

DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY...
...MAKING A DIFFERENCE



KWANLIN DÜN FIRST NATION

2014 | 2015
ANNUAL
REPORT



WITH OVER 1,000 MEMBERS, KWANLIN DÜN FIRST NATION (KDFN) IS THE LARGEST URBAN-BASED FIRST NATION IN YUKON.

Kwanlin Dün's community lands lie within and near the City of Whitehorse; and it is the largest landowner in the city. The people of Kwanlin Dün First Nation are of Southern Tutchone, Tagish and Tlingit descent. Kwanlin Dün shares universal goals with other governments, communities and individuals: good education for our children, meaningful work, a good quality of life, health and healing for those in need and contributing to make our community a better place.



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Providing services that matter in the everyday lives of KDFN people is as complex and multi-faceted as the individuals we serve.

In looking back on the work of this government over the course of the past fiscal year, I see a period of time that demonstrates getting down to business. It was a year where we focused on vital initiatives and improving the delivery of services that matter most to our people.

The community of Kwanlin Dün is connected and caring. When we face tragedies and crises we are all affected. I'm proud of how citizens support one another during difficult times. To make a greater difference, the KDFN Government is currently working on a draft Community Crisis and Emergency Response Plan which will be brought to citizens for consultation.

In 2014, KDFN initiated a new four-year strategic plan. The strategic plan is a tool that we are using to focus on citizens' priorities, which in turn shape the priorities of the Government of Kwanlin Dün. The 2014-2018 KDFN strategic plan is organized around six pillars with the central objective of doing things that matter to our people.

The 2014-15 fiscal year represents the first full year that this new strategic plan has been in effect. We have therefore organized the stories and information in this report around the six pillar themes of our strategic plan.

You will read about the progress we are making to establish a solid foundation for our government and about programs that will support the unique needs of our citizens for many years to come. The stories and information provided under each pillar summarize the progress we are making on key strategic initiatives.

We've also included program area highlights and stories that celebrate the accomplishments of our people.

This report is by no means a full account of our activities, but rather a sample designed to give you a taste of how the services delivered, and the focus we are taking, relate to our vision of doing things differently and making a difference in the lives of citizens.

In unity,

Chief Doris Bill, Kwanlin Dün First Nation



DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY... ...MAKING A DIFFERENCE



NEW STRATEGIC REPORTING FORMAT

The fiscal year covered in this 2014-2015 Annual Report encompasses the first full year since the strategic plan has been in effect. We have incorporated summary progress on key strategic initiatives from our strategic plan into this report.

OUR PILLARS AND FOUNDATIONS

The 2014-2018 Strategic Plan for Kwanlin Dün First Nation is focused on six key result areas, or pillars. Collectively, these pillars support the strength of Kwanlin Dün First Nation and its Government. Each of the pillars work together to help achieve measurable results for all citizens. The following pages include a summary describing each pillar, followed by statements outlining tangible key results for each pillar under the heading “this is why we matter.” The facing pages include summary bullet points that report on the progress made under each pillar.

OUR VISION FOR OUR PEOPLE

We are a Government deeply committed to building a strong and self-determined Kwanlin Dün First Nation with a deep sense of cultural and spiritual identity that embraces community wellness and maintains a healthy bond to the land and our traditional territory. We seek a future where all citizens have a place to call home, can explore their interests in education and have the skills to take advantage of employment opportunities that will empower them to have a strong quality of life and give them the confidence to guide our youth and care for their families and Elders.



Fritz Mueller

OUR DEPARTMENTS, PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

CORPORATE SERVICES (ADMINISTRATION)

Administration personnel provide corporate services that benefit the entire government. Services are provided to Chief and Council, to all of the departments, with some services extended to assist KDFN's arms-length entities.

Corporate Services includes:

- **Human Resources Unit:** Provides staffing services for positions and supports the development and retention of existing KDFN staff.
- **Occupational Health and Safety:** Oversees KDFN's compliance to workplace safety regulations and related training, provides equipment and development and implementation of procedural protocols around workplace health and safety.
- **Communications Unit:** Develops and oversees all KDFN's strategic, intergovernmental and departmental communications, media and public relations for KDFN's key audiences.
- **Information Technology and Network Administration:** Provides oversight and maintenance of KDFN's information technology and computing systems and development.
- **Records Management:** Responsible for the overall effective organizational management of all electronic and paper-based records for KDFN including: storage, classification, retention and disposition scheduling, digitization and database maintenance.

Administration's Corporate Services personnel offices are located in the Main Administration building at 35 McIntyre Drive.



COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Services mandate includes the following:

- **Rental Property Management:** This area involves managing rental payments and arrears, home inspections, performing maintenance and repairs, managing housing allocations, transfers and evictions. Tenant relations falls under this area as well.
- **Capital Development:** This area involves planning and budgeting for capital expenditures, construction of new housing and infrastructure, implementing First Nation Market Housing Program projects and managing contracts with suppliers.
- **KDFN Building Maintenance:** This area involves performing inspections, maintenance and repairs including upgrades and renovations.
- **Land-based Infrastructure:** The area involves maintaining KDFN rental properties and government buildings, including the Jackson Lake Healing Camp; delivering the Fire Smart program; and developing trails.
- **Municipal Services:** This area involves garbage removal, water delivery, pest control and snow removal for Elders.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Kwanlin Dün's Economic Development function encompasses the following:

- **Yukon Asset and Construction Agreements (YACA's):** Kwanlin Dün's Final Agreement says benefits associated with YACAs from various capital development projects that take place within KDFN's Traditional Territory are to provide benefits for KDFN people through programming and infrastructure development.
 - The recent expansion of the House of Learning to accommodate more classroom space was made possible through dollars made available through the FH Collins construction project, which is a YACA project.
- **KDFN's Corporation:** Business charter development for KDFN's numbered corporation, which will provide oversight of all KDFN's business investments and holdings.
 - Funds from a YACA agreement from the Alexander Street seniors' home project provided funding for the Corporation CEO.
- **Self-Government Agreement Appendix A & B Lands within City of Whitehorse:** Assistance to Lands in mapping Lands instrumental for economic development opportunities; assistance to the Executive Council Office to form the beneficiary land allocation regulation.
- **Economic Development Plan:** Research and review process to form a traditional territory-wide plan around economic development.

OF KDFN'S TOTAL PERMANENT AND TERM POSITIONS...

61% of KDFN staff are KDFN citizens or immediate family.

76% of KDFN staff are Yukon First Nation, KDFN or immediate family of KDFN.

EDUCATION

Kwanlin Dün's Education Department operates from the House of Learning and provides the following programs and services for KDFN citizens:

- **Operating Aboriginal Labour Force Alliance (ALFA)-funded Training:** ALFA is a work-related fund that enables unemployed Yukon-based KDFN citizens to access training for skills and certifications that are critical to securing certain types of employment. KDFN offers many training programs that offer relevant skills for employment utilizing ALFA funds.
- **Tutoring Program:** Tutoring services are provided at the House of Learning for school-aged children up to 21 years of age and is available on a daily basis. Literacy programming during school holidays and through the summer months are also offered through this program.
- **Post-Secondary Student Support Program:** The Post-Secondary Student Support Program provides financial and educational support to all post-secondary students and is designed to be supportive and flexible.
- **Computer Access:** The House of Learning computer lab and foyer computer station provide computer and Internet access for KDFN citizens to use for study, research, job searches and email.
- **Life Transitions Services:** A qualified Social Worker provides comprehensive holistic services to assist citizens in developing independence and self-reliance through addressing their personal barriers. Assistance is provided in the form of counselling, and interpersonal skills development coaching. This position works collaboratively with the Health Centre's Counselling Services Unit.
- **Social Assistance Program:** KDFN's Social Assistance program operates under the Education Department and is administered through offices located at the House of Learning.
- **Employment Services:** This office located within the House of Learning works one-on-one with KDFN citizens in the areas of career and life planning, employment-related training and development action plans, job readiness coaching, job search, and employment retention plans. The Employment Services Office maintains an active job board of available employment opportunities within Yukon by Yukon employers.
- **Dusk'a Headstart Family Learning Centre:** Offers early childhood learning programming and pre-Kindergarten readiness programming that incorporates culturally-based teachings into the curriculum. Dusk'a's curriculum is enriched through the participation of community Elders who assist in providing cultural-based and traditional language teachings to the youngsters. Dusk'a's pre-Kindergarten and cultural curriculum is celebrated by the KDFN community and educators alike for quality, relevance and effectiveness.



