

# MEDIA RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



9<sup>th</sup> April 2015

## YWCA Muskoka's Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin' by World program concludes in Gravenhurst.

On Wednesday April 22nd YWCA Muskoka will be celebrating with participants who have completed the second Getting Ahead program in Gravenhurst. The group has been gathering once a week for 15 weeks at The Arts at the Albion Studio to examine the impact poverty has on themselves, their families and their communities. The group has invited key people within the community to a celebration lunch to learn about their 'community assessment' and discuss ideas to improve our communities for those working to move out of poverty. Guests include Mayor Paisley Donaldson, District of Muskoka Community Services representatives and Employment North staff.

The aim of Getting Ahead is to provide a safe, agenda-free learning environment for participants (referred to as 'investigators') to:

- reflect on and examine their lives
- *examine* their own experience of poverty as well as explore issues in the community that impact poverty – health; jobs & wages; housing; jobs; transportation
- assess their own resources
- enjoy the power that comes from solving problems and controlling their own lives
- make plans for their own future stories
- offer ideas for building a prosperous community, and
- create a support network to assist them in achieving their goals.

"Living in poverty in Muskoka requires strong problem solving skills. Getting Ahead examines this experience from both a personal and a community perspective and puts those problem solving skills into action to create a plan to build personal and community resources," states Lynda Hutt, YWCA's Getting Ahead Facilitator.

This program has been made possible with support through the District of Muskoka.

For more information contact: Lynda Hutt at 705-645-9827, email [lhutt@ywcamuskoka.com](mailto:lhutt@ywcamuskoka.com)

YWCA Muskoka champions positive change for women and girls.

**ywcamuskoka.com**

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