

Kwanlin Dän Ch'a



Kwanlin People of Whitehorse, How are you?



WELCOME BABIES

Ezme Dawson at the first KDFN Welcome Babies event on January 30, 2020.

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Message from the Chief



Welcome to another edition of Kwanlin Dän Ch'a. It is always a pleasure to report back to the citizens on the progress of our Nation.

As many of you may have noticed, the hustle and bustle in the community continues with numerous construction projects in McIntyre moving forward. The KDFN Multi-Purpose Building and Gym is expected to be completed in the coming months. Progress on the Community Hub Administration Building is on schedule for completion next year, and five new houses are being built on Macaulay Road.

Any jobs resulting from these initiatives will be posted at the House of Learning and on employment websites. KDFN also hosted

a job fair last fall encouraging citizens to apply. If you did not attend, but may have an interest in one of the job postings, you are encouraged to connect with Gayle Ball at the House of Learning. Gayle is the best point of contact to help KDFN citizens and employers connect.

I would like to send a huge shout out to the Youth Recreation Team in Justice, who has done an amazing job at creating activities for our young people. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed. Keep up the amazing work! As well, special kudos to those KDFN citizens preparing for the upcoming 2020 Arctic Winter Games, to be held March 15 to 21. Our city is sure going to be energized in the coming weeks. We will be in the bleachers cheering you on.

*Constables
Candice MacEachen
and Adam Lightfoot
are RCMP officers
who are newly
stationed in
McIntyre.*



Community Family Liaisons advocate for families

Kwanlin Dün's Child and Family Support Services team advocates for KDFN children and families. It works closely with social workers from the Yukon government's Family and Children's Services unit on every child welfare case to ensure that all rights and laws are upheld.

The team – part of KDFN's Community Justice department – consists of Community Family Liaisons Karole O'Brien, Gwyneth Williams, Stephanie Sullivan, Kim-Marie Rumley, and Manager Renee Carrier. The team's capacity has increased over the past several months which has resulted in fewer community interactions YG Family and Children's Services staff.

Child and Family Liaisons work closely with YG social workers on all child welfare cases. They are here to support families and do everything they can to help keep parents and children together. Their work is always confidential. A big part of their job is to eliminate obstacles for families seeking medical, educational or social supports.

Some examples of what the Child and Family Support Services can do:

- Advocate for KDFN families
- Provide clarity and support for people involved with Family and Children Services
- Support connections with family, community and culture
- Help KDFN families understand their rights under the Child and Family Services Act

A growing part of their work has included applying to Jordan's Principle for a range of services to support families. This team is committed to ensure all interactions with citizens are founded in respect and dignity for everyone.

If you need to access the services of the Child and Family Liaison Workers, they can be reached at (867) 633-7850.

“A growing part of their work has included applying to Jordan's Principle for a range of services to support families.”



KDFN's Child and Family Support team: Renee Carrier, Kim-Marie Rumley, Karole O'Brien, Stephanie Sullivan, and Gwyneth Williams – eager to help however they can.



FEDERAL INDIAN DAY SCHOOL CLASS ACTION



There is a nation-wide settlement to compensate
Survivors of **Federal Indian Day Schools**
and **Federal Day Schools**

If you attended one of these schools, you've
waited a long time for this moment.

This may be an important step in your healing journey.

Find out if you are eligible for compensation and how you can make a claim.

Go to **IndianDaySchools.com** or call us at **1.888.221.2898**

Need to Talk? Contact the Hope for Wellness Hotline: 1.855.242.3310

Federal Indian Day School Class Action

Anyone who attended Indian Day School, no matter the time they attended, can receive a minimum base payment of \$10,000 in compensation. First Nation, Metis and Inuit Indian Day School survivors can apply. Amounts could vary depending on the level of harm a student has experienced. Family of deceased students can also apply if the person died after July, 2007.

To be eligible for compensation, survivors must have attended one of the identified Day Schools listed on the List of Federal Day Schools, and experienced harm.

The deadline for claims to be submitted is July 13, 2022.

Anyone needing assistance filling out forms can contact the KDFN Health Centre at 668-7289.

List of Federal Indian Day Schools In Yukon:

Burwash Landing Day School
Champagne Landing
Little Salmon
Mayo
Moosehide
Old Crow Village
Ross River
Teslin Lake

Fish Lake Local Area Planning Underway

KDFN and the Yukon government have agreed to develop a cooperative local area plan for the Fish Lake area. The planning area is about 500 square kilometers and includes KDFN Settlement Lands, public lands and privately-owned lands in the Jackson Creek, McIntyre Creek and Wolf Creek watersheds.

The Fish Lake local area plan will be guided by a Steering Committee made up of KDFN citizens and local residents. The plan will create a shared vision for the Fish Lake area to ensure that land use and development occurs in a way that respects and honours KDFN history, heritage and culture -- today and for future generations.

