

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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Vital Signs in Golden

Local process gets an early kick-off for 2011

(Golden, BC) – The release of Canada’s Vital Signs 2010 Report on October 15th will be watched very closely by local residents as volunteers work toward a 2011 report for Kicking Horse Country.

Vital Signs is part of a growing nation-wide initiative by Community Foundations of Canada to measure a community’s quality of life and take action to improve it. Fifteen local Vital Signs report cards were released by community foundations across Canada on October 5th with the national report to be released on October 15th in The Globe & Mail.

Kicking Horse Country’s volunteer Vital Signs Steering Committee was formed back in July after a public presentation by the Golden & District Community Foundation. The first public consultation meeting, held on September 23rd at the British Columbia Visitors Centre at Golden, brought out 20 local residents. Leanne Hammond Komori, from the Central Okanagan Foundation, and Lynne Romano, from the local Steering Committee facilitated the 3 hour evening discussion.

While each community chooses its own indicators, every year there are a set of common issue areas and core indicators that all foundations include in their Vital Signs Reports and upon which Community Foundations of Canada bases its national report. National, regional and local research is also used to compare quality of life statistics with local residents’ perceptions.

Local Vital Signs Steering Committees consult with a wide range of community groups to ensure their indicators capture their area's unique issues and attributes. The grades on quality of life indicators can help set a community’s priorities and direct future projects, support and funding.

Future public consultation for the local Vital Signs Report is still being planned. To learn more about the local process leading to a 2011 Vital Signs Report for Kicking Horse Country, visit <http://www.goldenandareaavitalsigns2011.blogspot.com/>.

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.

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