

A ministry of the whole church by the whole church



**Lent 4:
Healing and Transformation in the Yukon**

In the Yukon, as in much of Canada's north, there are many wounds and hurts from events in the past, including the ongoing effects of the residential school experience. But in the midst of this, the Anglican Church is a source of healing, and of reconciliation.

This past January, the Diocese of Yukon held a conference called "Healing the Pain of the Heart." Thirty-five church leaders from across the Yukon attended this workshop lead by Northern Youth Ministries. "By looking inward towards the healing of our own hearts we are better able to help others," said Bp. Larry Robertson.

The conference, which focused on "learning to be a counselor," began and ended with a Gospel Jamboree. Bishop Robertson said that throughout the week, people were bringing "issues, people, sins and events of their past that they wish to give to God." At the end of the week, a fire was lit and, says Robertson, people were able to bring these hurts of the past to God by writing them down and burning them in a ceremony..."It was a real time of release."

Bp. Robertson called the week "challenging but glorious" and said "Many have been touched with the healing love of Jesus."

Prayer: *"Dear Father, in the story of the Prodigal Son, you show us that no matter what we have done, or what we have suffered, your arms of love are open to us. Help us to always come to you for forgiveness. We ask you to bless all northern ministers as they share your message of healing and hope. Amen."*



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of the North**

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