

**I believe in my community.**

**I believe that its success depends on the people who live in it.**

**That everyone has something to contribute.**

**That everyone deserves respect.**

**That everyone's potential can be realized.**

**That diversity is vital.**

**That every person has value.**

**That everyone needs help and everyone can offer help.**

**That a safe, supportive community is everyone's responsibility.**

**I believe in possibility.**



**United Way**  
Northern British Columbia  
Investing in Northern BC Communities

By investing in United Way you are investing in your community. Your dollar is leveraged with thousands of others to achieve maximum impact to fund strategies that address societal issues like troubled youth, victims of crime, those living in isolation and stressed families. But the impact of your investment doesn't end there. United Way brings together people and resources to find practical solutions to issues that impact our communities, ultimately affecting us all.

- 17% of the 6-11 year old age group has witnessed violence at home at some point in their lives. 62% of sexual assault victims are under the age of 18. 1 in 4 females and 1 in 6 males are sexually abused before their 18th birthday. The effects of exposure to violence in relationships can follow a child from home to school and into the larger community. Prevention and early intervention programs are critical for these children. 100 children are helped each year to restore their faith in parents and adults after witnessing violence.
- 365 calls were received from adults and teens that have been victims of sexual abuse; residents across the northern region have accessed counseling and support programs; funding assisted to build the capacity of several agencies to help victims of sexual assault.
- 12 young children fitted with hearing aids; 10 Northern Interior teachers trained to deal with issues around deaf children, including peer pressure, teasing and communication
- 145 individuals living with HIV/AIDS and their families received counselling and supportive services; client and peer support provided to individuals and families throughout northern BC.
- Nearly 8,000 adults and teens across northern BC facing life-altering events, emotional stress, or thinking of ending their lives called the crisis line; hundreds of adults and youth across the region are referred to United Way funded agencies for continuing support.
- The rate of brain injury in northern BC is more than double the national average. At least 2% of the population in the region is living with the long term effects of brain injury. 75 individuals each month relearned practical life-skills as they recovered from mental illness.
- Approximately 5000 people in BC are living with a spinal cord injury and 10% of the population lives with a disability. 125 people in northern BC rebuilt their lives in their family, community, and workplace after becoming paralyzed from a spinal cord injury. Rehabilitation counselors provide ongoing support and meet face-to-face with the individuals at least two times a year.
- 1300 individuals across the region receive visual impairment rehabilitation services; visually challenged individuals in northern BC are provided rehabilitative support from counselors. Peer support workers receive on-going training to provide support to other visually impaired residents. Eye safety programs are provided at industrial sites.
- A 1-800 phone line is in place to take calls from individuals suffering from HIV/AIDS and their families.
- Over 15,000 individuals and families from throughout northern BC suffering from economic hardship accessed support services to assist them to turn their lives around.
- Success By 6® is an early childhood development initiative dedicated to providing all children with a good start in life. It helps to ensure that children ages 0 to 6 develop the emotional, social, cognitive, and physical skills they need as they enter school. United Way is a lead partner in this program in the North Peace, South Peace, North-central and Northwest.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION VISIT OUR WEBSITE:**  
[www.unitedwaybc.ca](http://www.unitedwaybc.ca)

**OR CONTACT US BY TELEPHONE:**  
PRINCE GEORGE (250) 561-1040 • FORT ST. JOHN (250) 263-9266

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## **AN OPPORTUNITY TO INVEST IN YOUR COMMUNITY**

United Way gives individuals, organizations and employees an opportunity to put something back into our community—with the assurance that donations will directly benefit residents of northern BC through the agencies that depend on United Way for financial support. Your support of the United Way benefits our community in many ways:

1. Your dollars stay in your community. United Way invests all donations in local agencies and programs. One in three northern BC residents will depend on United Way-funded services this year – that could mean your family, friends or neighbours.
2. Community priorities are addressed. United Way works collaboratively with agencies to identify and solve real community issues – things that affect the quality of life for all of us. United Way regularly analyzes the needs of the community; ensuring services are available for those in greatest need.
3. More money gets to where it is needed. United Way raises and distributes funds in the most efficient way possible – in fact, we have one of the highest ratios of actual donation distribution among non-profit organizations. Our comprehensive fund distribution process ensures agencies are accountable to the community and money is well spent.
4. You're building a community safety net. United Way helps fund a vital social safety net for people across northern British Columbia and ensures needed services that might not be available without this support. United Way also offers training and development programs to community agencies to assist their volunteers and staff to better manage their operations.
5. You're building community capacity. Your contribution and support of the United Way helps to make our communities better places to live for everyone. It helps to ensure our communities are places that people desire to live and work in. It helps ensure residents of our communities are safe and happy.

**Your donation to United Way is not a hand out; it is a hand up.**



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