



United Way
Northern British Columbia



UNITED WAY OF NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA (UWNBC) COMMUNITY IMPACT IN PRINCE GEORGE

As part of UWNBC community development work, community issues were identified through research and consultation for UWNBC's 3 pillars: **Successful Kids/Empowered Families, Involved Seniors** and **Healthy Citizens and Safe, Supportive Communities**.

The Prince George issues identified can be summarized as:

Successful Kids/ Empowered Families	Involved Seniors	Healthy Citizens and Safe, Supportive Communities
More outreach supports needed for at-risk youth	More indoor and outdoor maintenance programs are needed	Broader range of mental health supports are needed
More mentoring programs for youth		More long-term programs to support recovery from addiction are needed
More resources to enable low-income families to participate in recreation		More prevention programs are needed to address violence
Broader range of day care supports are needed		More healthy relationship programs are needed
More support needed for grandparents raising grandchildren		
For more information please visit: www.unitedwaynbc.ca/Documents/Success By 6 2010 2011.pdf		

Listed on the following pages are current community development, organizational capacity enhancements and community investments that begin to address the community issues identified above. With your support UWNBC will continue to assess needs and invest for change.

North West

#202 - 4630 Lazelle Ave, Terrace, BC V8G 1S6
Tel: 250-635-3701 • Fax: 250-635-7846

North Central

1600 - 3rd Avenue, Prince George, BC V2L 3G6
Tel: 250-561-1040 • Fax: 250-562-8102

North East

9325 - 100th Street, Fort St. John, BC V1J 4N4
Tel: 250-263-9266 • Fax: 250-785-6050

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- **Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL) Demonstration Project** - UWNBC is implementing a demonstration project in Prince George focused on providing transportation, social outreach and housecleaning services (IADL's) to those 65 years plus. These services are being provided through the PG Council of Seniors. More than 100 seniors have received service to-date (July 2011). Partners of this program include BC Home and Community Care Research Network, the UNBC School of Social Work, Northern Health's Primary Health Care Integrated Health Network and Home & Community Care, Providence Health Care (Vancouver), and the School of Population and Public Health at UBC. Additional partnerships with community organizations in Prince Rupert and Fort St. John will be initiated by autumn 2011.
- **The Community School Program** provides services that address many basic individual student and family needs. UWNBC employs a Community School Coordinator who strives to address the needs of students and families, their neighbourhood and support schools to meet a variety of learning, family and social needs. For further information about the Community School Program at Ron Brent email Nicole Plante at niplante@sd57.bc.ca
- **Prince George Communities that Care Board:** UWNBC participates in this Board; whose mandate is to implement an evidence-based, strategic planning process that brings community representatives together to: identify risks and protective factors for children and youth and promote programs and initiatives that build capacity to ensure that Prince George is a healthy and safe community.
- **Days of Caring:** Two Prince George community non-profits benefitted from local businesses who supported valuable activities with labour and materials. UWNBC organized yard work and fence repair at Phoenix Transition Society Children Who Witness Abuse program (250 563 7305) and spring yard maintenance for seniors through the Senior Outreach Program at the Prince George Council of Seniors (250 564 5888 or info.pgcoss@gmail.com). Team Powerhouse Realty provided the labour and materials on both Days, with Tony's Stump Grinding and CHM Underground Utilities also donating their professional services. UWNBC organizes these opportunities on an ongoing basis as charities request support and businesses step forward to offer their time and talent.
- **Mentor Me – A Youth Networking Initiative** – UWNBC has embarked on a regional youth mentoring pilot to provide mentoring opportunities for youth under 30; youth who plan to remain living and working in the region over the long-term. This mentoring relationship can enhance a young person's ability to set career goals, increase their community awareness and help them effectively network in their field of interest. Youth that will be positively impacted include post-secondary graduates searching for a meaningful career, persons feeling challenged finding local gainful employment based on their education, those in transition with their career, and students in post-secondary who need to make connections within their field of study prior to graduation.

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COMMUNITY IMPACT INVESTMENTS NORTHERN BC CITIZENS RECEIVED SERVICE THROUGH THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS

PROGRAM NAME	ORGANIZATION	PRINCE GEORGE	NORTHERN REGION
PEER PROGRAMMING	BC Paraplegic Association 1-800-689-2477	35 persons	121 persons
INFORMATION SERVICES		315 persons	395 persons
REHABILITATION SERVICES	cnib 250-563-1702	371 persons	863 persons
CRISIS PREVENTION, INTERVENTION & INFORMATION	Crisis Centre for Northern BC 250-564-5736	3106 persons	6831 persons
CHILDREN WHO WITNESS ABUSE	Amata Transition House Society 250-992-7321	2 persons	18 staff were provided training
PLAY LEARN SHARE GROW & ADVENTURE CAMP	Northern BC Children and Families Hearing Society 250-563-2425	90 families 30 service providers gained resources	135 children and families 50 service providers gained resources
YOUTH WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM	Intersect Youth & Family Services Society 250-562-6639	13 youth for both programs	
THE CHILL PROGRAM			
PARENT SUPPORT CIRCLES	Parent Support Services of BC 250-561-0607	60 families 77 children	
CHILDREN'S GRIEF PROGRAM (RAINBOWS)	Prince George Hospice Society 250-563-2481	70 youth	
BROKEN CIRCLE GRIEF SUPPORT PROGRAM		26 persons	
ADVOCACY PROGRAMS	Active Support Against Poverty 250-563-6112	14,000 contacts	
LEGAL ASSISTANCE		1104 persons	
FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAMS	Northern John Howard Society 250-561-7343	326 persons	
SPOUSAL ABUSE TREATMENT PROGRAM (VOLUNTARY)		26 men	
MEMBER SERVICES SUPPORT PROGRAM	Positive Living North 250-562-1172	4302 contacts made	

