

For Immediate Release - September 27

Whitehorse - This year, in the week leading up to Thanksgiving, families in Yukon can join people and organizations across Canada to celebrate the many ways families nurture themselves through fun and activities.

From October 4 – 10, 2010, Canadians in communities across the country will come together for local celebrations during National Family Week. The week provides an opportunity to celebrate families and to reflect on their importance in our lives.

This year's theme is Families Connecting through Stories. This theme celebrates the joys of reading and storytelling. Special activities are planned in Whitehorse and Watson Lake as a number of community minded organizations offer free events.

“It's wonderful that this year's National Family Week theme is stories. Storytelling can be a beautiful opportunity for families to share memories, spark the imagination, and connect around special moments together. Story time can be the most meaningful part of the day. We can each take the time to cuddle up, sing a nursery rhyme, read a story book, make up a fairy tale or talk about Gramma and Grampa's journey in life. These are wonderful ways for families to bond in a nourishing and life affirming way,” said Marilyn Wolovick, Executive Director, Many Rivers Counselling and Support Services.

Through these activities, family members of all ages can take part in rediscovering the spirit of family. Events include a free Family Dinner and Recreation evening at Whitehorse Elementary School and at Watson Lake Community Hall, on October 6; A free public skate and public swim at Canada Games Centre; storytelling events in various Yukon Communities sponsored by the Yukon Public Library, reading and crafts activities sponsored Literacy Coalition, a Baby Animal Preschool sponsored by MacBride Museum; scavenger hunts at Yukon Beringia Centre; Gallery Muse at Yukon Arts Centre; and many more. Visit www.manyrivers.yk.ca for a full schedule of events and watch for schedules in the Yukon News, What's Up Yukon and the Whitehorse Star.

Please join Many Rivers and its partners in celebrating families in all our communities during National Family Week. , October 4 to 10, 2010.

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