

January 25, 2010

Vancouver Foundation supports theatre project in Williams Lake

Despite a challenging financial picture in 2009, Vancouver Foundation continued to support important community projects throughout British Columbia.

The Foundation and its donors granted \$15,000 in funding for a unique project that addresses community issues in Williams Lake:

Twin Fish theatre group (based in Nelson) and Urban Ink (based in Vancouver) for a project in Williams Lake

\$15,000 to the Squaw Hall theatre project, which aims to unearth stories about this wild open-air dance hall, formerly located on the Williams Lake stampede grounds. A notorious site where violence against Aboriginal women took place, it burned down in the 1970s.

Vancouver-based Urban Ink and Nelson-based Twin Fish are co-developing this project on the legacy of colonization in Williams Lake and the surrounding Secwepemc, Dakelh and Tsilhqot'in First Nations. The process of creating a theatre production will involve youth, and pave the way for true healing. They plan to show it in 2011.

With more than 1,300 funds, and assets of \$700 million, Vancouver Foundation is Canada's largest community foundation. Since it was founded in 1943, Vancouver Foundation, in partnership with its donors, has distributed more than \$740 million to BC charities.

**For more information:
Paul Heraty, Communications
604.688.2204**