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PROGRAM NAME	ORGANIZATION	PRINCE GEORGE	NORTHERN REGION
SOCIAL/COGNITIVE REHABILITATION PROGRAMS	Prince George Brain Injured Group 250-564-2447	321 persons, 256 classes	
STROKE RECOVERY/ CAREGIVER ACTIVITIES	Prince George Stroke Recovery Branch 250-563-3819	14 stroke survivors 4 caregivers	
GIVING HOPE LIFE-SKILLS PROGRAMS	New Hope Society 250-562-8680	150 women	
CHILDREN WHO WITNESS ABUSE	Phoenix Transition House 250-563-7305	415 counseling spaces for 193 individuals	
SENIORS LIFE-SKILLS PROGRAMS	Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) 250-564-8644	Up to 20 seniors	
MENTORING: SMALLCONSTRUCTION/REPAIR		Mentoring 5 adults	
CIRCLE OF TRUTH PROGRAM & SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE	Surpassing Our Survival (S.O.S) 250-564-8302	92 persons (Circle of Truth)	2952 client contacts, 280 client hours (men), 310 client hours (women)

COMMUNITY IMPACT INVESTMENTS - July 1st 2011 to June 30th 2012

- BC Paraplegic Association** - The mission of the BC Paraplegic Association is to help people with spinal cord injuries and other physical disabilities achieve independence, self-reliance and full community participation. For further information call 1-800-689-2477 or visit www.bcpara.org.

The BCPA **Peer Program** hosts social groups, special events and educational sessions that give people with spinal cord injuries, their family members and their friends the opportunity to connect with others in similar situations, to try new activities that they may not have thought possible because of their injury and to continue learning about living with an injury.

Information Services, comprised of a Provincial InfoLine (1-800-689-2477), a dynamic website (www.bcpara.org) and a comprehensive SCI Information Database, helps people access vital information on issues related to living with a spinal cord injury, such as accessible housing, government benefits, employment opportunities and recreation options.

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- **cnib** - Provides community-based support, knowledge and a national voice to ensure blind and partially sighted Canadians have the confidence, skills and opportunities to fully participate in life. For further information call (250) 563-1702 or visit www.cnib.ca.

Rehabilitation Services include: Orientation and Mobility, Independent Living Skills, Career and Employment and Low Vision Services. People who are coping with vision loss receive peer support from trained volunteers and referrals as needed to health professionals, information on obtaining a CNIB ID card, training from service staff to help them remain independent or maintain employment and access to the free CNIB library service.

- **Crisis Prevention, Intervention & Information Centre for Northern BC** - Operates a Crisis line, youth support line and online youth chat room and provides community education workshops and information on community resources. They provide crisis intervention, suicide prevention, resource information, education and confidential peer support for the people of Northern BC. For further information call (250) 564-5736 or visit www.northernbccrisissuicide.ca
- **Amata Transition House Society** – The Amata Transition House is a non-profit feminist based society dedicated to ending all forms of violence against women and children. For more information call 250-992-7321 or visit www.amata.ca

Amata is hosting a training session for Northern BC staff of transition homes in support of **Children Who Witness Abuse** (CWWA) programs. CWWA is an intervention and prevention based program that addresses the needs of children and youth between the ages of 3 and 18 who have been exposed to abuse.

- **Intersect Youth & Family Services Society** - Provides an integrated, multi-disciplinary range of counseling services to children, youth and their families. Persons may come into Intersect on their own or by referral from other community professionals. For more information call (250) 562-6639 or visit www.intersect.bc.ca

The **Youth Work Experience Program** is for youth who are referred by Prince George Youth Probation, and have successfully completed and graduated from the New Directions Program; these youth are considered at risk. The Work Experience Program enables the New Directions staff to continue to support and guide local at-risk youth to gain and learn to support their own healthy lifestyles.

The **Chill Program** is a “learn to ride” snowboard program targeted at children of low-income families who are at risk. Chill provides the vehicle for building healthy relationships and lifestyles, self-esteem and valuable bonds with local social service providers who snowboard with the youth.

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- **Parent Support Services Society of BC** - Works to prevent child abuse by sponsoring a network of facilitated self-help groups for parents. Groups are free, and participants are assisted with transportation and child care expenses. For further information call (250) 561-0607 or visit www.parentsupportbc.ca

Parent Support Services provides parent and grandparent **support circles**, volunteer recruitment, training and supervision, monthly editions of the parenting resource newsletter “The Village” and parenting programs such as STEP.

