

Every Student, Every Day

VICTORIA GOLD YUKON STUDENT ENCOURAGEMENT SOCIETY

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***Every Student, Every Day* Gold Pour Gala and Community Sponsorships raise over \$150,000 for attendance projects**

Whitehorse, Yukon – The not-for-profit Victoria Gold Yukon Student Encouragement Society held its eighth annual fundraiser on Saturday, October 5 for its *Every Student, Every Day* initiative to raise awareness and funds to help address student attendance challenges in schools and communities across the territory.

Last year the fund awarded \$100,000 to directly support 20 innovative student attendance projects throughout the territory for this current school year. This year's gala raised \$40,000 and combined with sponsorships from community champions will make over \$150,000 available for projects from Yukon schools, First Nations and community groups next spring. The Government of Yukon announced it has increased its annual commitment by \$5,000 up to \$30,000.

Applications will be available in January.

"This year's gala was held with the theme to honour a milestone event for our key sponsor, Victoria Gold, their first gold pour in September and to celebrate seven years making a positive influence for Yukon students," said Victoria Gold Yukon Student Encouragement Society President, Tara Christie. "Student absenteeism affects us all and we're honoured to work with our dedicated partners and Yukon residents to help address student attendance challenges in our communities."

"The Government of Yukon is proud to now match up to \$30,000 each year of funds raised for the *Every Student, Every Day* initiative. Thank you to the generous organizations and individuals who support this important cause. Through our enduring and combined efforts, we are helping students develop healthy work habits and social skills so that they can experience success in school and throughout their lives".

Minister of Education Tracy-Anne McPhee

"We know that the issues we are working to resolve will take long term commitment and perseverance and having long term sponsors allows us to focus time and funds on community led projects," continued Christie. After seven years, we are starting to see success and gain momentum. We thank all our long term sponsors and

supporters. This year is particularly one to celebrate as we can see the positive influence on the workforce as we now know that employees during construction of the Eagle Gold and now long-term employees, have benefited from the programs and funding from *Every Student, Every Day*. We are very excited that there will be more funding available in January to help schools and communities tackle this important issue.”

To learn more about *Every Student, Every Day* please visit www.everystudenteveryday.ca or find ‘Every Student, Every Day Yukon’ on Facebook.

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Background

Every Student, Every Day works with community and industry champions which provide both volunteer and in-kind support. We are very thankful for everyone who is participating in our recent sponsorship campaign to be 5 -year sponsors:

At the Gold level: we have: Victoria Gold, Air North, Finning, Orion Mine Finance, Osisko Gold Royalties, and Yukon Government.

At the Silver level: JDS Energy & Mining, Franco Nevada, Macquarie, Pelly Construction and Wheaton Precious Metals.

At the Copper level: Alkan Air, Banyan Gold, Chieftain Energy, Cobalt Construction, Ewing Transport, Kal Tire, CKRW, The Rush, Small’s Expediting, Metso and Walters Construction.

We also wish to thank our generous event sponsors: Northwestel, Northern Vision Development, ALX, AUL, Corporate Traveller, Ewing Transport, Lakewood Electric, NELPCO, Newmont GoldCorp, NNDDC, and Sprott Finance.

Established in September 2012, the *Every Student, Every Day* initiative funds grassroots student attendance projects that are generated by individual schools, Yukon First Nations, community groups, school councils and Yukoners that have creative ways to help. These projects are directed at solving absenteeism with a locally driven approach that more effectively relate to their unique students and classrooms.