

KWANLIN DÜN FIRST NATION



2016 · 2017
ANNUAL
REPORT

Lat'adinch'e

CONNECTIONS





*doing things differently ...
... making a difference*

Kwanlin Dün First Nation is the largest landowner in the City of Whitehorse.
We are a nation of over 1,000 proud and diverse citizens.

Our government upholds our nation's principles to:

- Act as the steward of the land, resources and all living things on and within our Traditional Territory.
- Speak with a unified voice to promote the diversity of Citizens.
- Encourage respect for all Citizens, especially the Elders, the youth and children.
- Provide good, honest, open and progressive government, led by accountable and democratically elected leaders.
- Implement and uphold the Final Agreement and the Self-Government Agreement, and administer the benefits flowing from each one of those agreements effectively and efficiently.

Our government supports our nation's values to:

- Maintain and preserve our relationship with the land, resources and living things on the land in the Traditional Territory of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation, now and in the future.
- Preserve and promote our traditional languages, practices and culture.
- Protect our youth and children, instill in them an awareness of their aboriginal identity and values, promote their education and enhance their future.
- Strive for economic, community, spiritual and personal well-being.
- Express and protect our aboriginal rights and our rights under the Kwanlin Dün First Nation Final Agreement and the Kwanlin Dün First Nation Self-Government Agreement.



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Mapping the way to *self-determination* is no easy task, but despite challenges, the KDFN government has a strong community vision, a willingness to do things differently and a desire to make connections and make a difference in the lives of its citizens.

Message from the Chief

CHIEF DORIS BILL
KWANLIN DÜN FIRST NATION



Photo: Alistair Maitland

On behalf of Kwanlin Dün First Nation (KDFN) Council, I am proud to share the 2016-17 Annual Report. I encourage citizens to read through this document, as it is a great reflection of the hard work our government has undertaken over the past year to continue building the most healthy, vibrant and sustainable community possible.

Mapping the way to self-determination is no easy task, but despite challenges, the KDFN government has a strong community vision, a willingness to do things differently and a desire to make connections and make a difference in the lives of its citizens.

I am pleased to report that KDFN remains as financially strong as ever, and pride in our community continues to increase.

As we continue this journey together and unlock the economic potential of our modern-day treaties, it is important that we strengthen relationships and establish partnerships with all levels of government and all who share our vision. It is equally important that we, collectively and individually, do our part for reconciliation. We are setting a new path with empathy, greater understanding of what we need to do, and a willingness for change.

I wish to express my appreciation to our Elders and youth for the all their work over this past year. Our Elders and youth have been a great support in strengthening the foundation of this government. Their continued participation and commitment to KDFN government departments, committees and at other community relations activities have been an invaluable resource. To further support this government's commitment to KDFN youth, a Youth Advisory Committee to Council has been established. This committee will help guide the KDFN Council on youth-related initiatives and will ensure we receive input directly from our young people themselves.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge our citizens who have passed, and offer my heart-felt and continued support for the families. During times of loss, I have witnessed the strength and beauty of our people and I have seen the need for grief counselling. Just know that reaching out for help with healing is a positive and healthy thing to do. KDFN has professional and experienced staff who are willing to help and work with all of our citizens. If you require any type of support, please know that KDFN staff are willing and capable to provide confidential support and that there are excellent programs for families and individuals of all ages.

Thanks again to all who have contributed to the successes of Kwanlin Dün First Nation over the past year. Together, we are doing great things.



PART 1

Our Departments, Programs & Services

EXECUTIVE SERVICES

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE

ADMINISTRATION

COMMUNITY SERVICES

FINANCE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

EDUCATION

HEALTH AND SOCIAL

JUSTICE

LANDS AND RESOURCES

EXECUTIVE SERVICES

Delivers corporate and administrative services to Council.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE (ECO)

The Executive Council Office provides support and expertise to Council, its committees and KDFN departments. Its functions also include:

- **Legal and Regulatory Policy Services:** Works with KDFN departments to coordinate and prepare legislation, regulations, terms of reference, policies, procedures and resolutions; and oversees and manages election, constitutional review and referendum processes.
- **Implementation:** Oversees the implementation of KDFN's Final Agreement and Self-Government Agreements. This 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 Registrar:** Maintains Kwanlin Dün's citizenship registry including the name, birth date and current address for all citizens and provides information regarding entitlement, eligibility and application procedures to applicants.
- **Administrative Coordination:** Provides administrative support to ECO staff and oversight and coordination for events and special projects. Also provides support for KDFN's boards and committees including maintaining terms of reference, tracking committee appointments and recruitment.
- **Records Management:** Manages all electronic and paper-based records for KDFN including: storage, classification, retention and disposition scheduling, digitization and database maintenance.

ADMINISTRATION

The Administration department provides corporate services for all government departments and occasionally KDFN's arms-length entities. It is responsible for implementing the strategic direction from Council. Its functions also include:

- **Communications:** Develops and oversees all KDFN's strategic, intergovernmental and departmental communications, plus media and public relations for key audiences.

BY THE NUMBERS

29

Community meetings (about education, governance issues, heritage, community and personal health, Let's Keep Talking, housing and more.)

2.5

Average number of community meetings per month.

55

Committee Meetings (like citizenship, economic development, donations, constitutional review, heritage and lands.)

BY THE NUMBERS

69%
of permanent and term staff members are KDFN citizens.

90%
of individuals hired in 2016-17 were KDFN citizens or family members.

90%
of auxiliary on-call staff are KDFN citizens.

37
job competitions and numerous expressions of interest were managed.

40
individuals were hired through these advertised opportunities.

29
individuals hired for these job opportunities were KDFN citizens or immediate family of citizens. An additional seven individuals hired self-identified as belonging to another First Nation.

FINANCE

The Finance department delivers financial administration and services for all government departments. It includes the comptroller responsibilities such as the financial integrity of the government, budgeting and reporting. Its functions also include:

- **Human Resources Unit:** Provides staffing services for KDFN positions and supports the development and retention of existing staff.
- **Occupational Health and Safety:** Oversees KDFN's compliance to workplace safety regulations and related training. Also develops protocols and provides equipment and training.
- **Information Technology and Network Administration:** Oversees and maintains KDFN's information technology and computer systems.
- **First Nation Market Housing Program:** The department of Finance implements this Assembly of First Nations initiative which includes the new KDFN Market Housing Program. The KDFN program supports citizens to build, purchase or renovate homes on Kwanlin Dün settlement lands.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Services is responsible for all houses, community buildings and infrastructure owned by KDFN and provides municipal services not provided by the City of Whitehorse. Its functions also include:

- **Rental Housing Property Management:** Oversees rental payments and arrears, home inspections, maintenance and repairs while also managing housing allocations, transfers and evictions.
- **Capital Development:** Plans and budgets for capital expenditures, construction of new capital infrastructure and manages contracts with suppliers.
- **KDFN Building Maintenance:** Performs inspections, maintenance and repairs including upgrades, and manages related contracts.
- **Land-based Infrastructure:** Maintains KDFN rental properties and government buildings including Jackson Lake Healing Camp. Also delivers the Fire Smart Program and develops trails.
- **Municipal Services:** Provides garbage removal, water delivery, pest control and snow removal for Elders.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Economic Development department's objective is to generate wealth for the First Nation by engaging in activities that will build skills and capacity within the citizenry, and increase the value of the First Nation's assets. The department works collaboratively with Chu Níikwän, the Kwanlin Dün First Nation development corporation. Its functions include:

- **Yukon Asset and Construction Agreements (YACAs):** Involves capital development projects funded by the Government of Yukon that take place within KDFN's traditional territory. As stated in the KDFN Final Agreement, these projects must provide benefits for KDFN people through programming and infrastructure development. Recent examples include contracts for grubbing and clearing around the Whistle Bend subdivision as well as various opportunities at the new Whistle Bend Continuing Care Facility, and a contract for the demolition of the old F.H. Collins high school. Recently negotiated contracts include the Airport Runway Pavement Replacement and the Alaska Highway Corridor Expansion.
- **Self-Government Agreement Appendix A & B Lands within City of Whitehorse:** Provides assistance to the Lands and Resources department for lands with high economic development potential. Assists the Executive Council Office to develop the beneficiary land allocation regulations.
- **Economic Development Plan:** Collaborates with the Lands and Resources Department in developing a comprehensive community land use plan within the City of Whitehorse.
- **Chu Níikwän:** The recently established, arms-length development corporation, provides oversight for all of KDFN's business investments and holdings. This year, Chu Níikwän developed a strong foundation for long term growth and financial prosperity. The shareholder (KDFN Chief and Council) has empowered a high performing board of directors and has developed strong relationships with the private and government sectors. A few highlights from Chu Níikwän companies include two operational gravel quarries, the F.H. Collins high school as well as developments in the Kulan Subdivision. They constructed their first residential home for sale at market value in the Whistle Bend subdivision. Crews cleared phase 3 of Whistle Bend for development. They have also tested out the new leasing process with active commercial leases.

Yukon Asset and Construction Agreements projects must provide benefits for KDFN people through programming and infrastructure development.



EDUCATION

BY THE NUMBERS

8

students studying outside Yukon

22

Kindergarten to Grade 12 students who received assistance from KDFN's tutoring program

36

post-secondary students

9

students graduated from post-secondary programs

22

Pre-school students enrolled in Dusk'a Head Start Family Learning Centre

Kenädän Kù – House of Learning, the Education department, oversees many aspects and levels of education. Its functions include:

- **Aboriginal Labour Force Alliance (ALFA) funding for training:** 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 using ALFA funds.
- **Tutoring:** Offers tutoring services at Kenädän Kù for school-aged children up to 21 years of age and is available from Monday to Thursday. Staff also offer literacy programming during school holidays and through the summer months.
- **Post-Secondary Student Support:** Provides financial and educational support to approved post-secondary students and is designed to be supportive and flexible.
- **Computer Access:** Kenädän Kù computer lab provides computer and Internet access for KDFN students to use for work, study and research. The foyer computer station is available to citizens for job searches and email.
- **Employment Services:** Working one-on-one with citizens in the areas of career and life planning, employment-related training and development action plans, job readiness, job search, job coaching and employment retention plans. The Employment Services Office also maintains an active job board.
- **Adult Education:** Provides one-on-one holistic services in the areas of career & life planning and education plans to assist citizens with education and employment goals. Provides individual goal oriented plans, develops and runs training programs and adult tutoring.
- **Community Education Liaison Coordinators (CELCs):** Liaise with students, school staff and families; assist students to stay at school and to succeed at school; and work with the schools and KDFN to provide cultural programming. One CELC is based at Elijah Smith Elementary School for elementary students in Whitehorse and another is based at Porter Creek High School for high school students.
- **Dusk'a Head Start Family Learning Centre:** Offers early childhood learning programming and pre-Kindergarten readiness programming that incorporates culturally-based teachings. Dusk'a's curriculum is enriched through the participation of community Elders who assist in providing culture-based and traditional language teachings to young children through the Language Nest program.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

KDFN is responsible for the management, administration and delivery of a number of health-related programs. Kwanlin Dün is the only Yukon First Nation with its own Health Centre. Its functions include:

- **Health Promotion:** Provides integrated and comprehensive health education, disease prevention, harm reduction and health promotion programs to groups and individuals from pre-conception to adulthood. It includes a variety of maternal, paternal and child programs, adolescent initiatives and adult activities. Health Promotion is also responsible for overseeing the immunization program, nursing walk-in clinics, doctor clinics and traditional and holistic health programming.
- **Outreach:** Using both trauma-informed care and harm-reduction approaches, staff provide healthcare to individuals experiencing homelessness, poverty, addiction, mental health issues, sexualized assault and domestic violence. Outreach is also responsible for overseeing the Communicable Disease program within Kwanlin Dün. Services are provided directly to individuals and groups on the streets, in shelters and in homes through front-line work as well as the Downtown Outreach Clinic, the Outreach Van and A Safe Place. Kwanlin Dün co-chaired the Safe at Home Action plan to End and Prevent Homelessness in Whitehorse which is a community driven plan to be released in fall 2017.
- **Home and Community Care:** Provides advocacy and support services to individuals and families in their homes and at the Health Centre. KDFN nurses and Elder support workers partner with other governments (Yukon and Canada) and non-governmental organizations (C.A.I.R.S., Salvation Army, Hospice Yukon, Cancer Society) to deliver comprehensive, case-managed care to citizens.
- **Counselling Services:** Provides comprehensive and culturally appropriate services for addictions, mental wellness and family violence to support children, youth, adults and families. Staff focus on the client, their family and the community, follow professional standards and support Kwanlin Dün values.
- **Social Assistance:** Using a community-of-care approach, provides support (financial, social and educational) to youth and adults to develop skills to meaningfully participate in the economy. Works with other departments and agencies for a comprehensive approach and administers the regulations established by the Government of Yukon.

BY THE NUMBERS

175
ACCESS requests

450
Clinical support and counselling services provided to over 450 people from all Yukon communities

159
Clients enrolled in KDFN Counselling services

866
Contacts (people helped) at Shelter Services over three-month period

5,465
Contacts (Elders) using Elder Support Services

5,998
Contacts using maternal, paternal or child services in Health Promotion

33
Events held by Health Promotion

6,010
Client contacts at Health Centre

4,110
Contacts made by Outreach Van

8,498
Total contacts made by Outreach assistance including van, downtown out-reach clinic and in-home visits

290
Individuals ("heads of households") who accessed Income Assistance during this fiscal year

JUSTICE

The mandate of the Justice Department is to provide a comprehensive range of community justice, safety, security, child welfare and support, outreach and healing programs & services to families, children, youth, adults and Elders. This is accomplished through collaboration with other stakeholders and partners. KDFN's initiatives in community and human development are culturally founded and land-based to respond to the needs and priorities of KDFN citizens and, where possible, to other Yukon First Nations people. The department also builds capacity to implement self-government, the laws of KDFN and Administration of Justice agreements. Its functions include:

BY THE NUMBERS

10
Number of events held for women, men, youth and Elders

12
Men participating in the 28-day Land-Based Healing Program

8
Women participants in the 28-day Land-Based Healing Program

18
Average Number of Elders attending each day of the Elders Camp

4
Number of week-long Youth Program sessions offered this year

- **Justice Program and Restorative Justice:** Provides 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 follows First Nation values and restorative principles and practices whenever possible. The Jackson Lake Wellness Team runs many of KDFN's land and culture-based programs and services.
- **Child Welfare:** Supports healthy, culturally-relevant lifestyles for children and families. Provides advocacy services to families dealing with child welfare issues.
- **Land-based healing and related programs:** Develops and delivers land-based healing and culturally appropriate programs — mostly through the Jackson Lake Wellness Team.
- **Youth Outreach:** Managed through the Jackson Lake Wellness Team, delivers youth-oriented, culturally relevant activities and support to Kwanlin Dün youth and young adults. A focus is to support at-risk youth to make positive decisions on the direction of their lives.
- **Administration of Justice:** Advances the Administration of Justice agreement development process to develop KDFN authority and capacity in priority justice areas.
- **Community Justice and Safety:** Improves safety in the KDFN community through efforts like the Community Safety and Well-Being Initiative and the Crisis and Emergency Response Plan (CERP).
- **Support to the Judicial Council:** Provides administration and financial management support to the Judicial Council.



