



## **Northwestel Festival of Trees raises more than \$500,000**

**December 3, 2014**

Whitehorse – The 2014 Northwestel Festival of Trees concluded over the weekend and successfully raised \$530,000 for the Yukon Hospital Foundation in support of quality health care in the territory.

The Festival is the Foundation's annual signature fundraising event and has partnered with Northwestel as the title sponsor since the benefit's inception twelve years ago. It brings together hundreds of sponsors, volunteers and businesses to raise funds for Yukon hospitals.

The Festival included activities that give the entire community an opportunity to celebrate and take part in the season of giving. The event kicked off with the ever-popular Capstone Mining BAH Humbug and Skookum Asphalt Santa Breakfast. *Season's Eatings* Coffee Break delivery presented by Outside the Cube with support from Air North, ran during the week of the Festival. The Multicultural Community Open House also welcomed more than 700 Yukoners to a showcase of local talent amidst the magical trees and wreaths donated by local businesses. The Festival was capped off with the glitter and glamour of the Seniors' Soiree and Alkan Air Grand Ball.

Christmas trees were sent to Johnson Elementary School in Watson Lake and Robert Service School in Dawson City, along with craft supplies for making ornaments. Students from Johnson Elementary are decorating their trees on Thursday, December 4th and students from Robert Service School are decorating their tree on Friday, December 5. The trees will adorn the schools' halls until winter break, when they will be moved to the community hospitals for the holidays.

Proceeds from the Northwestel Festival of Trees and the annual Direct Mail Appeal will be directed towards equipment identified by doctors and nurses that will improve patient safety, comfort and care from the moment they enter the hospital. The Yukon Hospital Foundation Direct Mail Appeal will continue through to 2015. One hundred percent of all donations made

through the Direct Mail Appeal will go towards the purchase of hospital equipment.

“Community support has been fantastic,” said Yukon Hospital Foundation Chair Curtis Shaw. “Our volunteers and community participation, along with our corporate sponsors have once again made the Festival a great success. This generosity makes a tremendous impact on health care delivery in the Yukon. I would like to thank everyone involved in making this year’s events a success.”

For more information contact:

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