

# new family, first year success & housing needs.



## New Family

Yukon Cares will be welcoming a new family in 2024. This family of 5 from Pakistan, via a long journey to the Yukon, has endured hardships most people cannot imagine. They will be arriving into the welcoming arms of YC, the growing international community in Whitehorse, and their friends, our previous 2022 family of 2. We cannot wait for their arrival!

## Housing

The biggest challenge YC faces is finding affordable housing for our families. We are currently looking for at least a 3-bedroom place for our incoming family of 5.

If you have an options coming available, or know of any leads please reach out to [yukon.cares@gmail.com](mailto:yukon.cares@gmail.com).

## Donate and Get Involved

To prepare for settling this new family in 2024, YC is looking to raise \$30,000 by:

- Peace by Chocolate (owned by Syrian Refugee): YC is selling Celebration Bars (HBD, TY, WD), Holiday Chocolate Bars, and Ukraine Support Bars
- Christmas Card Donations: 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 will receive a pack of five tribute cards.
- Donations can be made online, or by cash or cheque. Tax receipts will be given for all donations.

For more details on all these fundraisers and getting involved, please send us an email at [yukon.cares@gmail.com](mailto:yukon.cares@gmail.com)

### Upcoming Events:

Global Craft Fair November 18 (11 -3pm), YC will be selling chocolates and cards to fundraise for the new family

# First Year Successes

This fall brought an end to our formal engagement with the two families that arrived in 2022. A year goes quickly for a refugee family settling in Whitehorse. So many firsts in a country, culture, and land so vastly different from anything yet experienced.

YC welcomed two families last year and quickly got to work filling forms, playing tour guide, preparing all for the journey of living in spectacular Yukon. Within months a learner's driver's license and employment was secured, school became a routine, winter clothing was collected, and all were ready to enjoy the first of many snowfalls. Skating, sledding, shinny on an outdoor rink, as well as meals, tea, community gardening and local events were enjoyed on a regular basis throughout the year. They now communicate in English with ease and have many friends throughout the community.

Although these families have ended their formal engagement with YC, they have become friends of our families and YC will continue to be a reference and support network for them long into the future.



## Thank You

- Settlement Committee Members who donated their time, energy and care to these two families:
  - Robin Fairburn
  - Nancy Hughes
  - Katie Shewfelt
  - Lori Choquette
  - Ian Boyce
  - Florin Tatu
  - Selamawit Yohannes
  - Jud Deuling
  - Jeni Rudisill
  - Julia Ward
  - Filmon Tekie
  - Paula Moway
  - Aisha Montgomery
  - Jan Smith
  - Patrick World
  - Lisa Alton
- ALX Exploration donated a seacan for YC furniture donations!

## Refugee Origin Spotlight: Eritrea

Eritrea is located in the Horn of Africa.

Originally colonized by Italy, Britain and then Ethiopia; Eritrea gained its independence in 1993 after a 30 year long war with Ethiopia. The capital city, Asmara, is a UNESCO heritage site for its architectural heritage, once remarked for being "Little Rome." Politically Eritrea is known for its one-party highly militarized state. The Eritrean government is scrutinized for enforcing widespread forced labor and conscription and implementing intense restrictions on freedom of expression, opinion and faith. Eritrea has also endured many devastating droughts and remains one of the poorest countries in Africa