LANDS AND RESOURCES

The Lands and Resources department has implementation responsibilities from 11 chapters of Kwanlin Dün's Final and Self-Government Agreements, including the management of settlement land, special management areas, land use planning, development assessment under the Yukon Environmental Assessment and Socio-economic Assessment Act (YESAA), heritage, water management, fish & wildlife and forest resources. Its functions include:

- **Fish and Wildlife:** Includes wildlife management planning, hunt permitting, habitat protection and legislative review.
- **Planning:** Provides planning services for urban lands, rural lands, special management areas, forestry, gravel and other resources.
- **Land Administration:** Includes overseeing YESAA activities and other development project reviews, the settlement land registry, leasing and other authorizations.
- **Natural Resources Management:** Includes forest, mining, resource management legislation for both oil and gas, and water, and policy and program review and development projects with the Government of Yukon.
- **Heritage:** Includes the inventory, mapping, and application of data for planning and YESAB project reviews as well as the implementation of the Whitehorse Waterfront Heritage project.
- **Geographic Information Systems (GIS):** Includes responsibility for all mapping and spatial data organization.
- **Departmental Administration:** Includes records management, policy development, budgeting, proposal writing, preparation of briefings and intergovernmental communication.

Major projects **completed** by Lands And Resources Department this year:

- Traditional Territory Land Vision
- Marsh Lake Local Area Plan
- Kusawa Park Management Plan.

Major projects **currently underway** by Lands and Resources Department:

- Southern Lakes Strategic Forest Management Plan
- Preparation of a Land Use Vision and Design in preparation for Regional Land Use planning in partnership with CTFN and TKC
- The Waterfront Heritage Project.





PART 2

Our Strategic Plan & Vision

GOVERNANCE, LEADERSHIP AND STRONG GOVERNMENT

OUR PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

OUR CULTURE AND ELDERS

OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

RESPONSIBLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

OUR LAND AND RESOURCES

Strategic Plan

SHAPES ANNUAL REPORTING

The 2014-2018 KDFN Strategic Plan identifies six “pillars” — areas that guide KDFN's programming, special projects and initiatives that are determined to be cornerstones to our progress. This section of the annual report is structured around these six key pillars. The following selection of good-news stories and fiscal-year highlights demonstrate that the KDFN government and citizens are well on their way to fulfilling the vision of these six pillars.

THE SIX PILLARS ARE:

1. Governance, Leadership and Strong Government
2. Our People and Community
3. Our Culture and Elders
4. Our Children and Youth
5. Responsible Economic Development
6. Our Land and Resources

Vision

We seek a future where all citizens have a place to call home, the opportunity to explore their interests in education and have the skills to take advantage of employment and economic development opportunities.

We work to empower our citizens so they may have a strong quality of life, the confidence to guide our youth and the compassion to care for our families and Elders.



No. 1

Governance, Leadership & Strong Government

For KDFN to make a difference in its citizens' lives, the government has to ensure it has healthy "fundamentals." This means 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 hire and retain a motivated, trained and capable workforce.

THIS IS WHO WE ARE:

- Our staff is effective and motivated.
- Our workplaces are safe and healthy.
- Our government attracts and retains a quality workforce.
- Our government is fiscally responsible and sustainable.
- Our government meaningfully engages and consults with citizens on matters that affect them.

New council. New legislation. New policies.

To ensure smooth governance, a lot of hard work goes into creating legislation and policies, as well as nurturing effective boards and committees. A successful election was held in March and a new Council was sworn in. Here is a summary of new legislation and policies from this fiscal year:

Legislation

- Act to Amend to the Governance Act
- Act to Amend the Referendum Code
- Judicial Council Act

Policies

- Amendments to the Council Benefits and Compensation Policy
- Amendments to the KDFN Post-Secondary Education Program Policy
- Cell Phone Policy
- Panorama Security Policy
- First Nation Market Based Housing Policy

Citizens to Have More Say in the Constitution

The Constitutional Review Committee, established in 2014, spent three years talking to citizens about a proposed referendum. They heard citizens asking to be more involved as the keepers of the Constitution. The committee recommended that future changes to the Constitution be moved from a referendum process to a General Assembly process. This way, changes to our supreme law can be debated and decided on more fully.

A referendum scheduled for November 9 was postponed which delayed proposed amendments to the Constitution. Plans are underway to set a new date for the referendum. Council will ensure citizens are involved in the process leading up to a referendum so they fully understand the intent of the referendum and the changes that will result.

It is proposed that a permanent Constitutional Committee be formed at a General Assembly. This four-person committee would be appointed for a five-year term. This means that future constitutional amendments will only be brought to the General Assembly at the end of a five-year period. A five-year period would give the appropriate time for careful consideration given how important this law is to your government and all citizens.

**ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED
BY THE DAC
COMMITTEE THIS YEAR:**

Recreation Category

- Fees for two Softball tournaments
- Summer Hockey Camp registration fees
- Junior hockey registration fees for seven children
- Hand games tournament entry fees for 32 adults and 19 kids
- Hockey equipment and skating fee for one child
- Recreational hockey fees for eight adults
- Travel expenses for Provincial & National athletics competition

Community Category

- Science Camp fees
 - Learning project under Indigenous Women in Community Leadership
 - Expenses for the Healing Canoe journey
 - Fees for a Zoology conference
 - Expenses for a music festival
 - Airfare for participant in Peace and Dignity Run
-

Widespread Financial Support for Recreation and Community

The Donations/First Nations Artwork and Crafts Committee provides financial support through two categories: recreation and community. The four-person DAC committee meets monthly to review applications and work on behalf of Council to manage the donations and make arts and crafts purchases. The DAC committee accepts applications from KDFN citizens and KDFN groups that are looking for donations to assist with events, recreation activities, educational activities and cultural events.

Kwanlin Dün Honoured as National Leaders in Workplace Safety

In August of 2016, Kwanlin Dün First Nation was issued a Certificate of Recognition (COR) from Northern Safety Network Yukon for achievement in safety excellence, becoming the first First Nation government in Canada to achieve this status. COR is a nationally recognized program developed by the worker's compensation boards of different provinces and territories across Canada.

Kwanlin Dün First Nation is a leader in protecting its workers from injury and illness in the workplace. The safety of employees, including the many Kwanlin Dün First Nation citizens that are part of the government staff, is paramount to government operations. Over the past five years, KDFN has developed a safety program that exceeds legislative requirements. This program includes an extensive safety manual that contains many policies and procedures to protect its workers. KDFN ensures that all staff have the proper training and equipment to do their work safely. The safety program was reviewed and approved by Council in February of 2015.

Kwanlin Dün is now able to share this knowledge with other First Nation governments in Yukon who are required to establish their own safety programs. This is a landmark achievement for the Government of KDFN and we are proud of what we have accomplished as leaders in workplace safety.

