

RIDE FOR REFUGE – Press Release

July 10, 2026

Nelson Community Services (NCS) invites the community to join them for the second annual RIDE FOR REFUGE peer-to-peer fundraising event on Saturday, Oct 3rd.

The RIDE FOR REFUGE is a family- friendly fundraising walk and bike ride in support of Canadian charities that serves people seeking hope, safety and freedom. Locally, the funds raised will support the Aimee Beaulieu Transition House (ABTH) which provides emergency safe shelter and support for self-identifying women and children leaving domestic violence and abuse. The ABTH marked its 30th anniversary in 2025 serving the community and this fundraiser will support the programs and services offered there.

The Aimee Beaulieu Transition House is the only Transition House in Nelson offering shelter and support services to women and their children who've experienced abuse. Intimate partner violence(IPV) is more common than many people may realize and causes significant short- and long-term emotional, physical, social and financial issues for many Canadians. Between 2014 and 2019, there were 497 victims of intimate partner homicide. The large majority of victims were women (80%).

The Aimee Beaulieu Transition House staff provide 24/7 crisis line response, emotional support, safety planning for leaving dangerous situations, and guidance on accessing local resources. These services are vital to the women and children that they serve and the community at large.

"Ride for Refuge is about more than fundraising. It's about standing alongside people in our community who deserve to live free from violence," says Anna Maskerine, Executive Director of Nelson Community Services. "When we come together, we send a powerful message that no one has to face this alone."

The Nelson RIDE FOR REFUGE will utilize the rails to trails system and begin and end at the Svoboda, Road parking lot. Participants can choose to walk 2.5 or 5km or to bike a 10km or 20km route. There will be supported rest stops along the way and a tasty celebration meal at the finish line.



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Nelson Community Services is hoping the community will come out and make the first RIDE FOR REFUGE a success, making it an annual event that families look forward to each year. They are looking for walkers, riders, donors, sponsors and lots and lots of volunteers. Sign up to volunteer or participate at www.rideforrefuge.org/location/nelson

There are lots of volunteer roles to choose from including set-up and tear-down crews, registration, food team, route marshals, and medical support crews. If you are looking to support this event in any way, please reach out and find out how you can help out.

To reach out with any questions or to volunteer

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