- Heritage, Lands and Resource staff have held workshops in recent years to help prepare for the plan. There will be many more opportunities for KDFN citizens to participate as the plan is developed.
- We are currently collecting information for a background report about the cultural, historical and present importance of Fish Lake to KDFN.
- An official plan start-up is expected later this year.



- The Fish Lake local area plan will be developed under Section 30 of the KDFN Self-Government Agreement. A Memorandum of Understanding describing how YG and KDFN will work together on the plan will be signed in the near future.

Land use planning workshop held in 2015 at Jackson Lake

For more information, or to get involved, please contact Roy Neilson 867-663-7800 ext. 119 or roy.neilson@kdfn.net

KDFN committed to training and development

Kwanlin Dün First Nation is committed to deliver quality government services to its citizens and the greater community. To accomplish this, KDFN works hard to provide training and development opportunities whenever possible.



Bruce Wilson – KDFN citizen and Land Steward.

Below is a list of KDFN citizens, community members and other Yukon First Nation citizens who have taken on roles throughout Kwanlin Dün First Nation over the last year to gain new skills and experience workplace training:

Lester Wilson – Temporary assignment opportunity in economic development with the Chu Níikwän Development Corporation

Chantal O'Brien – temporary assignment outside of KDFN to CYFN to gain new skills as Jordan's Principle Navigator

Amber Rose Shorty – Executive Assistant Trainee with Administration

Aurora Hardy – Communications Advisor trainee with Administration

Alexander Gatensby – Communications Advisor trainee with Administration

Roxane Johnnie – Justice Support Worker Trainee with Justice

Kluane Clarke – Recreation Support Worker with Justice, Community Recreation

Alberta Sam – Recreation Support Worker with Justice, Community Recreation

Jasmine Bill – Finance Trainee with Finance

Kadrienne Hummel (NND) – Finance Trainee with Finance

Darcy Carlick – Oil Burner Apprentice with Community Services

Steven Brown – Oil Burner Apprentice with Community Services

Bruce Wilson – Lands Steward Officer Trainee with Heritage, Lands & Resources

Jordan Vallevand Vance – wildland fire fighting trainee with Yukon Government

Winston Smarch – Carpenter Apprentice with Community Services

Charli Rae Sydney – Student Labourer with Community Services

Curtis Dawson (CAFN) – Student Labourer with Community Services

Chris Vance – Community Services – Student Labourer with Community Services

Jessica Bien – Reception & Administrative Assistant trainee with Health & Wellness

Kathleen C Dawson – Community Safety Officer Trainee

KDFN accesses a number of funds to financially support opportunities such as these to citizens. Some of the funders are:

- First Nation and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy (Canada)
- Indigenous Student Employment Program (Canada)
- Professional & Institutional Development Program (Canada)
- The Government of Yukon

For more information, contact Caroline Boleen at 633-7800 ext. 127 or caroline.boleen@kdfn.net

Learning Southern Tutchone for the Workplace

by Alexander Gatensby

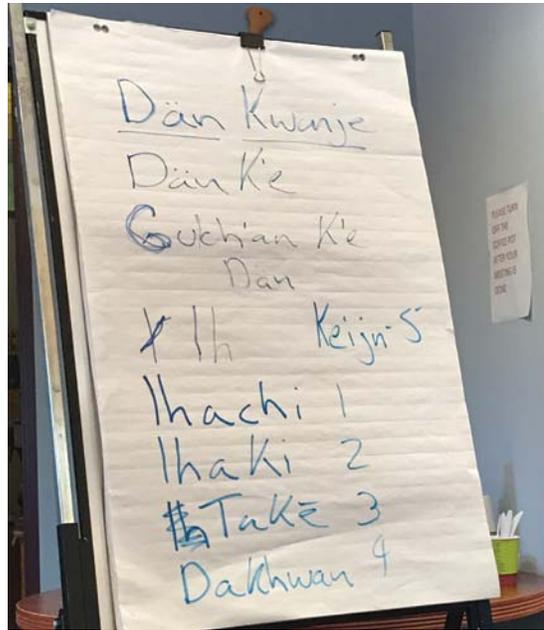
Starting at the end of November 2019, KDFN staff have been learning about the Southern Tutchone language and culture in a lunch and learn-style setting. The classes, offering cultural teachings for staff to use in the workplace, home, and on the land, are scheduled to continue every Wednesday until March 25.

Staff who attend learn how to introduce themselves in the Southern Tutchone language, as well as a Southern Tutchone prayer and other cultural teachings and resources.

The Language and culture teachings are intended to be useful for day-to-day interactions such as sending and receiving emails, creating program posters, going out into the community, and speaking with Elders, children and among one another.

