

# Këntra Täy

moccasin trail



# First Eyes



The Dawson City International Short Film Festival and DZCC present their annual program of aboriginal short films from Canada and around the world. On Saturday, April 7, (time TBA), we will screen a great program for you, including award-winning films *Choke* (voted a Top 10 Best Canadian Film), *Amaqut Nunaat* (Best Canadian Short Drama at Imaginative) and *Spirit of the Bluebird* (Best Short Documentary at Imaginative).

For more info check out [dawsonfilmfest.com](http://dawsonfilmfest.com).

13th Dawson City International Short Film Festival  
April 5-8, 2012

Klondike Institute of Arts And Culture  
PO Box 8000, Dawson City, Yukon Y0B 1G0  
867-993-5005

[www.dawsonfilmfest.com](http://www.dawsonfilmfest.com)

## COUNCIL STRUCTURE REVIEW

The Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Government is undergoing a **Council Structure Review**. A committee of citizens have been struck and wants to hear your thoughts on the **current Council structure**, including whether to implement a **fulltime Deputy Chief position**.

Please join us at the consultations sessions listed at right.

For more information, contact:

Wayne Potoroka (867-993-7108)  
Clare Devenish (867-993-7136).

Mähsi for helping us tackle these questions.

**March 15  
Dawson City  
TH Hall**

**1:00-4:30 p.m.  
5:30-7:00  
(Dinner served)**



**March 26  
Whitehorse  
Yukon Inn**

**1:00-4:30 p.m.  
5:30-7:00  
(Dinner served)**

**April 12  
Dawson City  
Community  
Support Centre**

**1:00-5:00 p.m.**



# WHO YOU LOOKIN' FOR?



## Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in PHONE DIRECTORY

993-7125	<b>Amanda Moffatt</b> Finance & Housing Clerk	993-7164	<b>James Titus</b> Cell: 993.3629 Elders Driver
993-7164	CS Receptionist/ Adm. Assistant <b>Andrea Moses</b>	993-7169	<b>Jeff Webber – Jason Henry</b> Fax : 993.2347 Maintenance Manager Cell: 993-3708/3595
993-7139	<b>Angie Joseph-Rear</b> Language Programmer	993-7137	<b>Jody Beaumont</b> Traditional Knowledge Specialist
993-7161	<b>Ashley Doiron</b> Education Manager	993-7104	<b>Jorn Meier</b> Cell: 993.3700 Director of IT
993.7167	<b>Aubyn O'Grady</b> 993. 5211 CO-OP Tutor- Teaching Assistance	993-7146	<b>Kim Sharp</b> Staff Training & Development Officer
993.7138	<b>Austen Gaven</b> Cell: 9933-3724 Asset Control Administrator Fax-993.592	993.7168	<b>Kris Janus</b> Community Health Representative
993-7106	<b>Bill Kendrick</b> Lands & Resources Manager	993.7113	<b>Lee Whalen</b> Heritage Officer
993.7159	<b>Bonnie Rear</b> Natural Resources Admin. Assistant	993.7151	<b>Lisa Anderson</b> Elders Support Worker
993. 7160	<b>Brian Willdey</b> Lands & Resources Officer	993-7149	<b>Loretta Warnsby</b> Manager of Social Programs
993- 7148	<b>Brenda Warren</b> Adult & Community Support Facilitator	993-7101	<b>Louise Drugan</b> Citizenship Registrar
993-7135	<b>Carmen Harris</b> A/P Procurement Administrator	993-7156	<b>Majida Lord</b> Finance Administration & Service Clerk
Cell: 993.3723	<b>CELC &gt; Jill Delaney &amp; Julia Jennings</b> RS School: 993.5435 ...	993-7166	<b>Marion Roberts</b> Social Assistance Administrator
993.7105	<b>Christopher MacLeod</b> Lands-Resources Assessment Coordinator	993-7111	<b>Melissa Atkinson</b> Employment & Training Officer
993-7136	<b>Clare Devenish</b> Executive Secretary	993-7124	<b>Michael Earl</b> Cell: 332.2102 Executive Director
993.7164	<b>Community Support</b> Lounge: 993.7152 Fax: 993.2329	993-7134	<b>Molly Shore</b> Executive Assistant
993-7119	<b>Dalores Roberts</b> Housing/Property Manager	993.7157	<b>Monina Wittfoth</b> Implementation Assistant –Justice
993.7129	<b>Damien Griffiths</b> Youth Enhancement Coordinator	993-7121	<b>Rachel Hunt</b> Collection Assistant
993-7171	<b>Darren Bullen</b> Land & Resources Office Trainee	993.7147	<b>Robb Beggs</b> Cell: 993.3701 Network Technician
993-7145	<b>Darren Taylor</b> Director of Natural Resources	993-7115	<b>Roberta Joseph</b> Fish & Wildlife Coordinator
993.7133	<b>Dexter MacRae</b> Director HR & Community Training	993-7127	<b>Ryan Peterson</b> Fish & Wildlife Steward
993.7165	<b>Diane Baumgartner</b> Manager of Health Programs	993.7112	<b>Sauna Kormendy</b> Human Resources Assistant
993.7155	<b>Dolores Anderson</b> Home & Community Care Coordinator	993-7122	<b>Shirley Peirson</b> Director of Finance- Capital & Housing
993- 7158	<b>Drea Nasager</b> Record & Supplies Officer	993-7144	<b>Sue Parsons</b> Collections Manager
993-7132	<b>Eddie Taylor</b> Hähkè/ Chief	993-7110	<b>Tim Gerberding</b> Director of Implementation
993.7153	<b>Erika Scheffen</b> Heritage Assistant	993.7126	<b>Vera Homes</b> Yukon Mine Training Coordinator
993.7109	<b>Frances Aitken</b> Senior Accounting Clerk	993-7123	<b>Victoria McLeod</b> Accounts Payables Clerk
993-5907	<b>Franny Krivensky</b> Director of Tr'inke Zho Fax: 993-5497	993-7108	<b>Wayne Potoroka</b> Director of Communication & Policy
993-7150	<b>Freda Roberts</b> Cultural Education Coordinator	993-5927 F: 993-5497	<b>Aboriginal Head Start</b>
993-5927	<b>Georgette Mc Leod</b> Aboriginal Headstart Coordinator/Teacher	993-6224	<b>Tr'ondëk Kitchen/Hall</b>
993-7162	<b>Gladys Netro</b> Special Events Coordinator	993-5907 F: 993-5497	<b>Trinke Zho</b>
993-6768	<b>Glenda Bolt</b> Dänojà Zho Manager	993-6495 F: 993-6553	<b>TH Youth Centre</b>
993- 7114	<b>Jackie Olson</b> Heritage Director	993.3721	<b>Benjie Peirson- CII Security</b>



# Chief Taylor's Update

by the planning commission is unacceptable. As your Chief, I will be doing all I can to protect this region. With your support, I'm confident the cultural and natural values of the region can be saved.

There are a number of land-planning processes happening in TH Traditional Territory. The Natural Resources Department is undergoing planning for our Category A and B lands and will be coming to the citizens for input. I encourage you to attend the community sessions as they occur, both in Dawson City and Whitehorse.

The Klondike planning region is also undergoing a territorial planning process, and I invite citizens to take advantage of the many opportunities presented by the Natural Resources and Heritage departments to provide feedback. I have heard people question their involvement given the Yukon Party government's approach to planning, as seen with the Peel River process. But please do not let this discourage you. Your input is valuable and absolutely critical if we want to influence the final plan for our area. For those of you who have already taken the time to participate, thank you for your involvement. It is important.

The mining season is just about underway. Our mining negotiation team has been busy meeting with companies operating in our territory to ensure our citizens and companies benefit from the latest boom.

The last General Assembly, in February, was well attended,

with plenty of positive discussion and direction. The biggest accomplishment at the GA was the passing of the *Activity Permit Enforcement Act*. This important law ensures TH terms and conditions for projects occurring on our land will be enforced. I'm very proud the GA acknowledged the need for this act and approved this important tool for protecting and monitoring projects on our settlement land.

We have found a new Executive Director for the TH government. Brent Ryan-Lewis (see right), a First Nations Manitoban, will join us at the end of March. There were 26 applicants for the position, and we are pleased our first choice has decided to be part of our team. Welcome aboard, Brent!