KDFN Beneficiaries Trust Established

The Kwanlin Dün First Nation Final Agreement includes a provision for a trust for beneficiaries. A trust was recently created after several years of consultation with beneficiaries through community meetings, surveys and education. The trust holds the funds that will be built up through sound investments for the future benefit of Kwanlin Dün beneficiaries. The trust is managed independent from Council – Council has no control over it. The trust funds are now in the trust's bank account and the trustees will be hiring an investment manager to manage the growth of the fund. It's important that investments made in the first few years build the fund's wealth so that future disbursements do not touch the fund's principal amount.

Five KDFN beneficiaries have been appointed as trustees on five-and seven-year terms—they are: Helen Holway, Darlene Smith, Maxine Lindsay, Michael Stanley and Kynan McIntyre. Some of the roles and responsibilities of the trustees will include involvement in the hiring of the investment manager, providing direction and overseeing the growth of the trust. "After running my own businesses and working for Kwanlin Dün for many years, I look forward to being a trustee," said Helen Holway. "This is a great opportunity to work on investing and building the trust for our future generations."



No. 2

Our People and Community

The Government of Kwanlin Dün First Nation represents and serves the Kwanlin Dün people and their community. This means supporting citizens to have a strong quality of life for themselves and their families. It is the government's role to promote community wellness including healing, health, jobs, education, safety, justice and housing.

THIS IS WHO WE ARE:

- Our communities are safe, healthy and free of crime.
- Every citizen who wants a job can get one.
- Our citizens can access quality health care in their own community.
- Every citizen can own or rent a home.
- 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.
- Our citizens have the employment skills, training and experience they need to compete in the Yukon labour market.

Groundbreaking Training for New Community Safety Officers Program

40%
DECREASE

in the number of occurrences (calls to police) of illegal or criminal activity in the community from 2014 to December 2016.

2014 – 1,097 occurrences
2015 – 826 occurrences
2016 – 668 occurrences

Several Kwanlin Dün citizens completed a five-week training program at the Justice Institute of British Columbia – earning them an Associate Certificate in Community Safety. They were part of a group of 14 Yukon First Nation participants who received a broad training in conflict resolution, restorative justice, intergenerational trauma, suicide prevention, report writing, first aid and more. The program was developed collaboratively with the Kwanlin Dün Department of Justice.

Three of the graduates were later hired to work for Kwanlin Dün as Community Safety Officers and Land Stewards. The Community Safety Officers (CSO) will be a visible, day-to-day presence in the community to support citizen safety and security. They will be a point-of-contact for citizens and the RCMP. The Land Stewards will patrol Kwanlin Dün's Traditional Territory. They will monitor activity and educate citizens and visitors on the appropriate and respectful use of the land. These new positions are part of the community-wide Community Safety Initiative.

Implementing Kwanlin Dün's Community Safety Initiative is improving the safety of our community. Other efforts of the Initiative include community clean-up and brush clearing, improving lighting, reducing speed limits and initiating road-side vehicle checks.



Temporary Shelter Provided More Than Just a Bed

From early February to the end of April of 2017, the Kwanlin Dün Natsékhi Kú (Health Centre) operated a temporary shelter in the former St-Elias Group Home on 5th Avenue in downtown Whitehorse. It made available an additional ten emergency shelter beds to vulnerable people at risk.

The shelter operated at full capacity nearly every night and there was usually a line-up to secure a place. The shelter saw a total of 822 people staying over the three months and an additional 130 people had to be turned away because the shelter was full.

“We treated the people at the shelter as adult guests and staff demonstrated deep compassion and love,” said Christina Sim, Kwanlin Dün’s Manager of Outreach & Health Promotion programs, “Guests were shown hospitality by our wonderful staff.” Staff frequently checked in with guests to get their feedback on the services provided.

Financial support came from the Government of Yukon (including the loan of the building), the Kwanlin Dün Elder’s Fund, and donations from Whitehorse businesses and community members.

A Bonanza of Post-Secondary Students and Graduates

The busy Post-Secondary program saw a total of 36 students funded to further their studies. This funding enables our citizens to attend degree and certificate programs at an accredited institution of learning.

Nine Kwanlin Dün First Nation citizens graduated from post-secondary programs in a variety of fields of study including: medicine, multi-media communications, administration, environmental and conservation sciences, photography, ironworking, health sciences and education.

Supporting Adult Learners at House of Learning

As part of ensuring we provide the best possible Adult-Education support, we conduct an Evaluation of Adult Programming as part of a funding agreement with the Government of Yukon. Over the summer and early fall, the education staff at House of Learning also conducted a survey of citizens at a community meeting and through a direct survey on what they want and need from the Education department. The results have been compiled and are informative.

People voiced their interest for things like increased apprenticeship opportunities within the KDFN government and beyond, and enhanced language and cultural-training programming. More than half of the citizens surveyed identified that they had concrete employment and educational goals. More than half said they would use the services of a cultural educator if such a position was created.



- Doctor of Medicine
 - Certificate in Multimedia Communications
 - Administrative Assistant Certificate
 - Northern Science Diploma in Environmental and Conservation Sciences
 - Bachelor of Design in Photography
 - Red Seal Ironworker Certificate
 - Bachelor in Health Sciences
 - Office Administration Certificate
 - Bachelor of Education.
-



250+
PEOPLE FROM
ACROSS CANADA
participated in the
“Bringing Our Voices
Together in Wellness
Gathering”

Indigenous Groups Meet to Share Knowledge on Mental Wellness

Kwanlin Dün First Nation hosted a three-day “national knowledge exchange” on mental wellness in March 2016 with over 250 people in attendance. Dubbed the “Bringing Our Voices Together in Wellness Gathering,” it invited people from across Canada who work to promote mental-wellness to share what they know with Yukon and Northern B.C. First Nations.

As hosts, the KDFN Wellness Team was given the opportunity to showcase their strengths and successes in this field. They were also provided volumes of inspiring new information. In the end, the KDFN community will likely see enhanced services and programs. “A great deal of knowledge flowed between the 10 mental wellness teams in attendance,” said Jeanie Dendys, then-Director of Justice at KDFN, and a presenter at the gathering. “Delegates from the Yukon were engaged and enthusiastic.

Healing Through Jackson Lake Wellness Program

The Jackson Lake Wellness Centre offers a land-based program that brings together both First Nation cultural and mainstream clinical approaches to healing. It helps people from all backgrounds begin to heal from issues like addictions, trauma and abuse. The programs are popular – there is always a wait-list for participants for the 28-day land-based Women’s Program and Men’s Program. Once the program is complete, participants have access to aftercare and support from outreach workers – a key to the program’s success.

In the summer of 2016, 12 men and eight women participated in the 28-day land-based Men’s and Women’s healing programs at Jackson Lake. In 2016, the Jackson Lake Wellness Team introduced a new land-based Youth program. The one-week session is offered four times a year and involves cultural activities like sweat lodges, setting fish nets and tool making.



In 2016, Jackson Lake staff introduced an equine therapy component integrated into the Women's Programs. Colleen Geddes, Coordinator at Jackson Lake Wellness Program, and fellow Jackson Lake counsellor Marian Bos both own horses and took equine therapy training so they could offer the program. "Horses are very, very healing," said Geddes. "Having the horses there was helpful for the women."

Vulnerable People at Risk Initiative – Working to Eliminate Homelessness

In the spring of 2016, the Vulnerable People at Risk Initiative saw three levels of government – Kwanlin Dün First Nation, City of Whitehorse and the Government of Yukon – partnered to develop a comprehensive plan to end homelessness here in Yukon. Since then, Ta'an Kwäch'än Council has also joined the project.