There is a similar program for citizens who wish to learn about the Southern Tutchone language with their children called Äsüq K'e - Grandmother's Ways at the Dusk'a Head Start Family Learning Centre. These

parent and child language lessons are taught in the Southern Tutchone Ta'an Dialect Tuesdays from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Alternatively, The Yukon Native Language Centre has downloadable resources on their website, including audio lessons and story-books, where anybody can download and start learning.



Instructions written during the language and culture trailing got staff on how to introduce themselves in Southern Tutchone.



Youth recreation offers a wide variety of activities at our after school programming. Just some of the activities include cooking lessons, kicksledding, improv, juggling, crafting, sports and now yoga every Monday.

Tayvin, Candace, Hazen Seth and Samara enjoy a session of yoga, which is beneficial to both your physical health and your spiritual wellbeing.

Dream of Auntie's House closer to becoming reality

During November and December 2019, KDFN Justice conducted over 100 interviews with KDFN citizens, Elders, youth, staff and stakeholders about the idea of Auntie's House, a temporary safe house intended for children and youth during a family crisis.

A draft report, *Auntie's House Community Conversations - What We Heard*, is now posted on the KDFN website. It summarizes all the feedback collected in Phase I of this consultation before Christmas. The concept for Auntie's House is still at the exploratory research stage. The KDFN government has not yet made a decision on whether or not to go forward with the project, or what it would look like.

Five proposed models of Auntie's House are included in the draft report. All five models include a safe house, but they are different in where they are located (e.g. in McIntyre, or in other areas in Whitehorse) and the extent of the services provided (e.g. family resource centre, supports for parents, cultural activities).

We need your help. Questions are posted online, and at the end of this article, to ask what you think about each of the models so that a final report can be provided to KDFN Council.

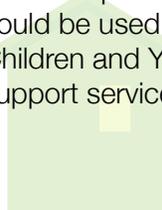
"The KDFN government wishes to go back to the community to ensure we captured everyone's feedback accurately," says Renee Carrier, KDFN's Manager of Child & Family Support Services. "This is also an opportunity to see if any other ideas were missed regarding what Auntie's House could or should be."

Proposed Models of Auntie's House

1. Safe Home for Children and Youth in McIntyre Subdivision

Auntie's House would be a single-purpose home in McIntyre providing a temporary safe place for children and youth under the age of 19 for up to 72 hours.

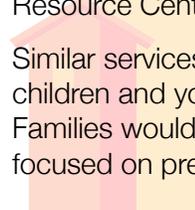
Employment positions would be made for Aunties (and/or Uncles) who are KDFN citizens. They would be supported by additional well-trained staff who would provide supports in the home and outreach. Aunties House would be open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week and could be used for scheduled respite. Children and Youth would be offered support services and land-based activities.



2. Duplex, Safe House for Children and Youth and Family Resource Centre in McIntyre Subdivision

Auntie's House would be both a temporary safe house for children and youth under 19 in McIntyre, as well as a Family Resource Centre with a separate entrance. The Family Resource Centre would have a drop-in component as well as regularly scheduled parenting support programs. Staffing for Auntie's House would be enhanced from Model 1 to carry out the additional services provided by the Family Resource Centre.

Similar services would be offered to children and youth as identified in Model 1. Families would receive enhanced services focused on prevention.



If you would like to be part of an interview or group session, please contact KDFN Justice. There will also be another Let's Keep Talking session to provide an overview of the findings from Phase I, and ask for community feedback on the five proposed models.



Questions

1. Does the overall report, *Auntie's House Community Conversations - What We Heard*, reflect your thoughts on Auntie's House? If not, please let us know what is missing and how it can be improved.
2. What are your thoughts on the five proposed models for Auntie's House? Which is your preference, and why?
3. The report outlines a number of proposed next steps. Do you agree with the suggestions? Is there anything that is missing that you believe is important?

Thank you for your generous time and commitment on this proposed project.

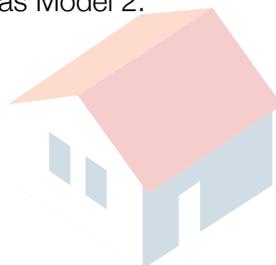
If you have questions, or would like to provide feedback about the proposed Auntie's House models, please contact KDFN Justice at 867-633-7850 ext. 601.

3. Network of Houses with different functions (Safe Houses for Children and Youth; Family Resource Centre) in McIntyre Subdivision

Auntie's House would comprise a network of homes including several safe homes and one Family Resource Centre in McIntyre. Services would be the same as Model 2 for children, youth and families with the addition of another home for high volume times or could be used exclusively for respite. This model allows for situations where there may be a conflict with a family in one of the safe houses. All Auntie's Houses report to one Director and are expected to follow set policies and standards.

4. Safe House for Children and Youth in undisclosed location and Family Resource Centre in McIntyre

Safe House is located at undisclosed location in Whitehorse to protect the privacy of children, youth and families. Family Resource Centre would be located in McIntyre providing drop-in and regularly scheduled programs. Staffing Model and Services are the same as Model 2.



