

CARCROSS/TAGISH FIRST NATION



WINTER NEWSLETTER 2014

Welcome to the Winter edition of the C/TFN Newsletter, brought to you by the Communications Team! We hope you and your family had a good winter, we all look forward to the Spring and Summer season to come!

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Sunrise over Carcross! Photo by Heather Jones

Yak'ei Yakyee

Governance would like to welcome you to the winter edition of the C/TFN newsletter.

Executive Council Update

All of Executive attended the capacity conference held in February. It was an excellent opportunity for the Executive to gauge where other First Nations are at with Governance.

Executive has called for General Council for the last weekend in March to approve/review priorities and budgets going forward into the next fiscal.

Executive will be meeting with the TTC and TRT Executive Councils April 1st for a one day meeting to review common interests/concerns.

General Council Update

There was a retreat scheduled for late January to go over priorities for the up coming fiscal; unfortunately it was cancelled. There is a GC scheduled for the 29th and 30th of March to review priorities and budgets. We look forward to seeing your General Council clan representatives at the General Council. We will send out the agenda and provide copies at the front desk. Make certain your voice gets heard and attend your clan meeting so that your clan representatives bring your issues forward for discussion at the General Council.

Youth Council

Governance needs all the assistance the clans can provide with generating interest with the youth council. Suggestions? Restructuring? CTFN facebook page questionnaire maybe?

Justice Council

Governance has been tasked as one of its priorities too establish a Justice Council. Through this work it was quickly realized that constitutional amendments need to occur. Governance is sending this back to the GC retreat for discussion and direction. Clan reps need to be reconsidered as not all live within the traditional territory or even in the Yukon, and some of the reps need to be on this council only and are not to be on other boards and committees. The clan system is working but very slowly because clan meetings have trouble getting quorums resulting in a priority that requires a lot more work by the clans, much like the youth council.

Policy Updates

The GC/TFN Financial Policy had been under review in excess of a year now and was approved with amendments by General Council held in November of 2013. The C/TFN Elder's Policy has been cleared for go ahead by the both Elder's Council and the

Executive Council and is expected to be up and running pending approved funding increases to our Carcross/Tagish First Nation Financial Transfer Agreement, which we are still in negotiations for with Canada. We also have several additional policy initiatives on the go, including but not limited to, the development and implementation regarding our proposed “Rent to Own” and “Market Based Home Ownership” initiatives for Citizens interested in becoming future home owners. We are all hoping to have these programs up and running and available to interested Citizens within the 2014 year. There has also been serious concerns expressed by Citizens who want measures taken by the Government to help deal with dogs running loose being a nuisance and biting people. We are working towards developing an animal control policy in absence of any C/TFN or local legislation. We would welcome input from Citizens while we work towards developing an effective dog management system. We hope to hold community meetings and get feedback regarding this and other issues we are working on, please keep an eye out for future postings around the community for future Clan and community meetings. Anyone interested in staying in the know, please note that all notices and updates will be posted to our Carcross/Tagish First Nation website as they come into effect.

FTA Update

Mediation continues with Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. Khá Shâde Hêni Cresswell continues to meet with the Minister in Ottawa and the Minister's staff to keep our issue on the Federal Government's radar. Since this negotiation finally began this is the closest we have been to a deal. We are not there yet but we are very close. We do have an extension again on the old FTA to carry us to when the deal gets completed/signed off.

Citizenship Report

*Most information from this office is confidential and can not be reported on. We would just like to welcome CTFN members to come in and update their Status cards if they are outdated. **As you know the Juneau Celebration 2014 is from June 11-14, 2014 and you need a passport to cross the border so if you don't have a passport please apply for one now. It is too overwhelming making new Status Cards and border crossing letters at the last minute before celebration so come early!***

This office also keeps track of the newsletter mail out list so if you are aware of someone wanting a newsletter or if you change your address please contact myself or Marie Helm at the Carcross/Tagish First Nation toll free number 1 855 686 4251.

Donna Geddes, IRA

Events Report

The Carcross/Tagish First Nation's Executive Council would like to invite their Citizens to join them for monthly dinners on the third Thursday of each month at the Administration Building @ 5:00 pm. Scheduled dinner are:

MARCH 20

APRIL 17

MAY 15

The Communications Team is now joining me with the large events to ensure that all departments contribute to these important events, the team consists of two staff members from each of the five departments, events will run smoother with so much involvement. We will be working collectively on the C/TFN Newsletters, Easter Egg Hunt, Solstice/Aboriginal Day, Culture Camps, Executive Council/Community Dinners, Ha Kus Teyea in Teslin, Dahk Ka Meetings, Halloween Party, Christmas Party, and Miscellaneous Events as deemed fit.

If anyone would like to come and help with events or you have any good ideas you are welcome to come and join in the fun!

Donna Geddes – Events Coordinator



Good day all:

I have been busy with meetings around education for the last few months. I sit on FNEC (First Nations Education Commission) which we are appointed to by our leadership and this table is with CYFN. The other table that I represent CTFN at is the YGFNEC (Yukon Government First Nation Education Committee). The third table I sit at is PACFNI (Presidential Advisory Committee First Nations Initiatives).

I am impressed that YG and FN are working together to make the changes that are needed to improve Education for ***all*** children in the Yukon.



One thing that we are now starting is the “Student Success Pilot Project”. We were able to secure the Ghùch Tlà School as one of the elementary schools willing to be a part of the “Student Success Pilot Project”. We need ideas on what is student success to you? One example could be how we now do Monday morning Circles with smudges, prayer, value and virtues cards and passing the feather. Since starting in the fall with this practice the Principal and the teachers have noticed a difference in the students attitudes, behaviours and respect for others. The principal, Larry is on board with the pilot project and supports it!



What does CTFN Education look like?

Executive Council has stated that Capacity needs to do a survey on what do we want CTFN education to look like? So I will be working towards developing that survey and if anyone out there has some ideas, we sure need your input! Keep your eyes open for the survey and help us out by filling it all out, as it will give Capacity future direction for our education.

The Language team through working with the Elders have corrected our Early Childhood Education Center name. The original name meant only a little boy's house while we need to include all children so Ya Dak Du Hidi name being changed to Ya Dátx'i Hidi (Little Ones House).

