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**Victoria Gold Yukon Student Encouragement Society and Yukon Education
Announce Recipients of the Every Student, Every Day Fund to Increase
Student Attendance**

Whitehorse, Yukon – The Victoria Gold Yukon Student Encouragement Society, in partnership with Yukon Education, is pleased to announce the first projects to receive funding through the non-profit society's *Every Student, Every Day* initiative to help increase student attendance in Yukon schools.

The initiative was established in the fall of 2012 to generate awareness about student attendance challenges in the territory and to raise funds that schools can apply for to develop and undertake innovative, local solutions that resonate with their own students and unique communities.

Eleven (11) projects received funding from a total of 22 applications submitted earlier this month to Yukon Education, which promotes the fund in Yukon schools and administers it on behalf of the society. Successful applicants received a combined total of \$50,000 in funding, which was raised by the Victoria Gold Yukon Student Encouragement Society last fall.

"The response to this first round of applications was overwhelmingly positive as engaging our students so that they consistently attend school is integral for academic and lifelong success," said Victoria Gold Yukon Student Encouragement Society President Kelly Arychuk. "We are excited that the *Every Student, Every Day* initiative takes a grassroots approach to addressing student attendance challenges and asks schools and educators to put forward solutions that reflect the needs of their students and the realities of their classrooms."

"This unique partnership demonstrates what can be achieved when the community comes together to support learners and I extend my congratulations to the fund recipients and to the society for their excellent work," Education Minister Scott Kent said. "Higher attendance goes hand in hand with improved student success and I look forward to the growth of the *Every Student, Every Day* initiative, so that even more Yukon schools and students may benefit."

“Our first fundraiser last fall raised over \$50,000 for the initiative and we are pleased to announce that our next signature fundraising event will be held on October 5 in Whitehorse,” continued Arychuk. “We look forward to working with Yukon Education and with our generous community partners moving forward to increase that amount and support even more applications next year.”

For more information about the Victoria Gold Yukon Student Encouragement Society and the *Every Student, Every Day* initiative, please visit www.everystudenteveryday.ca

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