

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Newsletter

# Këntra Täy

moccasin trail

Volume 15 Issue 4 Winter 2015





# YUKON FIRST NATION SELF-GOVERNMENT

*mappingtheway.ca*

**YUKON FIRST NATIONS** are at the forefront of Aboriginal land claims and self-government in Canada. 11 First Nations have settled their land claims and are self-governing. This represents approximately half of all such agreements in Canada.

Settling these agreements in Yukon involved decades of hard work, innovation and commitment by leaders and visionaries.



Yukon First Nation delegation in front of the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa, Ontario, in 1973.

Visit *mappingtheway.ca* to learn about the journey to Yukon First Nation self-government and land claim agreements, and the benefits they bring to all Yukoners.

# Chief Joseph's Update

**D**rin hqzo, citizens. I hope the very best of winter has found its way to your door.

It has been just over a year since I was given the honour of being Chief of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in. Here are a few of the highlights from recent work completed on your behalf.

It's been a privilege to work alongside my colleagues from Nacho Nyak Dun, Vuntut Gwtichin, the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society and the Yukon Conservation Society throughout 2015 on the Peel Land Use Watershed Planning matter and, recently, to announce our application to the Supreme Court of Canada to appeal the Yukon Court of Appeal ruling on the Peel Watershed Plan.

The Yukon Court of Appeal's ruling on the matter vindicated arguments we've been making: the Yukon Government has failed to honour its treaty obligations with respect to the Peel Watershed Land Use Plan and the land-planning provisions of the Umbrella Final Agreement are binding on the territorial government.

However, the court's ruling also sends the Peel process back to an earlier stage of planning—nearly six years back—and effectively allows the Yukon Government a do-over.

We feel this ruling raises important questions that merit consideration by the Supreme Court of Canada. This is a step we hoped we didn't have to take, but we are steadfast in our commitment to the integrity of our Final Agreements and the planning processes we gave up so much for.

More recently, YFN Leaders and I attended the Land Claims Agreement Coalition and met with members

of the new federal government in Ottawa. The mood in Ottawa has definitely changed. Our discussions were productive and respectful. The new Ministers and MPs are open and engaged, and we're hopeful our outstanding issues will move forward effectively and adequately. This bodes well for the work we need to be doing in the ongoing implementation of our agreements. It's still early days for this government, but I'm optimistic the next few years will be beneficial for our nation-to-nation relationship.

Our fall session for Leadership began with a teleconference on matters such as the Land Claims Agreement Coalition and Bill S-6, followed by our scheduled meeting in November. The YFN Leaders had a full agenda that included discussions on education, a resolution on language revitalization, Boards and Committees appointments, YESAA update, Yukon Oil and Gas Act amendments, the YFN Lands Titles Act, and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations.

I keep working with staff and other YFN Leaders on mining engagement meetings, Bill S-6, Peel Litigation, Yukon Mining policy changes and Oil and Gas policy changes. We seem to be making a small headway on policy changes to address our concerns on these two issues, although more changes are necessary to ensure our inherent rights and Settlement Lands are not adversely affected.

The Council has completed the final draft of the TH Community Strategic Plan, which consists of five years of priorities and important goals for TH to focus on. The final draft should be completed soon and we're looking forward to sending it out to



TH Citizens in the New Year.

Council is also preparing for the Citizens meeting in mid-January as a follow up to our Annual General Assembly. We look forward to the discussions and seeing you there.

I'd like to congratulate all the recipients of the 2015 TH Awards. One of the best duties I have as Chief is to hand out these awards in front of the entire community at the annual TH Christmas Dinner. Every person who was nominated has improved the quality of life for our nation and the greater Dawson community. I thank them and everyone who has gone above the call of duty to make our community great.

**Elder of the Year**  
**Angie Joseph-Rear**

**Citizen of the Year**  
**Percy Henry**

**Youth of the Year**  
**Marshall Jonas**

**Volunteer of the Year**  
**Marion Roberts**

**Employee of the Year**  
**Allison Kormendy**

I would like to wish everyone the very best of the New Year. Have a great 2016.



**Jen Gibbs, Family Services Worker**  
jennifer.gibbs@trondek.ca  
993•7100 ext. 184

## Family Services

**D**rin hqzq to everyone!

Thanks to all that came out for our Health and Social Halloween Open House. The Support Centre was packed with tots and treats and folks of all ages enjoying themselves. It was great fun to see so many kids try their hand at “pinning the Boo on the ghost,” fishing for treats, and playing pumpkin bowling. Halloween remains one of my favourite days of the year, and it was wonderful to see so many community members having a good time at the Centre.

Mähsi cho, as well, to all you folks with hungry bellies who came out to the National Family Week BBQ in October. Lots of delicious salmon, beef, and caribou burgers—not to mention yummy salads—were devoured by the 40 or so people who attended. Sharing food and laughs are two of this community's many strengths. I am grateful for the opportunity to share in both.

October and November saw the introduction of the Handle with Care program, where parent and caregiver sessions were delivered in collaboration with the Child Development Centre. Handle with Care is a parenting program with a focus on developing the skills and

knowledge that promote childrens' social and emotional wellness. Handle with Care firmly believes there is no such thing as a perfect parent (they don't exist!) and that it is never too late to build a more trusting, positive, and supportive relationship with your child or children. We'll be offering another round of Handle with Care in the New Year, so if you're interested in participating, please let me know. We'd love to have you on board and can all learn from each other's stories. The sessions will likely be held in the evening, with dinner and childcare provided in the hope this will enable everyone who's interested to participate.