Some citizens who had attended Residential School are starting to receive a letter from the Federal Government about Educational credits which can be used towards education for some of their family members or people could group together to spend the dollars on a healing workshop, cleansing of the mission school spot, etc. Some may have some great ideas on how to make better use of it rather than giving it back to the Federal Government. There will be no cash paid out to the citizens who receive these letters. **Do not throw out your letters as they all have a bar code attached and without that bar code no one can use those dollars.** If you have any questions call Shannon K. Monk Payne 613-241-6789 (work) 613-222-2383 (cell) fax-613-241-5808 or toll free 1-866-869-6789 or e-mail spayne@afn.ca. You can go to their website for the info also www.afn.ca

I would like to say a big ***GUNALCHÉESH*** to my staff for all their hard work and keep up the awesome team work. We have had some staffing issues within our department and it did cause some issues for our students so I would like to apologize to them for the disruption. The EETO position is being posted again so if you are interested in making a difference with our children/youth, then please feel free to apply.

Gunalchéesh!
G.C. James
Director of Capacity



Education Employment & Training Office - Update

Good day Carcross/Tagish Community,

My name is Melissa Barrett-James and I've been hired as the temporary Education Employment & Training Officer since the end of November 2013.

I enjoy learning and look forward to assisting our citizens get the knowledge they need to fulfill their dreams. I will currently be the contact for education and training until the position is filled.

It has been non-stop busy since I started, not only with catching up with office procedures, requests, etc. but also with the November deadline; Christmas holidays; Tiny Houses Project; New Year and start of new semesters; and end of fiscal year close upon us. I sincerely apologize for any inconvenience or miss-communications during this time. I thank all CTFN citizens, employees and other organizations (such as Council of Yukon First Nations and Yukon Mine Training Association) for their patience, understanding and support.

Our office has assisted over 75 people in this current year (detailed numbers will be available in our final year end report) some of the courses and studies vary from one-to-two day courses to multiple year studies for certification to degrees. Courses and programs include but not limited to such as: First Aid, First Responder, CPR, Wilderness First Responder, WHMIS, TDG, H2S Alive, Traffic Control, Class 1 Driver, ATV, Snowmobile Safety, Trappers Workshops, Chainsaw, Food Safe Level 1 & 2, Small Engine Repair, Skills for Employment, Customer Service Training, Education Assistant Program, Advanced Skills for Administration Assistants, Community Justice, Renewable Resources Management, Game Guardian, Early Childhood Educators, Wood Carver, Art & Design, Yukon Native Teacher Education Program, Heavy Equipment Operators, Veterinary Degree, Fine Arts, Psychology Degree, Biology Degree, Physiotherapy Degree, Social Work, Environmental Studies, First Nation Governance & Public Administration, Business Administration.

Congratulations to 5 of our members who completed the Heavy Equipment Operator's course! One of them finished last December and 4 will be finished at the end of February. We have another student registered for March. Let's wish them all luck in finding jobs and careers and continue the good work! We are hoping to send more in the new fiscal year!

Another congratulations to the 12 students and 4 alternates for being a part of the Tiny Houses Project!! This is one of the first, but definitely not last, of the projects CTFN has in store for its citizens. CTFN will be working on a "second phase" part of the project. Development of the second phase will take place during the 16 weeks the students are attending their training. toward getting their first year apprenticeship. Let's wish them all luck and best wishes!



Reminder Summer Semester **deadline** for Post-Secondary education is **Friday, March 14, 2014.**

We are also collecting names and registration(s) for First Aid, Food Safe Levels I & II, Chainsaw, Flagging, Drivers License (Beginners and full), etc. as soon as we have the requisite amount of participants we will schedule these sessions.

CTFN POST SECONDARY DEADLINES

Deadlines to apply for funding are:

Winter Semester: November 15th

Summer Semester: March 15th

Fall Semester: June 1st

Any late applications will automatically be deferred to the next deadline for the Education Advisory Committee to review.

Applications can be sent to:

CTFN Capacity Development

Attn: EETO Melissa Barrett-James

Box 130

Carcross, Y.T.

Y0B 1B0

melissa.barrett@ctfn.ca

Toll Free: 1-855-686-4251

Telephone: (867) **821-4251**

Extension: **8257**

Fax: **(867) 821-8214**



Education Support Carcross - Update

Hello Hello Everyone!

I just wanted to say everything is going great and there are lots of things in the planning process right now.

We started a “lunch program” for the students from Ghùch Tlà School, if they forget their lunch at home then they are welcomed to the Capacity building for soup, snacks, etc. or bring their lunches and visit. The kids seem to be really enjoying it.

CTFN Health&Wellness and Heritage Departments are hosting a Spring Break Culture Camp from March 17 – 21. I will be out there helping them as much as possible so I hope to see lots of students and their families out there.



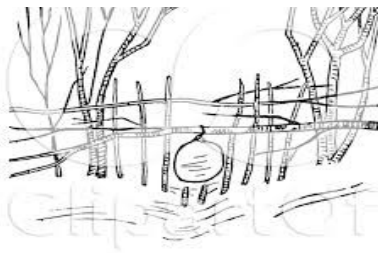
CULTURE CAMP



STICK GAMBLING



TRAPPING

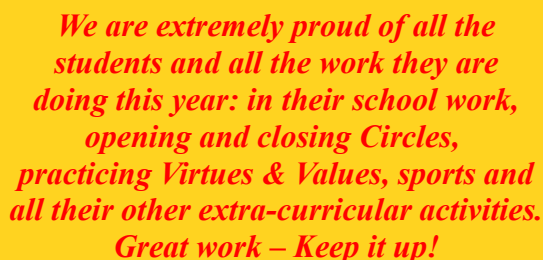
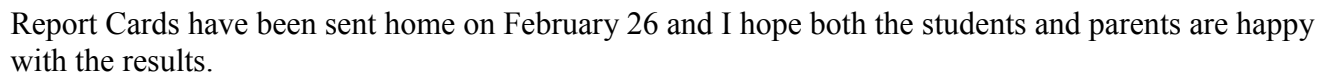


SNARING

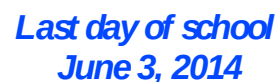
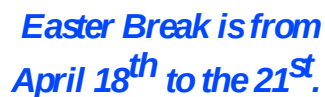


COOKING & EATING

And So Much More



We have two Carcross students we would like to give special recognition to Jade McLeod and Keona McLaughlin : Jade who recently attended the RCMP National Youth Leadership in Regina and Keona who is in the Cadets and is competing in the Biathlon event in Halifax; both will also be representing us at the Arctic Winter Games in Fairbanks, Alaska this year. A huge shout out of GREAT WORK & GOOD LUCK goes out to them! We know you will do us proud boys!