Of ALL KDFN'S AUXILIARY AND CASUAL STAFF...

92% are KDFN or immediate family of KDFN members.

This statistic is limited by the information provided by employees, however non-KDFN staff in this category is rare.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE

The Executive Council Office (ECO) serves as a central source for services, expertise and advice in areas that influence and guide the overall functioning of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation government and oversees the development and implementation of good governance.

In addition to actively consulting and engaging the KDFN community, the ECO provides advice and support to all Kwanlin Dün governing bodies, including the General Assembly, Chief and Council, Elders' Council, Youth Council and Kwanlin Dün's Executive Director and all Kwanlin Dün departments.

ECO services Include:

- **Legal and Regulatory Policy Services:** KDFN's Policy Unit works with KDFN departments to coordinate and prepare legislation, regulations, terms of reference, policies, procedures and resolutions; and oversees and manages constitutional review and referendum processes.
- **Implementation:** This area of ECO deals with the implementation of KDFN's *Final Agreement* and *Self-Government Agreement* which includes, working closely with Yukon's other self-governing First Nations, meeting requirements of KDFN's Financial Transfer Agreement and coordinating negotiation of programs and services.
- **Citizenship:** The Citizenship Registrar is responsible for maintaining KDFN's citizenship registry including the name, birth date and current address for all Kwanlin Dün citizens and provides information regarding entitlement, eligibility and application procedures to applicants.
- **Administrative Coordination:** Provides support and coordination for staff; documentation and statistical support, oversight for events and special projects; provides support for KDFN's boards and committees including maintaining terms of reference, tracking committee appointments and recruitment.

HEALTH

Kwanlin Dün assumes responsibility for the management, administration and delivery of a number of health-related programs formerly managed and administrated by the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch of Health Canada. Kwanlin Dün is the only Yukon First Nation with its own Health Centre.

- **Health Promotion:** This Unit provides integrated and comprehensive health education, disease prevention, harm reduction and health promotion programs and services. Through a variety of programming, this team is responsible for the bulk of care provided to clients from birth to age 60. Clients are seen at the KDFN Health Centre, in their homes, on the street or at Whitehorse General Hospital.
- **Home and Community Care:** Home care services and in-home supports provided to individuals and families include health assessments, check-ups and follow-ups, referrals, transfers to and from medical appointments, prescription pick-up services and assistance with instructions, advocacy and education, hand and foot care, home visits for wound care, assistance with hospital discharge planning and support and home-based post-surgical care. The Unit also hosts events throughout the year for clients.
- **Counselling Services:** Our counsellors provide a range of counselling services for individuals, couples, and families of all ages assisting with many kinds of life issues. Counselling Services also provide referrals and outreach counselling at the Whitehorse Correctional Centre, Whitehorse General Hospital and within the KDFN community.
- **Recreation Services:** This Unit plans, coordinates and provides community-based recreation programming for KDFN citizens. Programs and activities include girls and boys activity and social clubs, skating, basketball, baseball and activity camps during school holidays.

CHIEF, COUNCIL AND EXECUTIVE OFFICES...

83% are KDFN citizens or immediate family.

92% are 'First Nation/Aboriginal' ancestry or descent.

JUSTICE

The mission of KDFN's Justice Department is to provide a comprehensive range of justice, corrections, child welfare and land-based and cultural healing programs and services to the citizens of Kwanlin Dün First Nation. Where possible, programs and services are also provided to other Yukon First Nations and Yukon people. The department also works to build additional capacity for the implementation of self-government in community justice and related areas.

The department mandate includes the following:

- **Justice Program and Restorative Justice:** Provide assistance and support to KDFN citizens and families in conflict with the law or in need of support in victim services, child welfare, probation, corrections or court related services. The department strives to follow First Nation values and restorative principles and practices whenever possible.
- **Child Welfare:** Support healthy, culturally-relevant lifestyles for children and families. Provide advocacy services to families dealing with child welfare issues.
- **Land-based healing and related programs:** Develop and deliver land-based healing programs.
- **Administration of Justice Agreements and related work:** Advance the administration of justice process with the purpose of developing KDFN authority and capacity in priority areas.
- **Community Justice and Safety:** Improve safety in the KDFN community.
- **Support to the Judicial Council:** Provide administration and financial management support to the Judicial Council.
- **Interdepartmental Initiatives:** Engage in interdepartmental collaboration to improve programs and services for KDFN citizens and the community as a whole.

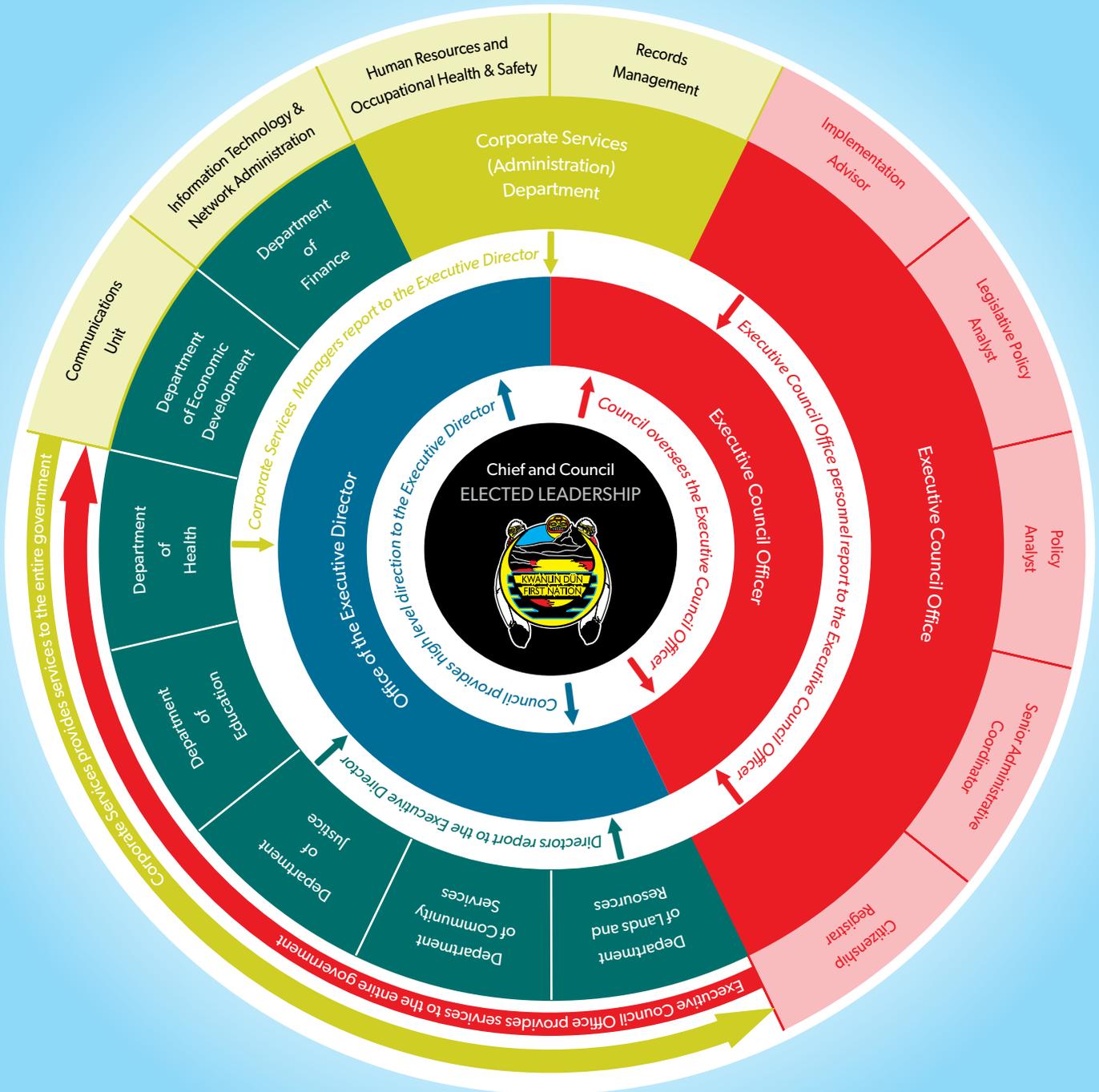
LANDS AND RESOURCES

The department mandate includes the following functions:

- **Fish and Wildlife:** Wildlife management planning, hunt permitting, habitat protection, legislative review.
- **Planning:** Urban lands, rural lands, special management areas, forestry, gravel and other resources.
- **Land Administration:** YESAB and other development project reviews, Settlement Land registry, leasing and other authorizations.
- **Natural Resources Management:** Forest, mining, oil & gas and water resource management legislative, policy and program review and development with Yukon.
- **Heritage:** Inventory, mapping, application of data in planning and YESAB.
- **Geographic Information Systems (GIS):** Mapping, spatial data organization.
- **Departmental Administration:** Records management, policy development, budgeting, proposal writing, preparation of briefings and intergovernmental communication.