As the snow piles up and the weather gets colder, we hope to offer indoor beading workshops for February and March. Stay tuned for details regarding dates and cost. Reading a good book and building your knowledge base is another great winter activity. I'm currently expanding on the collection of parenting resources at the CSC and hope to have a parenting resources lending library ready to go for winter 2016.

K'anancha and Happy New Year!

## Social Assistance

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Social Assistance Program provides financial assistance to Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in citizens who reside within the traditional territory and don't have enough money on which to live. The Social Assistance office hours are 1:00–5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday. If you require assistance, please call the following to make an appointment:

**Social Assistance office 1-867-993-7100 ext. 166**

**Debbie Wight, Elders' Support Worker**

debbie.wight@trondek.ca

993•7100 ext. 151



## Elders' Support Worker

**H**ello TH citizens. I took over the reins from Chris Clarke as the Elder Support Worker in October. Since being here, everyone has been extremely welcoming and very patient with me as I get to know the Elders, other TH citizens, and this amazing community.

This fall, I had the opportunity to take a few Elders on a day outing to the First Hunt at Cache Creek. It was a great opportunity to see the youth learning to hunt and having fun on the land. On the drive back, we saw a small herd of caribou running through the snow-covered tundra. What a beautiful sight.

As winter is settling in, there are more indoor

activities such as Bannock Wednesday and Birthday Bingo. I'm trying to get more Elders interested in playing floor shuffleboard and carpet bowling. In the New Year, Elders may be able to participate in an exercise program at the Recreation Centre. I will keep you posted as to when it will be starting.

This is also the time we start planning for 2016. I'm working with Elders, youth, partners and funders to plan cultural-based activities and outings that will enable Elders to participate in programs that support and mentor youth. If you have any ideas for camps or outings, give me a call or drop in.

## Citizens applying for Bill C-3....

Please note: there is an address to send your application to the processing unit in Winnipeg. From there, it's sent along to Ottawa.

TH does not send your application directly to Ottawa.

The address & phone # are on the front and back of the Bill C-3 forms:

Application Processing Unit  
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada  
GD Stn Main  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0M2

**For additional assistance contact INAC toll-free  
(1-800-567-9604) or email [InfoPubs@inac-ainc.gc.ca](mailto:InfoPubs@inac-ainc.gc.ca).**

### A Reminder ...

*The Community Support Centre and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in vehicles are Alcohol and Substance Free Zones. If a staff member has reason to believe you are under the influence of any substance, your request for transportation may be refused and you may be asked to leave the premises.*

*The staff is here to serve the needs of citizens and ensure their safety while they are at the Centre; please grant them your respect by leaving immediately when requested to do so.*



Ricky Mawunganidze, Youth Enhancement Coordinator

ricky.mawunganidze@trondek.ca

993•7100 ext. 129

## Youth Enhancement

**F**amily. That is how we endeavour to see ourselves at the Youth Centre. We are a family, all of us coming from different places spiritually, emotionally, and physically. We all have unique talents and challenges that make us all the more special, but we also share similar hopes, dreams, imaginations, sensations, and a pure love for nēlay gay (dry meat). IT IS DELICIOUS.

Speaking of delicious, our family dinners are a big part of us being a family. The YC is an extension of our lives at home, school, and work, and it really feels like our “cousin’s house.” A wise woman once told me that most of life’s important lessons are learnt on the playground—lessons on sharing, being kind to others, showing empathy, and standing up for others. The Youth Centre is an extension of that playground where youth get a chance to contribute positively to the lives of everyone that comes into this space and simply being a good human being. The expectations for staff and youth are the same: be kind to each other, support each other, and respect each other.

We have a lot of amazing programs planned for the winter, and we encourage everyone to participate in our yummy cooking program (as long as it’s not tacos all the time!), our wacky science days, crafty art nights led by Emily, jam sessions, carving, garage-band workshops and other special projects

and activities. Make sure you check out our calendar and program listing in the monthly mailout. We promise you will find something for you.

As for the younger kids, Alexa and Annie recently started our Healthy Active Youth (HAY) program for kids in Grades 5 and 6. HAY is an outdoor program that happens after school on Wednesdays and Fridays until April 2016. This group will get to do traditional crafts like beading, making spruce salve, ice fishing, nature hikes, campfires, cooking, tobogganing, skiing and lots of other cool outdoor games (when it’s not crazy cold out).

Finally, I would like to make a request to all TH youth ages 15-25 to seriously think about being a part of TH Youth Council. On a daily basis, decisions are being made that affect your future and those of your children, and you are not involved. Youth Council exists to provide a youth perspective and guidance to Chief and Council and the Elders Council. It is your responsibility to stand up for yourself, your friends, and those younger than you. Across the world there are few instances where governments are actively interested in youth involvement, and you have a Chief and Council that insists you should be at the table. In Shona we have a saying: *mapudzi anowira kusina hari* which literally translates to “squashes fall where there are no pots” and is similar to “fortune favours fools.”



**Calling all TH REGISTERED TRAPPERS.**  
**Please let Fish & Wildlife know if you have an**  
**interest in trapping on any TH traplines this winter.**  
**993-7100 ext. 115**

**Kyrie Nagano, Aboriginal Headstart Coordinator**

kyrie.nagano@trondek.ca

Direct Line 993•5927



# Aboriginal Headstart

It's been a busy winter for Aboriginal Head Start, with learning about Thanksgiving, First Hunt, winter clothing, Remembrance Day, animals, and trapping. We also had special guests who came in to visit. Mähsi, Diane Baumgartner, for talking with the children about Remembrance Day—the children enjoyed their stickers. Also, mähsi cho to Debbie Nagano and Peggy Kormendy for sharing with the children the significance of trapping—the children enjoyed all the beautiful furs.

