

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
December 15, 2011

Whitetooth Ski Program Rises to New Heights

Record number of youth will benefit from the Affordable Ski Program

(Golden, BC) – A record number of local kids will be skiing and snowboarding this winter thanks to the Whitetooth Affordable Ski Program.

The winter program has been traditionally supported by Kicking Horse Mountain Resort (KHMR) and the Golden & District Community Foundation-managed (GDCF) Whitetooth Ski Society Fund on a shared cost basis. However, due to the overwhelming need, the Golden Community Resource Society requested additional support to fund the 36 recommended applicants, where family incomes are limited. This number is up one from last year and double the number of participants compared to 2008.

“As there were some funds available after our Community Grants Program, we recommended that the surplus go to support the remaining qualified Whitetooth applications,” explained Grants Advisory Committee Chair, Denise English, at a recent GDCF Board Meeting. “We owe it to the community to put the money where it’s needed.”

The rise in the number of Whitetooth applicants was supported by the GDCF-managed Youth in Sports Fund, Adventure Realm Canada, Golden Log Truckers Association Fund, Bud Steward Memorial Rotary Fund, Community Endowment Fund and KHMR’s Whitetooth Program cost sharing.

Nola Milum, Chair of the GDCF, praised Judy Brook of Golden Community Resource Society and the GDCF Board for providing a creative solution to this problem, “We really appreciate Judy’s problem solving, our program partners’ support and leadership in addressing this exceptional community need.”

The \$40,000 program has provided season passes, rentals and lessons for children and youth from age 8 to 18 in the past. Eligible youth that have been in the program for at least one year can opt to take a Canadian Ski Instructors Alliance level 1 instructor course at the Resort. It is hoped that by providing this option, youth will develop an employable skill and ultimately give back to their community through teaching and coaching the next generation of rippers.

Despite the fact that there were resources available to satisfy the extreme need this year, the same extra resources cannot be guaranteed next year. If you would like to give to the Whitetooth Ski Society Fund and ensure that future generations of local kids will get to learn to ski and snowboard, please visit www.goldencommunityfoundation.ca and donate through www.canadahelps.org.

About the Golden & District Community Foundation

The Golden & District Community Foundation’s mission is to attract and effectively grow permanent funds; provide leadership and administration that helps in addressing significant community needs; and help donors fulfill their philanthropic interests.

-30-

For more information contact:

Ryan Watmough, Executive Director

Golden & District Community Foundation

PO Box 1485 Golden, BC V0A 1H0

Phone: 1-250-344-8610

Email: admin@goldencommunityfoundation.ca

Website: www.goldencommunityfoundation.ca