As we say *hello* to Brent, we also say *so long* to Micheal Earl. Michael leaves us after several years with TH. His plans will take him back to Ontario and closer to family. Michael served this First Nation with integrity and competence. His contributions have been appreciated, and we wish him all the best for the future. *Mähsi cho, Mike!*

If you have any questions or would just like to chat, feel free to drop by for a coffee. You can also reach me by phone at 993-7132 or our Executive Director, Michael Earl, at 993-7124.

May our Creator bless each and every one of you until we meet again. *Mähsi cho!*

Drin hqzq, citizens! It's been windy in Dawson City lately. Here's hoping its blowing an early, warm spring our way!

Spring and the summer seasons always bring more activity to our TH Traditional Territory, both on the land and in the government offices. Here's a few of the things we've been addressing in support of our citizens and their interests.

The Yukon Government has finally revealed their position on the Peel River Watershed plan. As expected, the Yukon Party government is advocating for more access for industry. What wasn't expected is their abandonment of several years of planning by announcing the eight principles that will alone decide the final Peel plan. The Yukon Party government had many opportunities to influence the plan during the Peel River planning process but chose not to. Their decision to scrap the process and a balanced plan recommended

TH is proud to announce the appointment of their new Executive Director, Brent Ryan-Lewis. Brent is a Status Indian and member of the Tootinaowaziibeeng First Nation, in Manitoba. He holds a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Calgary and has also studied at the Universities of Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

Brent has spent his last 12 years providing consulting services to First Nations governments and programs in

a wide variety of areas, including restructuring, business affairs, financial management, legislation interpretation, policy development, land management, program evaluation, and providing advice to various Chiefs, Councils, Tribal Council Organizations, and memberships. As Chief Executive Officer for Swampy Cree Holdings Ltd., of the Swampy Cree Tribal Council, he reported directly to the Board of Directors, which was composed of eight Chiefs representing their communities. Earlier career roles saw him as a Band Administrator, Research Analyst, and Legal Advisor.

Brian will be starting his new role as TH Executive Director on March 26, 2012. His wife Tiffany, daughter, and two sons are working with Brent on their plans to join him in making Dawson City their new home as soon as that can be arranged with their busy schedules.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2012 TR'ONDĒK HWĒCH'IN POST-SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Angela Amos  
Mindy Anderson  
Kassandra Bradley-Ginn  
Leeann Chudy  
April Coulson  
Tumara Everitt  
Jennifer Graham  
Lisa Hilsabeck  
Darcy McDiarmid  
Patricia McLeod  
Deneen Reti  
Sonya Tancock  
Amy Taylor

These students make us proud with their high academic achievements. Keep up the great work!



# Dǎ'òlè—THE LAW

by Jody Beaumont



*Traditional law is one of the most important aspects of Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in heritage. Over the next months (and probably years) we'd like to document this valuable knowledge so it'll be available to inform the*

*community about living, leading, and governing.*

*We'll be meeting with the Elders in the spring to discuss how best to approach this project and what we'd like to produce at the end. For example, the community may simply want the information recorded or put together in a book—it's wide open at this point. We look forward to your ideas.*

*There are many things to consider, so make yourself a cup of tea and have a read of the following information. Give me a ring or stop by for a chat if you have any questions or would like to discuss this project further.*

Dǎ'òlè refers to, as Angie Joseph-Rear puts it, “the way it is,” meaning the ways that people are expected to act—in everyday life as well as on special occasions. There is an element of Dǎ'òlè in every aspect of life, from daily activities like hunting, burials, and more. Dǎ'òlè can be hard to put your finger on because it's built directly into culture and often seen in the many actions that people take without even thinking about them—like standing for a prayer, taking your hat off at the dinner table, or being respectful of animals.

Dǎ'òlè is common to most cultures throughout the world. It's often referred to as customary law, common law, or traditional law. It includes a set of rules which guide people in all aspects of their lives. Dǎ'òlè is learned through customs, protocols, stories, and rituals. Consequences for breaking Dǎ'òlè are entrenched in social practices. Dǎ'òlè is sacred.



## YOUR TH HERITAGE DEPARTMENT

<b>Jackie Olson</b> , Heritage Director	993-7114
<b>Angie Joseph-Rear</b> , Language Coordinator	993-7139
<b>Lee Whalen</b> , Heritage Officer	993-7113
<b>Glenda Bolt</b> , DZCC Manager	993-6768
<b>Erika Scheffen</b> , Heritage Assistant	993-7153
<b>Sue Parsons</b> , Collections Manager	993-7144
<b>Alex Brook</b> , Heritage Site Coordinator	993-7121
<b>Rachel Hunt</b> , Collections Assistant (Term)	993-7121
<b>Kylie Van Every</b> , DZCC Gift Shop Supervisor	993-6768
	and Interpreter
<b>Jody Beaumont</b> , Traditional Knowledge Specialist	993-7137

Dǎ'òlè is based on a group of people's worldview and is often the way people express their worldview. *What the heck does worldview mean?*

*A people's worldview means the picture or vision they have, not just of their immediate surroundings, but of the universe and everything in it—the sun, the moon, the stars, the mountains and rivers, plants and animals, spirits, humans, other creatures and other worlds. Worldview means a peoples' understanding of how the many things that exist are related to one another. It also means a people's system of values—that is, their beliefs about what is good and what is bad. So it includes their beliefs about how they should act toward one another, toward other beings, and toward themselves.*

**From *Part of the Land, Part of the Water*, Catharine McClellan (pg. 250)**



*A wilderness diorama created by an RSS Grade 3 student.*

Worldview is expressed by the way people act. It gives order and meaning to life. Every cultural group in the world has a unique worldview. Each of Yukon's fourteen First Nations has a unique worldview, although they share many, many things in common. Worldview changes over time.

Worldview is very complex and sophisticated. The knowledge associated with worldview was highly valuable and was not shared lightly. Sharing of this knowledge might have involved some form of compensation. Some knowledge was only to be shared with certain people. (e.g., some knowledge was for men or women only.) Worldview was passed from generation to generation through storytelling. Traditionally, listening to and retelling stories were essential skills.

The following core values are part of the Yukon First Nations worldview and form the basis for rules of acceptable human behavior:

- Moderation and Balance – People should never overdo anything, in their behaviour or thoughts.
- Harmony – With the land, animals, spirits, and each other.
- Self-Reliance – Both men and women could, and had, to decide what the best thing to do was in any situation.
- Generosity – People must be helpful and share and cooperate with each other.

Worldview is expressed through the customs and protocols of a group of people. Customs and protocols include practices that are common to a cultural group and act as a set of rules for appropriate social behaviour. They are embedded within the culture and have been established for generations. Customs and protocols are generally a body of unwritten, but commonly understood,



*Jody models moosehide mitts for the Grade 2 Hän class.*

practices that “tell” people how to live. They reinforce people's beliefs and how they should act within their group, with other groups, and within themselves. Customs and protocols also provide a way to pass on cultural values from generation to generation.

The following examples provide a glimpse into the scope and nature of Yukon First Nations customs and protocols.

In Yukon First Nations culture it is customary to ...

- Say an opening and closing prayer at gatherings.
- Make an offering when harvesting resources.
- Treat all living things with respect.
- Live in moderation and balance.
- hold a potlatch or feast to celebrate rites of passage.
- Give a small gift to an Elder who shares their wisdom.

This is just the tiniest tip of the iceberg.



*A wilderness diorama created by an RSS Grade 3 student.*

## Check out the Story of Crow!



This animated film was created by some awesome youth with the help of the Heritage Department. You can link to it from [www.trondek.ca](http://www.trondek.ca).

## Examples of customs and protocols from all over the Yukon

- If a hunter kills too many bears or wolves, he will suffer from rheumatism in his old age.
- If a hunter makes fun of animals, he will have bad luck hunting.
- If a person is stingy with food, she will starve later on.
- If a person packed fish and freshwater at the same time, it would rain.
- If a young girl peeked out from under her puberty hood, storms would come.
- During an eclipse, women would tie gopher snares to their walking sticks and pretend they were going to snare the sun and pull it back into the sky.
- A knife could be used to “cut” the rain by sweeping it back and forth in the sky.
- When a baby was being born, the father would undo any tight strings or buttons on their clothing to quicken the delivery.
- Boys who ate young caribou would have wobbly legs and not be good runners.
- If a person died in the home, the body would not be removed through the main door to ensure the spirits of the living did not follow the spirit of the dead.



*A wilderness diorama with musk ox and bald eagles, created by an RSS Grade 3 student.*

## Words from Angie Joseph-Rear

Dà'òle`—It's the law. It's the way it is.

