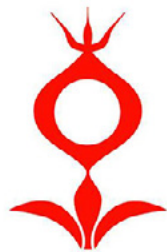


NATIONAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE TOOLKIT



Les EssentiElles

Engaging Yukon Men and Boys in Ending Violence
Against Women and Girls, Les EssentiElles
Case Study



Engaging Yukon Men and Boys in Ending Violence Against Women and Girls, Les EssentiElles

Case Study

About the organization

[Les EssentiElles](#) is a non-profit organization which represents the interests of French-speaking women in the Yukon. The group actively works to improve the quality of life of French-speaking women and respond to their needs.

Program Locations and Timeframe

The Engaging Yukon Men and Boys Project ran from April, 2013 to March, 2015. Male engagement programming and workshops were held in three communities in the Yukon: Whitehorse, Dawson City and Watson Lake.

Overview

The Project developed anti-violence programming specifically towards men and boys to address gaps that existed in prior anti-violence programming. Les EssentiElles spearheaded the development of this bilingual project, which was founded in engaging men and boys to take a more active role in ending violence against women and building community capacity. The project focused on creating the structures, leadership base, and capacity within individuals and organizations necessary to create lasting efforts to engage with men and boys and, ultimately, increasing men and boys' understanding of issues relating to violence against women and encouraging them to embrace positive roles in ending gender-based violence.

Core objectives of the Project include:

1. Develop and strengthen the skills of males to identify and respond to issues of gender-based violence in their communities.
2. Increase the participants' understanding and knowledge of issues relating to violence against women.
3. Motivate males to take specific action in ending violence against women through realistic and concrete methods
4. Enhance the skills of males to develop healthy relationships and to understand gender equality.
5. Long-term: to reduce gender based violence in Yukon.

In 2013, a needs assessment was conducted with one of the recommendations being that efforts to engage men and boys should be long-term, community-led, and address systemic equality issues. One of the key needs found was a desire for training, support & materials to be provided for local partners. The results of the needs assessment led to the development of the 'Engaging Yukon Men and Boys in Ending Violence Against Women and Girls' toolkit as well as the launch of a 'Train the Trainer' workshop series that was delivered in English and in French to professionals and mentors that work with men and boys.

White Ribbon Yukon and the Summer Music Festival Consent Campaign were used as vehicles to engage men and boys regarding gender based violence, sexualized assault and consent. Workshops focused on consent and healthy relationships were also given in high schools by men engaged in the project. Partnerships with various government agencies and community organizations were

established throughout the development and implementation of this project included: Victoria Faulkner Women Centre, Court Watch Yukon, Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council, Liard Aboriginal Women's Society, Many Rivers, Yukon Teachers' Association, Whitehorse Correctional Centre, Yukon College, Department of Education, Bringing Youth Toward Equality (BYTE), Yukon Government Health Promotions

Key Results

- Project participants have gained/strengthened skills to identify and respond to issues relating to violence against women and girls in their communities.
- Men and boys are actively engaging and taking on leadership roles to address these pressing issues in their communities.
- Community members have increased their awareness of issues relating to gender based violence.
- Key community stakeholders have taken specific actions to address issues relating to gender-based violence.
- Activities from the toolkit have been approved as a resource for use in Yukon high schools and are being actively promoted to instructors throughout the Territory.
- A number of resources and insights from the project were included in various courses in the Bachelor of Social Work program at the Yukon College.
- The toolkit and workshops were also presented to inmates and correction officers at the Whitehorse Correctional Centre.

To learn more about the Engaging Yukon Men and Boys Project, contact Ketsia Houde, General Manager, Les EssentiElles, elles@lesessentielles.ca

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