KDFN Organizational Chart – Leadership and Senior Management Team



MANAGEMENT TEAM

36% are KDFN members or immediate family

Department Directors, HR and Communications Managers...

45% are 'First Nation/Aboriginal' ancestry or descent



Fritz Mueller

GOVERNANCE, LEADERSHIP AND STRONG GOVERNMENT

The ability of KDFN to make a difference in the lives of the citizens it serves depends to a large degree on whether the government has strong and healthy fundamentals. This includes having the funds to deliver the programs and services citizens need, the ability to invest and strategically leverage its resources to generate wealth and opportunities, and the ability to have and retain a motivated, trained and capable workforce.

KDFN is committed to making a difference in the lives of citizens.

THIS IS WHY WE MATTER:

- Effective, motivated staff.
- KDFN workplaces are safe and healthy.
- KDFN attracts and retains a quality workforce.
- KDFN is fiscally responsible and sustainable.
- Kwanlin Dün citizens are meaningfully engaged and consulted on matters affecting their government.

COUNCIL FORGES COOPERATION WITH CITY

An intergovernmental forum was held with the City of Whitehorse in the fall of 2014. The forum brought Whitehorse City Council and senior officials to the KDFN community to meet with KDFN’s Council and Directors. Discussions surrounded updating service agreements, Bylaw enforcement and strategic planning.

“There is a need and expressed desire by both governments to develop better relationships and work together more closely on improved services for the community and in dealing with issues of mutual interest,” said Chief Bill.

Since the forum, many visible improvements have been put into place:

BUS SHELTERS

The City installed new bus shelters along the McIntyre Drive and Crow / Swan Street bus routes. They feature KDFN’s wolf and crow moiety symbols designed by Kwanlin Dün artist Justin Smith. The artwork was also used for the lamppost banners along Black Street and at the cultural centre.

“This beautiful bus shelter design is just one example of what we hope will be many shared successes between the City and Kwanlin Dün,” said Chief Bill. “This project is a testament to the collaboration between our governments on initiatives that serve mutual needs and, as in this project, that also celebrate the rich cultural identity of Kwanlin Dün.”



HAMILTON BOULEVARD TURNING / MERGING LANE

City crews have constructed a turning and merging lane at the intersection of McIntyre Drive and Hamilton Boulevard, at the request of Kwanlin Dün during the forum last September.

The new lane provides safe turning and merging for drivers making a left turn onto Hamilton Boulevard off McIntyre Drive.

KDFN MOIETY LAMPOST BANNERS

New banners featuring KDFN’s wolf and crow moiety symbols are displayed on the street lampposts between 2nd Avenue and Front Street along Black Street and in the entryway to Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre.



VULNERABLE PEOPLE AT RISK FORUM

Immediately following the fiscal year close, KDFN and the City of Whitehorse jointly hosted a forum to discuss ways to support and improve conditions for the City’s most vulnerable persons.



City of Whitehorse Mayor and Council and KDFN Council, Fall 2014.

CITIZENSHIP COMMITTEE FULFILLS MANDATE

Work toward the goal of re-opening the Citizenship Office started in 2013 with a motion passed by Council to adopt the Citizenship Committee's terms of reference and mandate to develop a *Citizenship Act*.

The responsibilities of the committee included the development of a policy, application forms and the process for approvals of beneficiary and citizenship applications.

Committee members completed a considerable amount of work during the fiscal year 2014-15.

To support the committee with these efforts, a new Citizenship Registrar was appointed by Council. The Registrar's responsibility included managing the Office of the Registrar and providing administrative and technical support to the committee to ensure that the KDFN's registry-related programs and services are effectively delivered.

The Citizenship Registrar is also responsible for maintaining the data base of mailing lists, voting lists and various eligibility lists for programs and services delivered by KDFN.

The work of committee members, the Citizenship Registrar and Council resulted in the re-opening of KDFN's Citizenship Office.

In 2015, the office was preparing to announce its re-opening and to begin accepting applications for new beneficiaries only and persons linked to them.

By the end of the fiscal year, the draft *Kwanlin Dün Citizenship Act* remained in development. This legislation is needed before the Citizenship Office can begin to deal with any other types of applications, such as transfers. Putting this law into place will guarantee that processes are clearly outlined and fair for all persons that the law is designed to serve.

Some of the work in representing KDFN's interests around implementation of its agreements during the fiscal year included:

- Work on the Chapter 22 review and Terms of Reference
- Representing KDFN on various working groups such as Land Claims Agreement Coalition, Implementation Working Group, and the Self-Government Secretariat
- Reporting and work to secure negotiations support funding from Canada for each fiscal year

Policies that we worked on over the fiscal year included:

- Housing Rental Policy
- Elders' Fuel Subsidy Policy
- Elders' Emergency Fund Policy
- Cemetery Guidelines
- Records Management Policy
- Terms of Reference – Recreation Committee
- KDFN Vehicle Policy
- Potlatch House Rental Policy
- National Child Benefit
- Terms of Reference – Education Committee

Some of the items in KDFN's legislative process during the fiscal year included:

- *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*
- *Governance Act*
- *Referendum Code*
- Development of *Citizenship Act*
- Beneficiary Consultation Policy
- Rules of Procedures for the Citizenship Committee
- Preparation and processing of Council resolutions
- Maintenance of the KDFN Registry of Laws

Kwanlin Dün's Active Boards and Committees

- Administration of Justice Agreement (AJA) Working Group
- Citizenship Committee
- Constitutional Review Committee
- Donation and First Nations Artwork Committee
- Elections Act Committee
- Recreation Committee

Detailed information is available in the Terms of Reference of any of the committees.

INTERESTED IN SERVING ON A KDFN BOARD OR COMMITTEE?

Citizens who are interested in serving on one of KDFN's boards and committees are encouraged to submit their names and resumes to the Executive Council Office – KDFN's department responsible for boards and committees.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE NEGOTIATIONS

Kwanlin Dün First Nation has taken great measures to build more community awareness surrounding justice issues, working with the community to find solutions to enhance community safety and improve relationships with mainstream justice stakeholders.

In 2015, Kwanlin Dün refocused its priorities to work directly with justice stakeholders.

Stakeholders worked together to develop more immediate measures with the following objectives:

- to address and resolve the crime in the community;
- to improve community safety; and
- bring more transparency and accountability to the mainstream justice system in matters directly or indirectly affecting Kwanlin Dün citizens.

The last quarter of the fiscal year focused on Kwanlin Dün justice measures to build immediate community safety and develop protocols to advance justice relationships with various justice stakeholders. Housekeeping work included renewing the interim measures (section 13.6.6 of the *Kwanlin Dün Self-Government Agreement*), development of the main table work plan for 2015-2016 and finalizing discussions surrounding 2015-2016 negotiation funding.

Further information on Kwanlin Dün administration of justice matters can be directed to Kwanlin Dün Justice.

KDFN ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE AGREEMENT (AJA) WORKING GROUP UPDATE:

Throughout this reporting period the KDFN AJA Working Group:

- participated in five meetings to guide the administration of justice negotiations based on community interests and needs;
- advised on proposals for community readiness (to introduce a community circuit court, Gladue court, increase policing services, improved relations with prosecutions etc.);
- advanced the development of a proposed justice stakeholders forum;
- participated in the Kwanlin Dün Annual General Assembly in October 2014;
- held an orientation session with Kwanlin Dün directors in December 2014; and
- assisted in the legislation development process to establish a new *Kwanlin Dün Judicial Council Act* and a *Community Safety Act*, otherwise referred to as a banishment act.

Jessie Dawson pictured with Dr. Deb Bartlette, VP Academic and Students, as she receives her Honorary Diploma from Yukon College in Whitehorse.