Dà'òle' was never written. It was just what you learned to respect as you grow. It's like the law. From a very young age we learn what is right, and what is not right, to say or do.

Some I remember is to always respect one older than you. Coming from a small village, we know now we listen to older people, as often our life depend on good teachings—never to play in the river. If we got caught (which we often did) any older person in the village will discipline us. We know we do wrong.

One most important was that when we lose a member in the village by dying, the village is quiet. All children were kept in the house quietly. We learn at a very young age. Nothing business-like was performed during that time. All your time was to be with the grieving family, help with preparation, etc. No children were allowed at the funeral service or at the burial. We learn at a very young age to also care for siblings younger than us. This was about respect. There are more that we learn, like respect for all animals, fish—we do not make fun of anything we eat.



*A wilderness diorama made from porcupine quills, created by an RSS Grade 3 student.*



## YESAA ASSESSMENTS AND HERITAGE

by Lee Whalen



At this point of the year, the number of projects applying for YESAA assessments goes through the roof as proponents get their ducks in a row for the upcoming field season. The YESAA assessment process looks at information

gathered during a certain period of time to determine the potential environmental and socio-economic effects of proposed activities. It also recommends whether the activities should proceed, proceed with terms and conditions, or not proceed. Within the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Government, a single set of recommendations is sent for each project with contributing comments from the Natural Resources and Heritage departments. These comments are compiled by the Natural Resources Department, which then submits the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in comments to YESAB for consideration. The majority of the projects that enter the system for assessment are placer and quartz applications, though all types of

development projects are considered.

The Heritage Department makes its best effort to prepare properly informed recommendations and comments for each project. The types of values we consider include the following:

- Contemporary cultural usage.
- Harvestable resources—such as wildlife, fish, plants—and their habitats.
- Migration routes, waterways, salt licks, calving areas, and traplines.
- Traditional medicines.
- Raw materials, such as bark, wood, stone, bone, fibres, and dyes.
- Place names and stories and where they connect with the land.
- Camps, trails, caches, and sacred and burial sites.
- Traditional knowledge.
- Archaeological and historic sites.

We are always seeking information and knowledge of current projects being assessed. Any help from TH citizens and Elders helps make our recommendations stronger. There's always an up-to-date map in the TH reception area with the current projects. The Natural Resources Department is also a good place to learn about projects currently in the assessment process.

In the Heritage Department, we're always open to discussing projects or concerns about specific areas so that we can include this information in our recommendations. It's something we do on a day-to-day basis. Your input ensures our recommendations better reflect citizens concerns.

Mähsi.

A tribute to the late and great JJ Van Bibber now hangs on the walls at the arena. Stop on by and have a read.



# ERIKA HIHE!

by Erika Scheffen



Since the new year, I've been learning the basics of Adobe Photoshop, Adobe InDesign, and Adobe Illustrator. This is my favourite part of the H.A.C.E.S. Program. With Photoshop, I'm now able to change the

colour, brightness, contrast; crop photos; edit photos; and take people out of pictures and place them in another document with a different background. Adobe Illustrator was my absolute favourite. You can create cartoons, portraits that look almost real, and design and draw documents. I started a cartoon portrait of Eminem that I haven't completed, and I think it looks awesome! Finally, with Adobe InDesign, I've learned that

this program is used to make books, magazines, posters, and so much more. With InDesign, it is basically finalizing the document, placing the pictures and text to where you would like it to be.

At the beginning of *Ch'ëts'ik Sranän* (Frosty Month—February), the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Hän Singers opened the Native Folklore Show 2012 at the Yukon Arts Centre, in Whitehorse. We had a successful performance with *Dechan ts'q''iqla'* (fifteen) performers! I'm so proud and happy for everyone that attended. I stayed and watched the rest of the show, and there was a group called Northern Cree who've been nominated for Grammy and Juno awards. Their performance make my heart melt like butter on a hot piece of bannock!

On *Ch'ëts'ik Sranän*, *Drin Dang* (Wednesday the 9th), Rachel Hunt, Frank Blanchard, Peggy Kormendy and I went out to *Zhur dik ts'q''chu k'ät tishäl*. We went up to Wolf Creek to get cold water for Elders. We snowshoed from the highway to where the hole is in the creek, and hauled the water back on snowshoe as well. I felt it was a good experience and a tough workout! It was beautiful weather, warmer then it was in Dawson.

## GETTING HEALING WATER ON THE DEMPSTER HIGHWAY

We started out at about 1:00 p.m. It took time to get going—we had to pick up water containers and one Elder—and then we were on our way to get water from wolf creek—it's healing water. On our travels we came on two grouse. It was the only game we see. When we got to the creek, the road was not ploughed, so I walked through the snow and cleaned snow from around the icehole. We had to walk on snowshoes to pack water out to the truck. Peggy helped out by watching out for us that we don't make a mistake. We filled 10 containers and covered the icehole for next time. It was a nice day to travel and +2° C. We got back about 6:00 p.m. and delivered the water. We were pretty sore and tired. I had a good sleep that night.



(Left) Frank Blanchard supervises as Erika draws a bucket of water from Wolf Creek. Frank joined the Heritage Department for a few weeks on a work placement as part of his Yukon College's Targeted Initiatives for Older Workers program. It was good having you, Frank!

(Right) Erika fills a bucket of healing water from Wolf Creek for delivery to Elders.





## DZCC GIFT SHOP

by Kylie Van Every



Hello everyone! How's everyone's winter going so far? Winter's been pretty nice to us, with all the warm weather we've had. With spring just around the corner, it's almost time to open for the season. Glenda and I are always busy, but this means we will be

super busy from here on out.

I'll be ordering, purchasing, and organizing gifts for our infamous Gift Shop. We must be prepared for the summer season that's approaching fast!

### GIFT SHOP

We'd like to welcome new sewers and artists. Please stop by and chat about opportunities to sell your work at DZCC.

Are there any items you'd like to see in our Gift Shop that we don't already sell? Please stop by; we are open to suggestions.

The Gift Shop is open Fridays from 12:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m. Come browse, shop, or chat over a cup of tea.

Do you or someone you know make crafted dolls? We're interested in purchasing dolls this year. (Our temporary exhibit is going to be a doll exhibit.)

### DZCC

We had a successful Valentine's Day program with the children. There seems to be some amazing artists out there.

We're on the hunt for borrowed items from DZCC. If you've borrowed skin dresses or any other materials, please return them in good condition to DZCC as soon as possible. Mähsi!

### Bits and Bobs

The Heritage and Culture Essential Skills Program grad will be Mar. 21, 2012. I'd like to thank Michael Edwards and Jody Beaumont for an amazing school year! I'd also like to thank Chief and Council and the Education Department for funding. The opportunity of education is the greatest gift!

Our last Hän-singing performance at the Native folklore was outstanding! Mähsi cho to all who attended this performance; you and your voice being there is what made it a successful event. We received a lot of good feedback; we should be proud. Great job Erika—you rocked it!

SPRING CARNIVAL WEEKEND COMING UP!  
SNOWSHOE BASEBALL ANYONE?

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
(FEB. 21)  
JOHN SEMPLE,  
OUR ELDER AND  
CO-WORKER!**



## LANGUAGE UPDATE

by Angie Joseph-Rear

Drin hqzq. I wish to extend acknowledgement to all who demonstrated good effort in hosting once again "Myth and Medium," the theme being "We Have a Story to Tell." Our gramma would say, "Änqy, shëdhinja. Shëhòndëk. (Come, sit with me. I'm going to tell you a story.)

Dänojà', our gramma told this story to me. So now, I am going to tell you.

You see, when you live in a small village you need to help each other. That is what we used to do long time ago. I know this story is true because my gramma told me. This one I tell you is about respect for animals, fish, birds, the land. Our food come from the land and water.

This old man and his grandson lived together. The old man took care of his grandson, and his grandson helped his grampa lots. We never had any store, so we had to rustle lots from the land. This is what the old man and the boy did. In spring, the ice broke in the river. Lots of wood float down, so they always watch and catch ones floating close to shore. They drag the wood up on shore and let it dry for wood for the winter.

All summer the two gathered all they need for the long winter—fish to dry, moose meat, caribou dried and stored, berries, lots of berries, ducks, geese, grouse.

