



C O M M O N G R O U N D



**YMCA of  
Newfoundland and Labrador**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 12 JULY, 2017**

**Common Ground Coworking Inc. and YMCA of Newfoundland and Labrador  
Announce New Agreement**

St. John's, NL Common Ground Coworking and the YMCA of Newfoundland and Labrador are pleased to announce an agreement has been reached for the YMCA to provide management services to Common Ground. Both the Common Ground Board of Directors and the YMCA Board of Directors have approved a renewable agreement.

“The Common Ground Board is very pleased to be working with the YMCA for the long term. The YMCA has a long history of delivering programs to help people start businesses and also has the organizational infrastructure we need at this stage in Common Ground’s development,” says Common Ground Board Chair Chris Gardner.

The YMCA of Newfoundland and Labrador, a not for profit corporation and a registered charity with roots in the community dating back to 1854, has been offering employment and entrepreneurship programs for more than 30 years and currently delivers these programs in more than 50 locations across the province. Common Ground is a not for profit corporation founded just over four years ago and is growing rapidly with a location on Harvey Road in St. John’s and a proposed expansion project on Harbour Drive in St. John’s.

Under the agreement, the Common Ground Board will continue to provide governance and the YMCA will operate any coworking spaces and provide accounting, communications, risk management, and executive support. Anna Smith will be asked to continue to lead Common Ground’s operations and Dave Lane will continue as Project Lead for Common Ground’s proposed expansion project. More information will be communicated over the month of July.

“The YMCA is delighted to be entering into this agreement. Common Ground is a great organization and we will ensure its unique culture remains and is enhanced while we also ensure strong management on behalf of the Board,” says YMCA CEO Jason Brown.

According to Chris Gardner, “while very little will change day-to-day for our members, this is an important step in the evolution of Common Ground from start-up to a more mature organization, and we look forward to many years of working with the YMCA.”

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