

NEWS RELEASE October 1, 2023

## United Way of Northern British Columbia joins United Way British Columbia

By coming together, United Way is in a stronger position to address challenges and create positive impact in local communities

**Burnaby**, **BC** – On October 1<sup>st</sup>, United Way of Northern British Columbia (UWNBC) joined with United Way British Columbia to better streamline administration and leverage the larger organization's centralized services.

United Way British Columbia was formed when six United Ways across the province amalgamated in 2021. Since then, it has continued to support local communities with programs and Community Investment grants while expanding initiatives with a provincial presence, like Period Promise. Earlier this year, Powell River & District United Way also joined United Way BC adding its unique presence and region to the larger United Way.

"For several years, our United Ways have worked closely in Northern BC supporting seniors and food security. This decision is an extension of that relationship, and we are excited to be on a journey together as a united organization. Together we are in a stronger position to address challenges and stay focused on making a positive impact in our regions. Whether we are in an urban centre or rural communities, we continue to seek ways to serve people." – Michael McKnight, CEO, United Way BC.

Since 1967, UWNBC has supported communities through a wide range of initiatives that have reached thousands of people. Currently affecting 32 communities, and dozens of First Nations, UWNBC has demonstrated a commitment to the region, standing with the people, working in the communities, and extending a helping hand of support to those who are in need.

Some of their key initiatives currently include the Coastal GasLink Legacy Fund, Tree of Lights in Prince George, and their Urgent Response Fund to support wildfire relief in the region. There are a lot of exciting things being done in the region.

"We are committed to maintaining our local presence in all regions," says Robin Dhir, Board Chair. "Combining our strengths is important when addressing the unique challenges and needs in each community. As a unified organization, we are better equipped to strengthen vital connections which are critical in building healthy, caring and inclusive communities.."

About United Way British Columbia – working with communities in BC's Interior, Lower Mainland, Northern BC, Powell River and qathet Region, and Central & Northern Vancouver Island

United Way supports healthy, caring and inclusive communities by strengthening vital connections that support people in need. Representing the six regions of Central and Northern Vancouver Island, East Kootenay, Lower Mainland, Southern Interior, Thompson Nicola Cariboo, and Trail and District, our organization serves a population of more than 4 million people, with a focus on kids and youth, seniors, poverty, mental health and food security.

www.uwbc.ca

## **About United Way of Northern British Columbia**

United Way of Northern BC (UWNBC) has been mobilizing everyday people and organizations to contribute to programs that support communities in the north. We serve a diverse population spanning 600,000 sq kms and the communities within Northern BC.

www.unitedwaynbc.ca

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