In fall they had everything they needed. They relaxed drinking good Labrador tea. The old man heard lots of noises outside, so he sent his grandson to go out and check to see what the young guys were doing. He said, "It look like they have something and throwing it around." The young boy went out and came back to tell his grampa the young guys were tossing and throwing a frog to each other. Grampa said, "Foolish

boys. They shouldn't play with animal. Go back out there and take it away from them and put it back on the land where it come from."

That was what the grandson did. He took the frog from the foolish boys and put it down on the ground for it to get away. That winter, while the old man and his grandson had plenty of food stored and lots of wood, the other people in the village were not prepared. They had to rustle for wood everyday, and it was hard for they had to struggle in the deep snow. They never get any meat when they went hunting. They had lots of bad luck. Soon the people were hungry. The old man and the boy helped them but cannot help them any longer, so everyday an adult man will go out hunting but came back empty.

One day a young man went out because he was a little stronger than the others. He heard noises, talking, laughing, coming from somewhere. He stopped, listened and looked but could not see anyone. He heard lots of laughter again, so he hollered out for help. He said his people were starving and he needed food for them. The voices said, "You foolish people. You turn around and face other way. We're going to leave food for you to eat and then you can take some to your people. When you go to your village let all the young men know to come and bring their sleds with them. We're going to leave food here for you to take back to your village." The voice continued, "Don't try to find us. We don't want to mix with you foolish people." So that was what happened. The young guys came and there was lots of food for them—moose meat, caribou, sheep, fish, berries. Lots of food. They piled all the food on their sleds and took it back to the village and all the people were fed and were happy.

You don't make fun of fish or animals. You treat everything good. Don't be lazy and help each other.

Here are some language...

**Nghän ëja'nä'tr'ëtulël nindhän änjit  
dëch'äch'ät lëzrà dohsrù.**

*(That man used to jingle money in his pocket to show he wanted to play cards.)*

**Yä`dhint'ä?**

*(Did you win?)*

**Ëhë'; lëzra tsul dhit'ä`**

*(Yeah, I won a little money.)*

**Hqzq fihè tr'ädätr'ëhoh'äy.**

*(We work together well.)*

**Drin nè huzù'.**

*(Have a good day.)*





## NOTES FROM THE DESK OF GLENDA BOLT

### Dòk dänä srudè?

#### (Who is going to be my sweetheart?)

Robert Service School students spent many happy hours leading up to February 14 to answer or ask this very question. If you want to have your heart lightened and your hope and faith in human beings rejuvenated, I suggest hosting or attending a children's valentine-making afternoon. The activity begins with a Hän language lesson with Heritage Assistant Erika Scheffen and is followed by a creative, heart-studded, glitter and glue frenzy to find the perfect way to say *Nädqy nithän... I love you!*

I'm always filled with hope after hosting the Hän Valentine workshop. Our children are loving, thankful, wistful, humorous and generous. They shine when given the opportunity to express in a creative and unstructured way their worldview and heart's desire. Mähsi cho to the teachers and students who took part.

### Coming up!

The National Film Board of Canada is coming for a visit, Mar. 28–April 2. They'll meet with teachers and educators and showcase northern NFB films as a learning resource. There will be a public screening event Mar. 1 at DZCC. Watch for posters! Doors open 6:30 p.m.; showtime at 7:00 p.m.

Films include *Wild Life* (13 minutes), *Sunday/Dimanche* (9 minutes), *Vistas: Little Thunder* (2 minutes), *Stories From Our Land: If You Want to Get Married... You Have to Learn How to Build an Igloo* (5 minutes), *Lumaaq: An Eskimo Legend* (7 minutes), *Northern Games* (25 minutes), *Islet* (7 minutes), and *Nunavut Animation Lab: The Bear Facts* (3 minutes).

### Watch the Job Board in Human Resources!

Are you a proud Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in citizen? Do you like to meet and talk to strangers? Do you like hands-on-activities, hiking, and helping events get off the ground? Hqzq! So do we! We're anticipating an employment opportunity at DZCC this summer. If you're at all interested you should consider applying! 'Watch for the signs' and bring any questions you may have to Glenda at 993-6768.

### Dates have been set for Summer Exhibition

The *Sewing Our Traditions: Dolls of Canada's North* exhibition will open at DZCC May 23 and continue all summer, until Sept. 21. This highly acclaimed exhibition has been travelling Canada and overseas. The show is sure to delight and inspire anyone who can appreciate creativity, skill, and the time and patience it takes to create with skin, beads, fabric, and fur. We're so proud that Dolores Anderson's work has been included in the exhibition!

We're really looking forward to sharing this temporary exhibit with citizens, Dawsonites, and visitors to our community. Admission to DZCC is always free for TH citizens and their guests. Our entry fee is \$6.00 for adults. Be sure to mention it to your relatives and friends coming for Moosehide Gathering! They'll want to add DZCC to their busy Gathering schedule of events.

## Heritage events at a glance

Date	Event	Contact
Mar. 9	DZCC closes until May	Kylie 993-6768
Mar. 12–16	Language revitalization workshops in Whitehorse	Jackie 993-7114
Mar. 15–18	Thaw-Di-Gras spring carnival	KVA
Apr. 5–8	International Short Film Festival and DZCC First Nations Films Showcase	Glenda 993-6768
Apr. 17–19	Passing of Spring Camp with Elders	Jody 993-7137 Erika 993-7153
Spring 2012	Meeting with Elders to discuss Dä'òlè	Jody 993-7137



# Health on Top

by Diane Baumgartner Health Programs Manager

As I sit and write this article, it's snowing hard outside. But Spring is in the air and the seeds of ideas we've been nurturing in the Health Department are starting to unfold and grow. The staff are busy getting programs in place and citizens on board to take advantage of the longer daylight and warmer days. Health, nutrition, exercise, home visits, families, and culture are all finding a place in our activities. Please drop by the Support Centre, contact the staff, or look for posters for opportunities to participate in continued Health and Wellness.

Here are some of the things that have come across my desk in the last few months or were presented at the Health Commission meeting in January:

## Health in the Rural Communities

Paula Pasquali, Executive Director of YG Wellness Initiatives, and Jan Lanford, YG Wellness Policy Advisor, spoke of the findings from the *Health and Health-Related Behaviours among Young People in the Yukon* report, specifically responses from youth Grades 6–10. We're glad that most students feel they have reasonable resources within the family, have friends, and feel safe. Rural students reported eating more game meat and fish than urban students, but they also eat more sweets, candy, chips, and high-energy drinks. Another item of interest was that rural students, both boys and girls, didn't participate in as much physical activity during the day or week. Anything that we can do as a family member, friend, and community to role model and encourage our youth to eat healthy and move around will benefit us

all. Please stop by the Support Centre if you'd like to review the report.

## Community Nursing Update

Joy Kajiwara, the Director of Community Nursing, gave an update on programs, including 811

services, tele-health, vaccines, and the tobacco strategy. Our Health Department will be working with the Health Centre to develop a chronic-disease-management strategy for our community. They're also still working out what services will be offered in our new hospital, and Sandy Washburn, the Director of Health and Wellness for NND, has asked to be a part of the process since many of her citizens access health care here. I expressed my concern with what seems like a high rate of deaths from cancer in our community and asked Joy to supply me with statistics so we can put them in context and see trends.

## YTG Health

Sherri Wright, YG Health ADM, told us about the new walk-in clinic in downtown Whitehorse. The clinic has a doctor, nurse, receptionist, and a social worker. We suggested they employ an Aboriginal person to bring up the level of trust in clients using the clinic. YG has also opened a the Yukon Women's Clinic on the hospital campus, which offers prenatal, delivery, and post-natal service. They're already thinking of expanding, so I suggested they create a suites for expectant mothers coming in from the communities. Everyone agreed we need a safe and comfortable place in Whitehorse for our pregnant moms.





## FASD Research Project

Marilyn Van Bibber and Dr. Sterling Clarren are seeking support from the Yukon Government and Yukon First Nations for a FASD research project in the Whitehorse Correctional Centre. We all agree that many inmates are suffering from poor impulse control and other effects of this mental disability. We need to have the numbers so WCC can access money for appropriate programming and hopefully guide these affected people away from the justice system. Diagnosis can also lead to suitable supports in the home community. The project would be strictly voluntary. On the other hand, we know First Nation people are over-represented in the correctional system. We are firmly against any biased reporting or labeling and have insisted on First Nation representation on the Ethics Review Committee.

