



# Burwash Buzz

OUR COMMUNITIES NEWSLETTER

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### DAN SHUGAR'S PRESENTATION ON CHANGES TO THE A'AY CHU (SLIMS RIVER)

On Monday, January 15, 2018, folks braved the winter roads to come and hear Dan Shugar speak out about changes to the Kaskawulsh Glacier and A'ay Chu. The Kaskawulsh glacier has receded retreated by 655 m between 1956 and 2007. This caused the A'ay Chu to reverse course and now flows into the Alsek River. Changes to water quality and quantity could affect fish, food security, dust and travel on the lake. We don't often have researchers present their findings to the community so it was great to have Dan present. The presentation was sponsored by the Yukon Government of Tourism and Culture, Heritage Branch, and Environment Yukon. The Yukon Science Institute (YSI) helped to organize the logistics.

# CHIEFS UPDATE



Danché,

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and hope you all had a wonderful holiday with family & friends. As we enter 2018 it is the start to another busy and successful year for Kluane First Nation. We will be finalizing the service agreement on the Water Treatment Facility (WTF) and putting the final touches to our Strategic Priorities. I will be in Reno for the Annual Sheep Show when KFN auction's their hunt on Saturday January 20, 2018 Congratulations to David Dickson on receiving the Frank Golata Award which is a Bronze Sculpture for the Outstanding Outfitter of the year for 2017 Sheep Hunt with hunter Bill Grissom from the Wild Sheep Foundation International Conference. I will be attending Mineral Roundup in Vancouver on January 22-25. In February all departments will be working on workplans and budgets for the 2018-2019 year and submit for approval by Council in March. Council will be holding a community meeting in the next couple of months to discuss Home Ownership and Rental Rates for housing. Council will be attending Kluane Development Community Limited Partner (KCDLP) Strategic Planning session on January 30<sup>th</sup> in Whitehorse.



KFN did a bison hunt at Cultus Camp on March 10-12, 2017. It was very cold but we had many KFN Citizens and Community members come out. We would like to do another one in March but the dates have not been set. Notices will go out when we have the hunt again. Last years hunt was unsuccessful but everyone enjoyed the winter camping. Food and gas was provided but participants were expected to help cook and help out around camp. We would like to welcome everyone to the camp and hope that this may turn into an annual event.

Any Citizens who are interested to be a member on the Dän Keyi Renewable Resources Council (DKRRC) are encouraged to submit a nomination form which are available KFN's website [www.kfn.ca](http://www.kfn.ca)

Shäw nithän,  
Chief Bob Dickson



Chief & Council 2018 Meeting Dates	Elders Council 2018 Meeting Dates
March 22-23	March 21
April 19-20	April 18
May 17-18	May 9-10 (Full days)
June 14-15	June 13
July 12	July 11
August 9	August 8
October 18-19	October 17
November 15-16	November 14

## WELLNESS DEPARTMENT UPDATE

### DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Department will be taking a more integrated approach to service deliver (i.e. collaboration and case management)
- Re-established monthly department meetings
- Large number of successful proposals for programming
- Expanding the focus of some of the programs and services
  - to include children with youth
  - Collaboration with client
  - Inter-departmental participation
  - Inter-governmental collaboration
- Looking more at proactive measures than just reactive procedures
- Expanding access to services through government—government relations

### WELLNESS & EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION

March 2017—Present:

- Attended meeting with various YG departments, such as FCS, Justice, Social Service, ADS, regional services, department of Education, and many more.
- Participated in CYFN Health Commission meeting and a meeting of First Nation Education.
- Redrafted and submitted a proposal for YG Family Support Funding.

- Redrafted job descriptions.
- Worked on making the office a more comfortable inviting place to work and visit. This included painting and minor renovations.
- Participated in the review of the functional plan for the school in Burwash.
- Backfilled for vacant positions.
- Assumed the responsibility of Elders Heating Fuel supplement program.

Future:

- With the department almost fully staged, I am now better able to put more focus on the administrative role of my position.
- Workplans, budgets and policies are going to be priority.
- Coffee is always on and I have a stash of snacks so stop by for a chat.

### COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Currently Vacant

March 2017—Present:

- This position has been vacant since May 2017. It has been advertised and we conducted interviews. Unfortunately, we will need to re-advertise.
- In keeping with the integrated approach of the Wellness and Education Department this program has been able to continue to provide benefits to KFN Citizens.
- Some program dollars have been utilized back activities coordinated by the other Wellness & Education team. Some examples of this are:
  - The Community Hunt;
  - Honorarium for Citizens to participate in proposal driven workshops;
  - Meals for workshops or other information sessions.
- There is an upcoming conference “From Residential School to Reconciliation Gathering”. This program will be used to send some Citizens to this Conference.
- The main changes for this program:
  - It no longer administers the Prenatal Program. This has been moved to the Healthy Living Coordinator; and
  - It will be linked in with the Case Manager
  - The IRS funding will be locked in until the 2020/2021 fiscal year.

