



Mark Wedge smudging the totem pole at the Grand Opening of the Learning Centre

## Message from Khà Shâde Hénì

Yak'èi Yakyee!

What a busy Summer for C/TFN! We ended the spring season with a Muskrat Trapping camp for Youth and it was very successful. It is good to see our community come together to share traditional and cultural knowledge, especially with Youth and Elders. We are working together to offer more trapping and hunting camps for our community. At the end of March, the Department of Health and Wellness organized the annual Health and Wellness Day. It was a huge success and more than 25 organizations participated to promote a healthy living lifestyle in our community. Since that day, Carcross started offering Kickboxing lessons from N60 Combative Arts in the community.

At the end of April, we hosted a General Council where the budgets were approved in accordance to the priorities established following the State of the Nation. In May, C/TFN hosted 2 community dinners, one in Carcross and one for the Citizens in Whitehorse. Both dinners had a focus to get feedback from the community on what they wanted to see for the Grand Opening of the new Learning Centre. The next community dinner will be in the Fall. During the month of May, C/TFN created a new partnership with a Yukon-based company North Star Agriculture Inc. to build the Yukon's first vertical aquaponics farm. The new farm will create 20 to 30 new jobs opportunities for the community and will offer fresh produce at an accessible cost. In May, C/TFN also partnered up with Wild Wise Yukon and the Yukon & B.C. Conservation Officers to offer more bear education in the community. The main message established with Wild Wise was to let visitors

know not to stop on the Klondike highway to view bears as it is a hazard for traffic and also not to feed bears as it is against the law. It is good to see the community get together to offer more education on wildlife in our Traditional Territory. June was the month of the Grand Opening of the new Learning Centre. The event was a great success and C/TFN staff were incredible at providing extra time to volunteer and make this opening a memorable event! We also hosted the CYFN General Assembly at the end of June where Don Burnstick and the Derek Miller Band came to the community to offer a comic show and an awesome concert. C/TFN also had the Still Standing show from CBC filming in our community as well as the Bizarre foods show with Andrew Zimmern. In July we are heading to Teslin for the 2017 Haa Kusteeyi, biennial Inland Tlingit celebration.

This summer, all C/TFN staff is taking the Lateral Kindness workshop offered by Thomas Shepherd and Marilyn Jensen and some staff and Citizens also started the peacemaking circle training where they will be graduating in August. Also happening in our community, 20 students are working in the garden and the Choutla site in collaboration with Carcross/Tagish Management Corporation and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada. We are working towards building a new skateboard park in the community and also looking into rebuilding Nares bridge, which will create many job opportunities. On an ongoing basis, C/TFN is meeting with Teslin Tlingit Council and moving ahead with the B.C. negotiations and it was passed by consensus at the B.C Summit to have support from B.C. for us to proceed.

# C/TFN Neek Watsíx



## Summer 2017

### IN THIS ISSUE



### Muskrat Trapping Camp

The Department of Heritage, Lands & Natural Resources attended and helped organized the 2017 Muskrat Hunt in Little Atlin lake.

Page 13



### 2017 Health & Wellness Day

The Department of Health & Wellness organized the 2017 Health & Wellness Day at the New Learning Centre in May. Over 25 organizations attended.

Page 14

# Governance Update

by Michelle Parsons

I hope you all are enjoying your summer so far! The Governance Department has been extremely busy with planning the Learning Centre Opening and hosting the CYFN General Assembly.

Planning the Learning Centre Opening proved that C/TFN can and will work together all while having fun doing it. I would like to take this time to say a huge Thank You to all the Volunteers. Your hard work and dedication does not go unnoticed!

The feedback that C/TFN received was all positive and it should make you all proud to be apart of these incredible events. For the CYFN General Assembly, we took on the challenge of being the Community Host and I am happy to say that for the most part, everything went smoothly and according to plan. When comedian Don Burnstick was doing his performance there was over 600 people in the building!

If you would like to book the Learning Centre or any of the Boardrooms, please see the Front Desk Reception for rental rates and general inquiries.

## Policy Update

After some financial consultations, the Cooking Contract Policy underwent a few changes. The policy has been renamed to Cooking Opportunities and can be found in Financial Policy 2-0327, which is on our C/TFN website.

## Elders Council and Members

The Elders Council is every two months and usually on the second Wednesday of that month. We have had a lot of people transfer their beneficiary into C/TFN and a few that have transferred their status into C/TFN, which have all been approved by the Elders Council.

### Elders Council will meet again on October 4th 2017.

We are nearing approximately 126 Elders that are the age of 60 and older. That all received the Elders Gift in June. If you have not received one, please notify the Registry Office. The next gift will be issued in December 2017.

## Community Dinners

We hosted two community dinners back in May. One in Carcross and the other in Whitehorse. These dinners are to get to know our Citizens and to inform them of what is going on within the community. Also for them to have a chance to speak to our Khà Shâde Héni about

any concerns they may have. With the community dinners, we are aiming to have dinners in Tagish, Carcross and Whitehorse on a regular basis. If you have any questions on the dinners, please contact the Events Coordinator.



## Haa Kusteeyí Celebration in Teslin July 26-30, 2017

The Haa Kusteeyí Celebration is happening this month in Teslin. It's a big Inland Tlingit gathering where there is dancing, dinners, art markets, salmon fileting, canoe races, and food vendors. Between Teslin, Carcross and Atlin, all three First Nations play a huge role in planning and carrying out the five-day event. On Thursday July 27th from 12pm-5pm there will be a Youth and Elders circle at the Teslin Heritage Centre. This year C/TFN will be hosting the feast last day of the event which is July 30th 2017 at 11:30 – we hope to see you there! During the feast the responsibility of the 2019 Haa Kusteeyí celebration will be passed from TTC to C/TFN. If you wish to volunteer for this, please contact the Events Coordinator.

## Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Summit August 1-3rd in Carcross

The Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed is hosting their Biennial Summit here in Carcross. It's a 3-day event where members along the entire River and council members gather to discuss the future of the Yukon River and impacts on the river.

If you wish to join this event, please contact Patricia James to get registered. We are also looking for some youth to participate in the Youth and Elder portion of the program, again please contact Patricia. If you wish to volunteer for this event, please contact Patricia James.

## Nares River Bridge Replace Project

C/TFN recently signed a Yukon Asset Construction Agreement (referred to as a YACA), pursuant to chapter 22 of our Final Agreement. It includes a number of employment, training and economic development opportunities for C/TFN. A suppliers list of contractors, apprentices, companies and equipment was recently submitted to Yukon Government and will be provided to companies who wish to bid on the project. Other highlights of this YACA include:

- Junior Project Inspector Position (advertised until August 4 2017)
- FN Participation Plan to evaluate potential contractors
- \$1 Million in Sole Source opportunities over the next 3 years
- Development of a gravel quarry
- Training opportunity in GIS



## Community Dinner in Whitehorse



# Haa Yátx'i Hidí

It's been a busy time for the children and staff of Haa Yátx'i Hidí.

Now that school is out, the center is full!! The staff and children have been spending the beginning of summer break out on picnics, trips to the park, gym time and swimming at the local pool. We are also hoping to do a few field trips into Whitehorse this month to the water park!

This spring we were able to participate in Culture Camp at Skookies. The kids loved it and enjoyed their time in the wilderness and learning to make pitch salve. We also did a few trips down the Skagway road to check out the sheep. This was very exciting!

Just a reminder that with summer here now it is important for all children to have the proper wear.

This includes; an extra change of clothing, a hat, sunscreen, mosquito spray (if required), as well as a swim suit and towel or shorts and t-shirt for the trips to the pool.

Language is still a part of the regular routine at Haa Yátx'i Hidí. Its wonderful to have Deborah and Aunty Winnie as well as Bessie come in and spend time with the little ones.

A big thank you to the Heritage Department for purchasing drum kits for the children at the center to use. A Big thank you to those that came and assisted in putting them together. It is greatly appreciated! It really shows community spirit and love.

We would also like to thank Gary for coming in and teaching the children songs and drumming. It is very important to be teaching them the rich culture and heritage of C/TFN and we enjoy his visits.

We hope to make this an ongoing thing and

we look forward to seeing the children build on their strengths with the dancing and learning the songs.

Also Lyndsay Amato, she is also gone now enjoying some much needed time with her son through the summer holidays. A BIG thank you to Lyndsay for all her hard work and dedication to the center and children at Haa Yátx'i Hidí. Lyndsay is extremely passionate about Childhood Education and we are grateful to her for being a part of our team. We wish you all the best!

Currently we have 3 full time staff at the center; Ruby Simons, Nadine James & Deloris Beattie. We also have on staff, Anne, Shirley, Crystal and Cecilia as auxillary's for the summer. And we have two summer students working with the kids; Jamie Baker and Shirley Lindstrom.

Our Graduating class: Shyanna, Leanne, Aariah, Kye missing is Jordan.



# Capacity Development

by Susannah Robertson

Summer Greetings from Capacity Development! I joined the Capacity Development team as Director in April and have spent the Spring getting to know the community and learning about the diverse range of education, employment and training opportunities offered through the Capacity Development Department.

There are lots of exciting things going on this summer and our offices are filling up, as we welcome and support more than 15 summer students. We are thrilled to be participating in the development of the Skateboard park, offering summer tutoring, preparing for a full time Elder in the school and organizing field trips and cultural programming for our future leaders at Haa Yátx'i Hidi.

I work with an incredible team of dedicated individuals who work hard every day to serve you, the community and I encourage you all to come in and see how we can help you meet your goals.

# Transitional Employment

by Joyce Hall

Well the summer has been really busy for the Transitional Employment Department with the Grand Opening of the new Learning Center and CYFN General Assembly as well as trying to keep up with our regular schedule programming days! The guys are doing awesome with jumping in where ever they are needed.

Also we would like to recognize John Smarch, he got on full time with Ketza Construction Corp. And to Thomas Fawcett for getting into the Northwest Community College in Terrace BC. Thomas will be starting in September 2017. So he will be leaving us mid-August.

The rest of the Transitional Employment Crew will be finished up on September 2nd 2017.

# C/TFN Youth honored with a National Award

Capacity Development Department is pleased to share in the joy of one of our C/TFN students whom was recently honored with a National Award. Imagine a Canada is a National Arts and Communication Initiative that invites young people to share their thoughts on what the future of Canada will look like through the lens of reconciliation by entering a poem, essay, art work, or song. Ten recipients were selected in each province and territory by a regional selection committee in partnership with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.

It is with great honor that we announce that our C/TFN Citizen; Jamie Baker was nominated by her teacher Robin Fairburn of Elijah Smith Elementary School and was selected from the Yukon. Jamie along with her mother and grandmother and teacher were invited to Ottawa where Jamie was honored in a ceremony at Rideau Hall by the Governor General David Johnston and the National Truth and Reconciliation Governing Circle Survivors. Jamie's entry was a 12x20 painting of a mother and her three daughters walking out of the darkness through the forest into a brighter future. Congratulations Jamie, we are all so very proud of you!



# Capacity Education K4-12 & Youth Programs

by Robin Lord

Good day!  
Well it has been a busy spring and we have already jumped right into summer! Even though it is summer holidays, we are still busy here the Education/Youth office.

As part of the Education Agreement with GC/TFN & YG, we had a Community meeting in April to get some feedback from our Citizens. Unfortunately not many people showed up but those that did had positive things to share and we are certain we are moving in the right direction!! The working group will be meeting again in September to continue the work plan as well as have another community meeting. Education is a priority and we will continue to work on it so that all our students are successful!!

The Education K4-12 office will accepting the funding requests for School Supplies starting July 17th 2017. They will be made available at the Capacity Office, the Main Admin Building and by e-mail/fax. Please note that your children MUST have a status or beneficiary number in order to be eligible for the funding. If you require assistance in obtaining that information, please get in contact with the C/TFN Registry office. All forms turned in must go to Robin Lord, Education Manager. \*Also please note that in order for cheques to be issued we must have them by Fridays in order to be processed the following week.

**Grad 2017:** This year we celebrated our 2017 Grads in the new Learning Center. It was a good turnout and we appreciate those that came to show support to our graduates. We would like to recognize the following students;

## **HYH to School (K4)**

Leanne Billy, Shyanna Lord, Ariya Grant, Jordan Ellsworth, Kye Grant

## **Kindergartens transitioning into Grade 1**

Kallie Gardner, Kamea Sembsmoen, Kadin Johns, Jayden Johns, Tanner Boucher, Aydri Mosquera

## **Grade 9 students transitioning into**

## **Grade 10 in Whitehorse**

Channel Firth-Ward & Kennedy Harper-Smarch

## **Grade 12 students Graduates**

Jacob Smith, Ryan Jules, Brandon Barrett, Bobby Janes Other: Keegan Philips

**Tutoring:** We currently have a tutor on call up until the end of July. If you are interested in receiving some extra help,

please stop by our office. We will be posting for a fulltime Tutor at the beginning of August that will work with students in Carcross, Tagish & Whitehorse. Please watch for that posting!!

**From our Tutor:** A BIG Congratulations to Landis Smith for achieving 100% on his grade 7 math test. Landis is a very dedicated student and diligently does his school work every day and does half hour homework every evening. Well done Landis!! Congratulations to Alfred Smith for signing up to re-challenging his 4th year Carpentry exam. He tried it before unsuccessfully due to math. For the past several months he has been diligently working on improving his math calculations involving; roof Trusses, spiral staircases, concrete forms, framing his hard work & persistence & dedication will pay off. Well done.

A SHOUT OUT to Gadzoosdaa High School residence (many from Carcross) recently completed the FIRST EVER Skype presentation in the Yukon with Leslie Lounsbury Publisher of SAY Magazine from Winnipeg. She publishes articles about First nation success stories in Canada & USA. She inspired students to "work hard, learn as much as they can about subjects they like to do, then find a way of commercially marking their knowledge". She also outlined resources to GRANTS, that obtain can be used toward students' education. She was impressed with the Gadzoosdaa students and will include them in her magazine.

**C/TFN Resources:** We have been working with a local teacher who has been going through our resources developing an easier way to work with them. We are excited that they will be used in the school this year! We have only scratched the surface and still have a lot of work ahead of us. Once we have a good foundation, the resources for K4-9 will be made available for educational purposes. Please stay tuned for updates on the progress!

**ESW Update:** Our Whitehorse ESW Patricia Baker, is working with us for the summer here at Capacity as well as assisting in Health & Wellness and will be returning to her Whitehorse office August 21st 2017. She is also available to talk to our High school Students and Parents throughout the summer if there are any questions or concerns regarding the 2017/2018 start of school year.

Our Carcross ESW Rosalie Gatensby, is off for the summer.

**Elder in the School:** We will be posting for this position in early August. We will be looking for a male and female Elder to work with our Ghuch Tla Community School. Please watch for the posting!! If you would like more information, please call Robin at 821-4251 ext. 8229

## **Important Dates to Remember**

August 28th- First day of school for High school Students attending FHC, PCSS, VCS

August 29th- First day of school for Ghuch Tla Community School

September 4th- Labor Day (HOLIDAY)

## **Youth Programs**

Even though our attendance is still very low, we are still running our programs which include; trips into Whitehorse to the CGC, Bowling, Skating, Theaters, field trips into large events as well as providing gym time, game/movie nights and drop in. We have schedules at the Post office, Admin Building as well as FB. We encourage all our youth to come out and join in on the fun, chat, play some games and just enjoy each other's company!

This year we are working towards establishing a C/TFN Youth Council. We are currently gathering information and doing our research and we hope to have this up and running this fall (September/October). If you are a youth between 13 and 29, please let us know if you are interested in being a part of this. As part of this initiative, we will be going to each clan for some feedback. We will be keeping you posted on our progress!!

**Kickboxing-** As requested by our students, we were able to get Kickboxing up and running. Unfortunately attendance is very low. We would like to encourage our youth and adults to come and take part in learning some new skills, and be active! There are two groups on Sundays: Ages 9-14 11:15-12:00 pm and Ages 15 + 12:30-1:30 pm. These sessions are held in the school gym. If you are interested, please stop by our office at Capacity to fill out a registration form.

As part of the July schedule, we will be doing a few day trips to HKT at the end of July. Please watch for posters and let us know if you would like to go with our Youth Workers. We strongly encourage the youth to participate in planning and attending the programs as well as assisting with fundraising events!! Remember.... We are here for YOU!



# Career Manager Report

by Corinne Carvill

Happy Spring/Summer Citizens of C/TFN and All. Since the last newsletter, we have been very busy supporting Citizens and community members towards their education, training and employment goals through the many pathways available at the Capacity Development Department. We would like to start our message by honoring our graduates of 2017 as follows:

## Post-Secondary Diploma and Degree Graduates

### \* Lorraine Wolfe

*First Nation Fine Arts Diploma from Northwest Community College*

### \* Violet Gatensby

*First Nation Fine Arts Diploma from Northwest Community College*

### \* Krista Stelkia

*Masters of Arts from Simon Fraser University*

### \* Annemarie Smith

*Early Childhood Education Diploma from Yukon College*

## Certificates

### \* Curtis Griffiths

*Industrial Arts Program- Welding*

### \* Kashies James

*Industrial Arts Program- Welding*

### \* Bradley Good

*Industrial Arts Program- Welding*

*\* Dominic Smith-Johns Industrial Arts Program- Welding*

### \* Robert Bayne

*Surface Mining Training*

### \* John Baker

*Surface Mining Training*

### \* Shane Shinkel

*Business Communications*

### \* Gloria Cindrich

*Hospital Unit Clerk*

## Honorable Mentions:

Yukon College, Yukon Mine Training Association and other Training, Education, Professional Development Institutions and Partners. During this past year, there has been a variety of courses and professional development that our community members have been involved in:

- First Aid
- Food Safe
- Driver's License
- Chainsaw safety
- WHMIS, H2S Alive, TDG
- Air Brakes
- Computer Courses
- HEO
- Conflict Resolution
- Non-Violent Communication
- Crisis Intervention
- Office Procedures

There are many people taking Certificate and Diploma programs and continuing on in their development. We wish them all the best as they continue with their education.

## Career Focus

C/TFN continues to support our Post-Secondary students to gain relevant work experience in their respective fields of study by offering summer mentorship. This year there are four students in Heritage Lands and Natural Resources, one student in Capacity, and one student in Governance. These students have been in the program for two years.

C/TFN did not receive external funding for 2017/2018. However, Capacity has responded to our 2017/2018 Priority through "Transitions" by continuing this for post-secondary students. Leadership and General Council have supported this initiative through the budgeting process.

This is significant and Gunalcheesh to all the departments for assisting in the implementation of this program. The students work 80% of the time in their respective departments as a Mentee and 20% of the time in career development.

## Education Employment Training Officer – EETO

I would like to welcome Donna Ward to her new position as EETO. Ms Ward comes to C/TFN with prior knowledge of the ASETS program. Donna has established stability in the program and has "hit the ground running" with fund coordination between the three funds that she administers as follows: ASETS – C/TFN is currently in negotiations with Canada to transfer the ASETS program in 2018/2019. Preliminary work has begun with more updates to follow. The program transfer will provide jurisdiction, the ability to respond to C/TFN education, employment and training priorities, reduce the administrative burden for staff and finance; and provide sustainability for the future.

## Post Secondary

20 students have been approved for either continued education or new applications in June 2017. Donna will be visiting Yukon College once a month to meet with students, and correspond with others attending institutions outside Yukon.

The Education Advisory Committee, Donna and I are working hard on your behalf to ensure the First Nation Government and Citizens are reaching their education, training and employment goals through case management.

**Post Secondary Application Deadlines:**  
**Fall Semester..... June 1st**  
**Winter Semester..... November 15**  
**Summer Semester.....March 15**

## Community Training Fund

This education, employment and training fund is offered in partnership with Yukon Government, Advanced Education, Labour Market, Community Training Fund Program. This program is open to any community member living in the Carcross or Tagish area. The Agreement is in its final year. C/TFN will assess with Yukon Government for possible renewal. The fund has proven very beneficial for community members at large and associate members of C/TFN to achieve certification and/or employment. To find out more about the Funds please contact Donna Ward.

## Transitional Employment

Joyce Hall, TE Coordinator and Supervisor Jerry James have been very busy supporting the many events happening at C/TFN. Capacity would like to hold up the crew, as they worked tirelessly and with a smile on the Learning Centre Grand Opening, Council of Yukon General Assembly, CBC Comedy Show Still Standing; all while continuing to respond to our Nation's needs. Great work everyone  
 As part of the annual priorities of C/TFN, the TE crew will be working with Infrastructure on renovations. The project with infrastructure will provide workers with carpentry mentorship with the goal to go on to register with the apprenticeship program or continued employment. The TE program works closely with Health and Wellness in a case management framework. For more information about the program contact Joyce Hall.



**Graduation Dinner in Carcross**

# Career Manager Report

by Corinne Carvill

## Apprenticeship Program

C/TFN has partnered with Yukon Mining Training Association, Yukon College, Yukon Government Advanced Education Apprenticeship Department as the employer for a two-year pilot project to fast track experienced carpenter laborers into the journeymen program. The project is intended to be innovative. This said, C/TFN is providing employment and tutoring, as with employment with the First Nation or with other employers. Apprentices enroll in the program with Donna Ward, gain employment, and when they are ready, they will engage in the eight week program for assignments and assessment into a journeymen level. Apprentices will receive a tablet upon completion. Please contact Corinne Carvill for more information.

## Education Advisory Committee (EAC)

We have a new member to EAC Jared Lutchman from the Ganaxtedi Clan. Welcome Jared!

Daklaweidi – Martina Smarch  
Deisheetaan – Georgianna Low  
Ganaxtedi – Jared Lutchman  
Ishkaahittan – Judy Anne Leamon  
Kookhitaan – Maryann Welin  
Yan Yeidi – George Shepherd

## EAC values include:

- Education starts at home
- Life-long enjoyable learning
- Putting students first
- Need appropriate rewards, limits & consequences
- Family values are important
- Hands on interactive learning
- Safe environment
- Support for teachers
- Preparation for life
- Knowledgeable in traditional lifestyle & subsistence

## The following are key areas of focus areas (strategic priorities) for the next 3 – 5 years:

**Strategic Priority 1** - Initiate a pathway towards our own C/TFN school

**Strategic Priority 2** – Support and increase cultural education program options

**Strategic Priority 3** - Support the needs and interests of our students and parents/guardians

## Student Summer Positions

Two students have been hired under Canada Summer Jobs for the garden; and another 11 students have been hired under the ASETS program. The students are currently in orientation and look forward to reporting back to you on their results soon.

Re-visioning Justice Whitehorse  
I attended a very progressive and empowering meeting about justice in Whitehorse. Elizabeth Frey Society and Kwanlin Dun First Nation Government hosted the event. There were Aboriginal children's advocates and key notes speakers who spoke about their experience and recommendations for First Nations approaches to justice. Cindy Blackstock, activist for child welfare and ED of the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada. She also teaches at McGill University. Her message was simple. We still have 160,000 First Nations children in care today and raising the inequalities of Aboriginal peoples in Canada. She was passionate about the need to do different, which requires government to government arrangement for:

- First Nations processes legislated
- Language and Culture
- Education
- Health and Wellness

One Elder at the conference spoke about the circle work her community had done when Barry Stuart was Chief Justice in the Yukon.

Barry is currently working with C/TFN on the Peacemaking Training Program offered at the Learning Centre. It was good to hear others speak of his work which is so relevant for us today.

*As a respected Elder Mark Wedge would say, "we are right on track."*

## Course 1, Peace Making Training

I have been participating in the course development on the Task Group. I am also a participant in the program. Both experiences have definitely benefited me as a human being and as the career manager for C/TFN. The program has grounded me a clear understanding of C/TFN traditional virtues and values, both universally and individually. Instructors have ignited our spirits and challenged our thinking through the local and external instructors teaching the four courses.

As a participant I value the rich knowledge and experience everyone brings to the program. The task group is working on graduation and development of Course 2 Peace Building, and Course 3 Peace Keeping.

There are several staff from capacity in the program. Although the program can be emotionally heavy, we are excited to share our results of PMT with ourselves, families, community, nation world.

*"Everyone has the responsibility to share knowledge" Johnny Johns*

## Skateboard Park

C/TFN was successful in confirming partnership funding through CanNor's Canada 150 program this spring. This project is in honor of our youth. The employment for this project will seek youth with artistic background, as with a coordinator position. Employees will gain knowledge about working within C/TFN departments, art and signage design, carpentry, and concrete work.

The skateboard park project would not have happened without the continued partnership with the Carcross Recreation Board, and the Carcross Local Area Advisory Committee, Gunalcheesh!

On behalf of the youth, we would like to thank Kha Shade Heni and Executive Council, Infrastructure, Heritage Lands and Natural Resources, Governance, MLA John Striker, CanNor and rhw Community Development Fund for their hard work and funding support that made the skateboard park a reality. The project is scheduled to begin in August to November 2017.



# Health & Wellness Programs and Services

## Temporary Financial Assistance and Outreach Workers:

- will assess and respond to requests for financial assistance;
- networks with other First Nations and governments regarding reciprocal agreements and bill-backs;
- meets with and issues cheques and P.O.'s to approved TFA clients; and
- provides emergency assistance during times of difficulties or other crises
- helps assess job-related skills and strengths and supports you through transitional employment and/or related programming;
- provides information and referrals to life skills and personal growth and development; and
- supports and assists you in applying to other government agencies and programs for financial assistance

## Adult Home Care:

- can provide light house keeping services to eligible Elders and others in need;
- assists Elders and/or family members with Yukon or Federal Government programs

## Elders Program Coordinator:

- establish and maintain positive connections with Elders and community;
- coordinating cultural and recreational activities and information sessions for Elders;
- helping Elders to obtain and interpret information regarding a variety of health and social issues; and
- making referrals to appropriate programs and services
- Elders Heating Supplement information and Applications for wood, fuel or propane

**- ELDERS TRAIN RIDE  
TO BENNETT WILL BE  
IN AUGUST - DATE TBA!**

**- REMINDER TO PICK UP  
HEATING SUPPLEMENT  
APPLICATION**

## Canadian Pre-natal Nutrition Program:

- provides a variety of programming for families and pregnant women;
- provides information and support related to healthy pregnancy, parenting and child development, e.g. the benefits of breast-feeding, good nutrition for Mom and baby, effects of FASD, etc.;
- facilitates drop-in lunches for parents of infant children;
- organizes parenting and other informational workshops and activities;
- provides referrals, education and counseling related to health and life-style issues; and
- brings in experts on a variety of topics like identification and gathering of traditional foods and medicines

## Outreach & Justice:

- helps you to obtain and interpret information regarding a number of health and justice issues;
- helps you to fill out various forms, applications and writes letters of support;
- makes referrals to various services and programs;
- provides advocacy and accompaniment when you have to deal with government agencies or the courts;
- provides counseling and support whenever personal difficulties or crises arise;
- works with you to apply for addiction treatment and provide both pretreatment and aftercare support;
- helps you to get to important medical/ judicial appointments when you're really stuck;
- facilitates workshops, support groups and a variety of circles;
- assists and supports you through the transitional employment process; and
- assists and supports you in making positive changes and moving ahead with your life!

## Counselling Services

Jane Grey is available for one-on-one counselling; you can reach her by calling 821-4251 ext. 8220 to make an appointment in Carcross.

## Justice Support

Cheryl Wilcox  
office 821-4251 ext 8214  
Cell 867-333-9297

## Director

Lori Duncan  
821-4251 ext. 8231  
email: lori.duncan@ctfn.ca

## Office Coordinator

Cynthia Beattie  
821-4251 ext. 8232  
email: cynthia.beattie@ctfn.ca

## Temporary Financial Assistance Coordinator

Courtney Grant  
821-4251 ext. 8224  
email: courtney.grant@ctfn.ca

## Outreach Workers

Eileen Wally  
821-4251 ext. 8233  
email: eileen.wally@ctfn.ca

Sharon Vaughan  
821-4251 ext. 8234  
email: sharon.vaughan@ctfn.ca

## Canadian Prenatal Nutrition Program

Martina Smarch  
821-4251 ext. 8263  
email: martina.smarch@ctfn.ca Cell:  
867-334-9536

## Adult Home Care

Tara Grant  
821-4251 ext. 8237  
email: tara.grant@ctfn.ca  
Cell: 867-332-0624

Elizabeth Baker  
821-4251 ext. 8237  
email: elizabeth.baker@ctfn.ca

## Elders Program Coordinator

Christina Barrett  
821-4251 ext. 8238  
email: christina.barrett@ctfn.ca  
Cell: 867-332-0097



# Infrastructure

Thank you to everyone that has been involved with the helping the department of infrastructure put in the incredible effort to host the Grand opening of the Learning centre, CYFN AGA and the Still Standing comedy show.

Recycling centre floor is nearly complete. We will be working on collecting recycling soon. Refundables will not be included initially but we will incorporate them in later.

CMHC RRAP funding has been reduced; we are currently working on increasing the amount for this year.