### NIHB

We're all probably aware of the latest change in medical travel: NIHB has declared that airfare tickets are too expensive and

everyone from Dawson must drive to Whitehorse for their appointments, whether they are a licensed driver or not. I hope that by the time this reaches you, this issue will have been settled as unacceptable and prejudicial to our citizens and medical-travel flight service resumed. But my crystal ball is hazy, and NIHB has a bad track record when it comes to service. Please be assured that your Health Department and Government have your well-being in our hearts and as our course for action.

The Health Department will be doing a mail-out in March to all citizens with a copy of the *Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Medical Travel Policy*, the *NIHB Medical Transportation Policy Framework*, and a booklet produced by AFN and FNIHB, *Your Health Benefits: A Guide for FN to Access Non-Insured Health Benefits*.



Well, my friends, I look forward to seeing you, either at the Support Centre, in a workshop, or on the street. I hope this finds you well and in good health and spirit. Please stop in or call if I can help or share more health-related information. Mähsi.

## Health Department Staff

Jim Titus - Elders' driver

Andrea Moses - Admin. Asst.

Dolores Anderson - Home & Community Care Coordinator

Kris Janus - Community Health Representative

Angela (Angie) Rear - Cook



# GET MOVING!

Monday & Wednesday Walking Group  
12:30-1:00

From the CSC

Tuesday and Thursday Exercise Group  
12:30-1:00

In the JH Hall

All are welcome!

*Are you looking to make a difference?*

The **Health and Social Programs Committee** is looking for two citizens to make recommendations about the wellness programs offered in Dawson City. It's a great opportunity to pitch in and make a difference in your community.

For more information, contact  
**Diane Baumgartner**  
at 867-993-7165.

**Dolores Anderson, Home and Community Care**

**Kris Janus, Community Health Rep.**

dolores.anderson OR kris.janus@gov.trondek.com

Dolores: 993-7155; Kris: 993-7168



# Community Health

**T**he Yukon Quest is the first sign of Dawson becoming active once again after a long winter. It sure was great to see so many people out and about, enjoying the fresh air.

We've started focusing our health-education programs on a monthly theme. January was Tuberculosis [TB] awareness month and February was Heart Month. These themes have been carried through the various programs and activities in the Health and Social Department.

Please watch for invitations and posters regarding upcoming activities. For more information, contact the Community Support Centre at 993-7164.

Kris and Dolores had the opportunity to attend the workshop for Home Management Skills; we touched on several topics, including professional handwashing. (Using a black light to see how well we were washing our hands was amazing. The time we spent washing was not near enough to get our hands clean.) This would be good for all to see and learn, as well as the importance of proper handwashing to prevent spreading germs. We also discussed basic home care for clients, Elder abuse, body mechanics, safety and comfort in the home for clients and workers, nutrition, label reading, and communicating and listening to clients.

## Diabetes

Each year, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in receives funding from the Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative Project. This funding is used to promote healthy lifestyles, prevent diabetes, and educate people living with diabetes. In the past, we've utilized this funding for land-based activities, equipment purchases, and in-house programs. If you'd like more info about these initiatives, contact Kris at 993-7168. We'd like to hear your ideas for these funds.

We're seeking opportunities to set up diabetes workshops at the request of citizens. If you have any suggestions, feel free to contact Kris at 993-7168.

Recently, Kris went to a diabetes workshop in Whitehorse. From this experience, a lunchtime exercise group has begun. Mondays and Wednesdays, the group goes for a walk, leaving from the Community Hall, 12:30 p.m.–1:00 p.m. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, we pick up the resistance bands and exercise in the Community Hall, 12:30 p.m.–1:00 p.m. All are welcome to join in!

## Family Support Program

We're hoping to increase the frequency of our family-support programs and drop-in activities, where we cover a diverse range of topics throughout the stages

of pregnancy, parenting, and childhood. Topics include nutrition in pregnancy, childbirth, addictions in pregnancy, infant nutrition, breastfeeding, stress management, family planning, and traditional parenting to name but a few topics. For more info or to share your suggestions, please contact Dolores at 993-7155.

We had a luncheon meeting with TH/CPNP parents and babies in February. There was a huge turnout at this luncheon and we came up with some great ideas, including drum and hat making and traditional parenting. The main suggestion was to have the opportunity to make a dress or vest for their child either for Headstart or the Moosehide Gathering. We started this workshop in February; there was a great turnout. This workshop will be held every Monday, 10:00 p.m.–noon, and Friday, noon–3:00 p.m. until the end of March. (We can arrange for more time if needed.)

## Health Connection

Health Connection is a drop-in program where we offer a relaxed atmosphere for you to ask any questions and meet with a registered nurse and community health workers. Various topics are covered and no question will go unanswered. Everyone is welcome. During these



sessions, there will be an opportunity to have blood pressure and blood sugars checked. If you have any questions or suggestions regarding this program, please contact Kris at 993-7168.

### Foot Care

We have a Foot Care Clinic every Wednesday from 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. Please call Kris (993-7168) or Dolores (993-7155) to book your appointment.

### Meals on Wheels/Soup Kitchen

Mäshi cho, cooks—to you and your wonderful volunteers for awesome meals provided everyday to our Elders, citizens, and community.

### Medical Policy

Chief and Council passed a revised *Medical Travel Assistance Policy*, which we're following very closely. We're also working with Non-Insured on medical travel.

Individuals who want to receive a Medical Travel Advance Loan are responsible to pick up their travel forms from the nursing station and bring to Community Support. Before the loan goes to Finance, it needs to be signed by both the individual and the employee authorizing the advance.

A few guidelines:

1. Requests must be signed by the individual receiving the advance.
2. Requests must be signed by the TH employee authorizing the advance.
3. A Request for Invoice to NIHB must be attached to requests and signed by the TH employee authorizing the advance.
4. All requests must have the

Health Canada backup attached. (Claimant Reimbursement form and Appointment Attendance Confirmation form.)

5. The individual receiving the travel advance must return the Appointment Attendance Confirmation form with a signature from the doctor's office.
6. If the request is for a medical escort, it must be signed by the escort and TH employee authorizing the escort.

If the travel has already taken place, there cannot be any Medical Travel Advance Loan authorized.

### Home Support

Ti'ondëk Hwëch'in home support services are available upon medical evaluation by a home-care nurse. A Home Support Worker can be provided to those citizens who have a chronic illness, short-term surgery recovery, and other special circumstances. If you need assistance and would like to find out if you or



your family member is eligible for this program, please contact Dolores at 993-7155.

Kris and Dolores will also be routinely scheduling home visits with Elders, citizens who may be in need of assistance, pre- and postnatal clients, and citizens who have questions or concerns regarding health issues. If you'd like one or both of us to drop by and visit, please contact Kris at 993-7168 or Dolores at 993-7155.

### Workshop

In January, Michelle Godwin and guest speaker "Jim" presented a workshop on HIV and hepatitis C. Michelle will be back March 19 holding another workshop on HIV and hepatitis C for women. Door prizes and a light supper will be served. Please contact Kris at 993-7168 if you need more information.

## HIV & HEP C WORKSHOP

March 19, 2012

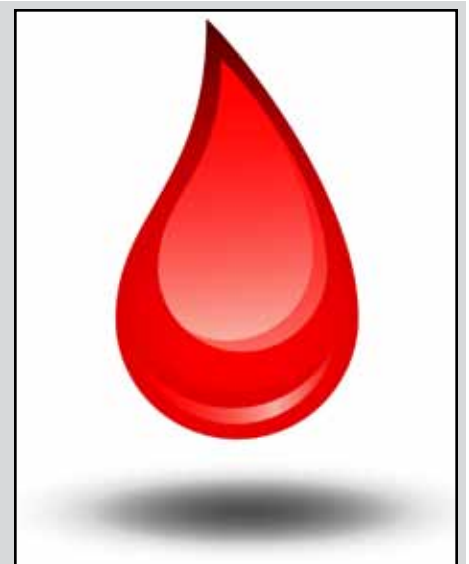
5 p.m.–7 p.m.

Community Support Centre

Women Only

Door prizes

Light supper



**Jill Delaney and Julia Jennings, CELCs**  
jill.delaney OR julia.jennings@gov.trondek.com  
Direct Line 993•3723



## Education

**D**rin hqzq!  
It has been an excellent start to the new year at Robert Service School. Spirits are high as the sun has made its comeback and beams onto the school grounds and the town.

Below are updates on what's happened in the school since last we wrote. We're always eager and delighted to be approached with new ideas by Elders and citizens. Mähsi cho to everyone who helps to enrich the experiences of RSS youth!