The four-year-olds were also able to deliver caribou ribs to our Elders and donate some to the First hunt

feast. We were also able to make some dry meat in class. A big mähsi cho to Ryan Peterson for getting the caribou for us and to First Hunt for donating the meat towards Aboriginal Head Start and Tr'inke Zho.

Lately, the children have been busy learning about trapping and winter animals. We got to go out and learn how to set rabbit snares and also have a visit at the conservation office to take a look at their office and see what they do. The children enjoyed looking at the animals, especially the bird nests.





**Dexter MacRae, H.R., Education, & Training Director**

dexter.macrae@trondek.ca

993•7100 ext. 133

## H.R., Education, & Training

**H**uman Resources, Education, and Training had a busy fall assisting seasonal staff with completion of their performance reviews and other paperwork associated with fall and winter planning. Krystal Titus steered our Healthy Workplace efforts, with plenty of healthy activities, food choices, and stress-management approaches. Healthy workplace activities will not stop there as Krystal works to recruit some “wellness committee” champions to promote and build awareness.

### **Determination Wins Success within the Class 7 Support Program!**

As shared in the last newsletter, HRET created an On-Call Auxiliary Class 7 Support Driver position that will work with Class 7 Holders in gaining practice and

hours required for a Class 5 Driver license.

Four citizens with Class 7 have started working on test preparation. Two citizens achieved their Class 7 and began working towards obtaining the driving hours required and practice needed to obtain a Class 5. One will soon be ready to take the Class 5 test in Dawson, and another participant will work with the Support Driver on a remedial driving course to regain class 7. Word is spreading and more people are getting interested—eight citizens have officially signed up for this program that will increase citizen employability.

If you are interested in becoming part of this program, please contact Melissa Atkinson at 993-7100 ext. 111 or [melissa.atkinson@trondek.ca](mailto:melissa.atkinson@trondek.ca).

## **TR'ONDĚK HWĚCH'IN SCHOLARSHIP**

**Applications now available.**

**Deadline to apply:**

# **JANUARY 15, 2016**

**Eligibility Criteria:**

**Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Post-Secondary students who attended full-time studies in the 2015 Summer or Fall semesters**

**Funds will be allocated based on academic achievement.**

**For an application, contact Melissa at 867-993-7100 ext. 111  
or [melissa.atkinson@trondek.ca](mailto:melissa.atkinson@trondek.ca)**



**Congratulations and  
thank you to all who  
helped at the farm!  
See you in 2016!**





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## TR'ONDËK HWËCH'IN TRUST – REPORT TO CITIZENS

### SHAUNESSY INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

As at November 26, 2015 the public market value of the portfolio managed by Shaunessy Investment Counsel was \$32,367,855.09.

### WHAT'S NEW

- On October 16, 2015, the Trust concluded a transaction to purchase additional shares in Kilrich Industries Ltd. for the sum of \$1,960,444.33. The Trust now owns 44% of this corporation. On the advice of our financial advisor, the Trust used “settlement funds” to complete this purchase, making all future income earned from this investment tax free. Our three directors on the board are Jackie Olson, Richard Reaume, and Chris Scott.
- The Trust advanced \$250,000 to Chief Isaac Incorporated, as a management fee, to assist with operating costs for the 2015 fiscal year.
- Han Construction repaid a loan to the Trust in the amount of \$100,000.
- The Trustees participated in a tripartite meeting with Council and CII on October 17, 2015, in Whitehorse. The participants have agreed to develop a Memorandum of Understanding which will direct how we support each other in working together for the benefit of all citizens.
- Maureen Birckel attended an information session regarding a Yukon First Nation Private Equity Fund on November 2 and 24, 2015.
- MaryAnn Knutson attended the first Distribution Committee meeting on November 2, 2015. It will be approximately 3-4 years before a payment will be paid out of the Trust. This payment will be required in order to avoid paying taxes.
- The Trustees held their third quarter meeting in Whitehorse on November 6 & 7, 2015.
- The Trust agreed to convert the short term loan provided to the Downtown Hotel to long term loan (15 years).
- The Yukon Inn Trust and Yukon Inn Operating Board met for the first time on November 9, 2015.

## DIRECTORS

Thank you to all citizens who have put their names forward to sit as a director on one of the corporations. We currently do not have any vacancies. However, we encourage any citizen who is interested, to provide a copy of their resume together with letter of interest to the Trust. We will keep a list of interested individuals should a vacancy occur in the future.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

March 4, 2016 – TH Trust - Citizens' Luncheon – Downtown Hotel

March 4, 2016 – Chief Isaac Incorporated Citizens' Dinner and Bingo

March 5-6, 2016 – Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in General Assembly

If you have a question for the Trust, please feel free to forward it to us at [info@thtrust.com](mailto:info@thtrust.com) or by mail to PO Box 929, Dawson City, YT, Y0B 1G0.

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

**TH Fish and Wildlife branch would like to thank all TH citizens for continuing to harvest caribou in a respectful and safe way. Sustainable harvesting practices include:**

### Respect for wildlife

- Hunting bulls only—more cows will keep the herd strong.
- Hunting with a suitable caliber rifle to ensure a quick and lethal kill.
- Practice shooting beforehand—site in your gun.
- Know where the heart and lungs are and take only good shots.
- If you wound a caribou, do everything you can to track it down and kill it.
- Shooting at individual caribou that are removed from the herd. (This reduces the chance of wounding individuals in the group that may be struck by a stray bullet.)
- Reduce stress on the herd by not coming too close to the herd with motorized vehicles.
- Take only the number of caribou you need and use all of the meat you get.
- Take good care of your meat so it doesn't spoil.

### Respect for the land

- Take all of your garbage out with you.
- Only use your snowmobile when there is enough snow on the ground.

**The Porcupine Caribou Herd are migrating down the Dempster Highway. Come visit the TH Fish and Wildlife office if you would like any information about the herd. Be safe!**

## FROM THE DESK OF GLENDA BOLT

Our fast-passed summer was followed by a very busy fall. We hosted over 27 days of students—as well as 22 workshops, gatherings or events—and the gift shop has



been busy with holiday sales. We're looking forward to slowing down and taking a break. Mähsi cho to Allison Anderson and Kylie Van Every for their dedication to making things happen at Dänojà Zho.

Dänojà Zho staff attended the Yukon

First Nations Tourism Conference in Whitehorse later November and where we presented to an international and local audience. Allison and Kylie presented on the development of the Moosehide Gathering, and I presented on DZCC and our approach to balancing community with tourism and education. It was an exciting and inspiring conference with interesting presenters and participants. The conference concluded with a gala feast and dance at which Dänojà Zho was presented with an award:

**Welcome Award: Awarded to an individual or group that has consistently demonstrated an extraordinary welcome to people of all ages from near and far.**

*Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre in Dawson City has been an extraordinary host for more than a decade, welcoming Yukon people and visitors to a wide variety of traditional Hän cultural experiences inside and outside their unique building on the banks of the Yukon River. The staff and the community take great pride and joy in sharing their culture, ensuring that all who come through the doors gain new knowledge, a sense of belonging and holistic well-being, based on the fundamental values passed on by generations of Elders and leaders.*

*Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre has consistently demonstrated leadership in its diversity of programming and partnerships. In an effort to attract diverse audiences to the Centre, DZCC has worked closely with a number of community organizations and has presented programming that is of interest and importance to both its citizens and visitors.*

I want to extend many thanks and say "well done" to all the citizens who have worked at Dänojà Zho over the last decade. This is your award. In particular I will send out greetings and mähsi to Freda Roberts for all she contributed to DZCC in the early years.

Also, mähsi cho to the Housing Department, Nicole and Ashley in Education Department, Ecka Janus, Peter Menzies, Dolores Scheffen, Ben Pierson, Dale Braga and all the Chief Isaac staff and cleaning crew, and, of course, the Heritage Department for helping to keep Dänojà Zho at its best. See you in 2016!



## ... AND NOW FROM KYLIE VAN EVERY

We have had a busy fall and winter with school programming this year. We offered our popular Ghost Stories program, which the kids loved. We also held the "make your own natural cream" program with the grade 5s.

We have been busy with gallery tours, showing the welcome film, storytelling workshops, tours, and school projects. The Grade 4 students have been doing research at the cultural centre for their projects.

The Gift shop is open Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 11:30am – 4:00pm. Stop by to do your Christmas Shopping!

My last day of work is December 18, 2015 and then I will be on vacation until my Maternity leave starts in January. I wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas holiday.

Drin Tsul, Drin Cho Zhìt Shò Àhłay. (Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, you all be) happy.



# Lands Update

## **Acknowledgment of summer staff**

The Lands Branch would like to acknowledge Aaron Mendelsohn for completing his summer position at TH. Aaron helped Adam Thom with all his mapping projects throughout the summer months.

## **Completion of water sampling on the Yukon River**

Nicole Becker and James Roberts completed another successful summer of water sampling on the Yukon River. Nicole and James were out on the water measuring water temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, anions, cations, nutrients, oxygen isotopes and dissolved organic carbon. These measurements give a good idea of water quality. The Lands Branch is partaking in this water sampling as part of the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council's water quality monitoring program, which began in 2006. The intent of this program is to monitor water quality and the overall health of the Yukon River Watershed.

## **Advertising of fact-sheets**

The Lands Branch will be developing fact sheets for citizens to help explain some of the terms and processes found in the TH Land and Resources Act. These fact-sheets will be available for pick-up at the Lands office and will be advertised in this newsletter. The fact-sheets will also be added to the webpage along with answers to frequently asked questions.



TH is looking for citizens interested in sitting on the Dawson District Renewable Resources Council. If you're interested in lands-based issues and helping your government, get in touch with Natash Ayoub at 993-7100 ext. 115.

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in  
Department of Natural Resources  
*Land and Resources Fact Sheet*  
**What is an Expression of Interest?**

An Expression of Interest, or EOI, is how TH records citizen interests in part or all of a Settlement Land parcel. When the TH *Lands and Resources Act* requires a land use plan before development can go ahead on a parcel, EOIs act as placeholders for applications.

**An EOI is not ownership or a right to the land selected.** EOI holders must still submit an application, and Council must approve that application before a final land grant can be made. Under TH law, Council has final authority over all land use decisions on Settlement Land. An EOI just holds a person's place in line (**Priority**).

### **Priority**

Priority is set by the date that the Lands Branch recorded an EOI. Earlier EOIs take priority over later ones. Once Council approves land use plans for parcels in the Central Tr'ondëk Land Management Area, citizens can to apply for land grants/leases in order of priority.

### **Heirs**

EOIs also are passed down to lawful heir(s) when the person who made the EOI passes away.

### **Rules**

*Rules for Expressions of Interest are outlined in sections 32 and 32.1 of the TH Land and Resources Act.*

#### **No Duplication**

**32.** A person may not maintain an expression of interest in or an application for use of a lot or portion of a parcel if another application by or for the benefit of the same person for the same use within the same parcel has been approved.

**32.1** A person may not maintain an expression of interest in or an application for primary residential use in relation to any parcel if another application by or for the benefit of that same person for primary residential use within the same or another parcel has been approved.



## **Have you moved? We need to know.**

Make sure you get important mail from us, including your T-4s, T-4As, and, ahem, this newsletter.

If you've moved, let us know by emailing [wayne.potoroka@trondek.ca](mailto:wayne.potoroka@trondek.ca) or calling 867-993-7100 ext. 108.

## K-Grade 6 Education



We have had a busy fall and start of winter with elementary classes, from visiting the Dänojä Zho Cultural Centre to having visitors in the school.

Storytelling has been happening in the past few months with elementary. The Grade 3 class visited the Cultural Centre for the "Beaver Man" story, a tale of how the Yukon River came to be. Allison Anderson told the story to the class, then the class acted out a play to the story. The grade G's had a great time playing different animals.

Along with the storytelling theme, the Cultural Centre held spooky storytelling programming. Several elementary classes had the chance to visit the Cultural Centre to listen to Allison Anderson and Kylie Van Every tell spooky stories in the theatre around the fire. There were great spooky stories told by the students, as well. What great storytellers we have in elementary.

The Kindergarten class visited the Cultural Centre for their annual tour, "Welcome Film" and a discussion about furs in the wall tent. The Kindergarten class enjoyed learning and hearing stories about TH culture, history, and traditions.

Mähsi cho to the Cultural Centre staff for the great programming they offer to RSS. We always enjoy visiting and are looking forward to more visits throughout the school year.

The Grade 1 class have started wildlife journals. Shawn Hughes visited the class to talk about tracks and wildlife. The class enjoyed learning about tracks and seeing example tracks brought in by Shawn. The class participated by painting track molds and playing track bingo. The class had a great time learning about tracks and will be working on their wildlife journals throughout the year.

The Grade 4s have been working on First Nation study projects. Angie Joseph-Rear came into the class to share stories about the student's projects. The class especially liked the stories about growing up at Moosehide. Mähsi cho, Angie, for coming in to share your stories and knowledge.

The Jigging Club is going well this year. We have many new participants who are keen and picking up the dances so well. It's great to have many Grade 1 students as the older jiggers take on teaching the younger jiggers.

We're looking forward to trapping, ice fishing and Traditional Knowledge Field Trips in the New Year.





## Caribou Tracking in Elementary

Elementary classes, with the help of Mike Sutor and Martin Kienzler, have started tracking caribou. Each class was given a photo of a caribou to track. Mike and Martin visited all elementary classes to talk about the process of caribou collaring and caribou tracking. The classes enjoyed the caribou talks and are ready to start tracking their caribou and learning more about them!

## Caribou Names

Kindergarten - Snowflake

Grade 1 - Bou-Bou

Grade 2 - Whitewish

Grade 3 - Roam

Grade 4 - Bubbles

Grade 5 - Esprit de Caribleu

Grade 6 - Cupcake



# Lift the lint!



Please clean the lint from your dryer's filter after every load.

Lint-clogged filters increase drying times and energy use and pose a serious fire hazard.

Also, make sure the outside vent and damper is lint-free and shuts easily when the dryer is turned on and off. If the vent hood is clogged with lint, this could be a sign the dryer's ducts need cleaning.



Nicole Cook, Gr. 7–12 CELC

nicole.cook@trondek.ca

993•3723

## Grades 7–12 Education

It has been a very busy semester so far.

This year's First Hunt Camp involved 25 students along with many TH staff, Elders, Rangers and volunteers. The weather was in our favour the whole weekend, which made the camp an even bigger success. We had many activities for youth, including rifle safety, target practice, caribou talks, bear safety, archery, tire pull, storytelling, rabbit snaring, scavenger hunt, Indian bingo and, of course, hunting. (The students did not get a caribou on this hunt, but the TH Fish & Wildlife Steward, Ryan Peterson, got one for them and donated it to the Trinke Zho Head Start program.)

During the camp, a group of youth climbed a mountain and successfully shot and packed back a sheep. The group was so proud of themselves for climbing a mountain and bringing back meat for the feast. When the camp was over the work was not over. The students gathered at the TH Hall to butcher the sheep, a donated caribou leg, a rabbit, and some grouse for the First Hunt Feast.

Mähsi cho to the volunteers, staff, Elders, and Rangers for making this camp run smoothly. And a big thank you to the youth who participated.

Sara Stephens, the Grade 10 Social Studies teacher, and Jody Beaumont, the TH Traditional Knowledge

Specialist, delivered the Indian Residential School Curriculum unit for the third year now. We were pleased to have special guests join the class, including Elders Lynn Rear and Sis Van Bibber. The students have been learning about storytelling, First Nation values and beliefs, customs, subsistence, leadership, residential schools, self-government, land claims, and more. They are making their way through the Tr'ëhuhch'in Năwtr'udăh'ą (Finding Our Way Home) scrapbook. It has been a learning experience for me as well, and I am glad to be a part of something so meaningful.

We had many student take part in the YAE Program (Yukon Art Enrichment). It is a four-day intensive art program for Yukon high-school students hosted by the Klondike Institute of Art & Culture. This year will mark the program's 15th year! There were three workshops the students had to partake in: Exploring Colour in Paint and Paper with Suzanne Paleczny; Fundamentals of Drawing with Meshell Melvin; and Beading Basics with TH citizen Dolores Scheffen. I heard amazing feedback from all workshops. Each student gave it their all and, in the end, finished with some amazing art pieces.

Congratulations to Sandy DuBois, Mikaila Blanchard, and Zarah Sidney, who enrolled in the In.Business Mentorship Program for Indigenous Youth. This program is offered to students in Grades 10–12 across the Yukon, Northwest Territories, and northern B.C. and will help our students build a foundation of business knowledge in the hope they choose the field of business for their post-secondary education and eventually bring their knowledge and skills back to their communities. The program connects students with aboriginal business and peer mentors who guide them through a series of bi-weekly challenges via social media. This program will run until May 2016. I wish them the best!

Shout out to the Grade 9/10 girls for getting GOLD in the Yukon Volleyball championships! I'm super proud of them!



# I Am a Survivor not a Victim

by Charmaine Christiansen

Ashamed, powerless, silenced, and blamed. These are a few words a person feels after their rights are taken away against their will. Where along the line did society, our community, make it “normal” or okay to stay silent? In this article I want to express the importance of taking our voice back, standing up for our dignity, and to thrive with life once again. By seeking help, reaching out to others, praying for courage, strength, and love, we can and will shine light on this darkness.

Violence against women is a masked subject, but it is happening everywhere. When we take the mask off, what happens next? Light shines in and darkness cannot hide. Someone could be preoccupied with many questions: how did I not see this coming; if only; what ifs, and could I have done something different. In all this chaos and confusion we can learn how to notice our emotions and recognize our anger. Finding healthy ways to express ourselves and our emotions is key in pinpointing your own soul-soothing activities and releasing anger in a healthy way when it arises instead of burying it inside. I have read that it has helped others to write their offender a letter, saying whatever they may please and not sending it off, instead burning it to release the hold it has.

We as survivors are not defined by what has happened to us. We are individuals that had a life before the violent incident and will have a life after. No one should feel alone. If we decide to enable the negative and harmful thoughts and activities (i.e., drinking and drugs) to overwhelm us, we hand over our freedom and control. As humans we must always know, we are never too far for God’s reach. He leaves the 99 sheep to find the one (Luke 15:4).

When helping one another it is important to encourage and support each other. The way that people around us can react to our talking about a traumatic event. Our experience of violence can either be supportive or unhelpful and potentially harmful. In this way, those who will sit with us and listen, those who believe us and offer help, are responding to our experience in a positive way. It is helpful to talk about

the resistance the person showed to the violence and to offer to go with them to safe places. Not believing survivors, and blaming them for the attack, or not offering support are examples of how some can respond to us negatively. Regardless of what happened before the assault, freely-given consent is necessary. “NO” means NO; “STOP” means STOP.

Do not let anyone make you feel like you “asked” for it, because no one asks to be violated.

We are a small community and there is caring people here to offer support. In Dawson there are a couple of places that offer help and will keep your identity and conversation confidential. Some of these places helped me along my journey of healing and were understanding and polite.

RCMP (867-993-2677 or 867-993-5555)

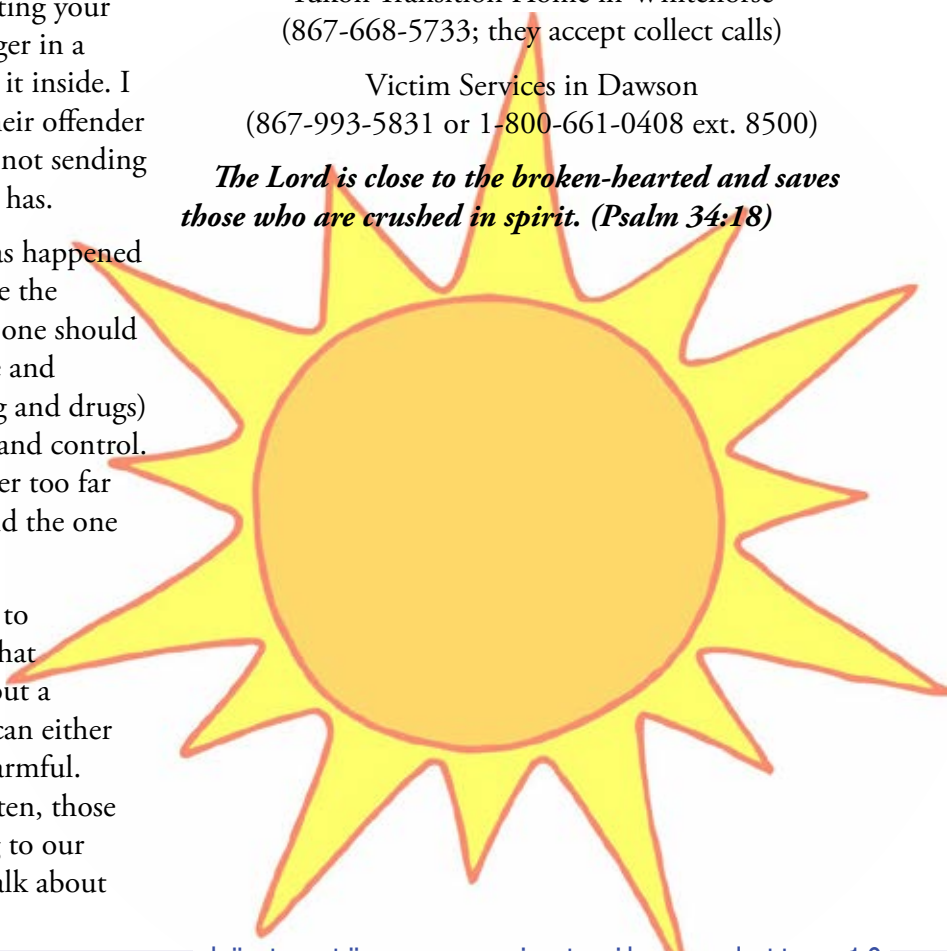
Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Community Support Centre  
(993-7100 Ext. 166)

Dawson Women’s Shelter  
(A safe place to talk anytime or relax – 867-993-5086)

Confidential Third Party Reporting through Kaushee’s  
Yukon Transition Home in Whitehorse  
(867-668-5733; they accept collect calls)

Victim Services in Dawson  
(867-993-5831 or 1-800-661-0408 ext. 8500)

*The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves  
those who are crushed in spirit. (Psalm 34:18)*





**NEWS**

The Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre was honoured at the Yukon First Nations Tourism Conference with the Welcome Award. The award is given to an individual or group who has consistently demonstrated an extraordinary welcome to people of all ages from near and

far. Here's what the award presenters had to say about our very own DZCC:

*"The DZCC has been an extraordinary host for more than a decade, welcoming Yukon people and visitors to a wide variety of traditional Hän cultural experiences inside and outside their unique building on the banks of the Yukon River. The staff and the community take great pride and joy in sharing their culture, ensuring that all who come through the doors gain new knowledge, a sense of belonging and holistic well-being, based on the fundamental values passed on by generations of Elders and leaders. Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre has consistently demonstrated leadership in its diversity of programming and partnerships. In an effort to attract diverse audiences to the Centre, DZCC has worked closely with a number of community organizations and has presented programming that is of interest and importance to both its citizens and visitors."*

Congratulations to everyone who plays a role in making the DZCC a fantastic place to be!



## Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in

Box 599 · Dawson City, Yukon · Y0B 1G0 · Physical Address: 1242 Front St.

P: 867-993-7100 · F: 867-993-6553 · Toll-Free: 1-844-993-7100 · E: [firstname.lastname@trondek.ca](mailto:firstname.lastname@trondek.ca) · W: [www.trondek.ca](http://www.trondek.ca)

General Enquiries: [reception@trondek.ca](mailto:reception@trondek.ca) or Ext. 100

Media Enquiries: [wayne.potoroka@trondek.ca](mailto:wayne.potoroka@trondek.ca) or Ext. 108

### Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in PHONE DIRECTORY - by 3-digit extension

<b>104</b>	<b>Aaron Woroniuk</b> IT Support Assistant	<b>164</b>	<b>James Titus</b> Elders Driver Cell: 993-3466 (Tem)
<b>212</b>	<b>Anna Claxton</b> Cultural Orientation Workshop Development Coord.	<b>186</b>	<b>Jason Henry</b> Maintenance Supervisor Cell: 993-3613
<b>107</b>	<b>Adam Thom</b> Geospatial Technologist	<b>184</b>	<b>Jennifer Gibbs</b> Family Service Worker
<b>182</b>	<b>Alexa Mitchell</b> Youth Enhancement Support Worker	<b>137</b>	<b>Jody Beaumont</b> Traditional Knowledge Specialist
<b>150</b>	<b>Allison Kormendy</b> Community Health Representative/Acting Director H&S	<b>160</b>	<b>Kay Linley</b> Land and Resource Manager
<b>146</b>	<b>Amanda Moffatt</b> Staff Training & Development Officer	<b>993-3595</b>	<b>Kevin McLeod</b> Maintenance Assistant
<b>134</b>	<b>Amanda Taylor</b> Administration Manager	<b>112</b>	<b>Krystal Titus</b> HRET Assistant
<b>140</b>	<b>Andrea Moses</b> Council Administrator	<b>167</b>	<b>Krystle Roberts</b> Justice Worker Trainee
<b>180</b>	<b>Ashley Bower-Bramadat</b> Cell: 993-3723 Community Education Liaison Coordinator (CELC) K-6	<b>993-5927</b>	<b>Kyrie Nagano</b> Aboriginal Headstart Coordinator/Teacher
<b>161</b>	<b>Ashley Doiron</b> Education Manager	<b>171</b>	<b>Lana Welchman</b> Mentoring Coordinator - Big Brothers Big Sisters
<b>135</b>	<b>Aurora Knutson</b> Accts Payables & Procurement	<b>113</b>	<b>Lee Whalen</b> Heritage Officer
<b>138</b>	<b>Austen Gaven</b> Cell: 993-3557 Operations & Assets Supervisor Fax: 993-5092	<b>143</b>	<b>Lisa Anderson</b> Implementation Project Assistant
<b>128</b>	<b>Ben Rudis</b> Cell: 993-3701 I.T. Support Technician	<b>126</b>	<b>Louise Drugan</b> HR Clerk
<b>106</b>	<b>Bill Kendrick</b> Regional Planning Manager/Senior Land & Res. Officer	<b>166</b>	<b>Lynn Rear</b> Social Assistance Administrator
<b>154</b>	<b>Christopher MacLeod</b> Natural Res. Policy Analyst / Acting Lands & Res. Mgr	<b>156</b>	<b>Majida Lord</b> Finance Administration & Services
<b>136</b>	<b>Clare Devenish</b> Communication Coordinator	<b>111</b>	<b>Melissa Atkinson</b> Employment & Training Officer
<b>164</b>	<b>Community Support Centre</b> Lounge: 152 Fax: 993-2329	<b>428</b>	<b>Molly Shore</b> World Heritage Project Communications Assistant
<b>119</b>	<b>Dalores Roberts</b> Housing Properties Manager	<b>157</b>	<b>Monina Wittfoth</b> Manager of Legislation & Policy
<b>116</b>	<b>Darren Bullen</b> Land & Resources Officer	<b>115</b>	<b>Natasha Ayoub</b> Fish & Wildlife Manager



# You lookin' for us? (Part 1)

<b>145</b>	<b>Darren Taylor</b> Director of Natural Resources	<b>105</b>	<b>Nicole Becker</b> Land & Res. Development Assessment Coordinator
<b>125</b>	<b>Dave Ezzard</b> Housing Finances & Accts Receivable	<b>180</b>	<b>Nicole Cook</b> <b>Cell: 993-3753</b> Community Educ. Liaison Coordinator (CELC)Gr.7-12
<b>114</b>	<b>Debbie Nagano</b> Trainee Director of Heritage	<b>187</b>	<b>Patti Sidney</b> Asset Assistant
<b>151</b>	<b>Debbie Wight</b> Elders Support Worker	<b>429</b>	<b>Paula Hassard</b> World Heritage Project Manager
<b>164</b>	<b>Deena Titus</b> Administrative Assistant	<b>162</b>	<b>Peter Marangu</b> Director of Housing & Infrastructure
<b>133</b>	<b>Dexter MacRae</b> Director HR & Community Training	<b>129</b>	<b>Ricky Mawunganidze</b> Youth Enhancement Coordinator
<b>141</b>	<b>Diane Baumgartner</b> Payroll & Benefit Administrator	<b>100</b>	<b>Roberta Joseph</b> Hähkè / Chief
<b>155</b>	<b>Dolores Scheffen</b> Home & Community Care Coordinator	<b>127</b>	<b>Ryan Peterson</b> Fish & Wildlife Steward
<b>121</b>	<b>Erika Scheffen</b> Heritage Assistant	<b>122</b>	<b>Shirley Peirson</b> <b>Cell: 993-3424</b> Director of Finance- Capital
<b>109</b>	<b>Frances Aitken</b> Senior Finance Officer	<b>144</b>	<b>Sue Parsons</b> Collections Manager
<b>993-5907</b>	<b>Franny Krivensky</b> Director of Tr'inke Zho (Daycare) <b>Fax: 993-5497</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>Tim Gerberding</b> Director of Implementation
<b>139</b>	<b>Georgette McLeod</b> Hän Language Adminstrator	<b>123</b>	<b>Victoria McLeod</b> Finance & Accounts Receivable
<b>500</b>	<b>Glenda Bolt</b> Dänojà Zho Manager	<b>108</b>	<b>Wayne Potoroka</b> Director of Communication & Policy
<b>124</b>	<b>Jackie Olson</b> Executive Director	<b>153</b>	<b>Willie Poll</b> Cultural Education Coordinator
<b>211</b>	<b>James Roberts</b> Lands & Resources Officer		
<b>993-5927</b>	<b>Aboriginal Head Start</b> <b>Fax: 993-5497</b>	<b>993-3721</b>	<b>Ben Peirson - Chief Isaac Security (Daytime)</b>
<b>551</b>	<b>Admin Meeting Room</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>Lands Conference Room</b>
<b>101</b>	<b>Citizenship Registrar</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>Social Assistance</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>Community Support Centre - Meeting Room</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>Tr'ondëk Kitchen/Community Hall</b>
<b>164</b>	<b>Community Support Centre - Reception</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>TH Admin Bldg. Lobby Phone</b>
<b>142</b>	<b>Councillor Office/Voicemail</b>	<b>993-5907</b>	<b>Tr'inke Zho Daycare</b> <b>Fax: 993-5497</b>
<b>500</b>	<b>Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre</b> <b>Fax: 993-6553</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>TH Youth Centre</b>

Chief Isaac Inc. email addresses: [firstname.lastname@chiefisaacgroup.ca](mailto:firstname.lastname@chiefisaacgroup.ca)

Last Updated: Dec 8 2015



# You lookin' for us? (Part 2)



## **NEED YOUR CLASS 5 DRIVER'S LICENSE?**

**Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in's Sponsored**

## **CLASS 7 SUPPORT PROGRAM**

**CAN HELP!**

### **REGISTER TODAY:**

**See Melissa Atkinson in the Human Resources,  
Education & Training Department**

**Phone: 867-993-7100 ext. 111**

**E-mail: [melissa.atkinson@trondek.ca](mailto:melissa.atkinson@trondek.ca)**

*Open to TH Citizens residing in Dawson*

**Gain access to a  
vehicle & co-driver  
to obtain required  
driving hours**

**Learn and  
practice safe  
techniques to help  
you become a  
better driver**

**Access help to  
track driving  
hours & prepare  
for tests with  
Motor Vehicles**

**Obtain funding for  
driver's exams**





Are you a **TH Citizen**  
interested in **renewable resources?**

## **Join the Dawson District Renewable Resources Council**

*TH Council is seeking to nominate a citizen to serve as a TH representative  
and encourage you to contribute your knowledge and experience.*

Renewable Resources Councils (RRCs) are a **voice for local community members in managing renewable resources**, such as fish, wildlife, habitat and forestry matters, specific to their traditional territory. RRCs provide strong input into planning and regulation by the territorial, federal and First Nations governments. RRCs also play an important advisory role to the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board by raising awareness of specific issues and providing local and traditional information.

### **For information**

**contact TH Fish & Wildlife Manager, Natasha Ayoub, at 993-7100 ext. 115.**

### **For an application form,**

**contact TH Communications at 993-7100 ext. 136, or visit [www.trondek.ca](http://www.trondek.ca)**

Submit applications to TH Communications