5. Safe House for Adults in McIntyre

Auntie's House would provide temporary shelter to parents who are experiencing disruption or crisis. Children and youth in the family would remain in their family home and supports for them would be provided by extended family or KDFN outreach staff. Parents would be offered supports and services onsite as well as referrals to other KDFN or YG programs. Children and Youth would be provided access to supports and services.

Auntie's House would be staffed similar to Model 1, with an emphasis on training in dealing with adults.

*Participants in the
November 2019
Treaty Simulation*



Preparing the next generation of First Nation negotiators

In November 2019, a Youth Treaty Negotiation and Implementation Simulation took place in Whitehorse. Next generation First Nation youth leaders travelled from across the Yukon and from Northern British Columbia to participate in this event. Participants had the opportunity to learn from experienced negotiators, many of which have played pivotal roles in the negotiation and now the implementation of the Umbrella Final Agreement and the 11 Yukon First Nation Final and Self-Government Agreements.

Treaty negotiators and implementers joined the next generation leaders to transfer knowledge, forge connections and share experiences. Participants were tasked with negotiating and drafting an implementation plan for a Special Management Area under Chapter 11. Through this experience, Yukon First Nation youth gained first-hand experience in negotiation practices and strategies, modern treaty process, critical thinking, problem solving and public speaking skills.

Youth who attended the simulation shared their thoughts, experiences, and why it's important for youth to learn about self-government on anonymous comment cards. Here is some of what they said:

"We all have a role in our community and as a whole. It was really cool to understand how everything is the way it is because of self-government."

"It's important to learn how far we've come from even as little as 50 years ago."

"How to work with what you have and compromise with people who have different interests and mandates than you."

This initiative came through the Implementation Working Group, with the Gordon Foundation hosting the event in partnership with the Government of Canada, the Government of Yukon and Mapping the Way. The Gordon Foundation is hosting another Treaty Simulation in February at the Land Claims Agreements Coalition National Conference with both Yukon youth and Yukon implementation and negotiation experts.

The Role of a Community Safety Officer

The duties of a KDFN Community Safety Officer (CSO), are both proactive and reactive in nature. A CSO's top priority is to help keep our community safe.

By the nature of their job, a CSO will be involved with both healthy and unhealthy community events, such as celebrations, sports events, potlucks, funerals, domestic disputes, illicit activities, and so on. A CSO begins to understand and know the community through communication, experience and becoming involved.

CSO duties and status:

- Frequent patrols (both vehicle and foot) of Kwanlin Dun First Nation communities.
- Engage in a proactive role with citizens through conversations and visits.
- Assist with various tasks such as providing transportation with a priority to Elders and youth.
- Liaise with local police, bylaw, fire department, Family & Children's Services, KDFN Community Services, Probations and court workers.
- Respond to urgent community safety concerns and events.
- De-escalating situations.
- Scene control for events such as funeral processions (traffic control), and incidents involving police investigations.
- Make referrals to the appropriate agencies, such as Victim Services, Child and Family Liaisons and Bylaw.

CSO Authority – A CSO has the authority afforded to him/her by the KDFN Council to promote and provide community safety.

A CSO does not possess the power of authority such as a bylaw officer, firefighter, or RCMP officer. For all serious incidents please contact 911, not a CSO.



A CSO is not on duty 24 hours a day.

A CSO will always answer the phone or a text as soon as they are available. Should a CSO be busy with a serious situation he/she may not be available for some time. For urgent matters, please call 911.

A CSO will always have the CSO "On Call" phone with them while on duty. Phone/text/messages will not be answered by an off-duty CSO.

Off duty – A CSO is only on call during their shift. Please do not call them or attend their home. The only phone call to a CSO should be to the **CSO "On Call" phone (867-332-9551)**.

Transportation – One of the roles of a CSO is to provide transportation to KDFN citizens, if required, for safety reasons. A CSO has the option to use discretion in providing transportation to any KDFN citizen who makes a request; however, a CSO is not obligated/required to provide transportation outside of an emergency or serious situation.

If you need to contact a Community Safety Officer, please call or text 867-332-9551.

Community safety officers Jesse Ryder, Michael Carlisle, Tyler O'Brien and Elias Park ready for duty in front of the CSO office. To reach the CSOs call (867) 332-9551.



NOTICE of ELECTION for Kwanlin Dün First Nation Citizens

Kwanlin Dün First Nation will elect a new Council including a Chief and six Councillors in a general election to be held on **Wednesday, March 18, 2020** (voting day).

WHO CAN VOTE? Kwanlin Dün First Nation citizens who are 18 years of age or older and whose name appears on the Official Voters' List.