Skate park design is underway; the park will begin the construction phase soon.

A contract to build five small homes in Chooutla subdivision will be awarded soon. If you would like to be part of the work team please bring your name forward to the department of Infrastructure to pass on to the successful bidder.

Infrastructure is looking at putting together a steering committee for the naming of the Learning Centre Street, names for C/TFN lands and the future vision of the Learning Centre.

Look for road to be done out in Tagish and Carcross this summer!

We are looking into biomass options to heat our Capital Buildings

Sunlight to power Skookies Camp in progress

## TLINGIT LESSON - At the Garden (Táay)



**Kanat`á**



**S`ín**



**Gáx**



**Káax`**



**Leilú**



**Gandaas`aají**

# Heritage, Lands & Natural Resources Update

by Roberta Wally

## Montana mountain and Venus mines

Montana mountain mine (Arctic gold and silver) and Venus mine have both been enduring ongoing investigations and assessments due to the rising concerns about the clean up and what to do with the contamination that has happened. Montana mountain mine also known as Arctic gold and silver is, at the moment, leaking acid rock drainage into a water basin that is draining into a creek known as tin cup creek. The water samples that have been ongoing for 3 years are indicating that the contamination dissipates half way down the creek, which means the creek is doing its job at filtering it clean. Water samples and monitoring are continuously being done for safety and information gathering and are being shared with the community and C/TFN. The data that has been collected is also going into the Montana management plan to help further our understanding of what and how the mountain is doing health wise.

## Montana mountain management plan

Montana mountain has been going through some enormous changes and impacts that are both old and new. Montana mountain, also known as chilki dzele (Tagish word) has been enduring constant impacts that date back to the gold rush period. Chilki dzele has withstand the impacts of mining, over harvesting, erosion, harsh weather, mindless littering, etc. With chilki dzele (Montana mountain) being such a huge part of our culture, C/TFN is working closely with the public and Montana mountain users to create a plan that will be used to promote the traditional lifestyle and to start managing the use and impacts that are involving chilki dzele. Montana mountain is known for its continuous life support and live giving capabilities and we as the Carcross Tagish people want to acknowledge our ancestors by doing what's right by the mountain. The process is going to take sometime to ensure we are taking the right path and steps towards the end goal (a pristine, traditional, functioning management plan). C/TFN appreciates the time and patience it is taking to put everything into perspective and just wants to thank everybody who has taking the time and effort to tell us their thoughts and concerns. C/TFN is currently putting together a draft plan (the first of many) to help further the ongoing planning and process.

## Appreciation for the traditional foods

A huge Thanks to the heritage, lands, and natural resources department for the traditional foods that were used for the amazing grand opening ceremony we had. The food was gathered and prepared by your C/TFN monitors, locals, and local career focus students. Herring eggs, oolagan, smoked salmon, moose, balsam, and blueberries for the blueberry jam. A lot of work and dedication went into the harvesting for this event and was greatly appreciated by all.

### Helping hands:

Edna Helm  
Donna Wolfe  
Daisy Gatensby  
Lands Monitors  
The careers focus students  
The T.E. Crew  
Charles smith



## Traditional harvesting initiatives

Throughout the summer, there has been some work being carried out that is dedicated to try and help start a sustainable-traditional-community garden use plan. With this plan, C/TFN hopes to incorporate the traditional and cultural aspects as best as they can so that the plan has aspiring modern day capabilities that are culturally oriented. Blake lepine, a C/TFN member who is studying medicinal plants and culture, and Molly Fredeen, a volunteer from (some university) who is working on her master thesis in enviro

studies, are two of many people who are working together towards this plan and are working hard towards gathering as much local and traditional knowledge as they can for the end goal – a working sustainable-traditional-community based garden plan.

Molly fredeen is looking for traditional knowledge regarding this garden project for her master thesis and can be reached by email @ Molly.fredeen@dall.ca.

Here is a little blog on what Molly is trying to achieve for further information on what she's doing, written by Molly Fredeen:

*"This research focuses on integrating traditional Indigenous knowledge into community gardens to improve the cultural relevance of food production and access to healthy food in Northern Indigenous Canadian communities. The data will be collected using interviews to answer one key question: how can existing traditional and historic knowledge of food and plants be integrated in Western gardening practices? The C/TFN garden will act as a pilot project for implementing ideas and practices."*

## Out-of-town volunteer help

Tina, from Shanghai, is going to university in California and was on her summer break and wanted to spend her time-off here in Carcross. She saved up her own money to come here to spend just about 3 weeks here with us volunteering. Tina worked at the garden while she was here and at the end of her stay she said she had a wonderful experience here. She loved the landscape and the scenery and that she was amazed by the pristine nature all around. She said she came up here and did what she wanted to do, which was to see the Yukon nature and had a great time doing so. Tina was a great volunteer and is much appreciated for all her hard work.

Molly Fredeen, who is from Nova Scotia studying environmental studies, is working on her master thesis and wants to focus it on intertwining traditional knowledge and sustainable living for today's day-and-age. She was working at the garden getting to know some local people trying to understand the harvesting knowledge around the community. Good luck Molly !!!

# Heritage, Lands & Natural Resources Update

by Roberta Wally

## Spring harvesting

Throughout the spring, summer, and fall, plants are typically at their highest potency medicinal wise and can provide many health benefits when one knows how to harvest and use them correctly. The trick to harvesting is knowing the “when, what, and how” – when to start harvesting, what to look for when harvesting, and the how to harvest what you’re looking for. When harvesting it is important to remember that the earth is providing for you and respect should be shown and reciprocated; either by giving tobacco, a short prayer, or some sort of gratitude gesture. Please be careful when out exploring and gathering because some plants can be highly toxic, poisonous, and sometime fatal when in contact with, so be sure to have experienced knowledge with the plant you choose to harvest or go with someone who does. Here are a few easily identifiable **kayáani (plants)** to know that are safe to use and harvest, along with what they could be used for:



**Common name-** Labrador tea

**Tlingit name-** s'íkshaldéen

**Scientific name-** *rhododendron groenlandicum*

A shrub that is part of the Ericaceae (Heath) family, 30-80 cm high. Elongated leaves 2-5 cm long, with edges curling under. Top surface of leaf is green, while the lower/under surface it covered with either wooly white hairs when new, or brown/rust colour hairs with age.

**Habitat:** peaty soils, bogs, muskegs, moist conifer forests, meadows.

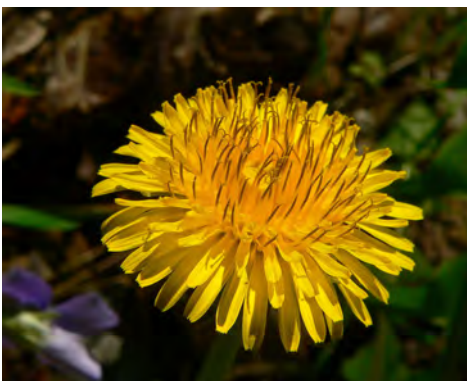
**Harvest:** Leaves- early spring throughout the summer, but can be harvested year round.

**Flowers- as they bloom**

**Medicinal uses:** Mild narcotic effect.

Typically reduces pain, treats skin problems like burns, ulcers, itchy chapped skin, stings, and dandruff. As a tea, blood cleanser, tonic herb intestinal regulator, mildly laxative yet soothes diarrhea. For coughs and irritations of the lungs.

**Food uses:** substitute for black tea. High in vitamin C. As a spice, crushed or ground leaves add an interesting flavor to meat dishes and salad dressings. Can substitute for bay leaf. Cautions: use in moderation. Do not use in excess if pregnant or have high blood pressure.



**Common name:** Dandelion

**Tlingit name:** unknown

**Scientific name:** *Taraxacum officinale*

A weed that is part of the Asteraceae family. A yellow flower with ray florets that has irregular-lobed green leaves produced from a long, thick fleshy tap root. Stem is hollow with a white, latex-like substance.

**Habitat:** disturbed soils, garden edges, meadows, roadsides.

**Harvest:** roots- in spring before plant flowers, or autumn after first frost.

Young leaves- early spring and throughout the summer.

**Flowers:** in full blossom.

**Medicinal uses:** root in a tea for indigestion, spleen disorders, heartburn, constipation, and stimulating the appetite. Used to treat rheumatism, gout, eczema, and helps to lower cholesterol and high blood pressure. Leaf is diuretic. Flowers make golden oil used typically for breast congestion.

**Food uses:** high in electrolytes sodium and potassium, young dandelion roots can be eaten as a nutritious vegetable. Nourishing vinegars can be made with the roots, leaves, and flowers to use in salad dressings, sauces and marinades. The dried and powdered roots make a pleasant caffeine-free coffee substitute. Leaf is high in calcium and vitamin C and can be eaten fresh in salads, steamed like spinach, added to stir-fries, soups, and stews and can be used fresh or dried as a tea. Dandelion blossoms are rich in vitamin D, wonderful on their own, fried up in butter and garlic or dipped into a batter and baked or fried.

**Cautions:** don't harvest roadside dandelions or lawn dandelions that have been polluted or sprayed with pesticides. Use caution if you have allergies to plants in the Asteraceae family.



**Common name:** Fireweed

**Tlingit name:** lóol

**Scientific name:** *chamerion agustifolium*

From the Onagraceae (evening primrose) family, and is perennial (living for several years). Erect fibrous stems up to 1.5 m high, attached to far-reaching horizontal roots. Leaves alternate, laced shaped, 5-20cm long, hairless, paler and veiny beneath. Flower stock is tall and petals vary from pink to purple and has long pink seed capsules (4-10cm long) that develop below the flower stock.

**Habitat:** disturbed soils, recently burned areas, open woods, hillsides, gravel areas, and stream banks.

**Harvest:** Spring-leaves and roots. Summer-leaves and flowers. Autumn- roots.

**Medicinal uses:** tea is a mild laxative used to dispel intestinal worms and for digestive upsets. Root, leaf, and flower tea, or tincture can reduce benign prostatic hyperplasia (an enlarged prostate gland) that can interfere with urination. Used topically for burns, dry, irritated skin, such as eczema or psoriasis.

**Food uses:** called “wild asparagus” the young shoots can be prepared and eaten like asparagus, are high in vitamin A and C, and are a healthy addition to spring salads. Leaves can be added to a stir-fry throughout the summer. Jelly can be made with the flowers.





# Heritage, Lands & Natural Resources Update

by Roberta Wally

**A message from the single track to success program; derived from the Montana mountain Facebook page post #montanamountain:**

Have you ever hoped and dreamed for an outhouse? We sure have. Will and Kate were supposed to leave us a pair, but their presence turned out to be "present" enough!! With visitor numbers skyrocketing, a solution was needed - and fast.

Enter two of the Yukon's finest custom homebuilders, Bret Heebink and Sean Mather, both avid mountain bikers who ride MM regularly with their families and staff. We asked them a simple question: "Will you build us an outhouse for free?" To which they heartily replied, "YES!!!" Long-time sponsor Kilrich Building Centres stepped in with a sizable donation of materials, and the creativity of these two master builders was left to run wild!!

Sean's impressive bicycle-themed timber framed privy will grace the bottom parking lot, while Bret's charming "hobbit" outhouse will nestle among the pine trees near the Caribou trailhead. Listen to CBC Yukon for the full story by Philippe Morin on how these two builders and bikers really raised the bar on Giving Back to Montana Mountain. THANK YOU BRET AND SEAN!!



## Indigenous Arts Award to Keith Wolfe Smarch

by Keith Seaboyer

The Hnatyshyn Foundation announced the names of the laureates of the REVEAL Indigenous Art Awards. The one-time program of cash awards and promotional activities was created to honour emerging and established Indigenous visual artists, media artists, craftspeople, musicians, writers, storytellers, dancers, and actors who have shown leadership in their home communities and on the world stage. Of the 150 artists selected to receive an award, 11 are from the north, 40 are from BC, 26 are from the prairies, 50 are from Ontario, 18 are from Quebec, and 5 are from the Maritimes.

"I think this is a compelling time for Canadians as the lens towards First Nations folks has begun a shift towards understanding the colonial impacts our collective history shares." Cris Derkson, musician, North Tall Cree Reserve, Treaty 8, Northern Alberta

"I went into school as a rock and roll guitarist and by the time I finished that particular program I came out a classical pianist." Keith Whiteduck, Algonquin from Kitigan Zibi, Québec

The laureates have been invited to receive their awards on May 22nd during a special ceremony in Winnipeg hosted by the Lieutenant Governor of Winnipeg. The historic gathering of award winning Indigenous artists from all regions of Canada is expected to be the largest of its kind. Dignitaries, including National Chief Perry Bellegarde, Mayor of Winnipeg Brian Bowman, and CEO of the Canada Council for the Arts Simon Brault will speak during the ceremony. Awardwinning Métis photo-based artist Rosalie Favell will capture each of the laureates with black and white photography.

"We are delighted to have the opportunity to honour and showcase the achievements of Indigenous artists from coast to coast to coast, and grateful to the many Canadian donors who contributed so generously to the program," said Gerda Hnatyshyn, President of The Hnatyshyn Foundation.

Laureates were selected by a national jury of peers led by Victoria Henry, Chair of The Hnatyshyn Foundation. The names of the Laureates, along with information about their artistic practice is available on The Hnatyshyn Foundation's website at [www.rjhfh.com/programs/indigenousawards/](http://www.rjhfh.com/programs/indigenousawards/).



# Muskrat Trapping Camp

The Department of Heritage, Lands & Natural Resources helped organized a Youth Muskrat trapping Camp at Little Atlin lake at the end of March with Yukon Environment and Carcross/Tagish Renewable Resources Council. The Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board was also at the Camp providing help, support, guidance and some ice fishing techniques. The Trapping Camp was all about the experience of the land and wildlife and gave an introduction on Trapping. The camp was about setting traps, skinning and handling fur and providing a First Nation perspective on trapping. Participants stayed in heated wall tents, had campfire talks, learned winter survival skills and learned ice fishing. Over 15 Youth participated and they had the visit of couple conservation officers to talk about hunting and fishing regulations. We hope to provide another camp next year as it was a great success!



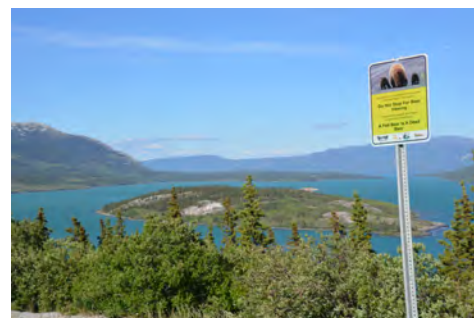
# New Signs on the Klondike Highway

The Southern Lakes displays beautiful vistas, majestic landscapes and rich, diverse wildlife that are a beacon to visitors. Our home lands and its wildlife identify us culturally as a people and are an extreme source of pride.

We are grateful to the visitors who come to take in all the splendour, learn about our culture and share in our pride.

Many visitors, however are not aware of the issues that comes with the increased traffic. In an effort to mitigate wildlife conflicts, C/TFN collaborated with Yukon CO Services and Wild Wise Yukon to create signage and communications products to educate travelers on how to ensure they are able to continue to view wildlife while keeping wildlife and people safe.

The signage you may see along road ways and pull outs are directed primarily at travelers and was created in an effort to reduce the habituation of wildlife to vehicles and people, as habituated wildlife will eventually lead to dead wildlife.





## Health & Wellness Day



## Learning Centre Grand Opening







## Visit of Minister Carolyn Bennett in Carcross during the CYFN GA

**Carcross/Tagish First Nation is proud to be part of action taken to advance new Self-Government Fiscal Framework.**

While visiting Carcross on June 27th 2017, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), the Honourable Carolyn Bennett, announced a moratorium on own-source revenue. This moratorium is a result of the remarkable work being done behind-the-scenes by C/TFN and other Self-Governing First Nations.

Announced at C/TFN's brand new, state-of-the-art Learning Centre during the 37th Annual General Assembly of the Council of Yukon First Nations (CYFN), this moratorium is a long-awaited and welcome change for Self-Governing First Nations. Before, under the own-source revenue policy, federal transfers to support those with self-government agreements are offset by a portion of each of their own-source revenues.

"We are relieved that this policy is being suspended and we look forward to working with Canada to determine a mutually agreeable fiscal policy," said C/TFN's Kha Shade Heni, Andy Carvill. "The Prime Minister has stated many times his desire for a nation-to-nation relationship with Indigenous communities and we expect that this will be honoured and reflected in the new policy."

Following the announcement, Minister Bennett toured Carcross – including the Learning Centre and C/TFN's innovative Tiny Homes projects – and set off for a canoe ride with Khà Shade Heni, and other dignitaries, in a traditional Tlingit War Canoe on Bennett Lake!

"We are immensely proud of the work we have done at C/TFN to improve opportunities for our young people, preserve and pass on our culture, and to ensure that our Citizens are able to heal in a healthy environment," continued Khà Shàde Héni.



Gunalchéesh to all Volunteers who helped  
out during the summer!

Follow us on



**@CarcrossTagishFirstNation / #GCTFN**

To be up to date with all events organized by  
C/TFN and news on the community garden  
and much more!

To communicate any important information or  
to provide information for our newsletter,  
please contact the Communications  
Coordinator at [communications@ctfn.ca](mailto:communications@ctfn.ca)

Next Newsletter will be in the fall.

**HAPPY HARVESTING TIME & HUNTING  
SEASON TO ALL C/TFN CITIZENS!**

*Please be respectful of Mother Nature!*