Before the end of the school year I will be planning one last culture camp @ Skookies. Dates are still to be determined. If you have ANY ideas or would like to volunteer please don't hesitate to give me a call at 821-4251 EXT 8267.

Thank you!
Sheena Johns
EPSC for Grades K-9



Tutoring Skills Development
Instructional **Skills** Workshop
Workshop – **Facilitation**
Workshop – **Development**



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Our Human Resources office will continue to be very busy with job evaluations, development and revision of job descriptions, new postings, interviews, training plans, assisting members/public on resume building and submissions. We thank you for all your patience and understanding.

Please contact us should you have any questions or require assistance.

Hope everyone has a wonderful Spring.

Patricia James
Human Resource Administrator
867-821-4251 Ext. 8213

Tanya James
Human Resource Assistant
867-821-4251 Ext. 8269



Heritage, Lands and Natural Resource Department Update

CTFN Lands Act and Policy

CTFN recently acquired (*in partnership with First Nation Market Housing*), the services of Woodward and Company to provide legal services to review and draft Settlement Land legislation, policy and procedures for the Carcross Tagish First Nation. The purpose of the legal review is to identify and set out recommendations for revisions to the draft Act, to review relevant and applicable legislation (C/TFN legislation; YTG legislation, other YFN legislation, and draft legislation for the YFN registry) so as to ensure compliance and coordination and to provide appropriate guidance to applicants, lenders, developers, decision-makers and individuals who use and/or possess C/TFN Settlement Land. CTFN Executive Council Land Use Team and HLNR will be initiating a 2-3 day brainstorming workshop in March to provide legal with direction and advisement as to how we next proceed.

CTFN Land Registry

CTFN along with six other Yukon First Nations, (CAFN, KFN, NNDFN, TAAN, TK and TTC) are undergoing training so as to become familiar with the proposed registry system. We are in the second session of three, (each consisting of three days of training per month) for each session. The training is due to be completed by Mid to late April. CTFN has three trainees participating and they are *Miles Johnson, Sue Schinkel and Donnie Smith*.

As you may recall from previous Newsletters, the purpose of the the registry system is to allow First Nation citizens and others with Settlement Land leasehold interests to approach lenders for mortgages. It will promote prudent administration and management of Yukon First Nations' Settlement Lands and provide the certainty and assurances required by lenders and mortgagees with respect to leasehold interests on Settlement Land.

Kusawa Park Planning - Update

The Kusawa Park Steering Committee invites Yukoners to comment on key topics to be addressed in the Kusawa Park Management Plan. A series of meetings are being held this February through April to allow the public to share their views.

Public meetings:

- 🕒 February 27, Haines Junction, Da Ku Cultural Centre; 3 – 8 p.m., short presentations at 3, 5, and 7 p.m.
- 🕒 March 13, Whitehorse, Conference Room 3, Westmark Whitehorse Hotel; 3 – 8

p.m., short presentations at 3, 5, and 7 p.m.

First Nations meetings:

- 🕒 February 26, Champagne and Aishihik First Nations, Takhini River Subdivision Community Hall, Km 1470 Alaska Highway
- 🕒 March – date to be determined, Carcross/Tagish First Nation, Carcross/Tagish First Nation Administration Building, Carcross
- 🕒 April 3, Kwanlin Dün First Nation, Potlatch House, McIntyre Subdivision

Each meeting will include a short presentation and information stations where attendees can provide input on park management topics such as recreational activities, traditional activities, park access, facilities, commercial use and more.

The input received at the meetings will help the Steering Committee complete a draft management plan that will be available for public review and consultation later in the year.

Representatives from the Yukon government, Carcross/Tagish, Kwanlin Dün and Champagne and Aishihik First Nations comprise the Steering Committee. There are two territorial campgrounds in what will become Kusawa Park. The 3082 square kilometer park is withdrawn from staking, mining, and oil and gas development.

For more information on the planning process and public meetings visit the Kusawa Park Steering Committee website <http://www.kusawapark.c>



Happy New Year 2014
from the Heritage part of HLNR!

Heritage continues to work at meeting the needs of the citizens by working on program development. As you will see, our Language programs are getting stronger and stronger as we continue to add resources to this important area. We have regular and on-going classes in place for all members of our community! See Gary and Deborah's updates for full details and do let us know if you would like to see more.

Our carvers, Keith Wolf Smarch and Aaron Smarch welcome visitors to the Carving Shed (located near the remains of the *SS Tutshi* on the waterfront). They are working on the 40-foot story pole (which we hope to raise in June of this year. Stay tuned for full details!) and the Carving Shed is open from 8:30 to 4:30 daily and Keith has also added some time on Monday evenings (5:30-9:00pm) when he will be available to help citizens with their artwork. Everyone is welcome.

Along with program development, Heritage continues to be part of the Chapter 13 Heritage Manual committee as we work at developing the mandated Heritage Manual with all Self-Governing First Nations. We are also on the Stewardship team, working on developing a First Nation values document and other activities that involve the Yukon First Nation Heritage Group.

The big news, from the perspective of this Heritage Manager is C/TFN's interest in developing a formal archive program. We have met with Yukon Archives to seek advice and direction as we find the most productive place to begin this project/program. Of utmost importance is the safe-keeping of records held in storage and we are hoping to have work begin on describing and cataloguing what is a very big collection over these next few months. Watch for updates as this work unfolds.

Come join us for our Spring Culture Camp on March 17 to 21! We are hoping all departments will come together to make this a place of great learning for all citizens. If you have any ideas or skills you would like to share, give me a call. At this moment we are planning to set net under the ice, trap beaver, skin squirrels, learn lots more Tlingit, laugh a lot, drink lots of tea, snare rabbits and eat real well! Come be part of the fun at Skookies Camp! 10 am to 4:30 daily with a big feast on Thursday March 20 ☺

If you are in the Main Administration building in Carcross, come on up to Heritage and see our ever growing Portrait Wall. Here you will see images of members taken over the past few years, I am always adding to it and find great inspiration in the faces of our citizens! And as always, let us know in Heritage how we are doing and what you would like to see. I can be reached at 821-4251 ext 8222

Heather



Daklaweidi Elder Patrick James – Photo by Heather Jones

Language Update



Lingít xh'éináxh yoo xh'atánk wutu.áxhji ghaneixh yáxh áwé haa ée yatee. Yéi áwé yeedát. Kei naltseen, Kei naltseen. Haa Khusteeyí. Ch'a yéisoo haa jeewú. Kei naltseen. Kei naltseen. Haa yátx'i. Haa dachxhánx'i yan yís áwé haa al'éixhi, haa khusteeyí, haa Lingít yoo xh'atángi.

Our Tlingit language is like our salvation. That is how it is now. It is gaining strength, it is gaining strength. Our culture. We still have it. It is gaining strength. It is gaining strength. Our children.

We dance for our grandchildren, our culture, our Tlingit language.

Every week I have been going around to all the departments teaching Lingít to the best of my abilities. We have done fun things such as play games like “Guess who” “Mr. potato head” “Go fish” all in Lingít. I taught Christmas carols such as “Silent Night” & “Santa Claus is Coming to Town”. We are always doing Lingít according to seasons, such as, Valentine's cards with all the departments. I posted pictures to CTFN facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=pcb.10151930712275869&type=1>

I have also been attending Ya dátx'i hídi almost on a daily basis, singing and dancing with the children. On that note, I thought it would be a good idea to let everyone know, that this is the formal spelling for the Daycare “Ya dátx'i hídi” which means “small children's house. This was passed in a vote at elder's council, and I am pleased to announce that, this is how we will now refer to the early childhood education center.

Tuesday night language classes have been going very well and these are open to anyone! Come join us in the Main Administration building on Tuesday evenings. We are hoping to change the time for these classes to 5:00 to 6:30 pm. At the time of this writing this is being negotiated, so please contact Gary in Heritage to confirm the time ☺ We have been learning songs, kinship terms, and even just having good talks around and about culture as well as many other things. I will be making my lesson plans and materials available through Facebook and the C/TFN website as well as the common drive for C/TFN staff members. If anyone has any requests/questions on what they would like to learn, you can email me at: gary.sidney-johnson@ctfn.ca or you can call my office 821-4251 ext. 8268.

Feel free to leave messages and questions about anything, I will do my best to find answers and get back to you. I am sure you will be seeing me around the community, so with that I leave you with this tsu yéi ikhkwasiteen axh xhoonx'i (see you later my friends).

[Keinas Áxh Ldóos Johnson](#)

Language Nest News February 2014

Yak'úi Yakyee! (Good day!) Great news to report and very happy to share on the status of our Language Nest here in Carcross! Since the start of the New Year 2014 we have since started to deliver new material in our language nest. We have introduced the children to hearing and remembering 4 pieces out-door clothing and have them laid out on the floor and ask them to retrieve them in the language and give them to Auntie Winnie. We have been working on this for the last few weeks and the children are catching on so fast that now have moved on and asking them in Tlingít to put on the out-door clothing (mitts, hat, coat and shoes) and in turn to take off the outer wear clothing. We also ask the Daycare staff to participate and they get the children to help them get dressed and undressed in the language. Once the staff get more comfortable using the language we would like the staff to begin using these terms on a daily with children as they are coming and going out of the building.

We are also planning to introduce the names of colors and will continue counting with the children to 10 or higher. Some other great ideas include using puppets in the Language. Recently a whole bunch of new puppets just arrived and plan on using them to play alot more in the language. Yak'úi; so excited to have all the puppets aboard to help us deliver the language; who only know how to speak tlingit.

Gary Johnson and I will be working on some new material to use with the puppets to bring them all to life in the language. Other ideas include pretend tea time with Auntie Winnie, another idea which includes playing in the language; a great way to introduce more nouns for things like spoon, cups, teapot, sugar, milk etc.

Even though we continue learning new material we still are using the tried and true technique called TPR - Total Physical Response – also known as teaching through movement! Working as the language nest coordinator for CTFN's language nest I have really noticed how quickly each child picks up the language as soon as we started to incorporate this style of teaching. In fact 1 French family has said to me that when they are at home with their little girl she is using the Tlingit language saying some words and singing the little songs we use in the Language Nest! Sharing these little stories feels good so others will know that our language is used not only in English spoken homes but in French homes as well!

More great news – The week of February 17 to 21 we finally had a mother with her 2 young girls aged 23 months and 5 yrs attending our language nest and the little 5 yr old had so much fun in our language nest she decided to come and join us every morning while she is here visiting her great great grandma and other family members. Miracles continue to happen in our little language nest and wanted to share that we also had 1 little boy from Teslin join our Language nest and he opened our nest one morning with a little Tlingit prayer his mom taught him. Auntie Winnie was so surprised to see such a little speaker say the prayer for her she wanted to know who he was right away and thank him. Also on another special note; we wanted to share that on February 12, 2014 the name correction for the Carcross Daycare went to the Elder's Council and the name they all agreed on reads "Ya dátx'í hídi" (small children's house) so it will now be corrected in the near future with some great help from Keith Wolfe. Please see the attached photo of our Language Nest participants for this newsletter.

Gary Johnson will also be joining us from 10am - 11am for our learning sessions with Auntie Winnie on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. He will also be there Monday to Thursday from 11:00 to 11:30 to teach the children some of the traditions songs and dance he knows so well. All the children all look forward to his arrival and helping him drum with their little drums made for them a few years back.

Our Language Nest wants to send out the warmest welcome and would love to have grandparents, mothers who are expecting or parents with small babies, children to come join us and see us in action for 1 hour tlingit language session with our fluent elder Winnie Atlin which happens from Monday - Friday 10am to 11am daily! We are always open to try new ways of delivering the language to the little ones in the daycare – so if you have some great ideas please call CTFN's Language Nest Coordinator Deborah Baerg @ 867 8214251-ext. 8207 or email deborah.baerg@ctfn.ca!



Left to right in the back – Winnie Atlin, Bessie Jim, Deborah Baerg, Ruth Beattie, Ann Marie Smith
 Left to right in the the front – Christy Provost (great grand-daughter of Winnie Atlin) holding her little girl Bella Provost, Eva Provost, Blade Smarch, Oksana Baerg, Nathan James, Ryker Johns, Nadine James holding baby Leanne Billy.

To Celebrate bringing back our Language we are planning to make a big splash on April 8th 2014. This big splash will include a very fancy feast with traditional food and lots of fun, prizes and games – Please watch for further information

From HLNR Natural Resources Office

HLNR department continues be busy with participating in a number of land and wildlife based initiatives. Southern Lakes Forest Resources Management Planning committee (Natasha Ayoub and Wesley Barrett, CTFN representatives) meets monthly to work on the SLFRMP. The plan is being worked on collaboratively between Yukon Government, Carcross Tagish First Nation, Kwanlin Dun First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council as established by Chapter 17, s.17.5.4.1 of the CTFN Final Agreement. The goals of the Forest Resources Management Planning process are to share information and technical expertise between the parties as well as to facilitate and enhance the participation of KDFN, TKC and CTFN in the sustainable development of forest resources in the planning area. There is soon to be a website to provide you with all the information about what the planning team is currently working on – stay tuned!

The Tagish Local Area Planning process has had two public meetings (Tagish and Whitehorse) to discuss the planning process and future time lines associated with this local area plan. Background information on the planning process was discussed, as well as a call-out for citizens interested in being

nominated by CTFN and YG to be part of the planning team. Deadline for nominations was February 24th so nominees to the Tagish Local Area Planning committee will be announced before the end of March.

On March 10th, Yukon River Inter Tribal Watershed Council (YRITWC) will be stopping by CTFN governance boardroom to give a presentation on information that was collected as a joint initiative between YRITWC and CTFN this past summer. Water samples were collected in areas of interest decided by the Land Use Team and results will be summarized for CTFN traditional territory.

As always, amendments to territorial legislation, creation of CTFN legislation and various land applications for on-going development proposals in CTFN traditional territory keeps HLNR busy. Please contact our office if you have any comments, questions or concerns you would like to discuss with our staff.

Natasha Ayoub



A big thank you to Nadine Peters for helping with the spay/neuter program!

In December 2013, the Yukon Territorial Government (YTG) asked the Humane Society Yukon to develop a spay/neuter program for Yukon communities. (And low income families living in Whitehorse). The Humane Society and Veterinary Clinics agreed to a cost of \$300.00 to spay/neuter and provide full vaccinations for pets coming in from the communities. YTG provides vouchers for \$150.00 of the cost with the remaining \$150.00 the responsibility of the animal owner. A great deal!

Nadine, our former CPNP worker and animal lover, knew that the HLNR Department had a program in place for Animal Control in the community. (We had been able to offer spay/neuter and vaccinations from our budget, for C/TFN members, up until the onset of the YTG program). Nadine immediately volunteered to transport the animals from Carcross to their appointments in Whitehorse. When she wasn't delivering dogs she was out there promoting the program. To this end, between January and February 28 the majority of the 16 animals to benefit from the spay/neuter program were promoted and supported by Nadine's efforts! Thank you! This spay/neuter program will continue until the end of March so contact Pat Hiebert (821-4251 ext 8216) or Yukon Humane Society Yukon (867-633-6019) for more details.



Field Operations up date
by Wesley Barrett

CTFN Fire Management

Will be negotiating with YTG fire Management for another 3-5 year contract term. CTFN's Fire Crew consists of: Howard Johnston (Crew Leader), Philip James (Crew Member), Greg Johnson (Crew Member). Kevin Welin will be a spare and he is looking forward to fighting fires this year and doing some hover exiting training as well. Hover Exiting training is climbing out of a helicopter while its hovering 5 feet above the ground.

YTG Fire Management will be putting on a Crew Member this May. So far I have 3 candidates that are interested in taking it. They will need to qualify for the course by passing an intense National Fitness Test. If you think your physically fit, have a drivers license and are interested in fighting fire, please contact me: wesley.barrett@ctfn.ca

Fire Smart

CTFN will be submitting another Fire Smart application in for the fall, which will be on Montana Mountain. Wood left over from a fire smart project is free for the community to take, as per a our funding agreement guide lines. The total Fire Smart Funds are a dependent on all the applications received all over the Yukon by First Nations and other communities.

Wildlife Monitors

Currently we have Charlie James and Patrick James as our wildlife monitors. They patrol the roads within our Traditional Territory. I myself do patrols from time to time as needed, but I'm looking forward in working with Kevin Welin this summer as a youth monitor, which his wage will come from the fire crew account. I've budgeted for another 13 week for hire youth position, but will see who qualifies from the crew member course. If you see any activity that looks suspicious involving wild life harvesting, illegal dumping, squatting, a dead animal on the side of the road or other, please don't hesitate to give our department a call so we can check it out.

Y2C2 -Yukon Youth Conservation Corps

CTFN will be submitting a Project Proposal application this spring to clean up old telegraph wire across from Bov Island (Windy Arm). If you know of any other wire or empty 45 gallon drums, or sites for clean up, please let us know so we can submit future applications to have it cleaned up!

Transitional Employment Program Report March 2014.

**By Roberta Auston
Transitional Employment Manager**

Carcross Community Garden Project:

We are embarking on the new season for growing. Plans are underway to prepare the site with additional buildings to make work easier and safer for the garden workers. We will be constructing a vegetable stand for cleaning and preparing vegetables for distribution. The back potato fields require additional fencing and tilling. A better watering system is required to alleviate the needed watering on week ends. More garden boxes will be made to be placed into the second greenhouse, this year we will see both green houses in use.

We would like to have the access road leveled and have gravel placed to bring the dust down. Seeding will start soon and the plants will be grown at the Gauch Tla School where they can be monitored daily.

We look forward to another exciting season of lush green harvests of vegetables.

Transitional Employment Crew Workers:

We have three new crew members, Jock Shepherd, Ross Atlin and Navarro Jim. The crew is of course ensuring that wood is provided to those members who require it. They have been busy clearing snow from Elders drive ways to ensure access. They also split wood for the Elders who aren't able to do so themselves.

The Bird Viewing Sites:

The sites have been completed and with the coming summer should have a lot of use. These sites are both located on the shore of Nares Lake, each location was chosen for easy access and for the scenery available.

Pursuit of Excellence:

Although we were not able to access funding for this important program for this year, Carcross/Tagish First Nation is looking to have sponsorship in the future.

Tiny House Project:

Dubbed, "Small Houses, Big Dreams." There are twelve citizens of C/TFN who are fully sponsored to develop skills as a first year carpenter. This program will also ensure that four alternate trainees will benefit by learning math and basic literacy that would help them upgrade to the requirements of the entrance exam of the pre-carpentry program. Three red seal carpenters, All Narcisse, Don Gill and Billy Bromell are instructing students for this 16 week program. We will see three tiny houses built to completion by the end of May, 2014. These little houses will be constructed on site at the Capital yard and then moved into a permanent location.

There are many sponsors for this exciting program; Yukon Mine Training Association, the Aboriginal Skills and Education Training Program, the local Carpenter's Union 2499 and Carcross/Tagish First Nation. We want to congratulate those inspired young people who have been successfully selected.

The Tiny Houses Project **“Small home, big dreams”**

The Carcross/Tagish First Nation has launched a pilot project to give CTFN members and associate members the opportunity to become Carpentry Apprentices, and to build three Tiny Homes. The program started on February 10th, and will run for 16 weeks. CTFN is breaking new ground with this project, and several other First Nations are looking at what we are doing.

The 12 Apprentices in the program are: **Malcolm Barrett-James, Cory Thompson, Billy Smarch, Richard Atlin Jr., Arlynn Jim, Howard Atlin, Roberta James, Angie Low, Rod Smarch, Patrick Boucher, Brian Schaub, and William Germaine.** In addition there are 4 Alternates: **Shawn Cindrich, Jamie Sayine, Tyrone Atlin, and Vince Kemble.** Please give them all your full support and encouragement. They are off to a great start. We also want to thank all the people who applied but did not make it in to this first round of training. We had over 40 applicants. We had many strong applicants and we don't want anyone to feel discouraged. Stay positive!

Three Red Seal Journeyman Carpenters have come to the community to act as Instructors for the program: **Allen Narcisse, Don Gill and Billy Bromell.** Together they have over 75 years of experience as carpenters, and CTFN is very pleased they are here with us. We are grateful that they have left their homes and families to help us on this new journey. Please give them the welcome they deserve!

We had a lunch to welcome the community into the project on February 17th, and we were happy to see many families there. The Instructors and the Apprentices welcome you to stop by and see how things are going. The work is taking place at the blue capital buildings. We need the support of the community, so please don't be shy. If you are going to visit, a great time to do so is over lunch (12:30 to 1:00pm).

Please keep us in your prayers.

The Tiny Houses Team



The Tiny Houses Team

GC/TFN February 2014 Newsletter Submission

Capital Projects Updates:

Over at Infrastructure – Capital Projects, we have been enjoying winter and working to ensure that the infrastructure needed to keep government operations going have a minimum of interruption.

An interesting project we have been part of is the recent Tiny House Project which has local citizens beginning a first year carpentry apprenticeship under the direction of journeyman union carpenters. As our contribution to this project, we converted a vehicle maintenance bay in our shop over to a classroom, cleaned out and set up our metal quonset hut as a carpentry shop, and set up a large tent to give a sheltered building space for the students. We are all excited about this project and it has been inspiring to see the excitement in the students as they work towards becoming certified tradespeople.

Housing:

We are just on the verge of completing a long series of renovations to the rental units and are happy to announce that all CTFN's rental housing is now occupied or in the process of having tenants move in.

Progress has been made on the Renovation Loan Policy and we are still on track for having it ready by spring 2014.

Work is ongoing on plans to build a 16 lot subdivision on Montana Mountain. Application for YESAA for this project should be available soon on their website... Look for it and send in your comments!

Municipal Services:

There have been a number of challenges this year in keeping equipment operating. Thanks to the hard work of the Capital Drivers, most services have been operating without interruption. We currently are performing snow removal and road sanding as required but we do ask for patience when there are large snowfalls.

Staff:

Tod Smarch is back to work after injuring his back in January. He was sorely missed in our department and we are all glad to see him working again.

Our current staff list is as follows:

Mike Baerg	Senior Manager of Infrastructure
John Jensen	O&M Manager
Tyler Bryden	Building Supervisor
Amanda Benoit	Assistant Housing/ Assets Manager
Rozlyn James	Administrative Assistant
Dave Welin	Maintenance Service Person
Tod Smarch	Carpenter
Karen Hall	Custodian/Supervisor
Richard Hall	Custodian
Ken Baker	Custodian
Dave Huebschwerlen	Vacuum Truck Driver
Gordon Wally	Water Operator
Micheal Smarch	Municipal Truck Driver
Clifford Johns	Snow Removal

We always welcome questions, comments and suggestions to improve our operation so come in at any time to visit us!

Important Contacts:

Housing Matters: 867-821-4251 ext 8255

Pumpouts: 867-821-4251 ext 8251

Tagish Water Delivery: 867-399-3813

CTFN Toll Free: 1-855-686-4251

Note: CTFN does not provide after hours or weekend service. If you require a pumpout outside of regular working hours, Buchanan General Contracting offers pumpout services and can be contacted at 821-2953. This service cost is billed to the caller and is not reimbursable by Capital Projects.

Here are a few Winter maintenance tips:

Check to make sure all your frost protection devices i.e. Heat trace, baseboards etc. are operating to avoid any freezeups in your plumbing.

Pour a bit of water down any floor drains or sinks that are seldom used, this will prevent any odours coming into your house from your septic system

Check your heating equipment for general condition whether it be a chimney, oil line, air ducting, etc. Winter isn't over and lots of problems can be detected early by just going and having a look to see if anything is out of place.

Newsletter Insert, Youth & Elder Coordinator, February 2014

December 2013

In December Naomi Helm was hired on a part-time basis to run some youth activities for the Christmas break. Everything went well for the last two weeks in December. The activities were a youth Christmas dinner, Sledding Party, Skating Party, youth New Year's Eve Party and they travelled to the Canada Games Center a couple of times.

January 2014

In January I attended the Food Skills Training in Whitehorse. Along with several other participants from around the Yukon, we had fun learning how to shop, meal plan and cook healthy meals on a small budget. This training also gave us the opportunity to apply for a 'one time only' grant for \$1000.00. This grant was approved and we will be starting a Healthy Cooking and Storing class in March; classes will take place on the second and last Monday of each month, for six months. The classes will begin on March 10, 2014 over at Haa Woosh Teen Yei Jinéiyi Hít, Our Working Together House (Old Daycare).

February 2014

Rosalie Brown was invited to host a Traditional Medicine Workshop during the evening on Feb. 6th. We had about twelve people, some healthy snacks and some funny stories. We are hoping to have her come back in the near future.

A Youth Suicide Prevention Workshop was held in Whitehorse on Feb. 8 & 9th, nine youth and two chaperones attended this event. Naomi said everyone enjoyed themselves and they learned much about loving themselves, finding your purpose in life and reasons for living. They would like to attend more workshops with the traditional knowledge side included. Elder Randall Tetlichy was the workshop's main facilitator.

March 2014

On Wednesday Mar 5th, there will be three friendly women coming to Carcross for a Questions & Answers information session at Haa Woosh Teen Yei Jinéiyi Hít, Our Working Together House (The Old Daycare Building Across the Bridge), this is open to anyone and will be starting at 10:30am to 3:00pm. Lunch and Snacks will be provided.

- ⌚ Lillian Maguire, Yukon Public Legal Education Association for New Horizons for Seniors Project, will be doing a small presentation on Avoiding Fraud and Scams, Elder Financial Abuse & Prevention or Reducing the risk of it; The importance of having a Will, what Enduring Power of Attorney is and Protecting Your Finances.
- ⌚ Anne Blake, Non Insured Health Benefits Navigator for CYFN, will be here to answer any question or concerns you may have regarding your health issues and NIHB.
- ⌚ Nyla Klugie-Migwans from CYFN will be out to do an Educational survey with Youth, Adults and Elders. She will also be dropping in on the Sewing Class that evening and in the CTFN Administration Building the next day on the 6th.

The Spring Family Culture Camp will be held during the spring break week of March 17th – 21st. If you or anyone you know is interested in helping out or willing to share their traditional knowledge and skills, please contact Marie Helm at the CTFN front desk 821-4251. This Camp is open to anyone that wants to participate in the activities, children 12 and under must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. We always like to promote the traditional way of family involvement.

Some of the activities that we'll be needing help with are: trapping beavers, snaring rabbits, setting fishnet under the ice, fishing for link cod, making a medicine pouch, sewing mitts, preparing a hide for tanning or drum making, driving a van, cooking lunch or preparing snacks, etc...

Snacks and Lunches will be provided each day, but, on Thursday the 20th a Feast featuring all the game and fish that was harvested earlier in the week.

Regular Programming

Elder's Breakfast is still happening each and every Tuesday over at Haa Woosh Teen Yei Jinéiyi Hít, Our Working Together House (The Old Daycare Building Across the Bridge), this is open to anyone and will be starting at 10:00am to 11:00am. Thank you to all my helpers and volunteers, you are greatly appreciated. Linda Pringle has been away for awhile and is back on March 4, 2014.

** Please Note: We had a pump style coffee carafe/decanter that was donated to the program and went missing since December 2013, if you or anyone knows who 'borrowed' it, we would really appreciate getting it back.*

Sewing and Crafts Night is still happening every Wednesday and Thursday evening Upstairs at the Capacity building from 6:00pm to 9:00pm.

The Thrift Shop is too cold to open this time of year, although, I am still accepting donations and can arrange to have large items picked up. When the shop opens this Summer, and anyone is interested in volunteering to open the shop on a particular day of the week, please let me know.

The 'Community Lending Program' is still available at no cost. If you would like to borrow equipment for some outdoor activities, we may have what you need. Just give me a call and I'll let you know what is available.

We are looking to hire a responsible person to hold an after school boys and girls club from 3:00pm to 6:00pm on Tuesday's and Thursday's. They will be working 6 hours each week and the 1 full week during the Spring Family Culture Camp in March. A Criminal Records Check will have to be done before working with the youth. Someone with a driver's license would be preferred. This is funded by the Yukon Government Youth Investment Fund Program.

For more information on any of these activities, please contact Christina Barrett at 821-4251 ext. 8238

A new CTFN Counselor Position

Jan Forde has been hired to provide safe and confidential counseling services for our citizens.

She has worked with us in the past and is now completing a thesis on Aboriginal trauma for her Masters of Social Work.

She has skills and experience working in the following areas:

- 🕒 trauma counselling
- 🕒 domestic violence
- 🕒 child abuse and sexual assault
- 🕒 grief and loss
- 🕒 addictions
- 🕒 depression and anxiety

and a variety of related issues.

In her new position she is able to offer fully confidential services. This means that no one else has access to client information, whether verbal or written. We recognize that confidentiality is vital to building a shared sense of trust and respect. And the counselling office is located upstairs in the Capacity building, apart from the often busy traffic of the Administration Building. Client files are kept under lock and key and are off-limits to anyone other than Jan.

Jan's approach to counselling.

I believe that nothing about counselling should be mysterious or confusing. It should be about working together, sharing information and agreeing on the approaches and goals of the work. Counselling is not about making judgments, giving advice or to telling you what to do. Counselling can't be helpful unless it's built on real trust, understanding and respect. My commitment is to help you come up with the best solutions for your situation. What worked for me is not necessarily what will work for you. You are the expert on your life.

You don't need to be in crisis to seek counselling. Sometimes we just feel stuck in how we think about or experience certain problems in our lives. Sometimes we're unclear about what exactly it is that's bothering us. It can help to talk through our feelings and explore the possible reasons for troubling thoughts and emotions.

If you wonder if counselling could benefit you, if you have questions or want to book an appointment, call me at Ext. 8220, or drop by for a visit during the lunch hour.

I look forward to meeting you.

- Jan Forde

Whatever wounds we carry, finding the strength to explore them in a supportive environment can result in new ways of understanding and action that bring healing to ourselves and our relations.

Things have been very busy for the Carcross Detachment over the winter. We have bid a fond farewell to Cpl. Rob Morin, who is currently heading up the Relief Unit in Whitehorse. We hope to see him back in Carcross providing relief now and then! Cpl. Geoff Peters was promoted upon Rob's departure. We are awaiting our new Constable - Dan Rouleau who is moving from Whitehorse with his wife and daughter, and will be in Carcross very soon, feel free to stop by and welcome Dan to the community!

Carcross members have been busy with many youth initiatives over the winter, including our usual participation in the school breakfast program. We have also been running the "Cop for a Day" program in which Jane McArthur's students each have a chance to become an RCMP officer for a couple of hours. We hope to have each student participate by the end of the year, and have had several successful "arrests" by the students, including CTFN's own Marie Helm! The students are enjoying the program so far.

Cpl. PETERS attended an RCMP Youth Leadership and Development Workshop with local youth Jade Mcleod. The workshop included youth from each province and territory, along with a police officer from their community. It took place February 4 - 9 at the RCMP Training Academy in Regina, Sask. Participants worked with youth from across the country to identify and attempt to address youth problems in their respective community. We look forward to working with Jade and other youth to hopefully establish some youth pick up hockey games.

Carcross RCMP also hosted a skating party on February 8th at the community rink. Although there was not a great turnout of kids, those that did attend had a great day of skating and eating Cst. POTTER's delicious cooking (or maybe not?)

We are currently in the process of obtaining input for our 2014 - 2015 policing priorities. Presentations will be done with Local Advisory Committees in Carcross and Tagish, as well as to the Chief and Executive Council of CTFN. We welcome all input from community members to help us establish our priorities for the coming year.

Cst. POTTER and members of the M Division Relief Unit have done an outstanding job of traffic enforcement. As you may have noticed, we have been very active conducting check points, and radar enforcement. We have issued a large number of tickets so far

this year, and will continue to make this a priority. With the support of the community we have also managed to have an increased number of impaired driving charges over last year - thanks in part to all those vigilant people reporting suspected impaired drivers!

Reminder to everyone to observe the 50 km / hr speed limits on the highway through Carcross, and most importantly the 30 km /hr speed limit in town and in the subdivisions.

Looking forward to spring!

Cpl. Geoffrey PETERS - 53849
NCO i/c Carcross RCMP Detachment
1 Carcross Road, P.O. Box 129
Carcross, Yukon, Y0B 1B0
Phone: (867) 821-2677
Fax: (867) 821-3705
Email: geoffrey.peters@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

IT'S TAX TIME!

NOTICE TO ALL RESIDENTS ON SETTLEMENT LAND

During your personal income tax preparations, please note:

If you resided on any Carcross/Tagish First Nation Settlement Lands on December 31, 2013, you are obligated to file the Yukon First Nations Tax Form that is attached to your income tax application. You can download the form at this website: <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca> and look up Yukon First Nations tax – it will take you to a printable PDF file.

Income tax collection and sharing arrangements are signed between the Federal Government, the Government of Yukon and Carcross/Tagish First Nation.

These agreements allow the Federal and Yukon Governments to transfer part of these taxes to C/TFN.

Each year, Carcross/Tagish First Nation receives a percentage of taxes

from Canada and YTG. This amount is based on all residents who filed personal income tax returns who stated they lives on Settlement Land on December 31, 2013. These taxes increase C/TFN Own Source Revenue.

Everyone, regardless of income should file a tax return. You should be informed that if you have low or no income, you may be eligible to receive GST credits and Child Tax credits if you file.

For further information, please contact Carcross/Tagish First Nations finance department

We are now approaching fiscal year end and this is the busiest time for finance. T4s have been issued as of February 28th and we encourage everyone to file their taxes by the deadline April 30th. Budgets for all departments are currently underway and we hope to have those approved by April 1st for the new year. A new finance policy was approved by General Council in November and implementation of the policy is now taking place. We urge you to visit the CTFN website to learn more about the policy and how the finance department works in terms of requests for payments, contracts etc. We are also in the process of ensuring that vacant positions are filled within our department.

Marilyn

RE: NATIONAL MUSEUMS AWARD

A recent event took place at the High Country Inn during this 'Business after Hours' event. The Yukon Convention Bureau hosted and a number of awards were given out. One award 'The Bravo Award of Excellence' was presented to the Yukon Art Centre/Yukon Heritage and Museums Group that hosted the National Museums Tours last May.

These are all people/citizens/members of Carcross/Tagish First Nation that assisted me and I am very grateful to them.

- Ida Calmegane (Elder) - Storyteller**
- Doris MacLean (Elder) - Presentation of First Nations' [Award Winning 2 times in Alaska] Soap Berry/Ice Cream Demonstration**
- Edna Helm (Elder) - Storyteller**
- Susan Schinkel - Assistant set up person**
- Susan Schinkel's son "**
- Laurie Patterson - Food Preparer-First Nations' Foods**
- James Kawcha - Food Preparer-First Nations Foods**
- Bea LeBarge - Transportation**
- Heather Jones - Communications**
- Justin Ferbey - Tour of Carcross Commons Site and Communications - with the Carvers _SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL THE CARVERS_**
- Bill Barrett Jr. Director of Heritage & Culture, Carcross/Tagish First Nation - for the loan of his Staff**
- Nelson Lepine Director of Capital & Infrastructure, " - the loan of tables, chairs & event equipment**

A loud _GUNALCHISE HO HO _to all those that helped in whatever way with the Carcross/Bennett Tour. The Museum Visitors loved it and each of you helped to make this Tour a huge success. Thanks for helping out with this. [Other Tours included Dawson City, Haines Junction and Teslin].

Georgianna Low on behalf of the Yukon Arts Centre and YHMA -Yukon Heritage and Museums Association