

*June 24, 2011*

## **Safe Communities project gives young moms a second chance**

*Edmonton...* A new Safe Communities project in Enoch will provide high-risk young mothers with a supportive learning environment. Enoch Cree Nation Health Services will receive \$1 million over three years from the Government of Alberta's Safe Communities Innovation Fund to support the Second Chance for Young Moms program.

"Every community is unique and has its own specific needs. Through the Safe Communities Innovation Fund, Albertans are able to play a role in addressing their local priorities by developing projects to make their communities safer places to be," said Verlyn Olson, Minister of Justice and Attorney General. "I commend the partners of this project for recognizing the need to work together to provide a support network and positive environment for young, high-risk mothers to succeed. Through this partnership, safer communities are being built."

"This project connects committed community partners in Enoch to support young, at-risk mothers, ultimately helping to keep the community safe," said Fred Lindsay, MLA for Stony Plain. "By investing in crime prevention and reduction projects like this today, the Government of Alberta is laying the foundation for a safe and secure future."

The Second Chance for Young Moms program will provide high-risk, substance-abusing young mothers who have dropped out of high school with a supportive learning environment. The program will enable young mothers to pursue their educational goals and personal development. Ultimately, it will lead to improved health, increased self-esteem, positive social interactions and prospects for further education, as well as training and employment through comprehensive partnerships with committed stakeholders.

"The Second Chance for Young Moms program is aimed at assisting young moms with transitioning back into the education system. We all know education is key when individuals are looking to improve their quality of life and health status," said Chief Harry Sharphead, Enoch Cree Nation. "Through a collaborative partnership with committed stakeholders, this initiative has amazing potential for our young moms and our entire community as a whole."

The Safe Communities Innovation Fund builds on the work of the Safe Communities Initiative to address crime on an immediate basis, as well as over the long term. For more information please visit: <http://www.safecommunities.alberta.ca/scif>.

-30-

### **Media inquiries may be directed to:**

Alison Keppler  
Alberta Justice Communications

Colleen McDonald  
Enoch Cree Nation Health Services

780-427-8530

780-993-9230

[alison.keppler@gov.ab.ca](mailto:alison.keppler@gov.ab.ca)

To call toll free within Alberta dial 310-0000.

[Alberta Government](#) | [Newsroom](#) | [Ministries Listing](#) | [Justice and Attorney General Home Page](#) | [News Releases](#) | [Top of Page](#) |

---

[Send us your comments or questions](#)

Copyright(©) 2011 Government of Alberta

