



Thank you to our supporters!
With your help, we have resettled 38
refugees in Whitehorse since we
began in 2015!

Welcome to two new families

2022 was a very busy year! Yukon Cares somewhat unexpectedly had two families arrive in less than two months! We were expecting both families, but one arrived much faster than expected, so the families arrived at nearly the same time! We had to have our volunteers and board members ramp up this summer. We all know what summer is like for Yukoners- holidays, camping, trips. It was an intense time for volunteers trying to prepare for the arrival of two families at the same time. In addition to a fair amount of paperwork, we also had to find housing, and gather all of the supplies, clothing and food that the families would need upon arrival.

It's definitely been a busy time, but in the end, all of the work is worth it – our two newest families are now safe in Whitehorse, and very happy settling into their new lives with support and friendship from our amazing volunteers.

New Venue for Global Village Fair Nov 19th

We will once again be at the Global Village Fair. Please note the new location this year - we'll be at the Elks Hall (403 Hawkins St.). We will be selling delicious Peace by Chocolate, made by former Syrian refugees in Nova Scotia. Milk chocolate, dark chocolate, white chocolate, holiday chocolate, nutty chocolate, bars, boxes, assorted chocolates and just-the-right-message chocolates will be available. Prices starting at around \$5. We will also have our annual gift basket raffle and Christmas card fundraiser.



A new country, and a new baby

by Meagan Christie

With many of our volunteers away in summer, we were scrambling to get ready before the first family of the year arrived. Our volunteers kicked into high gear, and got everything ready just in time! In early August, we were excited to welcome an Eritrean family of six - two parents and four young boys.



At this point all of that work feels worth it. It's wonderful having this new family in our community and seeing their pleasure at being here. Everyone is enjoying building a relationship with them. The two parents and their gang of lively boys are a joy to get to know. The family of six soon became a family of seven (and yes, another boy). Mom and Dad were so happy and proud that their newest son was born in Canada. The family is settling in very well. Dad is working part time and taking English classes at the Multicultural Centre. We are very grateful to writer/educator Eleanor Millard for offering English lessons to mom at home with the new baby. The kids are enjoying school and daycare. The oldest ones are playing on soccer teams. The City of Whitehorse donated passes to the CGC and the family is taking advantage of them.



Trying on new shoes for school - the kids were so excited to start school in Canada!

It has been a busy season of firsts for the kids: first bike rides, first school camping trip, first class canoe trip, first time in daycare, and of course, first snow!

This family was sponsored through a process called Blended Visa Office Referral. The UN and the Canadian government identify refugees overseas. We take responsibility for helping them get established for the first year, and supporting them financially for six months. The money we use to sponsor comes from donations and fundraisers. The generosity of our community in donating clothing, furniture and household items helps us reduce our costs in settling a new family.

Big thanks to this settlement committee and other volunteers for all the work they are doing. We are very fortunate to have two Eritrean volunteers on our committee who speak Tigrinya, and are sharing their beautiful culture. Thanks to all the other volunteers helping with tutoring, driving, kids activities... It's a big community effort and it's rewarding to see everyone coming together.

Yukon Cares recognizes that all kinds of people can become refugees – people who live in fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or of a political opinion – and no one is a refugee by choice.

Another month, another family arrival!

by Robin Fairburn

Yukon Cares had the privilege of welcoming a second family to Whitehorse in late September. After spending nine years as refugees, unable to return home and unable to start a new life apart from being refugees, this family arrived to our small, welcoming northern city. The 36 hours of travel did nothing to dampen their excitement of beginning new lives in Canada. There have been many firsts: snow, school, English lessons, dentist, peanut butter and jelly, heating systems, skating, Hallowe'en, and mitts and toques. They often express wonder at the vastness and beauty of the land, finding it difficult to imagine a place with so few cities. The family looks forward to securing a driving license, and employment as they discover a new life journey in Whitehorse. Yukon Cares is grateful for the many donations and genuine care and support the family has received from the larger community.



A bedroom ready for its new young occupant



Shared meals, and shared stories are part of the Settlement Committee experience

The joy of welcoming a new family

by Nancy Hughes

As a volunteer welcoming a new family to Whitehorse, it has been such a joy viewing our territory through their eyes. I love finding connections that we share across cultures and generations. I have enjoyed helping the new family adjust to school life and finding treasures at the local grocery stores. I am so appreciative of the generosity of this family to share humour, food and kindness. My hope is that we will be able to provide as many opportunities as we can think of to the new family, to help them choose their path to become their best selves. As is often the case, I feel that I have received far more than I have given.

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Christmas card fundraising campaign

If you make a donation of \$20 or more to Yukon Cares in honour of a friend or loved one, you can choose a card or e-card to let them know of the donation. For a donation of \$80, you can buy a pack of five tribute cards. This year we have both Christmas cards, and "all-occasion" cards.

Donations can be made online, or by cash or cheque. Tax receipts will be given for all donations.

For more details, please send us an email at yukon.cares@gmail.com



Upcoming Sponsorships

We will be very busy with our current two sponsorships for the coming year, but we do have two sponsorships in the works for the future. Both of these sponsorships are young women, one from Eritrea, and one from Ethiopia. What is exciting about these two sponsorships is that both of these young women have relatives who already live in Whitehorse. We expect these young women will likely arrive in 2-3 years.



Volunteer of the Year

Kirsten Bradley was the Yukon Cares nominee for City of Whitehorse volunteer of the year. She has put in a tremendous amount of work since Yukon Cares began. She's been involved with helping settle several families and also done SO much behind the scenes work. She picks up all the things that don't get the glory (immigration paperwork!!)

Our new partner ORAT

We have been very pleased to formalize our partnership with ORAT, the Office of Refugees, Archdiocese of Toronto. They have extensive experience with refugee sponsorship, and their expertise and training have been a big help! They also manage our online donations and offer tax receipts, which is a huge help.



THANK YOU!

- Our friends at the Office of Refugees, Archdiocese of Toronto
- Eileen Henry, our most consistent and generous donor over the years!
- the City of Whitehorse for donated bus passes and CGC tickets
- All of our incredible volunteers. We could not do this without you!

Christmas/ Holiday Cards



Merry Christmas!

Card #1



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Card #2



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Card #3



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Card #4

\$20 Donation for one card



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Card #5



\$80 Donation for pack of 5 cards

Any Occasion Cards



Card #6



Card #7



Card #8



Card #9

\$20 Donation for one card



\$80 Donation for pack of 5 cards



Card #10

Many thanks to photographers Jackie Zinger and Sue Gleason!



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FAIR TRADE
Community-based
Co-operative

GLOBAL VILLAGE FAIR



info:
335-4961

- Amnesty International
- Yukon Cares
- Peace by Chocolate
- New Internationalist
- African grass baskets
- Zatoun olive oil/soap
- Mongolian wares
- Japanese towels
- Zambian textiles
- JusTea
- IndiArtsArtisans Collective
- Wares from our Sister Stores in Victoria and Nanaimo

Thanks Air North for your support
bringing Global Village wares to Whitehorse

NEW

HOSTED BY THE
WHITEHORSE ELKS



**VENUE CHANGE
NOW AT THE**

NOVEMBER 19 - ELKS HALL
11AM-3PM 403 HAWKINS STREET