Cathie Archibould photo



OUR PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

Ultimately, this Government exists to represent and serve the Kwanlin Dün people and its community. This means providing support to citizens in their desire to achieve a strong quality of life for themselves and their families. The government has a role to play in the lives of people by being involved in and promoting things like community wellness including healing, health, jobs, education, safety, justice and housing.

KDFN is committed to making a difference in the lives of citizens.

THIS IS WHY WE MATTER:

- Kwanlin Dün communities are safe, healthy and free of crime.
- Every citizen who wants a job can get one.
- Kwanlin Dün citizens can access quality health care in their own community.
- Every citizen who wants to own or rent a home, can.
- At-risk citizens have the life skills and support they need to live productive lives.
- Every citizen is given the opportunity to expand their education and reach their full potential.
- Traditional healing and community wellness is reflected in our approach to helping citizens live a quality life.
- Kwanlin Dün citizens have the employment skills, training and experience they need to compete in the Yukon labour market.

KDFN HEALTH CENTRE – BY THE NUMBERS:

2,111 individual clients were supported by KDFN Health Centre staff in 2014-15.

27,790 total client contacts were made through the Health Centre and its outreach programs.

195 people attended the 12 different health education luncheons to learn about various health topics.

2nd and 4th Wednesdays – healthy babies, healthy generations luncheons. Topics last year included:

- Making Traditional Medicine
- Child Communication
- Budgeting
- Therapeutic Journals
- Nutritional Bingo

50-80 clients participated in the healthy aboriginal adult program that promotes and supports active, healthy life styles.

3,296 client visits for doctor services in 2014-15, serving over 400 community members. Doctor services are provided at the Health Centre three days a week by three different physicians.

The Downtown Outreach Clinic has been in operation for four years. The clinic is a partnership between KDFN Health and Government of Yukon Homecare Services.

684 clients were assisted at the Downtown Outreach Clinic during a total of 44 clinic days. This number has more than doubled in the past three years.

100 new contacts per year are made through the clinic on average.

4,376 nursing contacts were made through the Outreach Van during the 2014/15 fiscal year.

OVER 16,000 client contacts have been made through the Outreach Van since its inception 13 years ago.

1,506 client contacts were made through the Health Centre for counselling services.



JACKSON LAKE WELLNESS PROGRAMS

The year was an exciting one for the Jackson Lake Wellness Team!

Government of Yukon funding was approved in 2014 for three years beginning in the 2014-15 fiscal year in support of the four-week land-based healing program for men and women.

Two programs were offered during the summer of 2014 and were well received by the participants from throughout the Yukon.

Health Canada provided three-year funding to support staffing the community based Jackson Lake wellness team. The funding began to flow in early 2014 with the first full year of implementation in the 2014-15 fiscal year.

The Jackson Lake wellness team includes a Coordinator, Cultural Counsellor and two Community Outreach Workers. The clinical counselling component is provided by KDFN Health and contract counsellors.

The team began its work by helping to connect potential program participants to other outreach and support services. The team also further developed its prevention, outreach, support and aftercare services.

Another important aspect of the team's work involves networking with the other 13 Yukon First Nations and other partner agencies. Liaising with partners has helped the team to further understand needs, provide support, identify possible participants for programs and engage in collaborative service delivery.

KDFN joined a circumpolar group of partners to apply for funds from the Movember Foundation for the establishment of youth programming based on the feasibility study completed in the previous year. The partners include the Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Labrador with advisors from the circumpolar countries of Greenland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.

The team continues to capitalize on opportunities to present and discuss the success of the Jackson Lake programs at forums and events. These opportunities help to continue to build awareness for the good work of the programs and to assist others in the development of cultural and land-based healing programs.



INTERDEPARTMENTAL INITIATIVES

The Interdepartmental Community Working Group (ICWG) re-activated in July 2014, now called the ICWG Visioning Group, began meeting in early 2015. The membership includes Directors and staff of the departments of Health, Justice, Education and Community Services that provide front line services directly to KDFN citizens.

The group has been actively meeting and has made progress on a number of important projects:

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELLBEING STRATEGY

The draft strategy that was created is linked to the KDFN Strategic Plan. The strategy includes action to be taken in priority areas identified by the community to strengthen wellness. These priority areas include improving community security and addressing issues related to alcohol and drugs. The draft will be presented to the community for review in the coming year.

LET'S KEEP TALKING COMMUNITY MEETINGS

The meetings began in November 2014 and have been well attended by community members. The community meetings are now well established and will continue to be planned every 4-6 weeks.

The participants have established guidelines for the discussions, set priorities for action such as the need for more security for people and property. Changes to the physical environment and the need for security staff working in the community were identified as top priorities.

Youth programming and active recreation are priorities as well. The need to break the silence and talk about real problems and issues was identified.

COMMUNITY CIRCLE OF CARE (CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM)

The first stage of work is complete. Further work is needed to formalize a system for coordinating services focused on the needs of individuals and families across departments.

COMMUNITY SECURITY OFFICER PROGRAM

The need for enhanced community security was raised at several Let's Keep Talking events. A project was launched by KDFN Justice to complete a community assessment and environmental review.

COMMUNITY CRISIS AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

Kwanlin Dün's Justice Department has led the development of a comprehensive Crisis and Emergency Response Plan for Kwanlin Dün.

The plan is unique in that it blends both crisis and emergency response into one plan, and incorporates Kwanlin Dün traditions such as healing and prayer circles.

The plan is also specific, in that it addresses how to effectively deal with 13 potential hazards, emergencies and crises that may impact Kwanlin Dün, from search and rescue operations to forest fires.

The plan also highlights the way that the City of Whitehorse and Government of Yukon will work with Kwanlin Dün to address emergency situations.

Kwanlin Dün is the first Yukon First Nation to develop such a comprehensive Crisis and Emergency Response Plan.

NEW ADULT EDUCATION FUNDING

Six KDFN citizens completed a full-time 12-week Skills for Employment Event Planner program that was offered in partnership between Yukon College, Government of Yukon and KDFN over the winter.

This was the first long-term training program led and managed by KDFN. The program was a success for the House of Learning and the students who participated.

Program funding was part a new transfer payment agreement with Yukon government's Advanced Education Branch. The agreement also provided funding for an adult education position and support for a three-year plan to integrate case management services and training programs through the House of Learning. The new three-year funding agreement was a major accomplishment and was the first of its kind for the House of Learning.

Many graduates were hired through the spring and summer to work in the Event Planning field. Four graduates have plans to continue their education at Yukon College this fall.



Event Planner Program graduates and instructors (left to right): Marjorie Cowell (instructor), Lisa Smith, Sandi Porter, Chantelle Williams, Tayler Vallevand Vance, Faith Whiting (instructor)
Front row: Millie Gage, Hilda Dawson

NATHAN DAWSON UNITY CARVING PRESENTED TO PRINCE EDWARD

Last fall, Yukon dignitaries presented Prince Edward with a carving by Nathan Dawson, a young Kwanlin Dün artist.

The piece itself is entitled "Unity" and is carved in basswood. The piece was inspired by the need for opposing elements to be unified in order for us all to move forward - both individually and as communities.

Nathan Dawson was born and raised in Whitehorse, Yukon.



SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REVIEW

The Social Assistance Program review began in the first quarter of 2014. Members of the newly elected Council indicated that the Social Assistance Program was an important issue raised by citizens during the election.

"As candidates, we constantly heard concerns from citizens and through this review process, we are following up on those concerns," said Chief Bill.

The purpose of the program review is to ensure there is a fair and consistent policy in place. A resolution calling for a review of the program was passed at a general assembly. Kwanlin Dün has also begun the process of establishing its own Social Assistance Program and policy.

Since the ratification of the KDFN Self-Government Agreement, the First Nation has continued to operate using the federal policy. "It is time we move forward," said Chief Bill. "We need our own policies and we need to be accountable and transparent."

In the fall of 2014, approximately 61% of Kwanlin Dün's Social Assistance clients were surveyed on the services provided through the program.

Key insights:

The majority of clients surveyed expressed a desire for more one-on-one time with workers to discuss their situation and their goals. Some respondents also expressed an interest in the possibility of home visits to accommodate more one-on-one time with workers.

The survey also identified a need for Social Assistance workers to collaborate with other resources to assist clients in overcoming barriers to improve their lives.

