONATIONS 2014 (26 PAY PERIODS)

Annual Donation	Bi-weekly payroll deduction	NWT Tax Credit	Federal Tax Credit	Total Tax Credit	Federal Super Tax Credit*
\$50	1.92	3	7.50	10.50	12.50
\$100	3.85	6	15	21	25
\$250	9.62	19	44.50	63.50	62.50
\$365	14.04	35	78	113	91
\$500	19.23	54	117	171	125
\$730	28.08	86	184	270	183
\$1,000	38.46	124	262	386	250
\$2,500	96.15	335	697	1,032	250
\$5,000	192.31	686	1,422	2,108	250

\* Federal Super Credit applies to first time donors (no donations claimed in previous 5 years) making monetary donations up to \$1,000.

## Contact us:

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Designed by:

