



The Maasai delegation from North Tanzania visiting C/TFN Traditional Territory



Neek Watsíx

Spring 2019

IN THIS ISSUE

Message from Deputy Haa Shaa du Hen

by Daphne Pelletier Vernier

Since Maria's arrival in the Deputy Haa Shaa du Hen position in February, she has been extremely busy assuring the continuation of different initiatives, priorities and projects. She met with different Ministers in less than 4 months on important topics such as; Meeting with Minister Frost (YG/Env) along with Frank James and Chief Smith from CAFN on the Kusawa Park, met with Minister Streicker (YG/Comm. Serv.) along with Executive Council (EC) representatives on economic development, met with Minister Mostyn (YG/Hwys & Public Works) with Frank James on the use of the airport runway during the Haa Kusteeyi Celebration, met with Minister Bennett (Canada/Crown-Indigenous Relations) and Minister O'Regan (Canada/Indigenous Services) on the Financial Transfer Agreement (FTA) and the Health and Wellness of our Children and Citizens. She also met with Deputy Minister Paul Moore (YG/EMR) and Director of Implementation Ross Pattee from Ottawa.

She had the chance to attend a Dahk-Ka meeting in March with Nha Shade Heni Sidney and Spokesperson Ward in Whitehorse. They are currently looking at an eventual possibility to open a Dahk-Ka office and will be looking at hiring a Coordinator. Some EC Representatives, the Governance Manager James Baker and Maria attended a Teslin Tlingit Council General Council in April and it was very good. They learned lots on how they conduct business and they are thinking about adopting their traditional way of doing. For example, they have a Tlingit translator at every General Council.

Maria attended many different events since the month of February; The peacemaking Graduation, the intergovernmental Forum in Whitehorse & Carmacks, Leadership meeting, Yukon Forum, the Maasai delegation tour in Carcross, the First Nation Graduation, a family Circle for reintegration, a C/TFN General Council, 2 Community Dinners (Tagish and Carcross) the Fire Feast for the Community Comprehensive Planning (CCP) and the EC and Management Board Retreat to discuss and review the new fiscal year budget.

Maria would like to Congratulate all 2019 C/TFN Graduates and their hard work at School. Congratulations to: Crystal Carvill, Angie Dickson, Sheena Johns, Elizabeth Oliynyk, Jock Shepherd, Gary Sidney Johnson, Rosemary Smarch, Joshua Ward, Jordan Wedge, Hailey Laluk and 6 grade 12; Dana Sellers, Isabell James-Walker, Tayo & Antonio Tessaro, Kassandra Smith, Dawson Troyan and Kathleen Baker!! "Also those kids moving into Grade 9, be careful and do your very best in your new environment, Yee gu.aa yax x'waan!" says Maria Benoit.



C/TFN Comprehensive Community Plan - Fire Feast

The comprehensive community planning orchestrated by Gunta Business hosted a fire Feast for the community on May 22nd 2019.

Page 6



Canoe Ceremony with Wayne Price

The canoe ceremony with Master Carver Wayne Price to wake up the log took place on May 17th

Page 8 & 9

Governance Update

by Michelle Parsons

Happy Early Summer Everyone!

Governance has been busy little bees getting ready for Haa Kusteeyí (Inland Tlingit Celebration) with our brothers and sisters from Teslin Tlingit Council and Taku River Tlingit First Nation! We are very excited to host this exciting event for the first time in Carcross, July 26-28, 2019. We have a number of cultural workshops planned, Wayne Price is carving away at the dug-out Healing Canoe project (if you're in Carcross, go visit him at the tent next to the Learning Centre), Leadership/traditional canoe races, language learning/story telling, a tonne of great food, performers, traditional dancers, and of course, we had to add the Tug-of-War back in across the Nares River. Governance has brought on a Haa Kusteeyí Coordinator, Patrick Brown (who some of you may know from his work with Tagish Rec Centre and Skookum Jim Friendship Centre) to help bring us through this event. We will be hosting the traditional Tlingit Youth and Elder Gathering at Skookies Cultural Camp on Thursday July 26th, the day before the canoes arrive from Atlin and Teslin to begin the Celebration.

By-election 2019: As you may already be aware, a by-election was called by General Council and nominations opened on May 16th. Nominations closed on May 31st at posted on the C/TFN website here: <https://www.ctfn.ca/by-election-2019/>. At this time, it is important to ensure that you are on the voters list. Voters need to be 18 years old. There will be a few mail outs at this time, so it will also be important if you have moved, to ensure that the First Nation has your current mailing address (especially important if you wish to vote by mail-in ballot). There is mobile and early voting available through our Chief Electoral Officer Tanya Silverfox, who can be reached at: (867) 334-1385; or by email ctfnbyelection2019@gmail.com or by mail PO Box 33060, Whitehorse, YT, Y1A 5Y5. Voting Day will be July 15th.

Executive Council, after consultations with all Clan-based Committees, staff and Citizens at dinners held in Whitehorse, Tagish and Carcross have approved Priorities for the 2019/2020 fiscal year. Overall Government Priorities include: On-the-Land Programming including treatment opportunities; Communications and Relationship Building; Student/Youth engagement activities and employment; Training Opportunities for Staff; and Continuing on with our Dahk-Kah Partnerships with Teslin Tlingit Council and Taku River Tlingit. If you would like to read the full list of priorities assigned to each department, please read-on! They will also be posted in the coming weeks on the www.ctfn.ca website under each department there will be a document called Priority Letter 2019.

Executive Council also called a General Council for June 15th. On the agenda is a review of proposed budgets for 2019/2020 fiscal year and a proposed addition to the finance policy on how any operating surplus should be handled by the C/TFN Government. During this discussion, Executive Council wanted to me to explain how we end up in a surplus situation.

A surplus is made possible when C/TFN Government staff are able to bring in outside dollars (aside from our core funding) to work on a project that already has been budgeted for (from our core funding). These outside dollars could be from Yukon Government, other Federal Departments, outside agencies who would like to build partnerships with C/TFN, or other funders that just want to assist the First Nation in accomplishing a task/goal. These outside dollars allow C/TFN Government core funds to be freed-up to be used elsewhere or they are calculated as a surplus at the end of the fiscal year. On average, over the last 8 years of my employment with C/TFN, the staff have brought in (on average) from \$4 - \$7 Million per fiscal year. This is a positive thing.

In 2012, the surplus was clearly identified as a 'war chest', as the federal government was threatening to shut us down, as they did not want to negotiate a new Financial Transfer Agreement with C/TFN. Then, once that battle was won, there was agreement that the war chest could then used to build the new Learning Centre, which is just finished. Now, it is time to work on how this surplus will be handled annually and responsibly by building an operating contingency, housing asset replacement reserve and a capital asset replacement reserve. This is what is in the proposed addition to the Financial Policy, which will be reviewed by General Council on June 15th.

