

# UNITED WAY SOCIETY OF YUKON

## *History*

- 1992 Meeting of Pat Duncan, Laurie MacFeeters, Ross Findlater and Lyle Thompson with UW volunteers from Prince George B.C. arranged by Lyle Thompson.
- 1992 Interested group of Nancy Campbell, Laurie MacFeeters, Ross Findlater and Lyle Thompson began meeting and discussing strategy.
- March 23, 1993 Steering Committee (Ross Findlater, Laurie MacFeeters, Nancy Campbell and Lyle Thompson) invite approximately 60 agencies/organizations to a meeting (30 attended) to discuss possibilities for a united fundraising and social planning effort in Whitehorse. Initial interest and cautious support identified by many.
- April 1, 1993 Meeting in Whitehorse with Doug Findlater (Secretary of State/Multiculturalism and Citizenship Canada from Kelowna, B.C. - no relation) to discuss start-up funding possibilities.
- May, 1993 Steering Committee seeks and obtains funding from Secretary of State (\$9,000) to undertake a feasibility study about the possible development of an united fundraising and/or social planning organization in the Yukon.
- Summer, 1993 Project publicly tendered. Jennifer Ellis contracted to undertake study, which began in early September, under the direction of an expanded Working Group.
- Nov. 1993 Consultant's report completed and mailed to 56 agencies.
- January, 1994 Meeting to consider report leads to decision to proceed to try to establish an United Way with a social planning function in the Yukon.
- June ?? 1994 Founding Meeting of the United Way Society of the Yukon. Draft constitution and by-laws reviewed, amended and approved for submission. Ron Veale is founding President of the Board.
- Fall, 1995 First Fundraising campaign undertaken. Campaign results totalled \$16,385. All administrative costs of campaign covered by sole-sponsor Yukon News. Federal Government seconded employee to assist campaign.
- Jan. 20, 1996 First UWYukon "Planning Session at Yukon Inn. Facilitator led a focus on first campaign (pluses and negatives) and on planning for 1996 campaign.

- February, 1996 First UWYukon Board Member to participate in outside training session, subsidized by United Way Canada/Centraide Canada. (Laurie MacFeeters - in Winnipeg - focus on running a campaign).
- 1996 Ron Veale (President), Laurie MacFeeters (Chair, Campaign Committee) and Ross Findlater (Chair, Social Planning Committee) make presentation to Whitehorse hearings of the Lloyd Axworthy Commission on Human Resources.
- April, 1996 First allocations of funds (\$19,280) to approved projects.
- May, 1996 UWYukon receives profits from CBC-sponsored performances at Arts Centre of Royal Canadian Air Force
- Fall, 1996 YTG provides first contribution agreement to UWYukon for hiring a Campaign Coordinator.
- October, 1996 First fall allocation of funds to approved agency projects.
- Spring, 1997 Larry Bagnell replaces Ron Veale as President of the Board-(served as President until 1999).
- May, 1997 First attendance (subsidized by UWCanada) of UWYukon Board member at Annual Conference of B.C. Region (George Green).
- October, 1997 Participation by David Armour, President - United Way Canada/Centraide Canada, in campaign locally and in helpful meetings with Board, unions, employers and government (YTG). Health and Social Services provides \$10,000 to cover cost of contract Campaign Coordinator.
- March, 1998 First attendance by UWYukon Board member at Annual Conference and AGM of United Way Canada/Centraide Canada (subsidized by UWCanada - Russ Graham - in Toronto).
- June, 1998 UWYukon Social Planning Committee submits a proposal for funding for a Feasibility Study Towards Developing a Volunteer Centre. Community Development Fund (YTG) grants \$11,300 for the project.
- October, 1998 Campaign expands to focus on private sector. Honourary Campaign Chair is Commissioner Judy Gingell.
- Nov., 1998 Rainbow's End Consulting (Rebecca Fenton) completes Volunteer Centre feasibility project and reports to Steering Committee.

- Dec., 1998 Community Development Fund (YTG) awards a contribution agreement of \$8,400 to UWYukon to hire a part-time Program Coordinator for 42 weeks for the next year. Glenda Armstrong-Miles (previously Campaign Coordinator) contracted for this additional work.
- April, 1999 Annual General Meeting features Bernard Charbot, Director of Volnet for Industry Canada, as guest speaker ("Bringing Voluntary Organizations in the Communities On-Line") at our luncheon meeting.
- Sept., 1999 Steering Committee for a Volunteer Bureau of the Yukon established by the UW Social Planning Committee. Continues work of agency consultation and planning through 3 subcommittees. (Proposal for a 2 year pilot project ultimately submitted on March 14, 2000).
- October, 1999 Fifth annual campaign. Attracts 125 people to October 4th Kickoff Lunch. Honourary Campaign Chair Audrey McLaughlin provides active and enthusiastic leadership for the campaign (as well as for the next one).
- Nov., 1999 Board Strategic Planning process starts and continues through 6 sessions until early February, 2000.
- March 10, 2000 Minister of Health and Social Services arranges through Yukon Housing for provision of donated downtown office space for United Way and for the proposed Volunteer Bureau. [Space previously donated by our contract staff (Miles and Associates) no longer available.]
- March 25, 2000 Ross Findlater, current president of UWYukon, elected to national board of United Way Canada/Centraide Canada for 3 year term (first member from north of '60).
- April 13, 2000 Annual General Meeting attracts 148 for lunch meeting during National Volunteer Week that included presentation by Commissioner Judy Gingell of 5 Commissioner's Awards for Volunteer Service. Ron Browne elected president.
- May, 2000 Following election, space previously approved for provision of office facilities is no longer available. Yukon Housing ensures us it will find space. The one space they later suggested to share was not acceptable to either party.
- October, 2000 Campaign revenues exceed \$75,000. First "Business After-Hours" to involve private sector.
- Nov., 2000 Board decides to eliminate Social Planning Committee. Annual needs survey function of the previous Committee is planned to be assumed by entire Board.

April 27, 2001 Premier Pat Duncan commits "up to \$50,000 in funding or in-kind services in this fiscal year to the United Way Society of Yukon for the purpose of establishing and operating a Volunteer Bureau". That month the Steering Committee also applied for funding from the Canadian Rural Partnership Program (and in July to the HRDC Volunteer Sector Initiative).

May, 2001 First awarding of board-approved one-time annual UW funding for Yukon projects. (Previously awarded twice yearly for 5 years). Rob McWilliam becomes president.

(RNF - June 30/01)