*The new 2018/2019 Recreation, Cultural and Wellness Pursuits application is available!*

<http://www.kfn.ca/documents/general-public/RCWPF-application-2017.pdf>



**SOCIAL ASSISTANCE & ABORIGINAL JUSTICE**

Kathleen Johnson—Case Manager

Present:

- Started position on October 10, 2017.
- Moved offices from Main Administration Building to office next to KCDC.
- Been getting familiar with KFN policies & Procedures.
- Administer Income Assistance Program
  - Organize files and set up Office
  - Set up the Social Assistance program under Xyntax
- Training in Native court worker/justice program
  - Work with people going to court
  - Set up appointments with legal aid, native court workers, counselors
- Liaison with YTG Social Worker Travis, YTG ADS worker, Mark, Mental Health worker Ines
- Work with KFN/Mental Health Services counselors, Nataschaa and Jody
- Submitted a proposal to the Women’s Directorate (haven’t approved yet)
  - Help members if they want to attend a program
- Assist and transport community members to Whitehorse for groceries and appointments

Future:

- Planning workshops for the Community—if you have any ideas let us know
- Activities on the land and in evening—let us know if you have any ideas
- Community Wellness Department is looking at Carnival Days—looking at spring break
- Grief Workshops with Nataschaa Chatterton on February 26 & 27

**EDUCATION SUPPORT**

Sharda Ayotte-O’Connor—Coordinator

Present:

- Started position in December
- Had to get filing system organized
- Getting familiar with the ASETS program, as well as the other components of this position
- Worked with CYFN and KFN Finance to ensure ASETS reporting was up-to-date and accurate
- Assumed responsibility for the delivery of the After-School Program (i.e. Language Lessons and traditional life skills)
- Will continue to work with the Kluane Lake School

Future:

- Will be attending education meetings on behalf of KFN
- Participate in Annual Muskrat Camp

More is still in the works

**HOME SUPPORT TEAM**

Janice Dickson—Coordinator

Sarah Wylie—Assistant

Annette Dettieh—On-Call

Present:

- We provide non-medical Home Support Services
- Provide/Assist Elder’s & Citizens on medical or Shopping trips
- Cook a Community Lunch every Wednesday
- Attend & assist Elder’s/Citizen’s in any Cultural Activities (e.g. Muskrat Camp, Harvest Camp, KFN GA etc.)
- Provide opportunities for Clients Social Visits
- Annual Elders’ Spring Cleaning
- Liaise with other health & social service providers (e.g. NIHB, Destruction Bay Health Nurse and Dr.s, YHCP—Whitehorse & Haines Junction, WGH, FNHP, etc.)
- Assisted in the coordination of the Departments first Community Hunt camp

Future:

- Our work is ongoing every week
- Looking at a more client involved
- Planning to do more cultural activities on the land
- Home Support & Healthy Living Coordinator just got approved for a “Elder’s Gathering”, through the New Horizons for Seniors Program

**DAYCARE**

Iris Point—Coordinator

Taylor Penner—Daycare Worker

Present:

- Daycare is in good standing with YG Child Care Services and has received rave reviews from the inspectors
- Delivered a Handle with Care Training in Burwash
- Updated the Parents Handbook, this is awaiting approval
- Radon testing is being done by YG as a requirement for licensing renewal
- Policy and procedure manuals are being developed or updated
- Monthly themes are incorporated into daycare

- Language lessons continue with the Language Nest Program

Future:

- Applied for First Nation and Inuit Child Care Initiative (FNICCI) Child Care Center Report & Capital Expenditure Plan 2017-2018 (with assistance from Capital Works). \$81.4K was approved for repairs and renovations to the Jacquot Hall and works will be starting soon
- Participate in Annual Muskrat Camp

#### **LANGUAGE NEST**

Bertha Doris—Coordinator

- Have moved children to the stage of full sentence structure. No more one word system. The one word system is used to refresh the children's minds that they do not forget
- The language continues to be used by all who work in the Daycare
- Grace Johnson still continues her work to the Language Nest and Daycare children. She is used to create and help develop the curriculum and also teaches the children the Southern Tutchone language
- Cultural activities on the land and in classroom is still, and will, continue to be part of the programming
- Daniel Tlen and Diyet van Lieshout are completing the New Horizon project of the development of the "Family Take Home Kits". Completion of project scheduled for January 15, 2018. Distribution scheduled for end of January or early February 2018

Upcoming:

- Development of more curriculum to match daycare themes
- Continue language certification through Yukon College. Will begin Part 1 this month and Part 2 in April for the Master Apprentice and Mentorship program. I have completed year 1 dealing with Literacy
- Continue to look for funding. Announcement from the Government of Canada this past year looks good for the continuance of revitalization of the First Nation languages in 2019
- Work towards full immersion of the language
- Start language programming with the After School Program and possibly the Summer Camp. Waiting on the Education Coordinator to meet
- Meet with the printers in Whitehorse by the end of January

#### **HEALTHY LIVING COORDINATOR**

Tralee Macdonald—Coordinator

Present:

- Piper arrived
- Worked with CYFN Finance to ensure ASETS reporting was up-to-date and accurate
- Assumed responsibility for the delivery of the After-School Program (we are talking about finding a new name for this).
- Looking to incorporate more Cultural activities into this program (i.e. Language Lessons and traditional life skills)
- Will continue to work with Kluane Lake School

Future:

- Will be attending education meetings on behalf of KFN
- Participate in Annual Muskrat camp
- More is still in the works

#### **PWMS UPDATE**

##### **HOUSING**

- Teacherage to come on stream April 1st
- Received house plans for Copper Joe, will order them as soon as possible
- Renovations are going good
  - The crew has started insulating floor at #20 Sedata
  - #2 Tanana is almost complete
  - Will hire students for summer programs

##### **PUBLIC WORKS**

- Gym has received occupancy
  - Number of issues with the gym like plumbing, small electrical, frozen pipes; security cameras are being looked at by 3 contractors
- Water truck slated for delivery in April
- Sewer truck in May
- Fuel tank upgrades in May
  - Will order 60 tanks
- Order for next season
- Update the Water Treatment Plant
  - Pump rebuilt as soon as possible
- Well upgrade for the teacherage and 4-Plex
- Reinstall water line underground (Admin building and Water Treatment Plant)
- Repair the water lines for the Admin building and reinstall the broken line on the pitless adapter at the Water Treatment Plant

## NEW INTRODUCTION TO THE WELLNESS & EDUCATION STAFF



Áyǫzhì Sharda Ayotte-O'Connor úúye, my name is Sharda Ayotte-O'Connor. Since mid-November, I have been learning a lot as the new Education Support Coordinator at Kluane First Nation. I am from Whitehorse, where I studied Southern Tutchone at the college. My mother Marina Ayotte lived in Burwash Landing for nearly a decade before I finally came to visit and found out that it is a Southern Tutchone community. In 2016, I moved here myself to learn more native language. I am grateful that the elders and community I have met have been so gracious and generous in sharing their knowledge.

My past experience was in administration and legal assistance. However, in the last year and a half here I started working in education at Kluane Lake School, first as a substitute teacher and then as an education assistant. I wanted to be somebody that the students could use simple everyday native language with, outside of their language classroom. I am very excited to continue to do this in my new position, working with the Kluane Lake students every day, and to now use my administrative skills to advocate for their continued successes.

Tashàwn(dh)!

## NEW INTRODUCTION TO THE GOVERNANCE STAFF

Hi everyone, my name is Tracey Hunter (or as most of you have come to know me "Taylor's mom"). I am incredibly happy to be working here at KFN. I am working in the Governance office alongside Nichole Williams, and under the Direction of Lisa Badenhorst as the Implementation Project Assistant. I have been in this role since Oct 11 of this year so I am fairly green to the KFN office. So far I am really enjoying working here and find the job challenging as the position has been vacant for a few months, but also very rewarding as I learn the ropes. Everyone has been extremely helpful with helping me out. Some of my duties are Citizenship applications, Elders applications, organizing and setting up meetings and working with boards and committees.

A little background, I moved here this year at the end of August. I was a born and bred in small town Southern Mb as a farm girl. Before I came here I worked for Richardson Pioneer as a grain merchant for 10 years but decided I needed a big change. So moved from the bald prairies to the beautiful mountains and thus far has definitely been a move for the better.

I have 3 children and as everyone knows a pretty rambunctious little granddaughter. I miss my 2 sons back home but it's great to be able to see my granddaughter every day.

It's been great working with everyone so far and I look forward to working with you all in the future.

Tracey

## LANDS, RESOURCES & HERITAGE UPDATE

### BASIC TRAPPER TRAINING WORKSHOP

The Basic Trapper Training Workshop, offered by Environment Yukon, was held in Burwash from November 16-20, 2017.

There were 4 participants. Ryan Sealy and Jean Legaré were the instructors. *Thanks for coming and offering the course in Burwash!*





### LANGUAGE AND CULTURE COORDINATOR UPDATE

Daníchn`e !