### **Elementary CELC Update** by Jill Delaney

It's been busy as usual at RSS! Students finished off the fall term of this school year with a few Christmas beading projects and a "Winter Walk to Moosehide." In preparation for this Christmas concert, the elementary classrooms were treated

with a visit from Elder Angie Joseph-Rear, who shared happy memories of Christmas at Moosehide. The concert was a success and even included jigging by the Gr. 4 class!

The elementary music classes spent time in January getting back into jigging with Victor Henry, Tanner Sidney, and Allison Anderson. Victor and Tanner are leading a weekly after-school jigging club for RSS students. They're really starting to pick up on the dances!

Physical Education teacher Steve Laszlo gave Gr. 4 and 5 students an opportunity to try their skills at traditional northern games before Gr. 5 students went to the Polar Games in Whitehorse.

The Gr. 3 class recently completed a unit on Yukon animals. Peggy Kormendy and Ryan Peterson talked to the students about trapping, furs, and how the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in

traditionally interacted with various Yukon animals. Each student was researching a different animal, and many were excited to see and touch the fur of the animal they were studying.

Frank Blanchard and Jody Beaumont brought a variety of beautiful handmade items for the Kindergarten students to check out as they launched into a unit on traditional clothing in the Hän classroom. The students enjoyed learning about how hides and furs are readied for use but got even more enjoyment out of trying on the hats, mitts, mukluks, and clothing.

Grades 2, 3 and 5 were invited by the Dänojä Zho Cultural Centre to make Häntines (Hän Valentines) with Erika Scheffen, Kylie VanEvery, and Glenda Bolt. Following a language lesson by Erika, students were encouraged to draw on their creativity and imaginations to make unique Häntines with the message *Nädaynithän* for their Valentines.

The second session of the Elementary Curriculum Enrichment Program on Wednesday afternoons wrapped up. The students in the Traditional Hän Crafts and Singing group created beautiful beaded broaches and had fun practicing the "Ross River Song" and the "Grandma Song." For their final session, they visited the Myth and Medium hands-on workstations to



Angie Joseph-Rear telling the "Story of Starvation" to Gr 2.  
— Photo by Jill Delaney





*Peggy Kormendy and Ryan Peterson speak to Gr. 3 about animal furs.  
– Photo by Jill Delaney*

teach Hän language games to event participants.

To celebrate Myth and Medium, Angie Joseph-Rear came to the Kindergarten to Gr. 5 classrooms to tell the story of starvation and talk to the kids about storytelling as a tool for learning. Angie also visited the music classes to discuss the traditions around local music and dance. Myth and Medium speaker Julie Cruikshank reinforced the idea of stories as tools for learning while addressing Gr. 1 to 6 by sharing “The Boy Who Stayed with Fish,” a story told to her by Tagish storyteller Angela Sidney. The Gr. 5 class wrote their own legends to share with participants of Myth and Medium. A few students even worked on Hän language raps to compete in the Myth and Medium “Hän Language Throw-Down.”

A very sincere Mähsi cho to all of who have helped with the amazing programming delivered to our young RSS students.

Finally, Robert Service School is excited to announce they’ve been granted a World Wildlife Fund Green School Grant for “Project Take it Outside” to build an outdoor classroom on RSS school grounds. Students will take part in designing,

naming, building and installing the outdoor classroom. If you’d like to contribute or be involved in this project in some way, please contact Melissa Hawkins, at Melissa.

Hawkins@yesnet.yk.ca, or me, at Jill.Delaney@gov.trondek.com.

Please check out this link for a little bit more information on this exciting project: <http://wwf.ca/takeaction/greengrants/yukon>.

### **High School CELC Update by Julia Jennings**

Despite the cold snaps and the dark, December through February has been full of great opportunities for the high school students at RSS, both inside the school and out. The Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre offered consistent programming for the youth right through the fall and into the month of December. The Yukon First Nation Studies class participated in several interesting programs at DZCC, including an artistic presentation by Mi’kmaq artist Ursula A Johnson. She performed a dramatic account of one of her favourite traditional stories, followed by an art project. The class also had the opportunity

to participate in one of Fran Morberg-Green’s famous Tea Talks—an inspiring presentation that highlighted the importance of being familiar with plants and their healing properties. She expertly held the attention of the large group and offered samples of teas and jams at the end. The presentation was enjoyed by all!

We were happy to welcome several TH employees and citizens into the school to present to the Yukon First Nation Studies class. Sis Van Bibber came in to discuss the clan system and was happy to answer questions about TH culture and traditions. Jody Beaumont, the Heritage Department’s Traditional Knowledge Specialist, came to share general TH history, focusing on self-government. Both Sis and Jody’s presentations were excellent and left the class with lots to think about. It was wonderful to see the youth asking questions and discussing issues with their presenters as a small group.

Since the beginning of the new year, there has been a focus in the high school on healthy living and making healthy choices. In mid-February, Amelia Merhar, the Health Promotion Worker from Blood Ties: Four Directions, presented to the Health and Careers classes.



*Victor Henry giving jigging instruction to the Gr. 1 music class.  
– Photo by Jill Delaney*





*Firemaking demonstration with John Flynn at the location of the future WWF outdoor classroom on RSS school grounds.*

*— Photo by Jill Delaney*

She spoke about HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C. The presentation was a good mix of important information and fun activities and discussion. We were also lucky to have Anne Aram, a representative from the Health Promotions Unit in Whitehorse, present the “Knowledge Exchange Workshop” to the high-school students. In 2010, the group put out a survey dealing with health-related behaviours among young people in Yukon. The purpose of this workshop was to share the survey findings. Mähsi to the

presenters for making the trip—it is very important our youth receive guidance in making healthy choices.

This January/February, the Natural Resources Department held the premiere First Trapper Culture Camp. The camp was run over several weekends. The seven youth gathered for an orientation day, where they were given an overview of trapping regulations and safety measures by Ryan Peterson, Roberta Joseph, and C.O. Kevin Johnston; an interesting talk about life on the trapline by Peggy Kormendy;

and demonstrations with Bruce Taylor. A couple weekends later, the group gathered at Peter Nagan’s for an afternoon of learning skidoo maintenance, survival skills, proper gear for the bush, and more practice setting traps. Two more sessions followed, where youth headed out on skidoos to set and check traps, and bring animals back to skin.

The camp was a success, and the youth look forward to the First Trapper Camp becoming a regular winter activity. Mähsi to Roberta, Ryan, Bruce, and Pete for putting together an excellent camp!

The Gr. 9/10 phys.-ed. class has been getting outside this winter for skiing and snowshoeing. Twice a week, the group heads out to learn new skills and practice their technique on the beautifully groomed trails on the river. A ski day to Moosehide is in the works. Stay tuned for photos in the next newsletter. Mähsi cho to Cathie Findlay-Brook for her hard work organizing the ski program at RSS!



## THE MOUNTAINS ARE BECKONING ...

Ddhäl Ch’èl Cha Nän [among the ragged mountains]

Do you find yourself wishing you could spend more time in the mountains? Tombstone Territorial Park is only a short drive away! Yukon Parks is developing a program to encourage Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in citizens to come out and enjoy the park this summer.

A series of visits and planned activities will be hosted every Tuesday from June 5 – August 28, 2012. We will celebrate the seasons with activities such as grayling fishing and berry picking. As well, certain activities will focus on youth—wilderness survival, leave no trace, edible foods. (A calendar will be in the next newsletter.)

Transportation will be provided in conjunction with various Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in government departments.

Plan on coming to the park this summer, and bring your mug for tea at the fire circle!

**Any questions, please call Cathie Findlay-Brook at 993-7899 or send an email to Pamela Brown (Pamela.Brown@gov.yk.ca).**



One of the roles of the TH Education Department is helping students and their parents/guardians work towards a successful career at RSS. There are times TH Education personnel needs information about your children to be passed by the RSS administration team to us. Without this open communication, it's impossible to work directly with your child.

In order to serve your child and you, we ask that you complete the

below form and return it to either Reception at the TH Building, Community Support Centre or the Main Office at RSS.

Please ensure there is one form for each child and you initial beside the name(s) of those members of the TH Education Department you wish to work with yourselves and your child.

If you have any questions or require further clarification, please contact myself, one of the CELC's or the RSS principal.