With so many activities on the horizon, it's hard to include them all here, Governance staff hope to see you at Haa Kusteeyí Celebration and encourage everyone to get out and vote for your new Chief on July 15th!!

Respectfully,

C/TFN New Fairness Coordinator/Ombudsperson

by Alyson Miller



Yak'úi agee,

Alyson Elizabeth Mae Miller yoo xat duwasáakw.

My parents like to joke with anyone who will listen that I was named after the Elvis Costello song 'Alison', because I was conceived at one of his concerts. I fact checked his tour history and the dates do not line up. My parents are Kevin and Jaynn, and one of their favorite things to do is try to publically embarrass me. My middle name Elizabeth Mae came from my mother's mother, Elizabeth Mae Rickard, who was a kind woman that never made grilled cheese without tomatoes slapped in the middle. My father's family name was originally Müller. They came as indentured slaves from Germany to the southern American colonies, and upon gaining their freedom, changed their name to Miller to overcome the shame of slavery.

I grew up in Hamilton, Ontario, with an older brother, who now fixes broken hearts for a living as a Cardiologist in Boston, Massachusetts.

A lot of people ask me, why on earth would you want to be a Fairness Coordinator? To me, it's simple. It's a matter of dignity and justice. I care about providing people with an opportunity to speak about what is on their mind and for it to be used as a chance to make things better.

I believe conflict is bound to happen, and when handled appropriately, it has the ability to transform the ways decisions are made, programs are delivered, and governments do business. If we never had feedback, we'd never be able to grow. The idea of having a job solely dedicated to supporting a government to better serve its Citizens seems like a pretty humbling and important opportunity to me.

The Fairness Coordinator's office will be open for business soon and I look forward to hearing from folks when it is!

More information about WHAT A FAIRNESS COORDINATOR DOES, HOW TO COMPLAIN EFFECTIVELY, and HOW THE FAIRNESS COORDINATOR CAN HELP ME will be coming soon!

A long wait for survival

by Daphne Pelletier Vernier



On Wednesday March 10th around 4pm Some Heritage, Lands and Natural Resources Monitors discovered a young Caribou that was motionless at the beginning of the Chootla lake. The monitors flew their drones around to see what was keeping this caribou in the freezing water and observed a wolf that was patiently waiting for the caribou's first move out of the cold water.

The Thursday morning, the monitors went back close to site so they could see if the caribou was still there and the caribou hadn't move an inch from the previous day. Around 4pm that day, 24 hours later, the Caribou was finally gone. Monitors flew their drones again trying to find a kill site. No ravens were flying by and not a trace of blood could be found. They concluded the Caribou, after a long period of wait, was able to escape from the wolf hunger. Good things come to those who wait!

Carcross/Tagish First Nation 2019/2020 Approved Priorities



News from your Carcross RCMP

In February 2019, the Carcross RCMP in partnership with the Ghuch Tla Community School and Carcross / Tagish First Nation, put together the first annual Winter Carnival day. A wonderful moose stew was prepared for lunch where approximately fifty community members attended to eat with the students. After lunch, many of the children laced up skates with the RCMP and teachers for an afternoon of fun. There was also a bonfire with a marshmallow roast! A good time was had by all and the Carcross RCMP would like to thank everyone who was involved in organizing this fun afternoon.

Please be advised that when it comes to using all-terrain vehicles, boats or any other motorized vehicles, you are subject to the same laws as a vehicle when it comes to impaired driving. This means that the punishment would be the exact same as if you were driving a motor vehicle, so please consider a designated driver if under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

The Carcross RCMP will be hosting a BBQ in the near future at the local detachment. Posters will be placed around town when a date has been selected.

Have a safe summer.



Fishing for Ooligan

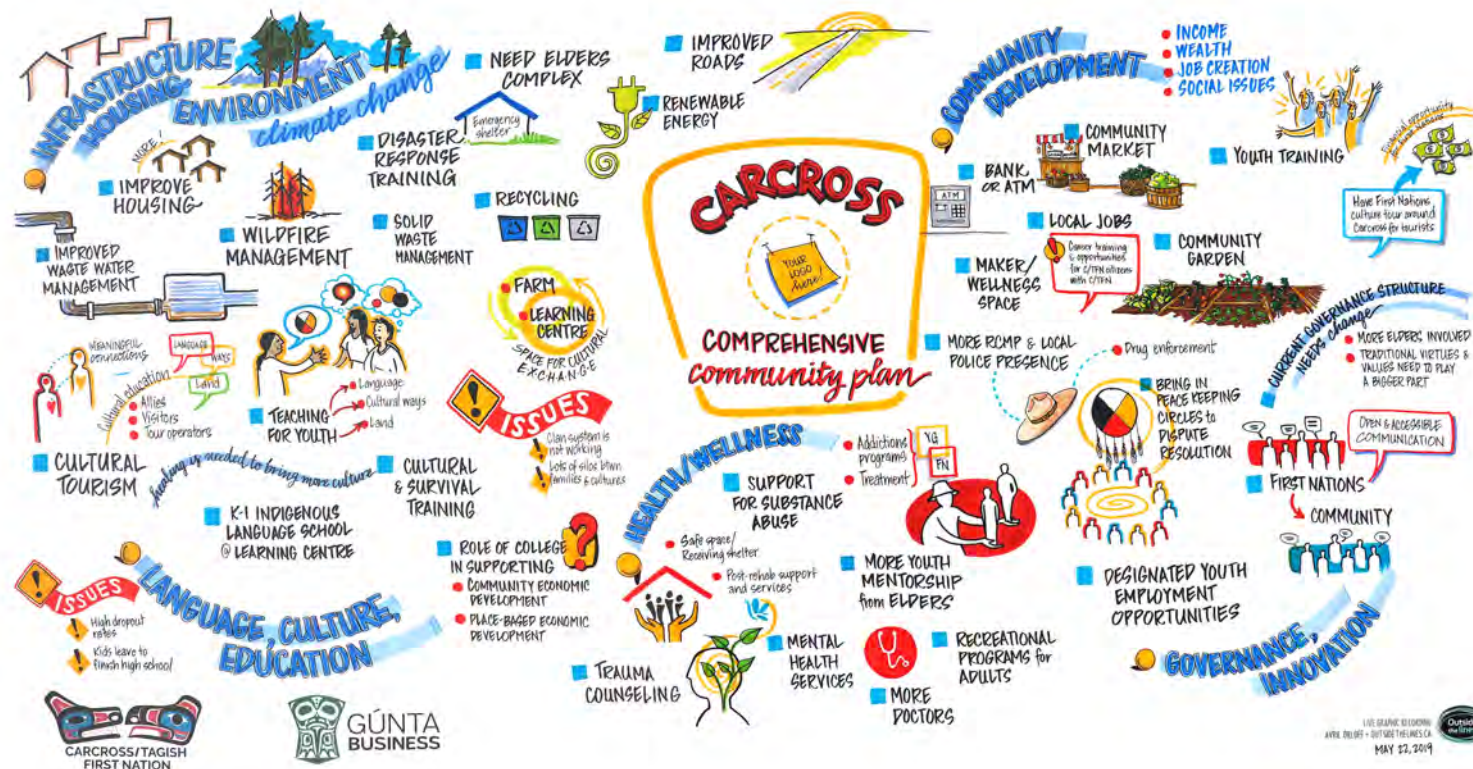
by Donna Wolfe

At the spur of the moment we were informed that the ooligan were in Haines Alaska, so three of us from the department (Heritage, Lands and Natural Resources) jumped in the truck and got there just as the high tide came in at 7 pm. By midnight we were tired and got 7 coolers full of ooligan. As we were fishing we had the pleasure of meeting an elder named Sonny. Sonny is a local from the area and he has a personal cultural interest in the ooligan. He honored us with some cultural knowledge in which he explained the difference between males and females, and also how he prepares them. We also met a lady named Sue, she offered us to stay at her house and set up camp for the night. We couldn't have been more blissful with the kindness shown to us.



Comprehensive Community Plan (CCP)

Here is a graphic representation done by Avril Orloff from *Outside the lines* from the community feedback on what they wish to see as a Comprehensive Community Plan for Carcross.



C/TFN BY-ELECTION 2019 - JULY 15th from 9am to 8pm

Carcross (Learning Centre) - Tagish (Community Centre) - Whitehorse (Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre)

Candidates are: Cynthia James, Michael Smarch,

Lynda Dickson, Maria Benoit and Marilyn Jensen!

CARCROSS COMMUNITY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

C/TFN & The CCP Planning Team would like to thank everyone who contributed to the 1st CCP Open House on May 22, 2019



THE CCP PLANNING TEAM WILL HAVE A BOOTH SET UP AT HAA KUSTEYÍ JULY 26 - 28, 2019 WE ARE SEEKING YOUTH TO ASSIST WITH SURVEY/ DATA COLLECTION AT THE EVENT!

**SAVE THE DATE:
YOUTH/ELDERS RETREAT
AUGUST 9 - 11, 2019**

For more information please contact:
Jessie Stephen
867-336-3304
jessie@guntabusiness.com



Carcross/Tagish First Nation is one of over 160 First Nation communities across Canada about to embark on an ambitious and an exciting project to create a comprehensive community plan or CCP.

C/TFN is the first self-governing First Nation to be a part of this unique program and will help set a course for other modern-day treaty holders across Canada.

Comprehensive Community Planning is an ongoing process that enables a community to plan its development in a way that meets its needs and aspirations in all aspects of community life.

Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) has been working in partnership with BC First Nations on CCP since 2004.

WHAT TO EXPECT!

Meeting with the Public

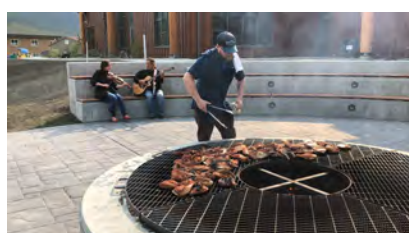
3 public events - over 2 years
Surveys - Summer 2019
Interviews - Summer/Fall 2019

Working with Youth / Elders

Youth/Elder Summit Aug 2019
Employment/training opportunities
Surveyors, interviewers, videographers, performers
Workshops and capacity development

Working with C/TFN staff

C/TFN Staff Retreat & Teambuilding



← C/TFN Farm chicken and Pork!

Devils Club Workshop

by Donna Wolfe

On May 16th we had our first devils club workshop of the year, we had lots of participants come down to the farm. The devils club came from Skagway, and was respectfully harvested by Donna Wolfe, Roberta Wally, and Rae-Anne Collings. The students from Ghùch Tlâ Community School came out for the morning. They learned how to take the thorns off, peel the bark that has the medicine, and how to soak it in the oil. We then proceeded to show how to heat up the oils and mix the ingredients. It was like the students have been doing it forever, they jumped right in there and pushed us out of the way to finish the job. Devils club is a highly valued traditional medicine that has a lot of teaching to offer. We try our best to not to disrespect the plant or the teachings it offers, that is something all the participants are taught to be mindful of when working with medicines. We hope to see more people joining us in learning cultural practices.



WORKSHOPS
EVERY THURSDAY
AT THE FARM 10AM -3PM

**JUNE
WORKSHOPS**
WITH DONNA WOLFE



June 06: Spruce tip
June 13: Dandelion
June 20: Arnica
June 27: Red Alder

TO REGISTER
PLEASE CONTACT

MARK.DOUCKETTE@CTFN.CA
OR 867-821-4251 EXT.8280



CANADA DAY SKATE COMP

YÁAN ÁT LÒON GOOCH SKATE PARK
CARCROSS

byte EMPOWERING YOUTH

SUBSTANCE FREE	REGISTRATION	11:30AM
HELMETS MANDATORY	COMPETITION	12:00PM
ALL AGES & SKILL LEVELS		



**There will be a Salmon Ceremony
in Atlin on July 19th 2019**
For more information you can
contact The Taku River Tlingit
www.trtfn.com
or call (250) 651-7900

Update from Infrastructure

by James Smith

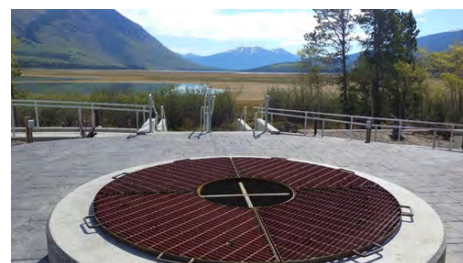
New name for the Learning Centre

The Learning Centre Society Board is meeting regularly they are proposing that the Learning Centre be renamed **Haa Shagoon Hit** (Our Ancestors' House). The society is working with Yukon government to finalize and file the new Bylaws to formalize their society so that the Learning Centre can operate independently from the GC/TFN.



Traditional Dugout canoe with Wayne Price

Work has begun on the dug out canoe. The blessing ceremony was held on Friday May 17th carving work commenced Saturday May 18th. Wayne Price, Master Carver is leading the project and is open to having help. If you would like to assist with the canoe please feel free to stop by and ask Wayne what needs to be done.



New Biomass Boiler

C/TFN is now the proud owner of a Biomass Boiler which has been hooked up to the operations and maintenance building. Future plans include using biomass boilers to supply carbon neutral heat to other GC/TFN properties. In April the Yukon government organized a biomass tour in Yukon and Alaska with five Yukon First Nations as part of a larger multi-year initiative focused on enhancing biomass capacity among Yukon First Nation.

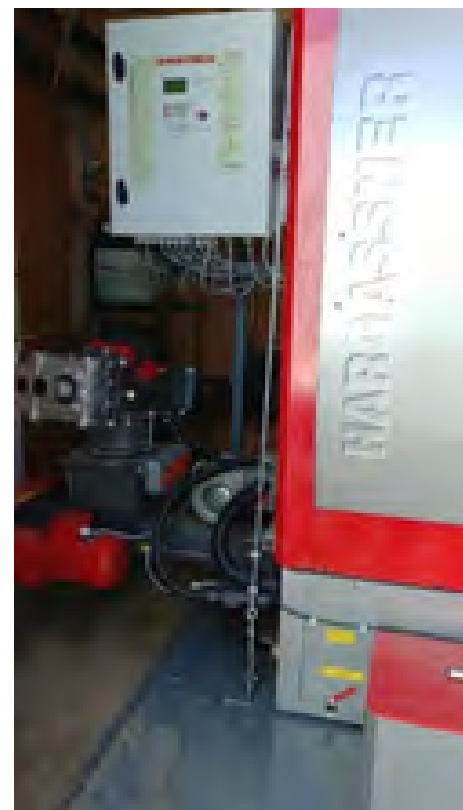
Interpretative trail panels

The Learning Centre team is working on an interpretive trail with panels to help inform visitors about the area as they walk along the **Taasleiyi aayi** (Nares lake) path. Two guides have been hired to work for the summer to inform visitors of the rich history and culture of C/TFN; Patricia James and Ruth O'Gorman.



New Fire pit!

The learning Centre has a new fire pit grate to use for cooking a Fire Feast! Look forward to eating all the excellent food that will be cooked on this grill!



Haines resident and Tlingit Master Carver Wayne Price will be teaching his craft by carving a Traditional Tlingit Dugout cedar canoe for Haa Kusteeyí Celebration 2019 in Carcross.

by Daphne Pelletier Vernier

Carcross/Tagish First Nation recently received confirmation that the funding of \$100,000 was approved through the Canada Council for the Arts to support the building of a Traditional Tlingit Dugout Canoe by Master Carver Wayne Price from Haines Alaska. Wayne Price arrived in Carcross on May 16th and will be staying in C/TFN Traditional Territory until the project is completed. C/TFN staff traveled to Haines Alaska when confirmation was obtained to pick up a 30 feet long and 4 ½ feet diameter cedar log that will be used by Wayne to carve the Dugout canoe. The log is approximately 450 years old. Now that the funding is in place, Wayne began the actual log carving work mid-May and hopefully have it completed for the Haa Kusteeyí Celebration 2019 on July 26th in Carcross. C/TFN goal is to have the Traditional Tlingit Dugout canoe launched and paddled for the Haa Kusteeyí Opening Ceremony. The carving project commenced by a blessing ceremony of the log and a celebration within the community that took place on May 17th. The carving will be done on-site at the Carcross/Tagish First Nation Learning Centre from May 18th until the end of July. Carcross/Tagish First Nation would like to extend an open invitation to all interested carvers from both the Yukon and Alaska and also to everyone interested in learning the Traditional Tlingit Dugout canoe carving skills to participate and volunteer some time toward assisting Wayne with this project. The Traditional Tlingit Dugout canoe will be approximately 30 feet long finished with a separate bow and stern piece that will be attached. The Dugout canoe will have the capability to perform on both inland waterways and on the ocean. C/TFN Master Carver Keith Wolfe Smarch will work closely with Wayne Price on final details including the design and colors of the canoe. Tlingit Master Carver Wayne Price is very experienced and participated in many different Traditional Tlingit Dugout canoe projects in the Yukon. As per Wayne; "the healing journey begins as soon as the carving starts".



WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!
CONTACT PATRICK BROWN:
(867)336-1978 or email patrick.brown@ctfn.ca

Residential Leases

by Doris Dreyer

The department of HLNR has been busy driving forward the process of issuing leases for residential parcels.

Name of Subdivision	Number of parcels offered	Number of applications	Number of applications under review	Number of LMB approvals
Watson River	10	8		8
Watsix Eeti	38	28	3	25
Choutla (and other areas within Carcross)	Open to anybody	1	1	



Watsix Eeti Subdivision

Leases need to be prepaid, which means people have to pay the whole lease up front. This is a bank requirement for them being able to lend money towards the construction of houses. The GC/TFN lease contracts are for a 99-years period. The lease price depends on the cost for the development of the land. As lots in the Watson River Subdivision required no work, the price of the parcels is \$1. In the case of Watsix Eeti Subdivision, the development cost amount to \$35,000 per parcel (including the GC/TFN parcels held back for multi-family housing projects). Each Citizens can only receive one lease at development cost. Any other lease thereafter will be granted at market value.

People with already existing interests on Settlement Land (a house on C/TFN lands) will be required to take out a lease for that house before being offered a second lease.

At this point in time, HLNR can accept lease applications for any parcel that is zoned through Yukon government Area Development (zoning) Regulations, such as Watsix Eeti Subdivision and the greater Carcross area. HLNR focus for the upcoming months is the development of a zoning regulation for other C/TFN Settlement Lands that allows the department to move ahead with leasing lands outside of Carcross as well.

Another important requirement for being able to receive a lease is that parcels are properly surveyed. Surveying ensures that, over the lifetime of the lease, you and your neighbours will have

certainty about the actual extent of your parcel. Surveys can be costly and the cost, generally, need to be covered by the applicant. The department is trying to lower the overall survey cost through surveying entire neighborhoods instead of single parcels and through applications to funders. We will keep working with you to ensure that the requirement of a survey does not become a major hurdle for you being able to take out a lease.

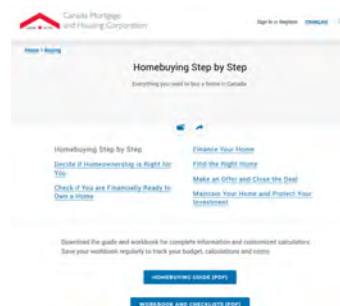


Watson River Subdivision

HLNR has been working in the past months with lenders to ensure that Citizens can get mortgages. This includes a mortgage from the First Nations Bank that is offered through the First Nations Market Housing Fund. This mortgage is backed by GC/TFN. Please note that, while this mortgage is backed through GC/TFN, the bank will still check your financial ability of taking on mortgage payments. However, generally, they will be less stringent than other banks. For example, while the Bank of Montreal is requiring a credit score of 700 to consider lending a mortgage, the First Nations Bank of Canada under the First Nations Market Housing Fund might be satisfied with a credit score of 600. If you are interested in seeking a lease to build a home, you might want to learn more about how banks evaluate your financial viability to take on a mortgage.

For questions about mortgages granted under the First Nations Market Housing Fund, please contact James Smith, Director Infrastructure (867-332-1543, james.smith@ctfn.ca). For questions about the lease parcel process, zoning or surveys, please contact Doris Dreyer, contractor with HLNR (867-333-6631, denzena@yahoo.ca).

If you would like to learn more about the process of purchasing your own house, please consider using the tools available through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) at <https://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/buying> or google "CMHC homebuying step by step", in particular the Homebuying Guide and the Workbook and Checklists they provide to prepare you for your journey to your own house.



Greetings from the Capacity Development Department

by Robin Lord

Departmental priorities for Capacity for the 2019/2020 year have been identified. We are excited to get to work on moving these initiatives ahead!

- Offering more training opportunities locally
- Connecting Youth with heritage routes with the support of Heritage Lands and Natural Resources
- Investigating the possibility of daily transport of High School students to/from Whitehorse
- Continue to strive for the creation of a youth center

Exciting Initiatives / Events

Capacity is working with partners to support the following events this summer!

Skateboard Competition: Bringing Youth to Equality (BYTE) will be hosting a Skateboard Competition on July 1st in Carcross! Save the date for this exciting event and stay tuned for more information.

Mural Project: Youth of Today Society (YOTS) will be leading a mural project in Carcross bringing youth and Elders together to create a mural on the Capacity Building. The project is scheduled to take place throughout June and July and includes a 4-week work opportunity for 3 youth Artists and 1 Senior Artist with YOTS.

Art House: Art House Carcross will be open again this summer where Crystal Carvill will be welcoming visitors from around the world. There will be two shows, the first will run from May 18-July 11 and the second will run from July 15 – end of August. Blake Lepine's work will be featured in the second show. Congratulations Blake and Gunalcheesh for sharing your gifts! If other C/TFN artists are interested in showcasing their work at Art House Carcross please let us know.

TakingItGlobal: The amazing people at TakingItGlobal have provided us with a Cisco Telepresence system for the Youth Space, upstairs at Capacity. This system will allow youth to connect with

knowledge holders around the world on topics of their interest including; famous artists, musicians, athletes, engineers etc. The system is the same as the one in Ghùch Tla School and we are excited to be able to offer this same experience to the community at large.

Regalia Workshops for Youth: In Partnership with the Youth Investment Fund, we will be hosting 2 sewing workshops where youth will be able to create a headpiece as part of their regalia for HKT. Please watch for posters with the dates.

Haa Yatx'I Hidi

Greetings and Happy summer from the team and children at the HYH! What a great year it has been. We had wonderful moments watching our little ones growing, learning and becoming more independent. Our center is now adopting more of the Montessori concepts, which is based around child lead programming. While continuing to encourage sharing a respect for self, others, the environment, and the world. We teach early learners independence, critical thinking, social grace and courtesy. We strive to instill in our children a love of learning. We teach students through hands-on, individualized experiences. We believe all adults in our community are role models.

As summer is rolling in, the children are loving the warm weather, which means more walks, and more fun outside. We're looking forward to a successful and busy summer. The center has been preparing and practicing singing and

dancing every morning for the Haa Kusteeyí, when our community will be host to many friends, and family coming from near and far away. In preparation for these events, we at Haa Yatx'i Hidi will be spending every Friday, from 3:30 to 4:30 making drums, and other regalia till the big day. We are looking for parents, guardians, and other interested community members to join us in this project. We thank you in advance for your service.

K4-12 Education

We are coming to the end of yet another school year! Wow!! Its been busy! The winter has seen a lot of change and a lot of positive things happen in the school with both the staff and children. Through out the winter we have had a variety of Elders and Community members come into the school to tell stories, be interviewed by students for different projects, share their knowledge on a variety of topics, teach cooking skills, skin animals and much more. Our students have participated in Culture Days, they've attended Elders Breakfast on Tuesdays, worked with Dept. of Education on the Caribou in the School Project. It really has been a great year for our learners!!

I would also like to acknowledge all the volunteers that have helped out in one way or another and that have made this school year a great success. Please know, without your support, we wouldn't be where we are now!

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the larger things that have been happening.

Drum Making with the 7/8/9 class: In March the 7/8/9 class took 2 days to work on their very own drums. This was a great opportunity for team building and being hands on in the creation of a drum. Each student that participated left with a beautiful drum made with respect and love.



Regalia: A project we started on last month was to ensure every student in the school had a vest to wear in preparation for HKT. Thanks to some wonderful woman in our Community, we completed the project. On April 30th, the students of Ghùch Tla Community School danced life into the vests at a Gathering that was held at the Learning Center. A very Big thank you to Joyce Hall, Shirley Lord and Liz Baker as well as the parents that came in to volunteer their time to sew buttons.

Principals Excursion: Each Year a National Conference takes place with Principals from across Canada. This year this conference was held in Whitehorse for the first time ever and we were honored to have had 80 Principals come visit us in Carcross for the Day on April 30th. It was a great day had by all! They learned about C/TFN, Carcross, watched our Children perform, toured Carcross and visited the School.



Carving with Keith and Thomas: The 7/8/9 Class spent a week working on design and carving paddles with Keith Wolfe-Smarch and Thomas Fawcett. It was a great opportunity for the students to show their creative sides and share the beautiful paddles at the end! Job well done!



Grayling: The grade 7/8/9 class went to work with Harold Gatensby to catch Grayling. They had the fish just jumping into their nets. After they took their catch to the school and learned how to descale and fillet the fish. The fish were to be distributed to the Elders.



Tutoring: runs from September to June. If you would like tutoring services, please let us know. This is available to all learners, kids to adults. For more information you can contact Keith Seaboyer @ 821-4251 ext:8273. Keith will be off for the summer months from mid June to the end of August 2019

Grade 9 transitions: This year we have 6 Grade 9 students that will be moving into Whitehorse in September to attend High school. Both our ESWs have taken them into town to visit the High School, attend classes, visit Gadzoosdaa and check out "safe places" in Whitehorse. This is a very big move for them and we wish them all the best. We will continue to support them through this process right onto Graduation

Graduation 2019: This year we are acknowledging 6 Grade 12 graduates from C/TFN. Please help me in congratulating; Dana Sellers, Isabell James-Walker, Tayo & Antonio Tessaro, Kassandra Smith and Kathleen Baker!! There are other individuals that are graduating from different courses and programs. Please help in congratulating them as well!

Education Support Workers: A very BIG thank you to our two wonderful ESWs. They work hard to offer our students the supports they need to succeed and go above and beyond to make their education experience a good one! Leona Bryden, our ESW for Ghùch Tla Community School, will be off for the summer months and returning back in August. Patricia Baker, our ESW for Whitehorse will be working with the Capacity Department for the summer

Youth Council: I am happy to announce that we now have Youth Council up and running. We have had 3 meetings so far and will be scheduling our next for early June. As to date, your Youth Council Reps are: Sheena Johns (Daklaweidi), Kody Smith (Gaanaxteidi), Dominic Johns (Kookhitta), Raeanne Sidney (Ishkahita), Landis Smith (Deisheena), Yan Yeidi (YTD) Youth Council has been talking about different issues pertaining to our youth and community. Over the next few meetings, they will be working on developing some policies for the Youth Council and partaking in some different types of training. If you have any ideas of what we can be bringing forward, please talk to your rep or myself (Robin) At our last meeting the Council worked on the Vision Statement for Youth Council, here it is..

Carcross/Tagish First Nation Youth Council's Vision Statement

Our vision is to give the youth a voice and the opportunity to reconnect with our past traditions and culture so that we can be leaders for the future and protect the land and water. We also want the youth to feel included and encouraged to be involved in shaping the community in a positive way.

Skateboard Park: The Skate Park is available for use but a reminder that it is a "Use at your own risk" park. Please ensure your child/ren are wearing helmets when using the park. The Youth Program does have some extra boards and helmets if you would like to sign it out. You will see through the summer that we will be doing some work around the park to make it a bit more prettier!

Youth Program: We are excited to share that our Youth Space upstairs in Capacity is now open! We are trying our best to make it a comfortable, safe place for the youth to engage in. Our Youth program is focused on 11 years and up. Between C/TFN and Carcross Recreation Board, there is a lot going on almost daily. We would like to welcome on Shirley McKay who is filling our Youth Worker position while David is off on Paternity Leave.

The Youth program is going to start back up with their fundraising efforts so that they can attend different functions or go on field trips. Please watch for posters. If you would have any thoughts on what we can do differently or try, please let us know!! Calendars go out each month from the school and are posted on our web site (C/TFN Citizen page and Youth Page)

Literacy Camp & Another FIRST for C/TFN Carcross ! Carcross joins 140 communities in Canada with Indigenous Summer Literacy Camp program. On May 8th-10th, Gwen Ross & Brennen Smith of Frontier College in Vancouver, conducted training for Indigenous Summer Literacy Camp leaders. We were fortunate to have 4 of our staff participate in the training. "Literacy; Learning for Life" course taught interesting FUN & Engaging methods of engaging youth in educational activities which are focused on encouraging lifetime learning and FUN ways of building on campers' literacy & numeracy skills; Youth Literacy camp is organized by Ghùch Tla Community School and C/TFN. It will run for 11 weeks starting June 10th. It is for ages 5 to 11 years of age. For more information to follow. Please watch for announcements.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at (867)821-4251 ex:8229



Summer Students

With the school year coming to an end we are excited to welcome summer students to our team!

Six post-secondary students will be participating in C/TFN's Career Focus Program which provides students with an opportunity to gain work experience relevant to their area of study while giving

back to the community. David Gatensby, Nicole Welin, Donna Johns, Crystal Carvill, Judy Leamon and Mackenzie Davy will be joining C/TFN throughout May and June as they finish their students.

Nine Grade 7-12 students will also be provided with 8 weeks of life skills training and work experience this summer with C/TFN. The deadline to apply for these positions is June 12.

Education & Employment and Training

Congrats C/TFN Students:

Capacity Development would like to congratulate the following post-secondary & trades students who are graduating/have graduated this Winter/Spring 2019:

Crystal Carvill graduating from Emily Carr University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree

Angie Dickson graduating from MC College with a Hairstyling Diploma

Sheena Johns graduating from Yukon College with a First Nation Governance and Public Administration Certificate

Elizabeth Oliynyk graduating the Interior Heavy Equipment Operator program from Alberta's 4 Piece Full School

Jock Shepherd who graduated the Piledriver & Bridge Apprenticeship program from BC's Local 2404 Joint Apprenticeship School

Gary Sidney Johnson who is graduating from Yukon College from the Yukon Native Language program as a certified language teacher

Rosemary Smarch who graduated from the Advanced Computerized Office Procedures program at Academy of Learning Career College

Joshua Ward who graduated from Northern Cultural Expressions Society's Beginner Carving program

Jordan Wedge graduating from Pacific Rim College with a Diploma of Phytotherapy

Hailey Laluk is graduating from the Dental Assistant Program at CDI College.

Capacity Development would also like to congratulate the following students for their achievements:

Elaine Chapman for her acceptance into the Bachelor of Social Work program at the University of Regina

Andrew Johnson for his acceptance into the Service Technician Diploma program at Grande Prairie Regional College

Ryley Johnson for his acceptance into the Industrial Mechanic Program at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology

Tyler Obediah for his acceptance into the Renewable Resource Management Program at Yukon College

Willie Smarch for his acceptance into the Bachelor of Business Administration program at Yukon College

Alfred Smith for achieving his Class 1 Driver's License

For completing the Science 030 on-the-land course out at C/TFN's farm:

Nicky Charlie, Dominic Johns, Jared Gatensby, Josslynn James, Sam Smith, Samantha Smith, Suezanna James

For achieving their Chainsaw & Brushsaw Certificates: Tyrone Atlin, Clayton Beattie, Dion Charlie, Cole Coward, Thomas Fawcett, Brad Hall, McKenzie Harper-Smarch, Jerry James, Patricia James, Aidan Joe-Gatensby, Clifford Johns, Karlie Knight, TJ Matthews, Bill Smarch, John Smarch, Donna Wolfe, Keith Wolfe-Smarch

Snapshots & Highlights



Artistry by Megan "Guná" Jensen:

Artist Bio: Guná is an emerging Tlingit artist from the Carcross/Tagish First Nation. She explores contemporary themes while maintaining the integrity of Tlingit forms. Guná will be graduating in 2020 with a Bachelors of Visual Arts from Emily Carr University of Art and Design. Guná recognizes that just like her ancestors, the Tlingit art form always has and will continue to evolve. Her mandate as an artist is to address current political issues that indigenous people face in Canada, while also creating space to express herself as a contemporary indigenous woman. "Had our ancestors not been malleable to the winds of change, we simply would no longer exist. As an emerging artist, I now have a responsibility to not only pass down the knowledge of formline, but also narrate and document the experiences and stories of the current state of our world." - Megan Jensen



Artistry by Joshua Ward :

currently enrolled in the Intermediate Carving program at Northern Cultural Expressions Society.



Photos of students during their Science 030 on-the-land Course that wrapped up in early May at the C/TFN Farm. A big thank you to Frances Ross, Colleen James, Jean Desmarais, Norman James, Jennifer Joe, the folks at C/TFN's Farm, the staff at both Yukon College and Carcross Campus, and all of the other C/TFN citizens and staff for their support in the creation and execution of this course in the Carcross/Tagish community! It couldn't have been done without you and is a big step towards recognizing and honoring indigenous knowledge and indigenous ways of knowing. Gunalchéesh!



Photos of students during their Chainsaw/Brushsaw Course. A big thank you to Ken Fosty from Forestry Training Services for offering his spectacular Chainsaw & Brushsaw course – the students loved your teaching style and the community would happily welcome you back anytime. Gunalchéesh!

Education & Training Funding Application Deadlines:

For post-secondary, trades, and long-term training programs (longer than 1 month): the Fall intake deadline for funding applications is June 1, 2019.

Students MUST submit completed applications that include all supporting documents (ex. acceptance letters, proof of application to external scholarships/bursaries, most recent transcripts, etc).

Late applications will be deferred to the Winter intake.

For short-term courses and training (less than 1 month): the deadline to apply for funding is 2 weeks prior to the course start date.

Community Training Opportunities: If there is a course or some kind of training you would like to do (First Aid, Chainsaw Operator, PAL, etc) please contact Kate Cecco the EETO (kate.cecco@ctfn.ca or ext. 8257) to let her know you are interested and she will look into setting up courses in Carcross if there is enough community interest. If there are not enough numbers to run the course here you can always look for courses offered in Whitehorse and apply for funding to attend those.

Driver's License Tutoring Services: If you are interested in working towards your Class 1, 3, or 4 driver's license and need assistance studying for the written exam, please contact our local tutor Keith Seaboyer at keith.seaboyer@ctfn.ca OR ext. 8273 to set up group or one-on-one tutoring sessions at no cost.

Keith also offers free tutoring for community members in other subjects (especially math) as well as assistance with resume and cover letter writing.

Transitional Employment

Well Spring is here and it's that time to clean up our yards and the TE Crew is available to help by hauling garbage to the dump upon request.

It has to be close to the road or at the end of the driveway, no house hold garbage. Pick ups will be on Wednesdays and Fridays. Please call Jerry James @ 867-334-2504 or Joyce Hall @ 867-332-1189 to be put on the list for pick up.

Since the last newsletter, we've had a new member on T.E. Welcome to the Crew Billy Smarch!!

The Crew participated in the Introduction to Hospitality and Tourism Course with the Yukon College in March!

Every Wednesday from 11:00am – 12:00pm we've joined the Tlingit Language class with Gary Johnson, it's really been enjoyable.

In April, Jerry, Tyrone and Billy got their chainsaw tickets. So Jerry has been getting the guys to try and use the chainsaw as much as possible.

We've been working on getting the crew the necessary tickets they need to get employment.

From all of us at Capacity, have an awesome spring and summer !

Heritage Update

by Derek Grose

Conrad Historic Site.

C/TFN is continuing its work to advance the co-management plan of the Conrad site as outlined in chapter 13 of our Final Agreement. The Conrad Steering Committee is nearing a final draft for the site management plan. The steering committee has engaged with Haley Sharpe Design to assist the steering committee with the implementation of the management plan.

We are hoping to remove the collapsing bridge and replace it with a smaller footbridge in the future. Funding has been secured that will fund the bridge removal and clean-up.

Conrad Steering Committee members consist of Art Johns, Colleen James, Derek Grose, Deborah Baerg (alternate), Ty Heffner, Rebecca Jansen and Barb Hogan.

Yukon First Nation Heritage Caucus Working Group.

We continue to participate in the heritage caucus working group. We gather with other Yukon First Nation representatives and other government representatives to support collaborative management processes as we work to advance heritage initiatives together.

We have developed a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) together that is ready to be reviewed by Executive Council. The MOU will also be reviewed by all participating First Nation's governments and the Yukon Government. Once the draft has been approved by Executive Council it will provide a common platform that enable us to advance heritage initiatives with working group participants and their respective governments.

Icepatch

We have had initial meetings with our Icepatch Working Group and planning fieldwork for the summer. We have a tentative schedule for fieldwork to happen in mid August in collaboration with our icepatch partners.

The Yukon Arch Branch has also created a display panel of artifacts that have been recovered from our field sessions in the past and we hope to have an icepatch info exhibit in the learning centre this summer.

Carving Shed

Keith and Thomas have had a busy winter and are even busier now that summer is approaching. They are currently creating a cedar dance screen for the learning centre. It is expected that this first dance screen will be completed this summer. We encourage all to drop by the carving shed anytime this summer to see what Keith and Thomas are up to.

They are also working this summer as much as possible with Wayne Price, who is here leading the carving project of a cedar canoe for the learning centre. The canoe is being carved in the big tent that sits on the northeast side of the learning centre.

We are also happy to report that Keith and Thomas spent a week this spring leading a paddle-making workshop with Andrew Noble's class at the school and was a positive learning experience for all involved. A big thank-you to Leona, Robin, Susannah, Andrew and everyone who helped make this happen. We are hopeful that we can continue to work with the school on future endeavors.




Easter Egg hunt



Language

by Deborah Baerg

VIRTUES & VALUES



CARCROSS/TAGISH
FIRST NATION

"While our laws are set out under various topics, they are woven together by our stories & our virtues. Our laws all stem from the same virtues. Each law is merely a practical application of our stories & virtues to a specific situation."
Statutes of Carcross/Tagish First Nation Book One: Traditional Beliefs and Practices - Our Place, Our Responsibilities

Yooch éex tudashéex

(We always help each other)

Selflessness

Yoosh katudashéix'

(We praise each other)

Honour

At yáa awuné

(Respect for things)

Respect

Toowú latseen

(Inner Strength)

Courage

Yan haa toowajákw

(Our Spirit/Mind is Firmly Resolved)

Integrity

At wuskú

(Knowledge)

Knowledge

Yooch daadé yoo tutuli.átk

(We are always thinking about each other)

Compassion

Yaadachóon yoo x'atánk

(Straight-forward speaking)

Honesty

Language Nest update – we are currently working on and trying our best to get the staff and children attending Haa Yátx'i Hidi daycare to share a few songs in Lingít for the upcoming Haa Kusteeyí celebration in the 3rd week in July. We are also working on and hoping the children will be able to say Tlingit their names and what clan they are. Since our last update the children are also learning in Lingít to count using large oversized dice and identify some local animals using finger puppets. It is so great to see how quickly the kids begin to learn and are able count to 10 already in such a very short time! We also like to once again like to welcome parents or grandparents to come and join us in our language nest from 10am to 11am Monday to Friday daily.

C/TFN Language Projects 2019

Language App – Creating a language app to assist with the school and adult curriculum, as well as curriculum for the daycare. Expected completion > August 2020!

Community Language Phrase book – A take home kit for the common beginner using language that would be used within the home, community, and school. Expected completion > July 2019!