The salmon jarring workshop was a success, which was help on December 8 & 9, 2017 at the Jacquot Hall, with instructor Hazel Skookum. With only four (Christabelle Carlick, Heather Johnson, Herb Danroth and Geraldine Pope) in attendance who were dedicated to finish the big task of washing, cutting, putting into jars, and cooking. Thanks to the crew for a job well done!

The jars of fish were given to Elders of KFN and participants who attended the workshop. Again, thank you to the attendees for making this a great workshop.

Sheri Atlin, Language and Culture Coordinator



### THANK YOU TO DICKSON OUTFITTERS AND KLUANE OUTFITTERS FOR THEIR DONATION OF MOOSE MEAT TO KLUANE FIRST NATION!

The donation of moose meat from Dickson Outfitters and Kluane Outfitters was greatly appreciated. Traditional foods help to keep the community healthy, happy and full. Dickson Outfitters generously drop off the meat at the butcher in Whitehorse. Also thank you to the Wellness and Education Department for distributing meat to families.



BURWASH LANDING RECREATION COMMITTEE

## A Big Thank You to Everyone that donated to the 27th Annual Christmas Bingo!

- The Talbot Arm Motel
- Dickson Contracting
- Bob Dickson Construction
- Kluane Athletic Association
- Uplands mining
- Kluane Energy LP
- Chuck Exploration
- Rocking Star Adventures
- Midnight Sun Design
- DKRRC

THE DONATIONS HELPED TO MAKE THIS YEARS FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS!



COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY—DECEMBER 10, 2017





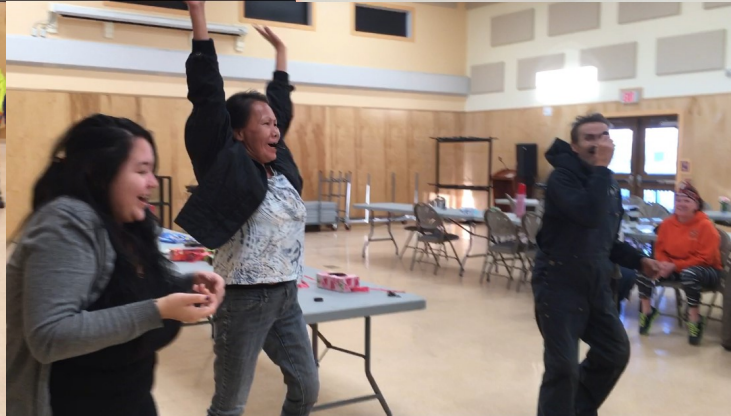




*Kluane First Nation wishes to extend a big THANK YOU to our sponsors support for another successful 2017 Community Christmas dinner on December 10th and KFN staff Christmas party on December 12th!*



*Air North  
ATCO Electric Yukon  
Boston Pizza  
B.Y.T.E.  
Dana Naye Ventures  
Dan Keyi Renewable  
Resource Council  
Friends of Mt. Sima  
Society  
High Country Inn  
Independent Grocer  
Nickel Creek Platinum*





# KFN STAFF CHRISTMAS PARTY—DECEMBER 12, 2017



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

Date/Time	Event
Every Wed. 12 PM	Community Lunch in the Youth & Elders room. All are welcome! A \$5 donation is appreciated.
Every Wed. 6:30 PM—8:30 PM	Sewing Night in the Youth & Elders room. All are welcome to join!
Every Tues. 4 PM—5 PM Every Thurs. 9 AM—10 AM	Southern Tutchone Language Lessons in the Youth & Elders room. Ends March 29, 2018.
March 19, 2018 11:00 AM—1 PM	Growing Tourism. Come out to the Jacquot Hall and share your thoughts on developing a made-in-Yukon strategy for sustainably growing tourism. Lunch is provided.
March 19, 2018 5:30 PM—8:00 PM	Grief Discussion Group Part 2. Youth & Elders room. Dinner is provided at 5:30 PM.
March 21, 2018 12:00 PM—1:00 PM	New Horizons Book Presentation during the Elders Lunch.
<b>March 30—April 3</b>	<b>Office Closure. KFN Administration offices reopens on April 4, 2018.</b>
April 9-13, 2018	Muskrat Camp at Lake Creek.
April 16, 2018 5:30 PM—8:00 PM	Grief Discussion Group Part 3. Youth & Elders room. Dinner is provided at 5:30 PM.

<b>Burwash Library Hours</b>	<b>Monday 10 AM—2 AM</b>	<b>Tuesday 12 PM—5 PM</b>	<b>Wednesday 11 AM—1 PM 4 PM—8 PM</b>
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All stories, articles, photos, and opportunities are welcome.

Please have the receptionist take your submission or you can email it to [reception@kfn.ca](mailto:reception@kfn.ca)

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