Ashley Doiron  
Education Manager

**Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Education Team  
Authorization for Disclosure of Student Information**



Name of Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Contact #1</b>	<b>Contact #2</b>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
Telephone (Hm): _____	Telephone (Hm): _____
Telephone (Wk): _____	Telephone (Wk): _____
E-mail: _____	E-mail: _____

Understanding the role of the Education Manager and the CELC's, I give consent for the use of Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Education services and supports in matters that directly involve my child and Robert Service School. I also give the Yukon Department of Education, as represented by Robert Service School, permission to give information about my child to the TH Education Team. This may include academic, behaviour, discipline, and attendance data.

Please initial beside the name(s) of the TH Education Team members that you wish services from:  
 Ashley Doiron – Education Manager \_\_\_\_\_  
 Julia Jennings – CELC Grades 7 – 12 \_\_\_\_\_ Jill Delaney – CELC Grades K – 6 \_\_\_\_\_

**This agreement covers the period of January 1, 2012 to June 30, 2012 and can be terminated at any time by the Parent/Guardian with a written or verbal request to the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Education Team or Robert Service School.**

Parent/Guardian Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return the completed form to the Reception at the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Administration Building, Community Support Centre or Robert Service School.**

**For further information about this form, please contact:**

**Ashley Doiron – TH Education Manager at 993-7161 or ashley.doiron@gov.trondek.com**

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Government PO Box 599. Dawson City, YT. Y0B 1G0 Phone 867-993-7100 Fax 867-993-6553 Email firstname.lastname@gov.trondek.com Web www.trondek.ca



**Dalores Roberts, Housing & Property Manager**  
dalores.roberts@gov.trondek.com  
Direct Line 993•7119

# Housing

## **Carbon Monoxide Poisoning**

Since the tragedy in Whitehorse, we've all been on high alert for carbon-monoxide (CO) poisoning. CO is a toxic gas. It's colourless, odourless, tasteless, and, initially non-irritating, which makes it difficult to detect.

Symptoms of CO poisoning are much like the cold or flu and include lightheadedness, confusion, and headaches.

Sources of household CO include faulty furnaces, wood-burning stoves, propane-fueled equipment, electrical generators, and vehicle exhaust.

Your best protection against CO poisoning is an operational CO detector. (Some CO detectors

come bundled with a smoke detector.) It is vitally important that you ensure your CO detector is working. If you feel it isn't working properly, call us. We'll be happy to come and check it out and fix it if necessary. (Jeff has access to an air-quality detector from the Fire Department that detects CO, oxygen, and explosive and neutral gases.)

If you'd like to learn more about CO poisoning, there are many resources available online, including [www.endthesilence.ca](http://www.endthesilence.ca).

As well, you can always contact the Housing Program to learn more. Keeping our tenants safe is a priority for our program and our First Nation.

## **Have an after-hours emergency with your home?**

If you have a problem with your TH housing unit after 5:00 p.m. and before 8:00 a.m. or on weekends or holidays, please call

**993-3738**

They'll be happy to help.



## **Housing Committee Members Needed**

**Citizens are needed to sit on the Housing Committee for a two-year term. (Due to the nature of this committee's work, only Dawson-based citizens should apply.)**

**The Housing Committee meets as needed to hear appeals of decisions made by the Housing Management Team. For more information or a committee application, contact Dalores Roberts (993-7119).**



Franny Krivensky, Tr'inke Zho Director

trinke@gov.trondek.com

Direct Line 993•5907



# Childrens' Programming

**O**ur new van has finally arrived! It's big, blue, and beautiful. Mähsi cho to Clara Van Bibber for securing the funds from Health Canada before her retirement from Aboriginal Head Start. James Roberts was the first to drive it, and Clara was the second. The Finance Department also contributed to the cost of the new van, as the green van will now be Kevin's in Housing.

Our preschool children all completed the six-week Learn to Skate program. The City of Dawson Recreation Department taught

preschoolers basic skating skills twice a week. The children are now happy to put their skills to the test and teach us teachers at our twice weekly skates on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

The children enjoyed the Yukon Quest and cooking our annual treats for the mushers. Neither darkness nor cold has kept us from playing outside—it has been a great winter for snow hills!

We were honoured by a wonderful guitar, fiddle, and flute concert in December by Ed Peekeekoot. The

children loved how he made train sounds with his wooden flute. In February, we were treated to a 45-minute fiddle concert by Gordon Stobbe. Everyone is welcome to attend our concerts in the Tr'inke Zho gathering room. Mähsi cho to Peter Menzies who arranges all the concerts for the children and families to experience.

Many of the staff are working very hard to continue their education. Many are completing up to two Early Childhood Education courses this semester. Four of the staff members are enrolled in Interpersonal Communications, which they fought hard to have here in Dawson with a real teacher, as all the classes take place at night and always over video conference. I applaud the staff for all their hard work and commitment to furthering their education.

The next team visit from the Child Development Center from Whitehorse is March 26–28. They have an excellent "Follow Along" program for children up to age 5.



*Franny entertains her kids with a puppet show.*

## From the mouths of babes

- "Diesels can be devious"—Three-year-old talking about trains.
- Two four-year-old children talking while getting dressed for outside—Child A: "I can do my own snow pants!" Child B: "Me too 'cause I have been doing it for years!"

- Gordon Stobbe the fiddler player asked the kids to make a variety of farm animal sounds and then to "make a sound of a fish." A child said, "A farmer doesn't have fish."
- "Trust is the only thing you cannot put back together."—Three-year-old.



**Top Left:** Georgette McLeod raps in at the Myth and Medium celebration. Along with Erika Scheffen, Georgette performed the rap almost entirely in Han. A link to their performance is available at [www.trondek.ca](http://www.trondek.ca). Watch for photos of Myth and Medium in the next Heritage newsletter.

**Bottom Left:** Mindy Anderson, Billy Farr, and Fiona Farr are happy to announce the arrival of Lillian Maria Lynn Farr. She was born on February 18 at 9 lbs 3 oz. Welcome to our newest TH citizen!

**Top right:** It was almost a full house for the first General Assembly of 2012. Citizens gave direction on a number of issues and passed TH's fifth law, the *Activity Permit Enforcement Act*. This important piece of legislation ensures the TH government can enforce the terms and conditions for projects affecting settlement land. For a copy of the law, contact Darren Taylor at 867-993-7145.

**Bottom Right:** Peter Nagano and Bruce Taylor a group of youth the ins and outs of snow machine. Peter and Bruce were a big reason the premiere First Trappers programs was such a success. Hats off to the Natural Resources Department, especially Roberta Joseph and Ryan Peterson, and Peggy Kormendy for this incredible learning opportunity.



**Do you have news that we should know about or a picture you'd like to place here?  
Call or email!**

**Wayne Potoroka • 867-993-7158 • [wayne.potoroka@gov.trondek.com](mailto:wayne.potoroka@gov.trondek.com)**





**Peggy, Steve Sr., and all the family would like to say 'thanks' for the support and help received during Jackie and Linda's services and dinners. It was appreciated.**

# Mae McDonald (nee Flynn)

May 1, 1917 – February 27, 2012



Mae was the eldest child of James Flynn and Jennie (nee Jack) and the granddaughter of Chief Marsh Lake Jack of the Wolf Clan in the Marsh Lake area.

Mae went to school with her siblings in Dawson City and lived at the Anglican hostel. When WWII came along, Mae joined the Army, where she met Roddie, her future husband. The two eventually settled in Quesnel, B.C., but Mae always considered Dawson City her home and came north often to visit relatives in Southern Yukon and her brother Jack Flynn until his passing. Mae's last visit was two years ago.

Mae is survived by her husband Roddie, daughter Carol, son Earl (Crystal), sister Isabelle (Lawrence), and grandchildren Wade and Tara. She is predeceased by her parents and siblings Nellie, John (Jack), Ray, and Michael (Mickey).

Mae was buried in Quesnel on March 5 with full military honours.

# OPEN

The Community Support Centre is open 8:30-5:00, Monday-Friday. Drop by, have a tea, and get to know the Health and Social Team.

We have a large selection of education materials for loan and can assist with finding additional resources or answering any health questions you may have.

If you need a hand, just ask.