Next steps include:

- Strategic planning;
- Identifying policy issues;
- Policy development;
- Community consultation;
- Council review and input;
- Legislation development;
- Standing Committee on Legislative and Policy Development review and recommendations for Council;
- Review and approval by Council.

"What I think about the SA program is it is necessary for those who severely need it, but an improvement would be people weaning off of SA and gaining employment skills, I think SA helps people going through hard times."

-Surveyed client's response (anonymous)

HOUSING ENERGY RETROFITS:

The Gas Tax Fund provided roughly \$639,000 for energy retrofits and repairs for several KDFN housing units.

The energy retrofits involved:

- removal of siding, old doors and windows to help reduce heating fuel and electricity consumption;
- installation of plywood, rigid insulation, strapping and siding;
- installation of triple pane high efficiency windows and metal insulated doors.



MAINTENANCE OF HOUSING UNITS:

A housing maintenance assessment is being conducted to prioritize current needs and to help plan for future maintenance needs.

Maintenance to address conditions that affect personal and environmental safety have been the priority. Priority upgrades have included replacement of:

- outdated fuel tanks;
- steps and landings;
- brick chimneys with insulated stainless steel chimneys.

So far, some urgent repairs have been completed using small local business and individual contractors. KDFN anticipates putting out more of these types of tenders and is working on a process to enable small local business and individuals to compete for labour contracts.



OUR CULTURE AND ELDERS

The strength and uniqueness of the Kwanlin Dün people lies in our traditional culture, values and language. The cultural leaders of our First Nation are our Elders, who pass the knowledge and traditions of our people from one generation to the next. This pillar involves things like communicating our culture to others, engaging our youth to become interested in our stories, traditions and language, and ensuring that our Elders are provided and cared for.

KDFN is committed to making a difference in the lives of citizens.

THIS IS WHY WE MATTER:

- Kwanlin Dün citizens are engaged in their culture, history, heritage, traditions and language.
- Kwanlin Dün traditional knowledge, heritage, culture and languages are reflected and promoted in KDFN government programs and services, in Kwanlin Dün communities and reflected in both the Yukon and Canadian story.
- Elders are treated equally and fairly, and receive the support they need to live an independent life in their community.
- Elders are actively engaged and consulted in our KDFN government.

WHITEHORSE WATERFRONT HERITAGE PROJECT

Chapter 13, Schedule C, of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation (KDFN) Final Agreement established a process to develop a written and pictorial history of Kwanlin Dün’s experience along the Whitehorse waterfront and to present the history to the general public.

Phase two of the project which began in late 2014, focused on consultations with the Kwanlin Dün community to further develop the thematic focus and story content for the proposed history of Kwanlin Dün on the Whitehorse waterfront.

Three community meetings were held over the winter and spring of 2015 to present the project to the community and to gather information. In total, these meetings were attended by approximately 150 Kwanlin Dün citizens.

As part of phase two, a focus group was established with a small group of Kwanlin Dün citizens to guide those working on the project. Family photograph collections and other documentary sources related to Kwanlin Dün waterfront history were digitized and added to the KDFN archival collections. Ten video interviews were filmed with Elders and families to document various aspects of their history with the waterfront.

In working with the Kwanlin Dün community, the project has demonstrated the tremendous potential of heritage activities to build positive relationships, unify families, uncover amazing Kwanlin Dün lives and stories, and acknowledge the contributions of people within the KDFN community.

Work will continue on phase two of the project until the end of March 2016. Based on the input and participation of Kwanlin Dün people, phase two of the project will produce a framework for how the Kwanlin Dün community wants to tell its history along the Whitehorse waterfront.

In phase three of the project a book will be produced about the experience of Kwanlin Dün on the Whitehorse waterfront.

In subsequent phases of the project the information gathered from the community and featured in the book will be adapted to a wide range of media (interpretive signage, exhibits, curriculum etc.) in order to present the story of Kwanlin Dün’s life on the Whitehorse waterfront to the general public.

For more information, contact KDFN’s Lands and Resources Department.



ENHANCING ELDER HEALTH AND WELLBEING

The Elder Day Program was a very successful new addition to the Home and Community Care program this past year.

The Elder Day Program was created to support healthy social connections and to help reduce isolation among KDFN Elders living in the community or living alone.

The program aims to support a sense of healthy self-esteem and vitality through the activities and interactions between program staff and Elder participants.

The program allows the health care team to have more opportunities to interact with and to monitor our Elders' health conditions. The increased contact can provide noticeable improvements in areas such as nutritional health for example. The organized group and extra contact with the health care team also gives home-based caregivers a break and ideally will help to allow Elders to live independently for longer.

Activities in this program include:

- traditional crafts (sewing, drum making);
- games (bingo, cards, bowling, music and singing);
- physical exercise (indoor exercise, walking, and dancing);
- lunches during outings; and
- visits to attractions and other communities.

The Elder Day Program operates three days a week and provides free transportation to various venues in the Whitehorse area with snacks and meals. Those interested can call the KDFN Health Centre to learn more at 668-7289.

KDFN Home and Community Care's new Elder Day Program was very well-received, welcoming over 70 client contacts in the first five weeks of the program.



TRADITIONAL HEALTH QUILT PROJECT

Last year through its Traditional Health Program, KDFN led a special project to create a community quilt in honour of those who attended residential school. Many community members including children and staff gathered to create squares for the quilt with beautiful designs and messages. The quilt itself was put together by Ida Asp and is currently hanging in the classroom of the Health Centre.



CULTURE AND LANGUAGE – THE HEARTBEAT OF DUSK’A

Culture and language are the foundation of the Dusk’a Headstart Family Learning Centre. Some ways that staff and community members are incorporating traditional lessons and values into our children’s education include:

- practicing traditional song, drumming, dancing and language learning;
- medicine-picking and making; and
- providing families and community members with Southern Tutchone language learning materials.

KDFN Elders and community members are encouraged to join us in taking an active role in the revitalization and continuation of language and culture.



DIG YOUR ROOTS GATHERING

The Dig Your Roots gathering held over the winter months was part of the second phase of the Elders’ Portrait Project that gathered stories and captured portraits of KDFN Elders.

The event brought together KDFN citizens of all ages to explore family history, genealogy, traditional stories, songs and dance.



Fritz Mueller

OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Children and youth represent the future of the Kwanlin Dün people. Investments must be made at a government level, including helping children at an early age by supporting traditional parenting and the Dusk'a Centre, to ensure that our children and youth not only have the education and skills they need to participate in an ever-changing labour market and take advantage of the many social and economic opportunities that life affords, but that they do so while maintaining a meaningful tie to the land, culture, traditions and language.

KDFN is committed to making a difference in the lives of citizens.

THIS IS WHY WE MATTER:

- All youth graduate from high school or obtain their GED.
- At-risk children and youth are protected and supported, and remain in our community.
- Kwanlin Dün children and youth are actively engaged and supported in recreation, outdoor and traditional activities.
- Youth and children have access to positive role models and mentors.
- Youth receive the support they need to deal with issues such as suicide, bullying, staying in school and preventing substance abuse.
- Our children and youth receive the skills, knowledge and education they need to live healthy, productive, independent lives.

HOUSE OF LEARNING EXPANSION

New classroom space at the House of Learning is helping more students prepare for college.

Through the construction, two new classrooms and three new offices were added.

The Yukon government provided \$250,000 in funding for the new space through a Yukon Asset Construction Agreement (YACA) with KDFN.

These agreements are provisions within the First Nation's final agreement, with the aim of providing training and employment benefits for the First Nation through government projects that take place on Kwanlin Dün traditional territory.

The new classrooms provide quiet space for both teachers and students.

"Before the renovation, we used to tutor students out in the hallway," said Therese Lindsay, Manager of Education. "There were kids running back and forth so it was noisy."

Students who took the 12-week Event Planner Skills for Employment program were the first to enjoy the new classroom space.

LEARNING TOGETHER PROGRAM

In 2014, the Learning Together Program was introduced at the Dusk'a Headstart Family Learning Centre and offered three days per week. The program is intended for young children who are not enrolled in a childcare program and are in the home with their parent(s) or caregiver (such as grandparents or nannies). Learning Together teachers facilitate a variety of activities, including dramatic play, puzzles, books, blocks, stories, music, art, science and gym time.

Caregivers attending the Learning Together Program participate in organized sessions such as circle time, play activities, and participate in serving a healthy snack. Adults can discover new ways to support children's learning at home and learn about local services and resource providers in their area.



HOUSE OF LEARNING – BY THE NUMBERS

43 KDFN students were currently studying at University or College at the time of this report's preparation.

9 KDFN students participated in the Event Planner Skills for Employment Program at the House of Learning.

11 KDFN students graduated from high school in 2015 – congratulations to: Dilan Burns, Kathleen Dawson, Alexander Gatensby, Kailen Gingell, Dennis Itsi, Bo Lewis, Quinton Sterriah, Kayla Trudeau, Sebastien Lewis, Austin Smith and Wesley Hirsche-Smith.

2 Community Education Liaison Coordinators (CELC's) for KDFN provide services to KDFN students at all schools in Whitehorse, including the Individual Learning Centre, homeschools and those studying outside of Yukon.

Community Education Liaison Coordinators (CELC's) provided support services for:

59 KDFN elementary level students

44 KDFN high school students

12 students from the Individual Learning Centre

11 students studying outside Yukon

2 home-schooled students

30 students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 received assistance through KDFN's extended tutoring program during the 2014-15 school year.

Extended tutoring services during the 2014-15 school year encompassed:

assistance by **3** tutors;

2 times daily (noonhour and after school until 6pm);

4 nights a week; and for **2** weeks during spring break; and during summer camp programs with the Recreation program.

WHOLE-PERSON APPROACH TO YOUTH HEALTH AND WELLBEING

THEO FLEURY BRINGS MESSAGE OF HEALING TO YOUTH

Kwanlin Dün, with other community partners, brought former NHL star, and healing motivator, Theo Fleury to Whitehorse. His talk was called "Don't Quit Before the Miracle" and was part of the kickoff for the 12th annual "Learning to Lead" Northwest Summit Hockey School.

During his time in Whitehorse, Fleury joined local and First Nation youth as a guest coach at the hockey camp.

The hockey camp credits its enduring success to its "Learning to Lead" philosophy that places a strong emphasis on helping participants to develop leadership ability, self-confidence, communication skills, fitness and on-ice hockey skills.



Northwest Summit Hockey School Head Coach Joe Martin and Theo Fleury pose with youth leaders from the hockey camp following a news conference to kick off the first day of the hockey camp. Rick Massie photo.

OUR VOICES YOUTH LEADERSHIP GATHERING

The inception of Our Voices began as an effort to initiate a dialogue on how young people could support youth and work together to stop the tragic losses experienced within the region.

The first Northern Emerging Leaders Gathering occurred in May 2014 in Whitehorse and, in August 2014, the first Our Voices Summer Gathering was held in Teslin. The gathering brought together First Nations youth from across the Yukon, Northern British Columbia, Northwest Territories and Alaska.

Our Voices is a collective of young Indigenous leaders who have the vision of holding up our youth and our culture.

JACKSON LAKE HOSTS CLARA'S BIG RIDE

In 2014, six-time Olympic medalist Clara Hughes completed a cross-country cycling trek to raise awareness about how common mental illness is and to get people talking about the topic openly. Clara's message came from her own personal experience battling the extreme lows of depression.

During Clara's visit to Whitehorse, Kwanlin Dün was honoured to host her at Jackson Lake. Clara toured the camp and learned about how Kwanlin Dün integrates cultural activities and practices into its programming to assist people dealing with the effects of trauma and substance abuse.



Kwanlin Dün is an active supporter of initiatives that help to inspire positive change toward health and overall wellbeing among our people.

"Kwanlin Dün understands the importance of community-based recreation and in placing a focus on cultivating leadership potential and self-responsibility in young people," said Chief Bill. "Beyond the work that we do directly in our community to support these values, KDFN is proud to partner in support of community initiatives that inspire, motivate and elevate people toward positive growth and personal wellbeing."

YOUTH ARE LEADING THE WAY BACK TO THE LAND

Following a successful ski season in 2014-15, Kwanlin Koyote Ski Club youth alumni shared their perspectives on the reasons they ski with Masters student and ski club volunteer, Sara Nielsen.

The youth shared benefits to more than just the physical body and land:

- They showed an understanding of the holistic health benefits that skiing offered them in exercise and time alone on the land to work on their mental, physical, emotional and spiritual selves.
- The youth also mentioned how skiing, time on the land, and the club's mentorship fostered a sense of connectedness to family, community, tradition and the land itself.

Who knew a simple activity could do so much?



KDFN youth are leading the way back to the land and are encouraging others to follow.

NEW HOLISTIC APPROACH TO YOUTH RECREATION

Recreational activities for KDFN youth provide many physical, emotional, social and spiritual benefits.

During the fiscal year, the Recreation team developed a new strategy for working with youth in the community. The new approach is in line with the Council strategy of bringing programming, culture, lifestyle, teaching and learning “back to the land.”

By implementing a holistic model of recreation that includes the individual, the community and the environment, the direction of KDFN’s recreation programming will celebrate KDFN culture and traditions and incorporate westernized sports such as baseball, soccer, hockey, and so on. Life and social skills components are also incorporated into the programming.

FUNDING SUPPORTS LAND-BASED PROGRAMMING FOR MALE YOUTH

The Movember Foundation awarded a grant of \$3 million over three years (2015-2018) to support a large-scale collaborative project that will support projects in seven different communities across Canada’s north including Kwanlin Dün First Nation.

The project is entitled, “Pathways to mental wellness for Indigenous boys and men: Community-led and land-based programs in the Canadian North” and will engage participants from three populations: school-age boys; male youth at high risk for mental health problems, including suicide, those in the justice and/or child welfare systems, and male youth with mental health or substance misuse problems.

Land-based programs combine Indigenous knowledge with therapeutic or health-promoting interventions in a wilderness setting, often involving activities related to the land, such as food harvesting and backcountry safety training.



Fritz Mueller

RESPONSIBLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Generating wealth and economic opportunities for the Kwanlin Dün people, through the development of settlement land and the creation of entrepreneurs and business, is a key pillar for KDFN. Economic growth is an engine for job creation for Kwanlin Dün citizens. This pillar addresses responsible economic development that is sustainable, meaningful, creates jobs and pride in our community. It supports development that does not have adverse or unmanaged environmental impacts that threaten the beauty of our traditional territory.

KDFN is committed to making a difference in the lives of citizens.

THIS IS WHY WE MATTER:

- Kwanlin Dün is a tourism destination for the Yukon Territory.
- Kwanlin Dün artists and traditional storytellers receive the support they need to promote our culture.
- KDFN regulatory regimes, particularly around land use and economic development, are clear and effective.
- Large-scale economic development projects on KDFN settlement lands employ a minimum of 50 percent Kwanlin Dün citizens.
- Kwanlin Dün entrepreneurs and small business owners receive the support they need to grow and prosper.

KDFN BUSINESS INTERESTS REORGANIZED

Kwanlin Dün has completed a reorganization of its business entities.

This included work to establish a new development corporation to oversee wealth-generating activities for the First Nation.

Through this process, Kwanlin Dün’s existing corporations were reorganized into limited partnerships and continue to operate.

The business reorganization resulted in the creation of the Chu Niiikwan Development Corporation. Chu Niiikwan means *Yukon River* in Southern Tutchone.

A board of directors was recruited for the new Chu Niiikwan Development Corporation to begin the process of making sound business investments.

The Chair of the corporation is Rick Gingell and an interim Chief Executive Officer is in place. The Board of Directors provide direction to the corporation on wealth-generating initiatives. The development corporation is currently working on its business charter.

KDFN INVESTS IN YUKON’S ENERGY FUTURE

In May, Kwanlin Dün signed an Investment Options Agreement with the Yukon Development Corporation.

The agreement provided KDFN with the opportunity to invest in the recent Whitehorse Diesel-Natural Gas Conversion Project.

The deal is part of a broader agreement with Yukon Energy made possible through the *KDFN Final Agreement*. It provides KDFN with opportunities to be part of Yukon’s energy projects through investment and job opportunities.

Financing options are being sought to capitalize on this investment for the next 25 years.

These opportunities will help to ensure continuity and stability for the First Nation, create future wealth for KDFN citizens and help to strengthen the economic base of the First Nation.



Work in progress during the House of Learning expansion (inset of completed building). Funds for the project were provided through a Yukon Asset Construction Agreement connected to the FH Collins construction project.