Born out of a community-wide forum in 2015, the initiative organized its efforts in their comprehensive plan: "Safe at Home: a Community-Based Action Plan to End Homelessness," created by the Vulnerable People at Risk Working Group. In January 2017, the plan was shared with all government partners plus local businesses, community and faith groups before the document was released to the larger Whitehorse community in March.

Through the support of the Yukon government's department of Health and Social Services, an additional emergency shelter was provided this winter at the old St. Elias Group Home on Fifth Avenue in Whitehorse.

"This plan is about more than ending and preventing homelessness in Whitehorse; it recognizes root causes that may lead a person to be in a vulnerable position," says KDFN Chief Doris Bill. "It is also about streamlining services to better serve an individual's needs." Chief Bill stressed that this is not about a hand-out but very much about a hand-up. "This is about being a caring and compassionate community that very much wants to make a difference," added Chief Bill.



No. 3

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 includes 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.

THIS IS WHO WE ARE:

- Kwanlin Dün citizens are engaged in their culture, history, heritage, traditions and language.
- Kwanlin Dün government reflects traditional knowledge, heritage, culture and languages in its programs and services and promotes the inclusion of Kwanlin Dün culture and heritage in the stories of Yukon and Canada.
- 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.

New Van Drives Elders Day Program

Launched in 2015, the Elders Day program had a successful year. The program works to reduce isolation and improve the health and well-being of Elders by offering periodic outings to Elders in the community free of charge. Operating three days a week, it also provides free transportation – in the new Elders van – to various venues in the Whitehorse area with snacks and meals provided. Activities include traditional crafts, games, dancing and visits to local attractions and other communities. The program also connects Elders with youth in the community as they often visit the children at Dusk'a Head Start Family Learning Centre.

Expectations have been exceeded this year as program coordinator, Linda Huebschwerlen, and program assistant, Millie Gage, have worked tirelessly to organize a variety of activities for the Elders. “I try to incorporate cultural tradition into every aspect of the program,” says Huebschwerlen. “Our Elders thrive when involved in traditional cultural activities such as berry and medicine picking, setting rabbit and gopher snares, language lessons, singing and drumming and telling stories.”

The program organizers also help the Elders with whatever they need. At the end of the month, they take Elders to the bank and to pay their bills. They accompany the Elders to their appointments and for their grocery shopping. The Elders involved in the program decide what they want to do and the organizers do their best to make sure everyone's needs are satisfied. Recently, the Elders mentioned that they hadn't had rabbit in a long time. So, the group made and set some snares, and caught six rabbits. “There was dead silence when we ate the rabbits because the Elders were enjoying them so much,” says Huebschwerlen. “All you could hear was shhhht as the meat came off the bones.”

Elders on Joe Mountain

A group of KDFN Elders travelled to Joe Mountain by helicopter in June 2016 to share their knowledge about the cultural significance of a proposed mineral exploration site. Through the support of the KDFN Lands and Resources Department, a group made up of KDFN Elders, staff from both KDFN government and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council (TKC), plus an archeologist, flew up to the proposed exploration camp together. This information gathering is a requirement of the Yukon Environmental Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB) and the Yukon government “decision document” – as detailed in Chapter 12 of the Kwanlin Dün Final Agreement.

The proposed site is 30 km northeast of Whitehorse, just west of Joe Mountain and has a footprint of 2 km² in the area of an unnamed tributary of the McClinton River. It lies within the traditional territories of both KDFN and TKC. The company, Strategic Metals Ltd., completed a Heritage Resource Impact Assessment. The assessment draws on Elders' knowledge of traditional use and searches for archaeological evidence through digging test pits. KDFN Elders present were Louie Smith, Ann Smith and Charlie Burns. Councillor Sean Smith was there and KDFN staff involved were GIS specialist Richard Vladars, and Land Planner

John Meikle. Ann Smith provided context on how First Nation people used the area based on her experience travelling there with her parents. She described routes, camp locations and activities such as hunting and gathering medicines. KDFN is currently mapping this and other information gathered, including trails.

Gúyàt nàáts'edlū – Sewing with Beads

A weekly sewing circle brought together Elders and eager adult learners at Kenädän Ku (House of Learning) through a partnership between the Education and Health departments (Elders Day program) and the Government of Yukon through a three-year adult education agreement. Six Elders and eight participants met once a week from October to November 2016 to share skills in sewing, beading and language. The end result was the creation of personalized potlach vests.

Darlene Scurvey instructed the sewing and beading skills. Elders shared other cultural activities such as singing and drumming and the use of Southern Tutchone translations of sewing supplies. Traditional healthy lunches of moose, trout and balsamroot were prepared and served. Participants commented that they enjoyed the inter-generational “togetherness” felt in the group. They said that listening to Elders’ stories and practicing the language was a valuable experience.

A second offering of this program was held weekly from January to March 2017, and was just as successful as the fall program. The popular success of the Sewing with Beads program serves to confirm the new direction of the Education department in moving towards more traditional programs for adult education. The Government of Yukon funded the second program as part of the agreement with KDFN Education.



Weekly sewing circle nourishes
inter-generational
“togetherness”

between Elders and eager adult learners

Happy Campers All-round at the Elder Day Camp

A great time was had by all at the three-day Degay Zhra (Swan Month) Elders Day Camp held at Jackson Lake over a weekend in March 2017. It was so much fun, Elders are hoping there will be more opportunities to get together like this in the future. “Elders really seemed to enjoy themselves,” said Britteny Johnson, Administration Support for the Jackson Lake Wellness Team who helped organize the camp. “There were so many highlights but the thing that stands out the most was that they had a chance to get together and visit.”

The Elders Day Camp was a way to celebrate Degay Zhra and was packed with fun activities like skinning and dressing game, sewing and potlatch-bag making, tool making, and music. There was even a bannock and tea-making contest. “That was one of the favourite parts,” said Britteny. “There was a tasting; all the bannock was perfect — soft and fluffy on the inside and crispy on the outside and not greasy.”

Around 15 to 20 Elders participated each day and were provided transportation, meals and cabins for resting. Six KDFN youth were employed to help run the camp. Two more joined as volunteers because they heard how much fun it was. “The youth were really involved,” said Britteny. “They were very helpful, always asking what more could be done. It was not just an opportunity for them to work -- it was also a learning opportunity.” With all the positive feedback from Elders, youth and program coordinators, Britteny said everyone hopes more programs like this will happen in the future. She reminds us: “When Kwanlin Dün comes together anything is possible.”

15-20

Elders participated each day and were provided transportation, meals and cabins for resting.

6

KDFN youth were employed to help run the camp and two more joined as volunteers because they heard how much fun it was.





No. 4

Our Children and Youth

Children and youth are our future. The Government of Kwanlin Dün is working to ensure our future is strong by investing in our children and youth. This includes programming at the Dusk'a Head Start Family Learning Centre to ensure that our children are on a good learning path with strong connections to culture and language and programming. This ensures our youth are equipped for the societal and economic challenges of a modern world with a strong connection to the land and traditions.

THIS IS WHO WE ARE:

- Our youth graduate from high school or obtain their GED.
- At-risk children and youth are protected and supported, and remain in our community.
- Our children and youth are actively engaged and supported in recreation, outdoor and traditional activities.
- Our youth and children have access to positive role models and mentors.
- Our 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 and independent lives.

