



SHYFT Youth Services, PO Box 2000, Yarmouth, NS, B5A 1E5

(P) 1-902-881-3111 (F) 1-902-881-3115

March 28, 2012 - **Press Release/ Press Conference**

One House Opens and another Closes

SHYFT Youth Services Society is being forced to close its doors just as the doors to the House of Assembly open for another session.

“It is just so ironic that we are being forced to close our doors just when the doors to the big house open,” mused Bernadette MacDonald, co-chair of SHYFT society.

“We believe the Nova Scotia “Court of Public Opinion” would say that both doors deserve to be opened.”

To assist in bringing attention to their plight, SHYFT Youth Services Society will be holding a **press conference on Thursday March 29th. 12:30 pm at the Liberal Caucus Office – 5151 George St. BMO Office Tower -14th. Floor (corner of Hollis and Granville).**

SHYFT has been seeking cooperation from the Department of Community Services to maintain their 24/7 service for at -risk and homeless youth in the tri county area (Yarmouth, Digby, Shelburne) of the province.

Society Members say “the provincial government will not accept the fact there is an enormous and troubling social issue being played out in rural parts of our Province; **the need for safe and supportive housing for at-risk and homeless youth.** This government needs to stop playing politics and ‘balancing the books’ on the backs of the most vulnerable citizens in our community.”

“We implore the government once again to listen to reason and see our service as a positive investment,” states Society spokesperson Ms. MacDonald. “Instead of resisting an effective and efficient model of care that this community has created, we want the government to acknowledge the need for our service and support us to maintain the service we know is working for these youth.”

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Press Contact –
Bernadette MacDonald – (Day) 742-0085 (Evening) – 649-2685