VOTERS LIST. The Preliminary Voters List is available at the Kwanlin Dün First Nation administration office and on the Kwanlin Dün First Nation election website. **Citizens are responsible to confirm that their name is on the Voters List.** Contact Honey-Starr Sidney, Citizenship Registrar for KDFN with any changes: Phone: 867-633-7800 Ext 131, Email: honey-starr.sidney@kdfn.net

HOW CAN I VOTE? Citizens have four voting options – regular voting, advance voting, special voting or mail in voting.

Regular Voting	Advance Voting	Special Voting	Mail In Voting
<p>Wednesday March 18th, 2020 from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM</p> <p>Nàkwät'à Kù Potlatch House - 27 McIntyre Drive, Whitehorse Yukon.</p>	<p>Wednesday March 4th, 2020 from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM</p> <p>Geis Tóó'e Elders Lounge at the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre 1171 Front Street Whitehorse, Yukon.</p>	<p>Any voter may request a special ballot from 30 days prior to voting day until Noon 2 days prior to voting day (February 18th 2020 to March 16th, 2020).</p> <p>A voter is responsible to contact the Chief Returning Officer for a special ballot. The Chief Returning Officer may deliver a special ballot to those voters who are housebound or in an institution.</p>	<p>Only voters who live outside of Kwanlin Dün traditional territory will be sent a mail in ballot. However, any voter may contact the Chief Returning Officer and request to vote by mail.</p> <p>Citizens are responsible to confirm their correct mailing address with the Kwanlin Dün Citizenship Registrar.</p> <p>All mail in ballots need to be received by the Chief Returning Officer by 6PM on voting day to be included in the final voting results.</p>

KDFN Election 2020 Candidates

For Chief (3 candidates): **Bill, Doris** **Kuster, Ian** **Smith, Sean**

For Councillor (16 candidates):

Baker, Edith	Calbery, Amanda	Carlick, William F.	Charlie, Charlene
Chief, Charles Joseph	Dawson, Jessie	MacIntosh, Howard	Ryder, Jess
Smarch, Elaine	Stanley, Mike	Sydney, Raymond	Taylor, Allan
Vance, Alicia	Ward, Teresa Lynn	Waugh-Wilson, Rosemary	Webb, Ray

WHAT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT VOTING? Contact the Chief Returning Officer Norman Eady at KDFNelection2020@gmail.com or by phone at 867-332-7444.

MAILING ADDRESS. Kwanlin Dün First Nation 2020 Election, P.O. Box 31881, Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 0A5. Please **do not drop off** election related materials or forms to the KDFN Administration Offices.

Election Office: There is no election office for the 2020 KDFN election.

Website: kwanlindun.com





**KDFN Post-Secondary
Education Program**

The Financial Assistance Deadline for the
Spring/Summer 2020 Semester is

MONDAY MARCH 16, 2020



Dákwanjē nìich'e : We are our language

The Yukon Native Language Centre (YNLC)'s mandate is to work with First Nation communities to assist with language revitalization. In partnership with the YNLC, KDFN hosted a language gathering January 25 and 26.

At the gathering, YNLC staff presented some of the many language initiatives they offer to help revitalize Yukon First Nation languages, such as the Yukon First Nation Language Recording project, First Nations Language program with Simon Fraser University, the Mentorship program and the language Nest.

On the second day of the language gathering, guest speakers were invited to share their stories and experiences with language revitalization. The morning consisted fluent Elders speaking about the

importance of language revitalization and how important it is to recruit individuals to not just learn the language, but to become fluent.

The afternoon focused on language beginners who shared stories about their journeys to learn their languages. Throughout the gathering, attendees received language lessons and discussed the programming and resources needed to successfully revitalize Yukon First Nation languages. The gathering turned out successful and we are looking forward to more events to come in the future.

For more information, contact the Kenädän Kù House of Learning at (867) 633-8422.

Employment Opportunities at Kwanlin Dün

Check out the Employment page on our website regularly for job postings. Please visit Kenädän Kù – House of Learning at 5 O'Brien Place for job postings in and around Whitehorse. Please ask the receptionist for a copy of any advertisement you are interested in.

Staff at Kenädän Kù can also help with guidance and training to reach, or set your educational and employment goals such as career and life planning, action plans, job readiness coaching, resume development and update, and employment retention plans.

For more information please visit Kenädän Kù – House of Learning at 5 O'Brien Place or call (867) 633-8422.

Connect with us!

Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter for notifications on upcoming events, community notices, employment opportunities and more.

Visit our website for more information about our government initiatives, programs and services.

Call us for more information. A full staff directory is available on our website.

KDFN Main Administration:
(867) 633-7800

Education Department (Kenädän Kù – House of Learning): (867) 633-8422

Dusk'a Head Start Family Learning Centre: (867) 393-3775

Child Development Centre:
(867) 633-7820

Natsékhì Kù (Health Centre):
(867) 668-7289

Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre:
(867) 456-5322

Community Services Department:
(867) 633-7833

Justice Department: (867) 633-7850

Jackson Lake Wellness Team:
(867) 633-2629



KWANLIN DÜN FIRST NATION

15TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

February 19 marked the 15th anniversary of the signing of the Kwanlin Dün Final Agreement in 2005. April 1 marks the day that the final agreement came into effect. Join us on April 2 & 3, 2020 to celebrate 15 years of self-government!