Chief Bill shares many of KDFN's recent successes with members of Whitehorse's business community.

KDFN HOSTS BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Approximately 150 people from the business community attended the Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce "Business after Hours" networking reception hosted by KDFN following the election of the new Council.

"We gather in the spirit of open communication toward creating meaningful and enduring relationships between our community and yours," Chief Bill said as she opened the event. Chief Bill spoke of some of Kwanlin Dün's recent successes and shared a short video highlighting some of the accomplishments at Kwanlin Dün.

The video received rave reviews from guests attending the event. The video is called "Kwanlin Dün First Nation – People's History & Recent Accomplishments" and can be viewed on KDFN's YouTube Channel at www.youtube.com.



TRUST INDENTURE UNDERWAY

Over the course of the fiscal year, the Trust Working Group hosted a series of beneficiary meetings. An important aspect of the consultation meetings included deciding on which trust model to recommend to Council.

A **trust model** is a structure that guides the trust and includes defined roles and authorities around management of the trust.

Beneficiaries were presented with information on the features and pros and cons of each trust model. Input gathered from beneficiaries helped to inform Council's decision to proceed with an administrative trust model.

Work has now begun on developing a **trust indenture**. A **trust indenture** is a binding legal document.

The trust indenture will be designed to meet the needs of the community and in a way that ensures that the trust's capital can grow.

The trust indenture will outline how funds will be:

- Invested, allocated and protected for future generations;
- Protected from taxes; and
- How funds will be distributed back to the community via programs.

Use of Compensation Funds for anything other than what is written in the trust indenture will be illegal. The trust indenture will also spell out the roles of trustees and the responsibilities of the Investment Manager.

The trust indenture and KDFN's *Investment Governance Act* protect compensation funds against unlawful use. It defines very clearly how funds can be used.

Next steps include:

- Drafting and approving the trust indenture (currently in progress)
- Recruit and appoint trustees
- Recruit and hire an Investment Manager
- Invest the trust funds
- Implement the trust as per indenture.



OUR LAND AND RESOURCES

The theme of 'our Land' runs through many aspects of Kwanlin Dün life, from traditional land uses to present day harvesting of animals such as caribou and moose, to economic development and wealth creation, to the building of new homes to support the growth of our community. A key element of this pillar is the wise stewardship of Kwanlin Dün land and resources to ensure that they are preserved for future generations.

KDFN is committed to making a difference in the lives of citizens.

THIS IS WHY WE MATTER:

- Kwanlin Dün has a strong land planning and management framework in place that allows the Kwanlin Dün people to realize the benefits of using and developing its land and resources, while at the same time preserving it for future generations.
- The Final Agreement is fully implemented, which includes participation in all land and resource planning and management activities within the Kwanlin Dün Traditional Territory.

KUSAWA PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN

Kusawa Park is a vital part of the traditional territories and culture of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation, Champagne and Aishihik First Nations and Kwanlin Dün First Nation, whose traditional territories overlap at Rose Lake. Ongoing First Nations use of Kusawa Park is outlined in one of the key guiding principles for the park.

The park area was identified as a Special Management Area during land claim negotiations. The establishment of Kusawa Park was finalized in Schedule A to Chapter 10 of the Final Agreements for Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Carcross/Tagish First Nation.

The plan provides a clear, long-term vision and direction for the future management and operation of Kusawa Park. It provides for the protection of the park's natural and cultural resources for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

The Steering Committee finalized a Draft Management Plan that is available for review online at www.kusawapark.ca.

The Kusawa Lake region is an important area with a long cultural history. Aboriginal peoples' ties to the land go back many, many years. The Tlingit name, Kusawu.a, means "long lake," while the Southern Tutchone name is Nekhū Man, meaning "raft crossing lake," a reference to the narrows.*



KWANLIN DÜN TRADITIONAL TERRITORY LAND VISION PROJECT

The Kwanlin Dün Traditional Territory Land Vision project is an initiative of the Kwanlin Dün Lands and Resources Department.

The intent of establishing a vision for the Kwanlin Dün First Nation Traditional Territory is to ensure that there is a consistent approach to the planning, management and use of land within the Traditional Territory based on the values of the Kwanlin Dün community.

After it is developed and endorsed by the community and Kwanlin Dün leadership, the vision will provide a guiding direction to the future planning and management of Kwanlin Dün Settlement Land and non-settlement land within the Kwanlin Dün Traditional Territory.



As Kwanlin Dün First Nation owns only six percent of the lands within its Traditional Territory, it will be necessary for Kwanlin Dün to work cooperatively with other First Nations and governments to realize the intent of the land vision across the landscape of the Kwanlin Dün Traditional Territory.

The Kwanlin Dün Land Vision project began in the fall of 2014. Over the past fall and winter two community meetings and two mapping workshops were held with Kwanlin Dün citizens as part of developing a vision for Kwanlin Dün's Traditional Territory.

During these sessions, Kwanlin Dün First Nation Settlement Land and non-settlement land was examined to identify where wildlife, heritage, residential development and community infrastructure needs would be best situated. Workshops were developed around each of the main topics and community members participated in mapping exercises to identify which lands they thought would be best set aside for which need. Approximately 100 Kwanlin Dün citizens participated in these events.

Following the meetings and workshops held over the winter, Lands and Resources Department staff organized three field trips to areas within the Kwanlin Dün Traditional Territory that were identified during the winter work as being particularly important to the Kwanlin Dün community.

Three-day field trips were organized to Rose Lake, M'Clintock Lake and Fish Lake with citizens participating who had traditional or family connections to these areas. In total, approximately 30 Kwanlin Dün citizens participated. As part of these excursions, a helicopter took citizens and staff to investigate sites of special significance within each of the areas visited.

Mapping sessions were also held with the community participants to gather traditional knowledge and document the citizens' vision for the lands in each area.

Based on the input received from the Kwanlin Dün community, a draft land vision has been developed for Kwanlin Dün's Traditional Territory and will be presented to Kwanlin Dün Council for formal approval. Once approved by Council the land vision will guide all of Kwanlin Dün's future planning work within the Traditional Territory.

For more information on the Kwanlin Dün Traditional Territory Land Vision project and next steps please contact KDFN's Lands and Resources Department.

MARSH LAKE LOCAL AREA PLAN

During the period covered by this report, KDFN and Yukon government reached an agreement on a land designation configuration. While KDFN and Yukon government are supportive of the plan as written, Yukon government is working with Carcross-Tagish First Nation on reviewing the recommended plan.

The Kwanlin Dün First Nation Self-Government Agreement provides for partnership with the Yukon government to undertake a cooperative local area planning process. The high importance of Marsh Lake and the M'Clintock River to KDFN is reflected by the fact that half of the planning area is KDFN settlement land. Although each government has the right to make decisions independently on their own lands, it was recognized by both parties that there was great value in a joint planning process with a shared vision.

The Vision Statement:

The Marsh Lake area is a rural community with clean water and healthy fish and wildlife populations. People enjoy the local environment, have a chance to work locally, and have access to basic local services. First Nation citizens have renewed their cultural ties to the area, while all residents are connected to the community and have a vibrant presence on the land.

Guiding Principles:

The Guiding Principles were developed from the Vision Statement and will help direct the future development of the area. They are:

- **Care for the Environment:** Respect the natural environment and ecosystems.
- **Community Culture:** Foster and promote the rich First Nation history and traditional use of the area as well as the culture of the local community.
- **Rural Lifestyle:** Affirm and foster the unique rural lifestyle and community spirit.
- **Community Sustainability:** Promote the efficient use of global and local resources.
- **Self-Sufficiency:** Promote the production of local goods and services.

KDFN's interest in maintaining chinook salmon habitat is reflected in plan land designations. So too are concerns for habitat security for the Carcross Caribou Herd.

The Draft Marsh Lake Local Area Plan is available online for review at www.planmarshlake.ca



This is the first local area plan where a First Nation is the largest landholder in the area. 

KDFN LANDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Lands and Resources Act

In 2014, the Council enacted the *Lands and Resources Act*. This piece of legislation will be coming into force when all the other necessary components are developed to assist Kwanlin Dün in administering the *Lands and Resources Act* effectively.

Regulations and Polices

Currently, we are developing various supporting components of the Lands Administration and Management System (LAMS), which will provide guidance to the Lands and Resources Department staff in the implementation of the Act. Components include:

- land use application and authorization regulations;
- land management plans, policies and administrative procedures;
- application review and project assessment policies and processes;
- monitoring and enforcement procedures; and
- a land registry.

