

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Newsletter

# Këntra Täy

moccasin trail

Spring 2019



# MAY 23- SEPT. 13, 2019

DZCC • CONFLUENCE GALLERY @ SOVA • ODD GALLERY @ KIAC

TO            O            O  
                 OO  
TALK  
                                 OO  
WITH  
OO            O            OOO  
OTHERS

A MULTI-VENUE EXHIBIT BY & ABOUT YUKON FIRST NATIONS

Featuring work by: Ken Anderson • Lianne Charlie • Fran Morberg-Green  
• Valerie Salez • Doug Smarch, Jr. • Joseph Tisiga

GRAND OPENING, ARTIST TALKS, AND GALLERY HOP:  
MAY 30, 7 PM AT DZCC

**VISIT OUR CORPORATION'S DISPLAYS. WIN PRIZES!**



Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in  
TRUST



Join Us

Reports will be provided by  
the Protector, Trustees,  
Private Market Businesses,  
Investment Manager,  
and Auditor

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, June 1, 2019

9:00 am

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Hall

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Heritage Department Photo

**BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER WILL BE SERVED.**

For further information please contact: Maureen Birckel, [maureen.birckel@thtrust.com](mailto:maureen.birckel@thtrust.com), 867-334-5061

# Children's Programming

## Programming

This winter, the preschool children completed Learn to Skate Lessons, with skating once a week. Annie, a former Tr'inke Zho educator, also taught cross-country skiing to the preschoolers.

The children have been busy picking and circling the toys they wish for in the early-childhood toy catalogues. We received a total of \$30,000 over the past several months for toys and furniture from the Yukon Government Enrichment Fund, which included a surprise installment of \$12,000 just two weeks before year-end.

As we transition to summer, we look forward to spending time at Moosehide with our weekly trips on Wednesdays and Fridays, as well as our twice-a-week Red Cross swim lessons.

## Student/Youth Programming

This winter, Jamie Thomas was our winter Youth Afterschool Leader—her second winter in the position. Today, Jamie is an adult educator. We are so thrilled to have another wonderful graduate of our youth programs. We currently have four individuals—Kalilah, Ryan, Alicia, and now Jamie—working at Tr'inke Zho, all of whom attended TZ as children and graduated from the summer or winter youth programs. What success! When Jamie was a young child at the daycare, she was our mother hen and loved to work in the office. Jamie finished high school a term early, and we cannot wait to see her walk across the stage in June to accept her high-school diploma.



## Aboriginal Head Start

We've been busy teaching language using TPR (Total Physical Response). TPR teaches young children to learn a language through full body movement. AHS kids are learning their Hän language very quickly, and it is paying off, as they have a huge sense of pride in speaking their traditional language. A big mähsi cho to Georgette and Erika for coming over to Head Start twice a week.

We received \$73,154 through the Public Health Agency of Canada's (PHAC) Pan-Indigenous funding to purchase a new vehicle. This this new vehicle does not require a Class 4 license to operate; it will be easier to bring the kids out on field trips. Some of the funds also went towards the purchase of new car seats. We also received funding through PHAC to make new drums. Victor and Tanner were busy for a few weeks making new drums for us. Mähsi cho!

Mähsi cho to Marion Roberts for coming into Head Start twice a week to visit with the children and engage in craft time or outdoor walks with us. If any Elders are interested in participating in the Head

Start program, give us a call and we will be more than happy to set up a time with you.

AHS Graduation will be Saturday, June 1, at the DZCC, at 1:00 p.m. We have six kids graduating this year!

## Mähsi Cho

To all who donate their time, skills, treasures, and smiles to our program, we are so lucky to have you— individuals, businesses, and even children who used to attend. A big thank you to Liam Henry who donated his childrens books to us, Braelyn for donating all

her dolls, and Dawn Kisoun for all the cards and stickers. (Please think of us when done with your holiday cards. We love to recycle them, cutting and pasting to make one-of-a kind cards.) Thanks to Edie Henry for the boxes, Andrea Moses for repurposing all the leftover Xmas dinner treats and making the kids special goodie bags, and Arctic Inland for their annual donation. Mähsi Lian and Hillary Skilnyk for the amazing Thule infant stroller and Gigi at YG for all the teddy bears.

Mähsi cho everyone. We appreciate you all!

## TH encourages citizens to hunt

# FORTY MILE CARIBOU

*For more information contact the Fish and Wildlife office*

[Natasha.Ayoub@trondek.ca](mailto:Natasha.Ayoub@trondek.ca) | (867) 993-7100 ext. 115

[Simon.Nagano@trondek.ca](mailto:Simon.Nagano@trondek.ca) | (867) 993-7100 ext. 127

## Harvest Data Gathering

Harvest data reporting and observations collected from (and reported by) citizens while out on the land is essential information that helps TH Fish and Wildlife maintain records of the following:

- what species of fish and wildlife are being harvested;
- how many animals are being harvested and are required to fulfill subsistence needs;
- the condition of fish or wildlife;
- the general areas animals are being harvested;
- any changes noticed on the land, like numbers of licensed harvesters, new roads or development, water quality, or impacts to habitat.

This type of information guides and directs wildlife management decisions and we rely on you and your harvest data to provide us with indicators of what is happening on the land. We know that those out on the land are aware of “red flags” and can help us identify issues before they get out of control. Please share your information with us and help us do a better job of protecting your rights for a continued sustainable harvest of healthy and intact wildlife populations.

TH Fish and Wildlife thanks all citizens who participated in our annual harvest data survey and prize draw. The winners were as follows:

**1st Place – 10' x 12' MacPherson Wall Tent  
Bob Farr**

**2nd Place – Hard Gun Case  
William Henry**

**3rd Place - Field Dressing and Knife Kit  
Julia Farr**

**4th Place - Backpack with Survival Gear  
Joe Mason Sr.**

**5th Place - \$50 gas  
Janelle Nagano**

**6th Place - \$50 gas  
Ronald Johnson**

# Fish & Wildlife



In total, we had 64 citizens return the survey and enter their names for the draw. The total number of animals reported included the following:

- 158 chinook
- 10 caribou
- 50 grouse
- 161 chum
- 11 moose
- 22 ptarmigan
- 108 grayling
- 0 sheep
- 61 rabbits

Any information about changes on the land, trends, or anything of concern you'd like to report and have us monitor is important to us.

## **The Native User Agreement for the Porcupine Caribou Herd**

The final draft Native User Agreement (NUA) has been completed by the Parties. The agreement was developed jointly between Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, Vuntut Gwitchin, Na-cho Nyäk Dun, Inuvialuit Game Council, and the Gwitchin Tribal Council. All Parties are currently bringing the final NUA to their respective governments for review, approval, and sign-off on this monumental document.

## **Fortymile Caribou Herd**

Since the last count in 2010, the Fortymile Caribou Herd population has grown from an estimated 52,000 to a confirmed minimum count (summer 2017) of 78,000. Conservation efforts committed to by TH citizens over the past number of decades has directly resulted in the increased size of this herd, which has led to sufficient numbers of animals in the herd to allow for a sustainable harvest. TH citizens are encouraged to harvest animals from this herd and we will do our best to send out updates when the caribou are easily accessible within our traditional territory. It is especially important for us to maintain records of TH harvest of this herd so we understand your use of this herd for your subsistence needs. Please report your harvest to our office.

As with all large herds, the Fortymile Caribou Herd is studied extensively. Some research currently indicates there may be some habitat and food limitations for this herd within their summer range in Alaska. However, a four-year habitat and food limitation research program has begun. This research will study the herd's range and potential food sources on both sides of the border and should provide conclusive results about food limitation and whether or not this is a potential concern for the herd's growing population. Until that time, slowing the growth rate of the herd to an annual one–two percent increase has been adopted as a main management strategy. This precautionary approach reduces the risk of a major population decline if there is a limitation to food sources within their summer range.

The current population of the herd is a good news story and this recovery is an excellent example of wildlife management done right. Researchers continue studying and learning from this herd. Information that TH citizens would like to share with Fish and Wildlife will be brought forward to the management committee and considered in the development of a Harvest Management Plan.

## **Fortymile Caribou Herd Harvest Management Plan**

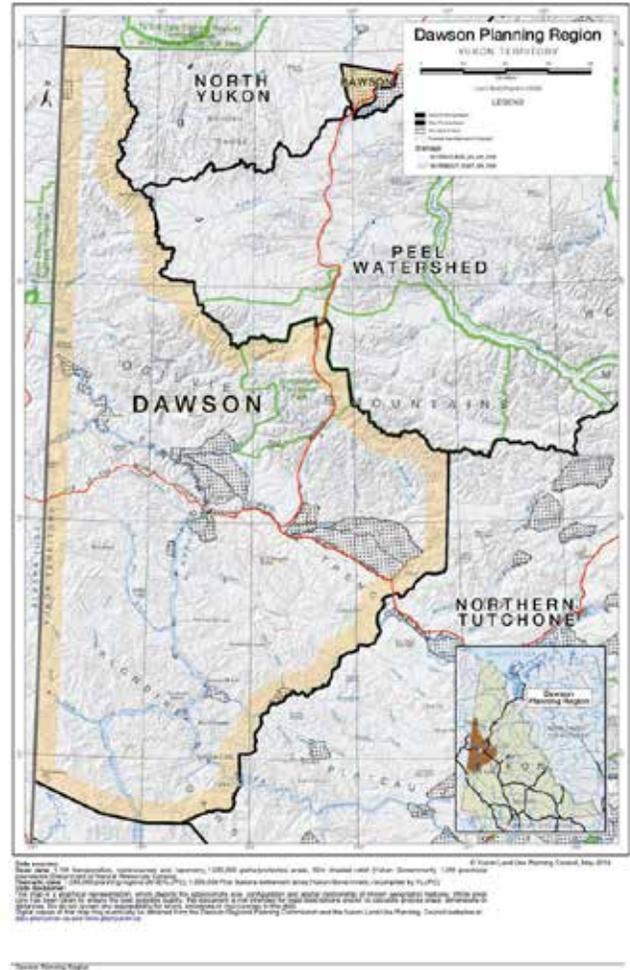
The Harvest Management Committee (three TH representatives and three Yukon Government reps) has been developing a harvest management plan for Fortymile Caribou in the Yukon, which will include specific harvest management actions to be committed to by each party. The plan will work on a harvest management strategy that will be brought to citizens for consideration and evaluation once a draft has been developed. Our Harvest Management Plan should align with management planning efforts in Alaska and TH and YG have been meeting with the Alaskan management coalition to make sure that lines of communication remain open. Please visit us for more information or if you would like to provide us with input for this plan.

## Dawson Regional Land use Plan

The Dawson Regional Land Use Planning process has officially resumed. The six-person Dawson Regional Land Use Planning Commission has been appointed and consists of Debbie Nagano, Alice McCulley, Angie Joseph-Rear, Art Webster, Dan Reynolds, and John Flynn.

The Dawson Regional Land Use Planning is a co-government, collaborative, land use planning process between TH and the Yukon Government. The planning is guided by a Planning Commission made up of six nominated members: three nominated by YG and three nominated by TH. Natasha Ayoub, Fish and Wildlife Manager, and Lee Whalen, Heritage Officer, have been selected to sit on the Technical Working Group for TH, which works directly with the Yukon Land Use Planning Council and the Senior Planner and assists with providing technical information to the Commission for their consideration.

The Dawson Regional Land Use Planning Commission will be holding TH and local community meet and greets and engagement sessions. Stay tuned and please contact the Natasha (ext. 115) or Lee (ext. 113) if you have any questions.



# TR'ONDĚK HWĚCH'IN TRUST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TH Hall | Saturday, June 1, 2019

Breakfast: 9:00 a.m., Meeting: 9:30 a.m.

- Breakfast, lunch & dinner served
- Door prizes
- Major prizes
- Trade show booths

Elders rides are available at 993-7100 ext. 164. Trade show is open to the public.  
*For more information, call Maureen Birckel at the TH Trust at 867-334-5061.*



# 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.

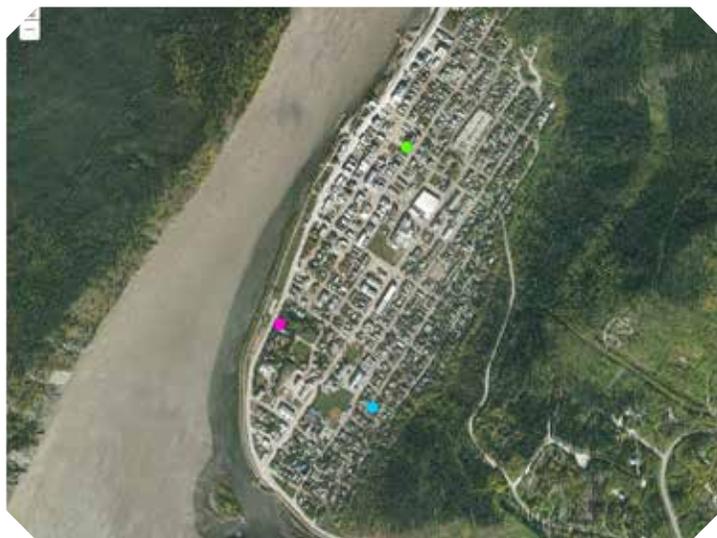
**Visit *mappingtheway.ca* to learn about the journey to Yukon First Nation self-government and land claim agreements, and the benefits they bring to all Yukoners.**

# Land & Resources



*Above: Adam Thom works with a student at Robert Service School.*

*Below: Three "haunted" places plotted on a map.*



## GIS Day

While not as well-known as some annual celebrations, GIS Day recognizes the difference Geographic Information System (GIS) technology has made in our lives.

GIS technology organizes layers of information onto maps that reveal insights into land use, relationships, patterns, and situations. Need a map that shows the layers of property ownership along with underlying mineral rights? GIS can help with that. Interested in the migration patterns of caribou during certain times of year? GIS has you covered.

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in GIS Coordinator Adam Thom did his part to acknowledge GIS Day by working with Grade 7 students from Robert Service School on their own GIS projects. Students worked in groups of three and four to plot "haunted" locations around town on a GIS map.

Interested in their work? You can find it at the other side of these links. Well done to all the students who participated!

<https://arcg.is/0Pj1qb>

<https://arcg.is/0uP8PX>

<https://arcg.is/0WHbCj>

<https://arcg.is/1SGmrT>

# REMINDER

Only TH citizens are allowed to harvest timber on settlement land. If you see anyone illegally harvesting timber, please contact Darren Taylor or James Roberts.

(Right: James Roberts stands next to one of two signs on the Brewery Creek Road that highlight settlement-land areas. One sign is at the entrance of R-22 and the other before the Lee Creek Bridge.)



## Water Sampling

Natural Resources staff have been assisting with the Pacific Yukon Water Quality Monitoring Program since October 2016. Their work alongside officials from the Yukon Government's Department of Environment Water Resources Branch takes them to three sites in TH Traditional Territory on the Klondike, Ogilvie, and Eagle Rivers.

This federal program is administered by provincial and territorial governments and, in the Yukon, with First Nations governments, as well. It provides a great opportunity to conduct a monthly patrol up the Dempster to the northernmost part of traditional territory in conjunction with the sampling trip.

For more information on the program, visit <http://yukonwater.ca/monitoring-yukon-water/networks/details?network=3>.





# Education Support

by Babe Titus, Education Support Worker

My year at Robert Service School has been great, and I am definitely learning a lot and building relationships with students and parents. If you need assistance for your K–12 children, please contact me at [babe.titus@trondek.ca](mailto:babe.titus@trondek.ca) or (867) 993-7100 ext. 189. From there, we can work on assisting your children with his or her educational needs. I do believe it does take a community to raise a child.

## Grade 12 High School Bursary

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in high school graduates are eligible for a \$300 graduation bursary. The bursary is available until June 30. Recipients must be a registered Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in citizen. (If your child is unregistered, please contact our Citizenship Registrar at 1-867-993-7100 ext. 143 or [citizenship.registrar@trondek.ca](mailto:citizenship.registrar@trondek.ca)). Also required is a letter from the student's school administrator (on the school's letterhead) confirming the applicant has met graduation requirements. An incomplete application or a completed application form without the required graduation letter will result in a delay in payment and the forms being returned to the applicant.

Once an application has been submitted, you will receive a confirmation email. (Follow up if you do not receive confirmation.) Please allow two to four weeks for processing.

A graduation bursary can be found on pages 15 and 16 of this newsletter or downloaded from [trondek.ca](http://trondek.ca). If you have any questions or concerns, use the contact information provided on the application form.

Graduates will also receive a gift. Graduates outside of traditional territory: please keep the K–12 team up to date on your current mailing address.

If you would like to share your graduation or prom pictures in our next Këntra Täy, please email [celc@trondek.ca](mailto:celc@trondek.ca).

## Robert Service School Graduation

Join us and celebrate our graduating students living in our traditional territory. We have six students who will be receiving their diplomas.

Date: Saturday, June 8, 2019

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Location: To be announced

## Yukon First Nations Graduation Ceremony

Council of Yukon First Nations hosts the annual Yukon First Nation Graduation Ceremony in Whitehorse, on the traditional territory of the Ta'an Kwäch'an and the Kwanlin Dün First Nation.

Date: Friday, May 24, 2019

Time: Reception at 12:00 p.m.

Ceremony at 2:00 p.m.

Location: Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre

To be a participant of the graduation ceremony, graduates must be (a) of Aboriginal, Inuit, or Métis ancestry and (b) completing their Grade 12 year, with an academic Grade 12 Diploma, Dogwood Diploma, Adult Graduation, or a Leaving School Certificate.

Please watch for registration and ticket details.

YFN Graduation Society Contact Information:

2166 Second Ave.

Whitehorse, Yukon

Y1A 4P1

[yfngraduation@gmail.com](mailto:yfngraduation@gmail.com)

1-867-335-1927

<http://www.facebook.com/yfngraduation/>

## Parting Words

By time you're reading this, I will have completed my one-year term position. It has been a pleasure to have been given this opportunity. From here, I will see what is next for me. Until then, drin ne' huzú'.



# Expanding Horizons

by Natalja Blanchard

In February, I attended a Land Claims Agreement Coalition (LCAC) meeting with Chief Joseph in Ottawa. During this meeting, I sat in the outer circle—listening and absorbing the speeches, issues, and solutions presented by the Modern Day Treaty Chiefs.

On the last day, I prepared a speech to present my concerns as a youth to Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations. There were five other youth who also gave a speech. We spoke about the importance of timely implementation and our frustration over ongoing implementation issues. I was the first presenter and completely terrified to step out of my comfort zone. I am proud to have received such an opportunity.

The Youth Negotiation and Implementation Simulation assembled youth representatives, from B.C. to Nunavut. There were guest speakers and mentors giving presentations and offering advice throughout the simulation, including negotiators, lawyers,

educators, and crown officials. I learned that many of the mentors and negotiators have been fighting for Indigenous Peoples' rights all their lives and still are today.

The second day we broke into three groups—federal, territorial, and Indigenous governments. We were given a scenario to create policies about an endangered species. The goal was finding a compromise all governments agreed with. I found the process of negotiating frustrating and emotional because it is difficult to compromise while keeping the government's best interests in mind.

The next day, we implemented the policies we negotiated the day before. The facilitators added an additional challenge: implement another group's policy as a different government official. Again, we started the simulation by familiarizing ourselves with the previous group's ideas and the new government mandates. I found the negotiation for the implementation portion went smoothly until we had to negotiate for the funding and who would be responsible for the cost.

This was hard because the financial costs were high and negotiating positions polarized, making an agreement difficult.

At the end of the third day, each group presented the negotiated implementation plan. Interestingly, the plans reflected a different outcome than the original negotiators ideas and goals.

My experience was enlightening and informative. I started with little knowledge about land claims, mandates, and policies, but gained a better understanding of the challenges that come with implementing our agreements. Coming out of this experience, I have a better overall knowledge of the work involved with implementing our land claims. For the future, I feel it is my job to maintain the pressure, like the Chiefs and citizens have done since the first Land Claim Agreement, signed in 1975. This experience has taught me so much and has fed my understanding of implementation and negotiation processes.



**STUDENT INFORMATION**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Is the child registered as a TH Citizen?      YES      NO      Status Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Is the child a TH Beneficiary?      YES      NO      Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

School Graduating: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_      Grade Level:      Twelve (12)

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Please return forms **fully completed and signed**, by either:*  
a) *Mail: P.O. Box 599, Dawson City, Yukon, Y0B 1G0, Attention: K-12 Education Department;*  
b) *Fax: (867) 993-6553, Attention: K-12 Education Department; or*  
c) *Scan & Email: [celc@trondek.ca](mailto:celc@trondek.ca)*

**Māhsi cho**  
*(big thanks)*

**OFFICE USE ONLY**

Date Received \_\_\_\_\_      Processing Date: \_\_\_\_\_      Employee Initials: \_\_\_\_\_  
dd/mm/yy      dd/mm/yy



# Erika Hihè

**D**rin hqzq dèth'èk ts'ǎ'. Good day everyone. Nèkhwänjit dāhonch'e? How is everyone doing?

Last April I took leave from my position as Heritage Assistant. I returned in October for a month and back full-time since January. I am so happy to be working again, and especially doing language work and teaching Hän language.

Last fall, I worked with Aboriginal Head Start on Hän labels for objects in the class, like toys, books, and tables. Kyrie and I also started work on the Hän translation of a book called *Brown Bear*, by Bill Martin Jr. and Eric Carle. Publishing of the book is in the works.

I have been busy organizing language lessons for TH staff and continuing at Aboriginal Head Start twice a week, where we are learning nouns from the "Hän at Home" booklet I created. I am also doing Total Physical Response with Aboriginal Head Start, which is a method of teaching using only action and speech.

The Hän language crew went to Whitehorse in February to attend the First Nation Linguistics 200 program. We worked with the grammar of our language and developed sentences and conversations that we recorded.

Below is one of the conversations we came up with:

MH: K'amänt ji' ih'al? (What did you eat this morning?)

ES: K'amänt ch'èghër ch'ih'al. (This morning I ate eggs.)

MH: Dòk äht'er? (Who cooked?)

ES: Allison ch'èghër èktsey (dhohtsey). (Allison made the eggs.)

MH: Yà ch'ukèt zho ts'ǎ' àhàl (ihàl)? (Are you going to the store?)

ES: Èhè' ch'ukèt zho ts'ǎ' tishal. Ji nidhän? (Yes, I'm going to the store. Want anything?)

MH: (Nèlay nithän, sogay, mä' chu nithän.) (I want meat, sugar, and milk.)

ES: (Lèzra tsul ihday'. Shi ohkèt.) (I have a little money. You buy food.)

MH: Mähşı cho. Nántènè-in. (Thank you very much. See you again.)

ES: Khàwts'ǎ' ji' ähtsey? (This evening, what are you going to make?)

MH: Jèjik nèlay shı chu dhäl ey ts'ǎ' t'èht'e (t) èktsey. (I am going to make moose meat soup and bannock.)

ES: Honts'èt! Nèlay ch'ukèt zho onkèt. (You lie! You bought meat at the store.)

MH: Hadhinche! Jèjik nèlay kışa. (Hurry up! Go and get moose meat.)



## Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre

by Glenda Bolt

At Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre we have forgotten all about winter and are preparing for a busy summer season. We had fun sharing with the school groups, Yukon Quest guests, the Trekkers, tour companies, and hockey players, but now it's time to look ahead.

Dänojà Zho will open its doors for the summer on Thursday, May 23. Watch for new tours and programs as well as the old favourites. We have lots of returning staff this year so be sure to come in and say hi. Remember all DZCC tours, displays, and activities are free for Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in citizens and their guests. We are always happy that you come to visit.

This summer we are proud to partner with the Yukon Arts Centre (Whitehorse), Dawson ODD Gallery, and SOVA Confluence Gallery to host a contemporary Yukon First Nation art exhibition called *To Talk With Others*. This show has a little of everything, from beaded portraits of leaders during the *Together Today For Our Children Tomorrow* talks to a giant, hot pink moose, oversized 3-D books, carvings, films, and more. This innovative First Nation exhibit explores the early days of Yukon Land Claims through art and will be available May 23–Sept. 10, 2019.

By the end of May our new special occasion cards and TH postcards will be in the Gift Shop. Now you can send birthday and other greetings in Hän language. Mähsi cho to Georgette for her Hän help and Fran Morberg-Green for her design work on this fun project.

Starting in April, the Gift Shop has been purchasing Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in art and craft work. Connect with

Kylie about your arts and crafts soon. We need our gift shop shelves to be heavy with gifts. If you are behind schedule, remember we have beads and some hide for sale. Call Kylie.

Save the date: National Indigenous Peoples Day falls on Friday, June 21, this summer, and we look forward to hosting the Hän Singers, live fiddle music, and special guests again this year. Volunteers are needed, especially for the fundraiser barbecue concession. If you have something you wish to do or contribute to the event, we would love to hear from you. Contact Glenda for more information.



# NEW FACES



My name is Brenda Warren. I was born and raised in Dawson City and am the youngest daughter of Violet Moi (DeWolfe). I left Dawson City in 1981 and returned in 2007. I worked off and on in various positions for TH during this time and am currently working as the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Native Court Worker, which means I support First Nations people that find themselves in the court system (accused and victims). I am located at the Community Support Centre.



D rin hqzq! My name is Kay Linley. You may have seen me around the TH offices over the last few years. I worked as Land & Resources Manager from 2015–2018, then achieved the position of Executive Assistant for a short time before moving into the position of Policy Advisor with Implementation in December 2018. I now work on implementation matters with a strong team of women: Lisa Anderson, Monina Wittfoth, Rhea Lewthwaite, and Katrina Kocsis. I am honoured to work in service for Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and have learned a lot from the citizens I work with and live alongside.

My academic education is primarily in natural resources and public policy. I completed a Diploma in Recreation, Fish, and Wildlife, in 2006, followed by a Bachelor's of Natural Resource Science, in 2008. More recently, in 2015, I successfully completed a Masters in Public Policy with a focus in environmental policy and interest in Indigenous issues.

Over the last 15 years, I have worked a wide range of jobs in the natural resource sector including labour, field-based research, writing and analysis, enforcement, management, and negotiations. The many mixed experiences have strengthened my ability to adapt to a variety of environments and situations. I have worked in non-renewable and renewable resource sectors, with both resource extraction and conservation perspectives. The complex political arrangements around land and power are prevalent throughout and at all levels.

My true passion and love is the land and all that it includes. My work at TH is very much aligned with this passion. I am currently working on the Land Stewardship Framework and will be representing TH on multiple natural resource files relating to Implementation, such as oil and gas, mining, wetlands, and bilateral consultations with YG on multiple land-based conflicts.

Thank you for welcoming me to your beautiful traditional territory.

**D**rin hoqz! Shozre Aurora Knutson. I am a Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in citizen and have lived in Dawson for the majority of my life. This year, I started as the High School Community Education Liaison Coordinator (CELC). I have worked at the TH Government for about 10 years, starting at a very young age at Tr'inke Zho daycare, the youth centre, and, most recently, in the Finance department.

I started as CELC in January and am enjoying the exciting, fast-paced environment and working with the youth. I work closely with Ashley Bower-Bramadat (Elementary CELC) and Babe Titus (Education Support Worker), and we have a great team dynamic.

As a CELC, a large part of our job is working with teachers to help them incorporate TH cultural programming and traditions into the classroom and curriculum. We have organized culture camps for several classes and will be out on the land with the students periodically until the end of the school year. Another large part of my position is supporting TH students and assisting with communication between students, teachers, and parents to figure out how best to help students.

Please feel free to get in touch or stop by. My door is always open (in the school, upstairs in the old janitors closet—ha ha).



**K**atrina Kocsis was born in Whitehorse and raised in Dawson City. She is the Research Assistant in Implementation after previously working in Natural Resources as the Development Assessment Assistant.

Katrina has a four-year-old daughter and enjoys cross-country skiing in the winter and camping in the summer. She attended Yukon College in Dawson City in 2017–2018 and is considering pursuing studies in Indigenous Governance at Yukon College.

**S**arah Filiatreault, Shelter Coordinator for the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Men's Shelter, helps facilitate and coordinate a wide range of services on behalf of the TH Men's Shelter, including financial and employment supports, housing searches, and substance-use help. Sarah and the shelter team work with residents in developing personal goals and apply a strengths-based, client-centered approach with an anti-oppressive lens and trauma-informed delivery to assure a safer and more accountable space. Sarah was born in the east and moved around to various cities and towns but comes most recently from Sinixt Traditional Territory (Slocan Valley, B.C.). Sarah has been with Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in since August 2018.



# Remembering Shirley

*Shirley Read (née Whitehouse) had a special connection with the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Government and especially the Heritage Department, Shirley always made a point of stopping by when she was in town and, over the years, entrusted many family treasures with the Heritage folks.*

*Shirley passed away this spring, and as we say goodbye to this special Elder, Glenda Bolt and Sue Parsons look back on the impact Shirley has had.*



I met Shirley in 2008 when she and her daughter, Jackie, stopped into the heritage office. They brought with them the most wonderful package of family treasures to donate to the collection. You will recognize the beautiful pair of circa 1930s mukluks once belonging to Bertha Harper. We have them on exhibit whenever we can. We think they were made either by Lucy Woods or Clara Van Bibber. They are a wonderful example of caribou legging mukluks. Also in that first donation were two dolls. Both dolls were first place winners in the Discovery Day craft fair, one made by Martha Taylor in the late 1950s and the other made by Rose Hinnek.

This was the start of an ongoing relationship with Shirley that the Heritage office cherished. Shirley and Jackie stopped in to visit, share, and generously donate to the collection over the years when they would come home to Dawson in summer. Shirley ended up donating 65 items to the collection. We now have the Shirley Whitehouse-Read Collection, containing archival material, family photographs, beaded dolls, a purse, and those gorgeous mukluks.

Our sympathy goes to her family at this time of loss and we will be forever grateful for the time Shirley spent with us in the Heritage department.

– Sue Parsons

I met Shirley briefly at the Heritage Office over the years but really made a connection in 2015. Shirley called to say that as part of her museum volunteer work she was hosting a lunch for a group of international curators at her home in California. She was surprised to see my name as the Government of Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in curator on the list. The social gathering at her home was like being in the North, but with a cool California vibe. Shirley and family could not have been more gracious and welcoming to all of us and we all marveled at the "small world" of it all.

We kept in contact and she and her daughter Jackie would always visit Dänojà Zho when she came home. As an art collector and museum volunteer, Shirley had a great eye and so much experience to share. She was very complimentary about the DZCC galleries and the art and craft in the gift shop, which was wonderful encouragement. On her last trip home I shared with her a copy of the stunning photograph of her "back in the day," volunteering as a radio disc jockey at the local radio station. She was thrilled to see they still used that photo from her youth to represent the station.

I will always remember Shirley as a caring and patient person who loved art and culture and looked for the good in others. I am grateful for the time she shared with me.

I wish peace of mind to her family and friends at this sad time.