April 2 & 3, 2020

Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre

Space will be available for people who would like to sell arts and crafts. A nominal fee will be required to reserve a spot for non-KDFN citizens. KDFN citizens can reserve a table free. To Sign up, contact Eileen Duchesne at (867) 633-7800 ext. 105 or eileen.duchesne@kdfn.net

All proceeds from this event will go toward the Elders Emergency Fund



Members of the Youth Advisory Committee: Amber-Rose Shorty, Eileen Duchesne, Jasmine Bill and Alexander Gatensby at the Swearing in ceremony of Youth Councillor Isaac Bill.

Youth Advisory Committee to Council update

The Youth Advisory Committee to Council (YACC) welcomes the opportunity to add their voices to a number of complex KDFN initiatives.

“The chance to provide input into KDFN projects is opening new doors for us as young people. We definitely gain a better understanding of the goals for our community through these discussions,” says Melia Hudgin, member of YACC. “What is even better, we feel as though we are contributing and we are being heard.”

On December 4, they received information and provided input on both the draft Lands Act and the proposed vision of Auntie’s House.

The concept of Auntie’s House would be to provide a safe environment for young people to go in emergency situations. YACC members provided a number of comments to help shape the vision

for Auntie’s House. “Of course there is a greater discussion needed with the community on Auntie’s House, but I am glad the conversation is finally happening,” says YACC member Cheyenne Bradley.

You can read more about the *Auntie’s House Community Conversations* report and ongoing consultation in this newsletter or on kwanlindun.com.

“As young people it is crucial that we understand the vision of the Nation going forward and to ensure the interests of the people are protected, not only now but for generations to come,” said Isaac Bill, KDFN Youth Councillor.

For more information about the Youth Advisory Committee to Council, call 867-633-7800.

Fall trapping program a success!

From November 12 to December 5 2019, the Kenādän Kù House of Learning ran a four-week trapping program with nine participants. The program kept the participants very busy as it included three courses and finished with trips out to Russell Burns' trapline.

The participants completed a Wilderness and Remote First Aid course, followed by a Personality Dimensions workshop (a personality self-assessment course), a trapping course, and four daytrips out to Russell's cabin and trapline.

The Trapping course was a great opportunity for the participants to learn the knowledge and skills of trapping - thanks to two excellent course instructors, Ryan Sealy and Jean Legare, and included trap preparation, trap setting, fur handling, fur removal, and a field site demonstration.

For the trapline visits, participants got to zip about in UTVs from Russell's cabin out to his trapline, thanks to the participation of two staff members from the Department of Heritage, Lands, and Resources (Bruce Wilson and Brandy Mayes), and set traps and snares. Luckily the weather was kind for those trips!

A big thanks to all the participants, the instructors, Cathy Smith, May Hume, Edith Dawson, Russell Burns, Charlene Burns, Bruce Wilson and Brandy Mayes. We look forward to the next opportunity to run this programming!

For more information on similar programs and learning opportunities, contact the Kenādän Kù House of Learning at (867) 633-7841.



Trapping program participants and KDFN Land Stewards at the House of Learning, learning about how to properly remove fur from animals.



(Left ot right) Jade English / Edith Dawson / Winston Boss / Russell Burns / Cathy Smith / Roshanna Smith / Philip Smith / Dennis Malcom O'Soup. Trapping Program participants at Russell Burns' camp.

Culture Days at Elijah Smith



Elder Russell Burns, Land Stewards Bruce Wilson and Brandy Mayes, and CELC Chris Gleason - ready for a fun filled culture camp with ESES Students.

by Alexander Gatensby

January 20 marked the start of Elijah Smith Elementary School's annual week-long Culture Days, where students participated in many activities. "Kwanlin Dün's Education department funds this camp and we are pleased to provide a comprehensive program this year," explained Therese Lindsay, Manager of School-age education.

The activities this year included: bear-aware training with conservation officers, medicines, hides and trapping techniques with Elder Russell Burns, learning a number of topics from KDFN Land Stewards, and traditional stories with Elder Hazel Bunbury. The KDFN Elders program also attended the camp on two of the days. The Elders enjoyed some time in the wall tent with the students and some traditional food, which included gopher singeing on the last day of the camp.

Many of the lessons were adjusted depending on the age-group of the students participating.

Students who partook in Elder Russell Burns' teachings learned about trapping techniques, traditional tools, the different animals that can be caught, animal skins, hides and medicines. Russell had displays to show the different stages of tanning hides, and showed off the clothes that he made out of them. Students also got the chance to see many trapping tools that can be made out of the animal's parts as well as drums.