Traditional Territory Land Visioning

The preparation of a Traditional Territory land vision will ensure that the community's values are reflected in the planning, management and use of settlement and non-settlement land throughout KDFN's Traditional Territory.

Land Registry System

The department and Council have reviewed options for Kwanlin Dün's Land Registry system and opted to use the Government of Yukon registry for reasons including cost to develop and maintain, positive recognition by banks, efficiency and consistency. Discussions continue with Yukon government on the amendments to the Yukon *Land Titles Act* that would enable registration of Settlement Land leases in the Yukon registry.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

The Lands and Resources Department staff are currently developing a spatial data repository for all of Kwanlin Dün's Settlement Lands.

Learn more by calling Kwanlin Dün's Lands and Resources Department at 633-7866 or email Lands_and_Resources@kdfn.net.

MANAGING KDFN'S FOREST RESOURCES

Kwanlin Dün First Nation is working on a forest management plan for the Whitehorse and Southern Lakes region with the Yukon government, Ta'an Kwäch'än Council and Carcross/Tagish First Nation. At the time of this report, the Whitehorse and Southern Lakes Forest Resources Management Plan was in Stage 3 - Identify a Draft Vision and Management Options.

To learn more, visit the planning website at www.yukonforestplanning.ca or contact KDFN's Lands and Resources Department.



Management's Responsibility for Financial Reporting

The accompanying summary non-consolidated financial statements of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation (the "First Nation") are the responsibility of management and have been approved by the Chief and Council of the First Nation.

The summary non-consolidated financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, except as describe in the qualified audit opinion. Financial statements are not precise since they include certain amounts based on estimates and judgements. When alternative accounting methods exist, management has chosen those it deems most appropriate in the circumstances, in order to ensure that the non-consolidated financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects.

The First Nation maintains systems of internal accounting and administrative controls of high quality, consistent with reasonable cost. Such systems are designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial information is relevant, reliable and accurate and the First Nation's assets are appropriately accounted for and adequately safeguarded.

The First Nation Council is responsible for ensuring that management fulfills its responsibilities for financial reporting and is ultimately responsible for reviewing and approving the summary non-consolidated financial statements.

The Chief and Council review the First Nation's summary non-consolidated financial statements and recommend their approval. The Chief and Council meet periodically with management, as well as the external auditors, to discuss internal controls over the financial reporting issues, to satisfy themselves that each party is properly discharging their responsibilities, and to review the annual report, the non-consolidated financial statements and the external auditors' report. The Chief and Council takes this information into consideration when approving the financial statements for issuance to the Members. The Chief and Council also consider the engagement of the external auditors.

The summary non-consolidated financial statements have been audited by BDO Canada LLP in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards on behalf of the members. BDO Canada LLP has full access to the First Nation Council.


Chief


Councilor

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Chief and Council Members of Kwanlin Dun First Nation

The accompanying summary non-consolidated financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at March 31, 2015, the summary non-consolidated statement of operations, are derived from the audited non-consolidated financial statements of Kwanlin Dun First Nation for the year ended March 31, 2015. We expressed a qualified audit opinion on those financial statements in our report dated September 28, 2015.

The summary non-consolidated financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Public Sector Accounting Standards. Reading the summary non-consolidated financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited non-consolidated financial statements of Kwanlin Dun First Nation.

Management's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of a summary of the audited non-consolidated financial statements in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary non-consolidated financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS) 810, *Engagements to report on summary financial statements*.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

The First Nation has accounted for its investments in controlled subsidiaries using the cost method in its summary non-consolidated financial statements. These investments are governmental units which should be consolidated on a line by line basis or using the modified equity basis. The financial statements of the controlled entities were not available to management and consequently we were unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence with respect to the financial position or results of operations to determine whether any adjustments to the amounts recorded as at or for the period ending March 31, 2015.

The First Nation has not completed a full assessment of their tangible capital assets with respect to PS3150 Tangible Capital Assets adoption. The recognized tangible capital asset amounts and related amortization expense reported may not be complete. The First Nation does not expect to complete this on a timely basis. Accordingly, we were unable to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to tangible capital assets, amortization expense, annual surplus and accumulated surplus as at and for the year ended March 31, 2015.

Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matters described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion Paragraphs, the summary non-consolidated financial statements derived from the audited non-consolidated financial statements of Kwanlin Dun First Nation for the year ended March 31, 2015, are a fair summary of those financial statements, in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards.

Other Matter

The comparative figures presented in these non-consolidated financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2014 were audited by another firm who expressed a qualified opinion on those non-consolidated financial statements in their report dated September 17, 2014.



Chartered Accountants
Whitehorse, Yukon
September 28, 2015

Kwanlin Dun First Nation
Summary Non-Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

As at March 31	2015	2014
Financial Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,264,369	\$ 3,576,280
Accounts receivable	612,569	450,970
Grants receivable	2,177,701	1,570,096
Restricted cash	38,391,984	37,245,621
Long-term investments	596,094	596,094
Due from related businesses	5,411,932	5,411,932
	<u>49,454,649</u>	<u>48,850,993</u>
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	1,649,712	2,240,125
Capital reserves	385,253	266,253
Deferred revenue	2,055,033	1,173,735
Long-term debt	1,365,593	1,883,946
CMHC replacement reserves	1,550,519	2,065,080
	<u>7,006,110</u>	<u>7,629,139</u>
Net financial assets	<u>42,448,539</u>	<u>41,221,854</u>
Non-financial assets		
Tangible capital assets	34,829,851	36,875,752
Prepays	58,024	33,102
	<u>34,887,875</u>	<u>36,908,854</u>
Accumulated Surplus	<u>\$ 77,336,414</u>	<u>\$ 78,130,708</u>

Approved on behalf of the Council:

 Chief

 Councilor

Kwanlin Dun First Nation
Summary Non-Consolidated Statement of Operations

For the year ended March 31	Budget	2015	2014
Revenue			
Government of Canada - Financial Transfer Agreement	\$ 15,012,131	\$ 14,525,400	\$ 13,843,615
Dividend Income	-	-	2,500,000
Government of Yukon	2,580,910	2,355,594	2,320,183
Kwanlin Dun First Nation Contributions to CMHC Housing	642,428	1,550,302	1,507,500
Personal Income Tax and First Nation Goods Services Tax	670,000	1,176,781	1,106,187
Property Management Lease	739,525	739,525	1,098,089
Rentals	1,106,232	1,286,570	1,064,233
Health and Welfare Canada	255,403	963,961	938,853
Compensation Payment	862,212	862,212	862,212
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada	282,060	320,825	725,486
Interest	432,165	432,165	404,813
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation	310,043	329,532	325,739
Government of Canada - Other	80,134	237,474	315,119
Aboriginal Labour Force Alliance	66,515	271,815	215,754
Administration Fees	124,076	55,318	186,655
Other	71,337	883,681	904,548
Capital Renovation Expansion	320,000	420,000	-
Transfer from Deferred Revenue	395,000	1,173,735	711,014
Transfer to Deferred Revenue	-	(2,055,033)	(1,215,742)
Repayable to Funding Agencies	-	-	(25,787)
Contributions from Administration	-	(989,753)	-
Transfer to Capital Reserve	-	(119,000)	(148,003)
	<u>23,950,171</u>	<u>24,421,104</u>	<u>27,640,468</u>
Expenses			
Governance and Implementation	3,405,833	5,120,741	5,434,981
Lands and Resources	718,563	689,806	710,585
Health	3,300,689	3,342,658	3,034,654
Human Resources, Education and Social Assistance	5,894,319	6,380,099	5,923,468
Capital Operations and Community Services	4,010,615	6,244,986	5,134,449
Administration and Finance	3,905,165	2,257,673	3,822,194
Economic Development	953,665	1,179,435	790,304
	<u>22,188,849</u>	<u>25,215,398</u>	<u>24,850,635</u>
Surplus (deficit)	1,761,322	(794,294)	2,789,833
Accumulated surplus, beginning of year	<u>78,130,708</u>	<u>78,130,708</u>	<u>75,340,875</u>
Accumulated surplus, end of year	<u>\$ 79,892,030</u>	<u>\$ 77,336,414</u>	<u>\$ 78,130,708</u>



DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY...
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