Dusk'a Headstart Language Program Get Royal Reinforcements

Staff and volunteers at Dusk'a Headstart Early Learning Centre work hard to bring Southern Tutchone language instruction to their preschool-aged students. But it feels like there's always more work to be done. This year brought two incredible sources of support that are making a world of a difference.

The first came from the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, William and Kate, when they visited the Yukon in September 2016. They spent an afternoon with Dusk'a staff and students to unveil a project they helped fund. Thanks to the Prince's Charity and the One Laptop Per Child charity, Dusk'a kids now have a fantastic new Southern Tutchone storybook to read and 30 young children were given special laptops to help learn their native language at home.

"It was really exciting," says Erin Pauls, Manager of Dusk'a. "It was really forward thinking of the Royals to have taken that strong a stance on language revitalization."

Then, in February 2017, Dusk'a received \$9,600 in support from Yukon Historic Resources Funds to help them produce six bilingual Southern Tutchone books for children. Three hundred books will be printed and distributed not only within Kwanlin Dün but around all Southern Tutchone communities and schools in the Yukon.

"We're very excited to get these books for us and to be able to share them so freely with our colleagues that are working so hard on language revitalization," says Pauls. "Our language is at a point that we really need to bond together as Southern Tutchone speaking people."

The team from Dusk'a working on the books includes Erin Pauls plus Darlene Scurvey and Lorraine Allen. They are also making some educational videos that feature Elders reading the books aloud—to help people learn by hearing and seeing the language being spoken. The videos will be posted on Dusk'a's YouTube channel.

Pauls says they were feeling inspired to produce a series of books after the Royals Visit last fall and their generous donation of a Southern Tutchone children's book. "When this funding proposal came up we felt confident that we could do it ourselves and make our own books," says Pauls.



30
CHILDREN
were given special
laptops to help learn
their native language
at home

BACK-TO-THE-LAND AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM



20
youth participated

5
KDFN citizens employed

178
hours of program hours

60%
amount of time spent on
land each day

Kids After-School Program Goes Back to the Land

Over two weeks in March, youth from the community participated in an outdoor pilot after-school program. The aim of the pilot was to try out a land-based after school program that builds connections between youth, Elders and citizens with land-based and cultural knowledge to share. The pilot also looked at what would be needed in order to make such a program viable in the long-term.

“We received a lot of positive feedback from the community,” says Delilah Pillai, Acting Manager of Justice, and one of the leads in establishing the pilot. “We had kids saying this was great and they really enjoyed themselves.”

The pilot was facilitated by Erin Nicolardi and Emily Payne from Rivers to Ridges, a youth outdoor education organization in Whitehorse. Rather than leading the program themselves, the educators merely brought together expertise available within the community, organizing Elders and other leaders to help teach and guide the programs. Activities included things like shelter building, fire starting, hand games, drumming as well as forest explorations to learn about plants and animals.

New Youth Programs Off to a Great Start

The Jackson Lake Wellness Team launched two successful new youth programs over the summer. “We are excited to be offering new programming to better support our youth,” said Colleen Geddes, Jackson Lake Wellness Team Coordinator. “But we aren’t starting from scratch or re-inventing the wheel. We are building on and coordinating with existing recreation programs within KDFN and other Whitehorse agencies to make them more relevant to our youth.”

The first is geared toward Whitehorse-based youth involved with the criminal justice system or at risk of becoming involved. The program works closely with other youth agencies and the goal is to encourage positive choices and assist in solving problems and reducing risk. Wellness team member Les Walker organized trips for families out on the land at beaver camps and day programs for youth at Jackson Lake. “Seeing our youth connect with Elders, their culture and the land is inspiring and satisfying,” said Walker. “They had an amazing time, having lots of fun in a safe environment.”

The second is called Living Life for Men and it is focused on providing support and assistance to young men aged 18 to 29. It provides links to the men’s circle and offers outreach services. “KDFN is building on its success with its men’s group to reach our young men who are seeking support,” said Geddes.

Parents Benefit From Bigger, Better Program

The maternal, paternal, and child program at the Kwanlin Dün Health Centre, also known as Healthy Babies, Healthy Generations (HBHG) is growing. Since its inception in 1999, it has seen its number of participants grow from a just few to over 30. The program staff now consists of a registered nurse and a support worker. And the scope and depth of the programs on offer continue to grow.

“We are excited to expand in many areas,” says Kathryn Laloge, Registered Nurse with the program. “This year there is a strong focus on increasing access to Elders for parents and young children.” They are also offering traditional prenatal classes and designing programs for children ages 18 months to five years to support their health and development. There will also be additional focus on supporting fathers in the growing program.

HBHG serves expecting parents and families with children up to age 5. The program provides prenatal clinic visits and classes (either one-on-one or in groups). After your baby is born, they offer home and clinic visits, breastfeeding support, immunizations and health checks until age 5. Twice a month, they hold a popular health-teaching lunch where a new topic is presented. “Topics we have covered in the past are: self-care, dental hygiene, infant massage, and time management,” says Laloge.

Another popular program is the monthly community kitchen where the program’s support Worker provides meals while covering topics like canning, nutritional one-pot meals on a budget and healthy kid-friendly snacks.

30
Participants in the
Healthy Babies,
Healthy Generations
program this year.





Photo: Jesse Bouchard, Canyon City Construction

No. 5

Responsible Economic Development

The development of settlement land will generate jobs and economic opportunities for the Kwanlin Dün people. We strive for responsible economic development that is sustainable, and does not have adverse or unmanaged environmental impacts.

THIS IS WHO WE ARE:

- 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.

Big Year for Chu Níikwän Development Corporation

This year Chu Níikwän Development Corporation began the work of fulfilling its vision: to grow the equity and resources of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation for the future benefit of all members. They hired a CEO and office manager, established a Board of Directors, confirmed business partnerships, and formalized its group of companies.

“Our priority is to take small steps but the right steps and make decisions that will realize benefits long into the future,” says CEO Chris Milner.

Chu Níikwän already has a solid foundation of investments and partnerships with Northern Windows and Doors, Kilrich, Yukon Energy Corporation and Whitehorse’s Lynn Building. The group of companies within Chu Níikwän includes Canyon City Construction, Kishwoot Enterprises, a gravel quarry and equipment leasing business, and River People, a land leasehold and property management company.

As KDFN is the single largest landowner in the Whitehorse area, part of the strategy is to develop land on parcels identified for both residential and commercial use. Projects are already on the go. A leasing process set up in collaboration with KDFN Lands and Resources allows settlement land to be leased through the corporation for revenue purposes. Market housing projects are moving ahead in Whistle Bend and with the construction of a four-plex for-market rental.

“We are seeking out robust and diverse business investment opportunities in areas of strong growth. The overall picture for the Yukon economy is looking promising and Chu Níikwän is positioning itself to be a big part of the Yukon’s economic future.”

New Gravel Pit Dug out of Final Agreement

Provisions in the Kwanlin Dün Final Agreement have prompted the Government of Yukon to provide the Kwanlin Dün First Nation with 24 hectares of land near the Carcross Cut-off to develop a gravel pit. Through a Yukon Construction Asset Agreement (YACA), Kwanlin Dün has developed six hectares of the gravel pit site. The potential value of the total pit is in the millions of dollars.

Canyon City Construction benefits from YACA Agreement

During March 2017, Canyon City Construction crews were hard at work slashing, clearing and grubbing around the Whistle Bend Subdivision. “The client, the Government of Yukon, was really happy and the crew was just excellent and it was a joy to see these guys work,” says Jacob Heigers, General Manager at Canyon City.