"The whole intention around learning about First Nation Trapping is to try to build upon KDFN ways of knowing, doing and being and bring that into the school" explained Chris Gleason, CELC at the House of Learning, "I thought it was great because it gave a First Nation view of education."

This year, KDFN Land Stewards Bruce Wilson and Brandy Mayes participated in the camp for the first time. They slept overnight in a wall-tent set up in the trees near the school, and during the day, held discussions with students. They taught the

students about what Land Stewards do, the animals of Yukon, talked about fish and wildlife, KDFN land parcels, how to take care of the land, and why it's important.

"We talked about protecting natural habitats, and that we're all Land Stewards," says Brandy. "We all have a responsibility to look after the land."

The camp also brought in conservation officers to teach the older kids about bear safety, and how to properly use bear spray. The younger grades learned about wildlife by playing games.

For more information, contact: the Kenädän Kù House of Learning at: (867) 633-8422.



"We talked about protecting natural habitats, and that we're all Land Stewards. We all have a responsibility to look after the land."

– Brandy Mayes



Young students of Elijah Smith school engaged as they learn stories from Elder Hazel Bunbury.

Various furs, skins, and the items created using them displayed at Russell Burns' workshop.

Students at Elijah Smith Elementary eagerly waiting to learn from the land stewards.

New traditions and old traditions

Celebrating babies' arrival

KDFN's Healthy Babies, Healthy Generations program kicked off 2020 by throwing an official welcome party for all babies born in 2019. On Thursday, January 30, about 40 people came to celebrate the 13 babies who joined us over the past year.

"We want to start a new tradition," says Christina Sim, Director of Health and Wellness. "Every time a Kwanlin Dün family welcomes a new baby, the community will be invited to celebrate at the Nàkwät'à Kù Potlatch House on the last Thursday of the month."

Elder's teachings tell us that traditionally, after a child was born, grandmothers and grandfathers would lift the newborn child up to the sky and thank the Creator.

Grandfathers would lift up newborn boys to the sky and say, "Creator, thank you for this child. He will be a warrior, a leader, a hunter and a provider for his family, and he will pass on his teachings."

Grandmothers would lift up newborn girls to the sky and say, "Creator, thank you for this child. She will be a life giver, she will continue the line of her clan, she will look

after the home and family, and she will pass on her teachings."

At this point, both boys and girls could be given their First Nations name. But the family could also wait some time before granting the child a name so they could watch his or her character and ensure they receive a fitting name.

New additions to the family are always a Beautiful gift. The Natsékhi Kù Health Centre is interested in creating a community display that could go up for a few days after the birth of a new child. If you have any ideas about what this display could be, please let us know!

In the meantime, any month that new babies arrive, know that the Nàkwät'à Kù Potlatch House will be open on the last Thursday of that month to allow the community to celebrate. Everyone is welcome – particularly Elders.

For more information, or to share ideas about how we can celebrate the arrival of newborns in the community, please contact the Natsékhi Kù Health Centre at 668-7289.

Kayleigh McLaren-Charlie at the first Welcome Babies event. Congrats to all of the new parents of 2019 and January 2020.



Kwanlin Dün art installed at Hammerstone

Last year, with the Chu Níikwän Development Corporation's Hammerstone Business Centre nearing completion, there was a call-out for Kwanlin Dün artists to help come up with a design for permanent display on the building's exterior. Two artists answered the call: Terrence Cory Shorty and Nathan Dawson.

"Terrence and Nathan put their names forward," said Jesse Bouchard, who organized the working group on behalf of Chu Níikwän. "We met four or five times at the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre and the two would collaborate and draw."

In the end, a design by Terrance was selected. "I wanted something to represent the people of KDFN and thought salmon would be the most fitting, he says. "We are people of the river." Nathan collaborated on the piece, helping bring it to its final state.

The design of a salmon swimming upriver, named "We the People", now adorns the north face of the Hammerstone Business Centre across from Lot 226.

When asked how he felt about seeing his art on permanent display, Terrence said, "This symbolizes all of us as Kwanlin Dün people. Also, fish camps represent a way our people can heal. It feels really good."



Terrence Cory Shorty in front of the art piece, titled "We, the people" he developed with input from Nathan Dawson on the north side of the Hammerstone Business Centre.

Be safe with expired medications



These long days indoors are a good time to clean out your cupboards and cabinets at home of expired medications. Expired drugs, creams and ointments **SHOULD NOT** be disposed of in the regular garbage or down the toilet. This can pollute the water supply, affecting fish and other animals. You can bring any expired medications to the Health Centre for safe disposal. Pop on in and ask to see the clinic nurse.