School language Curriculum – Creating language curriculum with YNLC to assist with educators at the daycare, Ghùch Tlá community school, FHC & Adult Learning. The curriculum team is led by Krista Dempster (YNLC), Georgette McLeod (THFN), Sean McDougall (C/TFN). Expected completion August 2020

Song book – Create a song book for all clans using old recordings and also develop newer compositions. This will involve consulting all clans for approval of use and any other protocols that may come in to play for permission to use songs. On-going until completed

Potlatch Handbook – Create a handbook as a guide for clans to use while hosting potlatches. Information gathering will be from clan leaders and knowledge bearers. Each clan can host as they wish or see fit as this handbook will only be used as a guideline. Expected completion - August 2019!

Centre of Excellence – Create a Lingít language immersion and culture university with international accreditation. We are looking to develop this center with cultural teachings that will include but not limited to medicines, trapping, hunting, harvesting, tanning hides, potlatch, worldview, histories, wilderness survival, clan songs, traditional dance etc. All this research will also be in the works for the Tagish Language with similar outcomes! For further discussion on this new endeavor please send comments or ideas of what else you would like to see in regards to our self-determination and management of our education for our future generations to our language team in HLNLR Department! Please email Sean at sean.mcdougall@ctfn.ca

BIG HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO KEINAS.ÁX Gary Sidney Johnson on his graduation that took place on May 17, 2019 at Yukon College and getting his YNLC teaching certificate!! We wish you the best of luck with all future endeavors from the team in the HLNLR department!!



Update on the farm

by Michelle Parsons

Farm Management Upcoming Community Discussion

At a recent meeting between Executive Council, Management Board and the Carcross/Tagish Management Corporation - the issue of how the C/TFN farm is managed and who oversees it came up for discussion. There seemed to be quite a wide array of opinions on the matter and the ultimate decision was that a package would be put together to bring forward at a Community Meeting. Before the package is put together – some of the questions that will be asked are: Should the Development Corporation (Not-For-Profit arm) take on this important Food Sustainability project or should it remain under the management of the Heritage, Lands and Natural Resources Department? I think we can all agree that Food Sustainability is important and that we don't want to lose access to fresh, organic meat and produce that comes from the farm. Currently it is being used for community dinners, Elder's breakfasts, eggs are given to Elders and Temporary Financial Assistance Recipients and at the school for the hot breakfast/lunch program, among others. We will make the package widely available and will give sufficient notice so that everyone can have their opinion heard!



Communications for Bear & Caribou on the highway

by Daphne Pelletier Vernier

I recently created a partnership with C/TFN, the Skagway Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Grizzly Conservation Society Yukon to promote education on how to properly behave with bears when visiting the C/TFN Traditional Territory. This has been a long time request from the Land Management Board and we are happy to see that partners are willing to help us educate tourists on how to be bear aware!

CARCROSS/TAGISH FIRST NATION, THE SKAGWAY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU AND THE GRIZZLY CONSERVATION SOCIETY YUKON ARE ASKING YOU TO

BE BEAR AWARE ON THE HIGHWAY

ENJOY THE MOMENT WHILE YOU KEEP MOVING! DON'T STOP ON THE HIGHWAY & DON'T FEED BEARS
Let's be bear aware this summer and set an example on how to properly behave with bears.

Logos for Carcross/Tagish First Nation, Skagway Convention and Visitors Bureau, and Grizzly Conservation Society Yukon.

CARCROSS/TAGISH FIRST NATION IS ASKING YOU TO

WATCH FOR WILDLIFE WHILE DRIVING

REDUCE SPEED & DRIVE DEFENSIVELY!
We appreciate your cooperation and safety on the roads!

Logos for Carcross/Tagish First Nation and Skagway Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Maasai delegation visiting C/TFN Traditionnal Territory

by Daphne Pelletier Vernier

On May 9th and 10th 2019, a Maasai delegation "Loita" from the Ngorongoro District of Northern Tanzania was visiting the Traditional Territory of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation during a study tour of two weeks in Western Canada to develop relationships with Canadian First Nations and representing the Enguserosambu Forest Trust. The visit of the Maasai is being funded by the University of Victoria who set up the cultural exchange with the Kesho Trust, a Canadian Non-governmental organization and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

The Maasai people negotiated a settlement over traditional lands with the Tanzanian government nearly a decade ago. Now in an effort to build the capacity of its directors for their ongoing Indigenous rights work the Enguserosambu Forest Trust has partnered with Kesho Trust that works out of Tanzania and University of Victoria's Geography Department.

The hope of this exchange was to bring Indigenous Nations together to share experiences and insights around Customary Land and Water and Governance. The Maasai will offer their own experiences and struggles for self-determination through the Enguserosambu Forest Trust they established to gain authority over their traditional lands after long negotiations with the Government of Tanzania. At the same time the Maasai are here to learn about C/TFN's extensive experience with their land claims processes, oral histories and cultural ways of knowing.

For C/TFN this is not only an honour and a privilege, but just as C/TFN hosted the Maori delegation from New Zealand in August 2018, it represents a new stage in international Indigenous relationship building, collaboration and support. These unique affiliations undergird a challenging but much needed educational and capacity building project.



Electric vehicle fast-chargers to be installed in Whitehorse and Carcross

by Daphne Pelletier Vernier

The Government of Yukon is partnering with C/TFN, Yukonstruct/Northern Vision Development, and Yukon College's Cold Climate Innovation to study how electric vehicles operate in Yukon; in cold climate and on long distance. The project will see the installation of 3 fast-chargers in Whitehorse and Carcross. The electric vehicle fast-charger in Carcross will be installed this summer at the Learning Centre. Data will be gathered from the chargers and gathered to see if it is realistic to think on having a market for electric vehicles in the Yukon. The Government of Canada and the Government of Yukon provided a total of \$368,250 in funding for the three-year project.

Forest Resources Management Plan for Whitehorse and Southern Lakes

by Daphne Pelletier Vernier

Guided by the Chapter 17 of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation, the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council Final Agreements and the Forest Resources Act, the Yukon Government is launching a public engagement session to hear recommendations for the upcoming forest resources management plan. Representatives from YG, C/TFN, KDFN and TKC with help from Renewable Resources Councils, developed the plan through a Joint Planning Committee. The committee considered traditional knowledge, the views and perspectives of local people and industry, and the available science. First Nations traditional laws and values were used to shape solutions to the many issues and interests related to the management of forests in the Southern Lakes. Yukoners are invited to share their feedback on the recommended plan between June 10, 2019 and September 30, 2019 at [EngageYukon.ca](https://engage.yukon.ca)

The Forest Resources Management plan, just like the Caribou Management Plan will be part of a bigger planning project called the Indigenous Land Use Planning (ILUP) that C/TFN is taking the lead on and partnering up with different First Nations such as KDFN.

First week on every month the Communications Coordinator sends an email with all events coming up for the current month.

If you wish to be part of the mailing list, send your email address and request to :
communications@ctfn.ca

Keep following us



For more C/TFN information
and to see any employment opportunities,
visit www.ctfn.ca

**HAPPY SUMMER AND
HAPPY ABORIGINAL DAY!**