These tree-clearing projects were awarded under YACA (Yukon Asset Construction Agreement), an agreement with the Yukon government whereby opportunities for training, employment, new business or investment are provided when the Yukon government embarks on a construction project within the Traditional Territory of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation.

For three months of work, Canyon City was able to employ a six-man crew of KDFN citizens. They also employed some of the new equipment—a big 930 front-end loader, an excavator and a CAT skid-steer. There was also a tool allowance which equipped all the crew members with new chainsaws.

The employment of KDFN crews at the F.H. Collins site with Quantum Murray is also a YACA project. That work began in the summer of 2016 and has provided steady employment for around eight workers. “The feedback is really good,” says Heigers. “Quantum is going to use them on future demolition projects.”



No. 6

Our Land and Resources

The theme of 'Our Land' runs through so many aspects of Kwanlin Dün life, from traditional land uses, to present day harvesting of animals, to economic development and wealth creation, to the building of new homes to support the growth of our community. The wise stewardship of Kwanlin Dün land and resources will ensure that they are preserved for future generations.

THIS IS WHO WE ARE:

- Kwanlin Dün has a strong land planning and management framework that allows us to benefit from developing the land and resources, while at the same time preserving it for future generations.
- Kwanlin Dün Final Agreement is fully implemented, which includes participation in all land and resource planning and management activities within the Kwanlin Dün Traditional Territory.

Whitehorse Waterfront Heritage Project in Final Stages

Years of workshops and community meetings to collect stories, videos, photographs and archived materials are culminating in the production of a book. The Kwanlin Dün Waterfront Heritage Project (KDWHP) is part of the implementation of the KDFN Final Agreement that establishes a process with Canada, the Yukon government and the City of Whitehorse to develop a written and pictorial history of Kwanlin Dün's experience along the Whitehorse waterfront.

The KDWHP team is currently in phase three: book development. A team of authors, illustrators, designers, photographers and editors are working to publish a completed manuscript due out sometime in 2018. There will be no one author; the book will be written in the words of Kwanlin Dün citizens themselves. The project builds positive relationships, unifies families, uncovers amazing Kwanlin Dün lives and stories, and acknowledges the contributions of people within the community.

The fiscal year 2016-2017 saw significant progress in all areas of book development. Community members came out in droves to a public meeting in the summer of 2016 to complete the Waterfront Heritage survey. The survey asked Kwanlin Dün members about what activities, events, places or people should be included in the Waterfront Heritage book. Authors began work on research and writing. Project coordinators worked with the technical review team to develop an outline of chapters for the book. The team received more than 60 offers of family photo collections. Team members were also busy filming videos with our people along the Yukon River at Miles Canyon, Croucher Creek and Lake Laberge.

KDFN staff members Rae Mombourquette and Richard Vladars designed the 2017 Cache Your Story Calendar to showcase some of the images and stories gathered for the book to date. The calendar was presented to Elders and participants as a thank you for all their assistance. Copies were also given out at various community gatherings and from the main reception desk.

A Storyweaving Workshop was held in March that brought together both youth and Elders. Participants worked creatively together to draw out memories of the old stories — as well as dream, vision and create new story elements — in an effort to complete some of our stories

“Every day we wake up and we know we have a book to write,” says Rae Mombourquette, Coordinator for the Waterfront Heritage Project. “We keep pushing towards that goal against timelines, budgets, and the busy schedules of our community.”



Community meetings
held by Waterfront
Heritage Project



Land Vision Document Sets Course for the Future

Since 2014, Lands and Resource staff have been working on the Kwanlin Dün Traditional Territory Land Vision. They've held community consultations and on-the-land field trips, reviewed archived audio interviews, maps and important documents, and prepared drafts of the Land Vision. The Land Vision was approved by Chief and Council in May 2016. This key document will steer all future planning and development of all KDFN settlement lands and surrounding public lands.

The Land Vision lays out clear values, principles and goals reached by the Community through consensus. The values include “Well-Being of the land” and “Well-being of the people”. The principles are more specific. They are: Respect, Caring for the Land, Considering Future Generations, Cooperation and Community.

The Goals listed in the Land Vision give direction to people doing land-use planning exercises.



“Conserve areas of high ecological value and maintain the health of wildlife populations.”



“Conserve areas of high heritage value while maintaining and creating opportunities for Kwanlin Dün citizens’ traditional use of the land.”



“Create opportunities that support the development of the Kwanlin Dün Community and government.”



“Develop opportunities to support the economic improvement of Kwanlin Dün citizens.”

New Land Registry Unlocks Potential of Settlement Lands

Changes were announced to the Yukon Land Titles Act. These changes will assist Kwanlin Dün and other Yukon First Nations in unlocking the potential of settlement lands while maintaining Aboriginal rights and title forever. Amendments to the Yukon Land Titles Act means properties can now be registered at the Land Titles Office, therefore meeting the requirements of financial institutions for loans. For KDFN citizens who are interested in obtaining a mortgage, a registered lease provides assurance to them and to lending institutions.

KDFN also had to add a clause to its Self-Government Agreement so that when the lease or mortgage expires, the priority over Aboriginal title is gone. Kwanlin Dün may then de-register the title from the Land Titles Office. This new clause has now been approved by all three levels of government: Kwanlin Dün, Yukon and Canada.

The KDFN government has been working with the governments of Yukon and Canada the new land management system for five years. This innovative solution allows KDFN land and its resources to bring prosperity to the First Nation while Aboriginal rights and title on settlement land are retained forever.



PART 3

Financial Statements

Kwanlin Dün remains in a solid financial situation with an accumulated surplus.

KDFN receives two principal sources of funding to operate; fiscal transfer agreement (FTA) dollars - negotiated through our final agreement and, proposal-driven funding. Proposal-driven funds must be spent on specific programs and reports to the funder are required. FTA dollars from Canada provide flexibility on how programs are delivered and funds may be re-allocated.

KDFN's audited statements are qualified because there has not yet been an assessment of Kwanlin Dün's tangible assets, such as houses and infrastructure. Also because the statements are non-consolidated which is because the business entities year-ends do not match up with KDFN's year-end, and the information was not available.

MANAGEMENT'S STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY

The accompanying non-consolidated financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards and the integrity of these statements are management's responsibility. Management is also responsible for all of the notes to the non-consolidated financial statements and schedules, and for ensuring that this information is consistent, where appropriate, with the information contained in the non-consolidated financial statements.

Management is also responsible for implementing and maintaining an internal control system to provide reasonable assurance that the non-consolidated financial information is objective, reliable and accurate and that First Nation assets are appropriately accounted for and adequately safeguarded.

Kwanlin Dun First Nation's Council is responsible for overseeing management in the performance of its financial reporting responsibilities and for approving the non-consolidated financial statements. The Council fulfils these responsibilities by reviewing the non-consolidated financial information annually prepared by management and regularly meeting and discussing relevant matters with management and external auditors. The Council is responsible for recommending the appointment of the First Nation's external auditors.

The external auditors, M. McKay & Associates Ltd., Chartered Professional Accountants, conduct an independent examination, in accordance with Canadian auditing standards, and express their opinion on the non-consolidated financial statements. The independent external auditors have full access to both the Council and management and meet when required. Their report outlines the nature of the audit and expresses an opinion on the non-consolidated financial statements.


