



**QUARTERLY UPDATE:**  
GET ON BOARD!

Dear Friends,

I hope you are doing well, I wanted to share some recent developments with you.

Due to some amazing connections that occurred, and a strong relationship that exists with the City of Edmonton, we were able to open our latest Youth Centre called the **The Core**. We started moving in January, and now it is up and running out of the Millwood's Recreation Centre. **Your support is honestly a huge success for youth in this community**, and the impact that you will be making in the lives of youth in this area will be amazing.

We were originally contacted by a community social worker who was very concerned about the growing need for a positive program directed toward meeting the needs of all the youth who were congregating outside the Rec Centre throughout the last 2 years. Covid restrictions had left these youth with very few constructive activities to take part in. Many of the youth were just "hanging out" and under the influence of substances. "Youth as young as 8 or 9" according to the social worker. This is truly tragic and a clear reflection of the despair that many of our youth feel today.

Now though, our staff and volunteers can be available at the Rec Centre daily, as we have space for both an office and a drop-in. Thank you for your on-going prayers and financial gifts. Your partnership allows greater accessibility for youth to **"*explore their potential, understand their worth, and discover hope.*"**\* Also a big thank you to those who contributed furniture, appliances, and office needs for this centre.

### **Connecting at the Core Story:**

About a month ago, the Core had the opportunity to start a tabletop gaming group with some of their youth. This is something that the youth approached the staff about running and it was an easy thing for them to say yes to, as it's a **safe, loving and welcoming environment**. A way to get to know all the kids better, in a smaller group setting. This has been really encouraging, as youth kept coming up and asking how they can join in. It's now grown to the point where they are needing to split into two different groups as **the engagement level is on fire**.

Just last week they had a youth who came to drop-in for the first time, within a few minutes of being there he heard about this gaming group they run on Fridays. Instantly the teen was excited and asked how he could get involved. Two days later he showed up at The Core for the gaming group and **instantly got connected with the other youth** in the group. We can't wait to see what happens in the upcoming months as this is only the beginning.

Despite being in a building that will usually have youth in it, it has been challenging getting started with partial restrictions still existing and limited facilities being available, like the cafeteria. We are working hard to find ways to spread the word that the drop-in is open and available. One thing we can pray about is for more new youth to visit the drop-in, especially those who need to experience love, hope and support. Needs that are only possible to meet because of our generous partners.

### **YUE Shout Out:**

[Boston Pizza Namao](#), expressed interest in providing a pizza party for the Vault Youth Centre for our stress management night. They are graciously providing \$200 in pizza.

### **Upcoming Events:**

The 34th Annual YUE Golf Challenge is approaching. On June 28th we will be gathering at The [Quarry](#) for another memorable round of golf in order to raise support for struggling teens in Edmonton. Registration will be opening soon. It's not an event that can be missed, it's a ton of fun! We are always looking for new corporate partners or golfers.

Again, thank you for all you do for our kids. You're a big part of their lives!

Peace,

Gary Higgs  
Executive Director

*Exploring potential, understanding worth and discovering hope are the 3 key desires YUE has for youth and are reflected in our vision statement.*

*At Youth Unlimited, one of our strengths is what we call "contextualized programming", a fancy term for taking the passions and skills of our staff and volunteers and aligning them with the needs and interests of youth. This allows us to create all kinds of crazy programs for the purpose of creating relationship and exploring potential.*

**GIVE A GIFT OF HOPE**

### **Our Contact Information**

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