## EDWARD JOHN 'JACK' WHITEHOUSE



FEBRUARY 5TH, 1940 - FEBRUARY 26, 2012

**A Memorial Service will be held 6:00 PM at the Transportation Museum on Saturday, March 3rd.**

Jack was born in Dawson City, Yukon Territory to lifelong Yukoners Irene and Ed Whitehouse. Jack was predeceased by the love of his life, his wife Nona Maybel Clarke (1986) and son Clark Edward Whitehouse (2003). Jack is survived by his children Brad Edward Whitehouse and Jenny Irene Whitehouse both of Whitehorse, Yukon as well as Dean Edward Whitehouse of Vancouver B.C. and grandchildren Nona and Connor Whitehouse of Whitehorse, Yukon. Jack is also survived by his sister Shirley Read (Fred) and niece Jacqueline Read of Santa Rosa California, nephew Peter Jensen (Grethe) and their children Peter Joe, Trygg and Line all of Whitehorse.

Jack was known for his great sense of humour and the pranks he pulled on his many friends and family. He loved having young people around and mentored many. An avid radio-controlled model airplane enthusiast, Jack always had an RC Model Airplane magazine with him. A well-read man, Jack could hold a conversation with anyone for hours and hours.....

At this time the family wishes to extend a personal thank you to Dr. Iain Seal, the staff of the Surgical Ward, and the First Nations Health Program at Whitehorse General Hospital for their kindness and extraordinary service.

A memorial service will be held in Jack's honour at the Yukon Transportation Museum, at 30 Electra Crescent (next to airport) in Whitehorse Yukon, at 6:00pm Saturday March 3rd, 2012. A celebration dinner will be served following the service. Please join the family and share your memories.



# CALLING THE NEXT GENERATIONS OF TR'ONDEK HWĒCH'IN!



We're getting excited about the upcoming Moosehide Gathering! It's our 11th, and each one just keeps getting bigger and bigger! While they keep getting larger, it's important to remember how and why it started and who the "trailbreakers" were. (See Angie Joseph-Rear's "Moosehide Gathering logo" submission at right.)

The original group of citizens who started the Moosehide Gathering are now (mostly) our Elders. We feel it's time for the next generations to step up and, with the guidance of our Elders, continue the legacy of the Moosehide Gathering—to revitalize and showcase our Hän songs, dances, traditions, and culture, while welcoming visitors to our beautiful traditional territory.

We invite you to take your pride, passion, and energy and join us in making what the people of Tanacross and other areas used to say way back in the days of our ancestors: "The people of Moosehide had the best gatherings and people from all over attended!"

**Want to get involved?** Join the Steering Committee! Not really into meetings? Come and see us about what you're passionate about—gift giving, fundraising, raffles, merchandising, daily potlatches, entertainment, boat driving, assisting our Elders.... We'll fit you in wherever you'd like!

**Why get involved?** To instill pride and joy in ourselves, our family, our nation, and our ancestors watching over us. Lead the next generation by example and keep Hän culture alive and share it with our visitors!

**How do I get started?** Gladys Netro is the 2012 Moosehide Gathering Coordinator. Feel free to stop by her office (in the TH Admin building) or come find us. Stop us on the street if you want to! We'll share ideas, figure out what needs to be done, and work together to make it happen at the 2012 Moosehide Gathering, Aug. 2–5.

In Unity,

Bonnie Rear and Kylie Van Every

## JJ Van Bibber's Legacy Project "I Was Born Under a Spruce Tree"

Grandpa JJ's book is in its final stages of becoming a reality. But for this book to come to life, we need to raise \$30,000 for layout, design, editing, printing, and distributing 1,000 copies.

It's an amazing book that Grandpa JJ worked very hard in producing, and he is very proud of it. It has many of his beautiful photos and wonderful stories, and pictures drawn by grandson Shane Van Bibber.

Your generous contribution would be a wonderful gift to JJ Van Bibber.

Any contributions or profits exceeding our goal of \$30,000 will be put towards the JJ Van Bibber documentary and photo exhibit. If there is still money left over, we'll donate to a group in JJ's name.

If you wish to contribute, you can make a cheque out to Shannon Van Bibber and drop off at Nora's Kitchen in Dawson City (directly to Nora) or mail to my address—we will issue receipts.

33B Dieppe Drive  
Whitehorse, Yukon  
Y1A 3A9

I've opened a separate bank account under my name. For those who contribute and wish to see accountability, I can report on the status of JJ Van Bibber Legacy Project.

We want to keep this simple, so I've not registered as a non-profit—any contributions will not be tax deductible.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to call me at (867) 332-1784.

Thank you,

Shannon Van Bibber



## Moosehide Gathering Logo

Bringing back our culture began its journey at the 1991 Yukon Aboriginal Language Conference. TH participants at the conference included Percy Henry, Archie Roberts, Clara Van Bibber, Rowena Flynn, Gerald Isaac, Steve Taylor, Pat Simcox, Maureen Birkel (Olson), Donna Darbyshire (Barber), Joan Cole, and Angie Joseph-Rear.

At the conference, the group identified bringing back the Hän songs and dances into the cultural lives of the Hän people as an important goal. Other goals were aimed at revitalizing “Our Way of Life.”

The following are some of the steps taken in this journey.

**May 1991** – A weekend camp was held in Moosehide to bring people back together to enjoy the company of each other. The camp was well attended, and everyone shared chores, food, stories, games, laughter, and good times. Food from the land was harvested, and a feast and entertainment was held on the Sunday. All resources were shared among all, so we never depended on our FN to provide.

**1991–92** – A group of our people travelled to a Tanacross gathering to observe and learn ways to host a big gathering.

**1992** – A “Gathering of Relations” was held at Eagle, Alaska. A group of our people attended to celebrate and observe and learn ways to host a big gathering. We met Laura Sanford, who sang and drummed for us. She led the people of our area in singing and dancing as the songs she sang were ours and we needed to learn them. I remember Archie, Gerald, and myself were not shy to get up and join them.

Based on our commitment at the language conference, we dwelled on the idea of one day hosting a big

gathering at Moosehide. We were told by people of Tanacross and other areas the people of Moosehide had the best gatherings and people from all over attended.

**1993 (The Go Ahead)** – We decided it was time for a gathering. Short notice! A group of people gathered to brainstorm and plan a gathering. Some of the people who joined together were Archie Roberts, Marion Roberts, Jenny Christiansen, Linda Christiansen, Victor Henry, Edith Henry, Gerald Isaac, and Angie, with Kelly as a resource.



The theme for the gathering was to be “GATHERING OF TRADITIONS,” and the intent was to always honour an individual from our First Nation. We honoured Elder Martha Taylor at the first gathering.

We also decided we needed a logo which would include our FN logo. The additional input would have to be meaningful and represent our ancestors and bringing our people together. The design of the Moosehide Gathering logo would represent the honour of our great-grandmothers and the knowledge that

our children and children’s children will grow. We would commit to revitalizing our ancestors’ celebrations and help ourselves feel the pride our people once had.

In March 1985, Dawson First Nation was looking for a new logo. A contest for a logo was opened to our members. Jenny Christiansen won the logo contest. The logo represented our resources, livelihood, and connectedness of the land.

The actual logo contained a caribou head but along the way was changed to a moose.

The snowshoe represented trapping and resources. The salmon represented the richness of the river.

### THE LOGO

#### Moosehide Gathering 1993

The inside of the circle represented Dawson First Nation, as the Moosehide Gathering is our First Nation’s celebration.

#### THE CIRCLE

Twine (rope) – Brown in colour. The twine represents the ties of our people. The circle is not closed and is kept open for a reason. Our children will walk ahead and our Nation will continue to grow and be here always.

Flower and leaves – The big flower (red Yukon wild rose) represents our great-grandmothers who hold and bear our children—givers of life. The red buds are our mothers and children. We always know our generation will carry on our language and cultural values.

The Feather – The one feather attached to the bottom of the circle represents “We are one voice” and will support one another.

Thus the emblem will be the Moosehide Gathering logo. We will teach our children today so our “Way of Life” will carry on.



# Council Structure Review

The Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Government is undergoing a Council Structure Review. A committee of citizens have been struck and wants to hear your thoughts on the **current Council structure**, including whether to implement a **fulltime Deputy Chief position**.

Please join us at the consultations sessions listed at right.

For more information, contact:

Wayne Potoroka (867-993-7108)

Clare Devenish (867-993-7136).

Thank you for helping us tackle these tough questions.

**March 15**  
**Dawson City**  
**TH Hall**

**1:00–4:30 p.m.**

**5:30–7:00 (Dinner served)**

**March 26**  
**Whitehorse**  
**Yukon Inn**

**1:00–4:30 p.m.**

**5:30–7:00 (Dinner served)**

**April 12**  
**Dawson City**  
**Community Support Centre**  
**1:00–5:00 p.m.**