- **Phoenix Transition Society** - Provides shelter, counseling and guidance for women and/or women with children, who fear for their safety or are in the process of separation, divorce or custodial problems. For further information call (250) 563-7305 or visit www.phoenixhouse.ca

The **Children Who Witness Abuse Program** is an Intervention/Prevention program created by the BC/Yukon Society of Transition Houses to address the needs of children and youth from violent homes. The program is available to children aged 3 to 18 who have been exposed to domestic violence.

- **Northern BC Children and Families Hearing Society** – Empowers children and families of the deaf and hard of hearing through communication, networking, socialization and education. For more information call (250) 563 2425 or visit pgdeaf@telus.net

Through the **Play Learn Share Grow group** and the yearly **Adventure Camp**, families socialize, learn new skills and break isolation. Educational resources for families include a monthly newsletter, quarterly educational workshops, a resources library and ASL/Immersion workshops.

- **Prince George Hospice Society** - Dedicated to the provision of supportive and compassionate care for the terminally ill and their families and friends. For further information call (250) 563-2481 or visit www.hospiceprincegeorge.ca

The Children’s Grief Program - **Rainbows** is for children ages 4 to 15 and operates as a peer group grief support program to assist children in feeling accepted, identifying grief as the underlying cause of the way they feel and allowing persons to return back to their normal self; confident in their ability to cope and move on in the world following a loss. The **Broken Circle** grief support program for adults runs 10 week programs where participants are provided educational tools to work through their grief and loss and to be a support to others on the same journey.

- **Active Support Against Poverty** - A self-help, volunteer based agency which acts as guides for the empowerment, education, and self-determination of the financially poor. For further information call (250) 563-6112.

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Services provided are wide ranging and can be divided into two separate streams: General and Legal. General services reflect clients accessing phone, fax, message, income tax, clothing etc.; Legal services reflect clients accessing legal services that include: information and referral, summary advice and full representation.

- **Northern John Howard Society** - works with, and on behalf of offenders, ex-offenders, their families, their victims and their communities. The Society promotes individual and collective responsibility to help those at risk, stop re-offending, repair harm and prevent crime. For more information call (250) 561-7343 or visit www.johnhoward.ca

Family Violence Prevention Programming is available to men and their partners providing 1 on 1 counseling, group counseling and couple support.

- **Positive Living North** - Provides culturally-appropriate care and support for people living with HIV/HCV, their families, and their significant communities; PLN also provides education and prevention information to the community at large. For further information call (250) 562-1172 or visit www.positivelivingnorth.ca

The **Member Services Support Program** supports a Peer Support Worker in providing informal counseling and modeling of healthy choices and lifestyles to others at risk of getting or currently living with HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis C, the ability to network locally, provincially and federally, advocate on behalf of people living with HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis C and develop and initiate Member Services programming.

- **Prince George Brain Injured Group** - Provides support, training and social activities for survivors of brain injury and their families to live the best lives possible. For further information call (250) 564-2447 or visit www.pgbig.ca

Social/Cognitive **Rehabilitation Groups** allow persons with a brain injury to participate in educational opportunities around: Coping Strategies for Survivors, Coping Strategies for Families, Introduction to Brain Injury, Peer Groups, Social Skills Groups and short programs that enhance social and skill building opportunities.

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- **Prince George Stroke Recovery Branch** - Provides support and encouragement to stroke survivors and their families as they adjust to the changes in their lifestyle. For further information call (250) 563-3819.

Members of the Stroke Recovery Branch meet once a week to participate in activities to improve physical and mental wellbeing, speech functions, their ability to reintegrate into the community and every day activities, such as driving. Activities include: physical and mental games, exercises, crafts, group outings, guest speakers, family and peer support, speech maintenance, community involvement, wellness presentations etc.

- **Surpassing Our Survival (S.O.S) Society** - Promotes awareness and support for sexually abused victims and their families. For further information call (250) 564-8302.

The **Circle of Truth Program** provides counseling services and educational awareness programs to men and male serving organizations; these services are also offered to teens, addressing issues such as recent sexual assaults, prevention and education.

- **New Hope Society** – Identifies and addresses the barriers that women, both adult and youth, face while working in the sex trade. For further information call (250) 562 8680.

New Hope strives to bridge the gap in services for sex workers through creating a place of safety and security for workers to access support services. Through Giving Hope lifeskills programs, New Hope facilitates educational opportunities, works to improve the health status of their clients and promotes experiential leadership for the development of essential services for active sex workers.

- **Canadian Mental Health Association** - Provides lifeskills and small home repair work to seniors living with mental illness in their own home and community enabling them to continue living on their own. For further information call (250) 564-8644 ext. 28 or visit www.princegeorge.cmha.bc.ca.

The **Seniors Lifeskills** program will augment and expand on existing CMHA lifeskills programs to ensure that seniors who live with a mental illness have sufficient life skills services to maintain their independence. Life skills services will be offered to seniors currently on our caseload if their level of service is insufficient and they are currently at jeopardy of losing their ability to live within their own home.

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