Chief


Councillor


Finance Director

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members of
Kwanlin Dun First Nation:

We have audited the accompanying non-consolidated financial statements of Kwanlin Dun First Nation (the "First Nation") which comprise the non-consolidated statement of financial position as at March 31, 2017, and the non-consolidated statement of operations, non-consolidated statement of changes in net financial assets and non-consolidated cash flows statement for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's responsibility for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these non-consolidated financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the non-consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these non-consolidated financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the non-consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the non-consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the non-consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the non-consolidated financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the non-consolidated financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

M. McKay & Associates Ltd.
Chartered Professional Accountants

Basis for Qualified Opinion

The Public Sector Accounting Board requires section PS 3150 to be applied to local governments for years starting after January 1, 2009. This section requires that the First Nation disclose the historical cost and accumulated amortization by major category of tangible capital assets. As previous accounting principles did not require these details, no comprehensive list of tangible capital assets and their related historical costs were maintained. Therefore, we were not able to satisfy ourselves as to the completeness of tangible capital assets recorded on the financial statements.

As explained in Note 2 to the financial statements, these financial statements have been prepared on a non-consolidated basis. Canadian public sector accounting standards require controlled entities to consolidate their financial information on the financial statements of the First Nation financial information on a line by line basis, or to use the equity method for Government Business Enterprises that can stand alone. Instead, the financial information of the controlled entities has been recorded at cost. The exception to this is the Kwanlin Dun First Nation Trust which received a transfer of funds during the year, and the transfer, related revenue and expenses are not recorded on these financial statements.

Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matters described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraphs, these non-consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Kwanlin Dun First Nation as at March 31, 2017, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.



M. McKay & Associates Ltd.
Chartered Professional Accountants

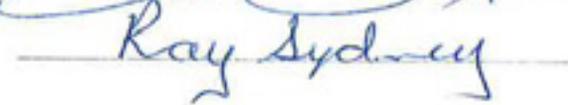
Whitehorse, Yukon
September 6, 2017

KWANLIN DUN FIRST NATION
NON-CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT MARCH 31, 2017

STATEMENT 1

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 2,372,565	\$ -
Accounts receivable (Note 3)	422,930	389,183
Grants receivable	1,330,934	2,483,654
Restricted cash (Note 4)	23,325,062	39,212,705
Long-term investments (Note 5)	4,886	4,886
Due from related businesses (Note 6)	5,695,028	5,756,949
	33,151,405	47,847,377
LIABILITIES		
Bank indebtedness	-	209,874
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,442,096	2,103,216
Deferred revenues (Note 7)	1,241,301	1,083,640
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation replacement reserves (Note 11)	357,491	1,129,908
Capital reserves (Note 8)	444,717	431,406
Long-term debts (Note 9)	801,718	1,042,569
	5,287,323	6,000,613
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	27,864,082	41,846,764
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Tangible capital assets (Note 19)	33,119,662	33,654,625
Prepaid expenses	24,239	56,315
	33,143,901	33,710,940
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS (Note 20)	\$ 61,007,983	\$ 75,557,704
Contingent liabilities (Note 15)		

Approved:

Chief

Councillor

**KWANLIN DUN FIRST NATION
NON-CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2017**

STATEMENT 2

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
REVENUES			
Government of Canada - Financial Transfer Agreement	\$ 14,694,074	\$ 15,765,904	\$ 14,496,197
Government of the Yukon	3,300,729	2,867,896	2,157,885
Compensation payment	-	1,769,981	1,316,096
Health Canada	1,355,902	1,319,064	1,390,475
Rentals	1,106,232	1,133,260	1,162,377
Personal Income Tax and First Nation Goods Services	572,470	949,538	937,207
Property Management Lease	516,449	544,029	516,450
Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada	861,922	793,677	489,686
Government of Canada - Others	704,242	715,474	325,765
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation	931,173	666,014	210,246
Interest income	-	280,460	328,693
Administration fees	231,451	278,848	239,938
Aboriginal Labour Force Alliance	66,515	264,182	171,870
Others	1,344,970	788,421	1,456,182
Transfer from deferred revenue	(482,124)	1,081,057	2,055,032
Transfer to deferred revenue	-	(1,238,321)	(1,103,436)
Transfer to capital reserve	-	(13,310)	(46,153)
Gain (loss) on disposition of investment	-	-	(567,454)
Repayable to funding agencies	-	(84,948)	-
	<u>25,204,005</u>	<u>27,881,226</u>	<u>25,537,056</u>
EXPENSES (Note 12 & 13)			
Governance and Implementation	4,601,355	4,531,635	5,417,229
Natural and Cultural Resources	1,044,877	831,322	1,064,949
Health	4,471,093	4,232,703	3,637,141
Human Resources, Education and Social Assistance	6,682,881	5,711,721	6,217,017
Capital, Operations and Community Services	5,112,344	6,683,996	6,608,255
Administration and Finance	2,002,751	2,252,894	2,683,788
Economic Development	1,118,494	1,276,478	1,150,473
	<u>25,033,795</u>	<u>25,520,749</u>	<u>26,778,852</u>
ANNUAL SURPLUS (DEFICIT) (Note 20)	<u>170,210.00</u>	<u>2,360,477</u>	<u>(1,241,796)</u>
ACCUMULATED OPENING SURPLUS		75,557,704	76,799,500
TRANSFER TO KWANLIN DUN FIRST NATION TRUST		(17,480,306)	-
RELEASE FROM REPLACEMENT RESERVE		570,108	-
ACCUMULATED CLOSING SURPLUS		<u>\$ 61,007,983</u>	<u>\$ 75,557,704</u>



Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre

Some highlights from 2016-17 include:

- 2016-2017 Exhibits: Gés Tu'è/ Gyò Chúa/ T'ahéeni Archaeology of the M'Clintock Region, Our past is Our Inspiration, Finger Paints and Formline and Mayo Beading Exhibit
- Created space in Lobby for exhibitions and the Healing Canoe
- Elder's Portraits hung in Elder's Lounge
- KDCC Sewing Circle continued meeting and created ceremonial dog blankets for the starting team in the Yukon Quest
- Storytelling ran throughout the summer and fall with weekly speakers in partnership with the Whitehorse Aboriginal Women's Circle
- Shakaat Artist in Residence continued with artists Jared Kane, Heather Bell Callaghan, Debra Michel, and Wayne Carlick offering workshops and demonstrations
- Moosehide to Moccasins started the process of tanning and working a moose hide under the instruction of Margaret Douville
- KDCC hosted events for the Canadian premiers and the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge
- Important conferences and events included: CANDO, Aboriginal Curatorial Collective, Blue Feather Music Festival, Adäka Cultural Festival, and Aboriginal Leadership Conference
- Organized and hosted National Aboriginal Day
- Organized and co-hosted the Annual Open House and Christmas Craft Fair with Whitehorse Public Library
- Healing Canoe took a journey to Moosehide Gathering
- Co-produced and hosted the Aboriginal Film Series with Yukon Film Society
- Building and property maintenance included new flooring, expanding the sacred garden, and new fencing
- The Culture Cabins were completed and dedicated in a naming ceremony
- Staff members consulted with Carcross/Tagish First Nation on their new House of Learning
- New booking software improved efficiency and allowed for better financial controls
- Purchased a carving by Kitty Smith and returned it to the Yukon

The Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre (KDCC) had another successful year as Yukon's premier place for culture and events of all kinds. Room rentals approached capacity with only 21 days with no events in the building (17 of which were holiday closures).

The Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre operates as a society and produces its own annual report and financial statements.

2016-2017

Annual Report

Kwanlin Dün First Nation

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