– *Glenda Bolt*





**Top left:** TH Farm products are popping up all over town. Gate sales of meat, eggs, and vegetables have been available for some time, but farm products have recently been sighted in stores and restaurants around town. Congratulations to the farm staff on this not-all-that-easy feat and thanks to the community for supporting our efforts.

**Bottom:** The first Yukon Forum of 2019 was held in Whitehorse. The Yukon Forum is a regular meeting between leaders of the Yukon and First Nations governments and

the Council of Yukon First Nations, with the goal of building strong relationships and collaborating on shared priorities. Topics discussed at this latest meeting included mining, economic development, and infrastructure.

**Top right:** The Dānojà Zho Cultural Centre is open for the season. While that might mean one more thing on the to-do list for guests to town, it also means the best place in town for finding incredible handmade, wearable, and useable art is once again open. Stop by and see what they have.





***Top:** An Intergovernmental Forum occurred this past April. The Forum is a chance for Canada, Yukon, and Yukon First Nations governments to engage in meaningful dialogue about reconciliation and the implementation of self-government agreements and land claims. This*

*past Forum was a chance for the parties to sign a renewed Forum Protocol Agreement, which reaffirms the commitment to work together, and discuss a number of shared priorities, including land-use planning, child and family services, education, housing, and fiscal issues.*

## **TR'ONDĚK HWĚCH'IN CITIZENS ... ARE YOU PLANNING TO ATTEND POST-SECONDARY STUDIES THIS FALL?**

**EARLY BIRD FUNDING APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY**

# **JUNE 15**

**THE FINAL APPLICATION DEADLINE IS**

# **JULY 15**

**LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED**

**For more info or to receive an application contact: Melissa Atkinson - 867-993-7100 ext. 111 or [melissa.atkinson@trondek.ca](mailto:melissa.atkinson@trondek.ca)**



*A successful drum-making camp was held earlier this year at Nānkāk Chèholay. The hands-on experience gave participants a chance to make their very own drum, from*

*start to finish. Thanks to everyone who attended, and a big māh̄si cho to the staff and instructors that made the camp happen. Stay tuned for more fun camps this summer.*



# ***A message from the Deputy Chief***

**D**rin hqzq, Citizens

It brings me great pleasure as your Deputy Chief to welcome you to spring. With this time of year, we like to get outside and enjoy the sun. I have been to a few camps already and had tons of fun talking with Elders and youth.

The first Stewards of the Land camp was a hit, and so was the second one. ( Let us all do our part to help teach about our land.)

Citizens, I hope you received all your information you needed at the Chief Isaac Incorporated info night. If you wish any more information regarding CII, please contact me.

There has been a little juggling within the Human Resources Department. Caley Boulter will be acting HR director until we find a new director. I would like to thank Melanie Bennett for her wonderful time and hard work she put into TH. HR will miss you, Melanie.

*– Simon Nagano, Deputy Chief*



## **BANNOCK THURSDAYS**

**THURSDAYS**

**1:30–3:30 P.M.**

**COMMUNITY SUPPORT CENTRE**



**Join us for bannock,  
tea, and a visit.**



# TH Tenants GOING AWAY?

## PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR RENTAL UNIT!

### LET TH HOUSING KNOW:

**WHEN** you will be away

**WHO** will be house-sitting or monitoring your home.

### WITH YOUR HELP, WE CAN AVOID:

**BOILER OR FURNACE TROUBLE**

**FROZEN AND BURST PIPES**

**WATER DAMAGE**

**SAFETY ISSUES (E.G. IN A FIRE, WHO'S INSIDE?)**

You are welcome to email your notice of absence to: [dalores.roberts@trondek.ca](mailto:dalores.roberts@trondek.ca)

Questions? Contact the Housing Office during business hours at 993-7100 ext. 119.

*~ Mâhsi cho! ~*



PLEASE CONTACT

**867 993 3916**

FOR CHICKEN, TURKEY, RABBIT OR PORK PURCHASES



# A Better Future for all Yukoners

*Did you know?*

Land claims and self-government agreements contributed to the creation of the Kwanlin Dün and Da Kų Cultural Centres, Tombstone Territorial Park, and made it possible for Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation to invest in Air North, Yukon's Airline.

The agreements strengthen our territory, and benefit us all.



**YUKON FIRST NATION  
SELF - GOVERNMENT**  
*mappingtheway.ca*

Mapping the Way is an initiative of the 11 Self-Governing Yukon First Nations, the Council of Yukon First Nations, and the governments of Yukon and Canada.

Learn more about Yukon First Nation land claims and self-government at [www.mappingtheway.ca](http://www.mappingtheway.ca)