Events Calendar

M = Mondays

T = Tuesdays

W = Wednesdays

TH = Thursdays

F = Fridays

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE
Education, Apprenticeship or Employment Planning	Daily by appointment	Kenädän Kù House of Learning
Tutoring Club	For dates and times contact HOL	Kenädän Kù House of Learning
After School Youth Recreation	Mondays and Fridays (until March 30) 3:15 – 5:15 p.m.	Nàkwät' à Kù Potlatch House
Youth Beading Circle	Tuesdays. 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. (until March 31)	Nàkwät' à Kù Potlatch House
Äsqä K'e - Grandmother's Ways	Tuesdays, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Dusk'a Learning Centre 47 McIntyre Drive
Elders Walking Group	Tuesdays and Thursdays 2 - 3	Health Centre
Wednesday Youth Outings	Wednesdays - Various times. (until March 25) Beginning after-school, end time will vary.	Various locations. Transportation provided unless otherwise stated
Lunch and Learn	First Wednesday of every month 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.	Meet at Natsékhi Kù Health Centre
Chronic Conditions Luncheon	Every 3rd Wednesday	Meet at Natsékhi Kù Health Centre
CGC Kids Zone drop-in	Thursdays 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. (until March 26)	Canada Games Centre
Dusk'a Family Luncheon	Last Thursday of every month (except May 6) 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Dusk'a Learning Centre
Welcoming New Babies Community Dinner	Last Thursday of every month	Nàkwät' à Kù Potlatch House
Ceremony Lunch n' Learn	Last Friday of every month	Natsékhi Kù Health Centre
Swimming Lessons +Certifications	Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. & Tuesdays 3:45 - 5:30 p.m (until March 31)	Canada Games Centre
Downhill Skiing and Snowboarding at Mt. Sima	Times will vary. Feb. 9, 23 and March 8	Mt. Sima
KDFN Election - Candidates Debate	Tuesday, March 3	Nàkwät' à Kù Potlatch House
Arctic Winter Games	Sunday March 15 - Saturday March 21	Takhini Arena
KDFN Post-Secondary Deadline for Spring/Summer Semester	March 16	
Youth Rec Spring Break Camp	March 16 - 20	Nàkwät' à Kù Potlatch House
KDFN General Election	March 18	
Youth Land and Culture Day Camp	March 23 - 27	Jackson Lake
15 Year Celebration/ Swearing In Ceremony / Community Feast	Friday, April 3 - 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre

ABOUT	CONTACT
Do you want to go back to school but don't know where to start? Are you looking for a job but the paperwork and resume process is hard? We are here to help with education applications, employment or apprenticeship.	Come to Reception at the Kenädän Kù House of Learning to meet with one of us from the Education and Employment Team.
By appointment. One-on-one tutoring catered to individual learning styles	House of Learning Reception: 633-8422
Youth ages 5 – 18. Various indoor and outdoor activities. Games, sewing, arts and crafts, and yummy food.	Kaitlyn Charlie: 867-334-8728 Courtney Terriah: 867-334-8718
Meet at the Youth Recreation office on the second floor at Nàkwät'à Kù. Join us to learn how to bead, learn a new style or pattern, or just to chat and work on an existing project free of charge.	please contact Kaitlyn Charlie (867) 334-8728 for more information and to sign-up.
Parent/ child language lessons—taught in Southern Tutchone Ta'an Dialect. The program is facilitated by Nicole Smith. A healthy meal will be provided at each session.	For more info contact Julie Laliberte, Family Support Worker: (867) 335-2502
Elders meet at Canada Games Centre, or rides can be arranged with Denise Peter.	
Youth ages 5 – 18. A variety of outings in the Whitehorse area including Takhini Hot Springs and CGC.	Kaitlyn Charlie: 867-334-8728 Courtney Terriah: 867-334-8718
Everyone welcome. Different topics every month	Clinic Nurses 668-7289 ext. 211
Healthy lunch for Elders who have chronic conditions.	Main desk: (867) 668-7289
There will be access to the Flexi-hall, and activities in the Kids Club room. Snacks provided transportation available.	For more info please contact Courtney Terriah at (867) 334-8718 or courtney.terriah@kdfn.net
Healthy lunch for the families of children who attend Dusk'a	Dusk'a Reception: 393-3775
Join us for a community dinner to celebrate and welcome babies born in every corresponding month into our community!	For more information, please contact: Renee Roy - (867) 668-7289 ext. 206
The last Friday of every month we will host a lunch to talking about different aspects of ceremonies. These lunches are a relaxed, welcoming and respectful atmosphere to receive teachings and ask as many questions as you like. Everyone is welcome!	Joe Migwans (867) 633-7800 ext. 218
	please contact Kaitlyn Charlie (867) 334-8728 for more information and to sign-up.
Youth ages 10 – 18. Downhill Skiing and Snowboarding at Mt. Sima. Transportation, gear and lift passes provided. Space limited. Consent form required.	Kaitlyn Charlie: 867-334-8728 Courtney Terriah: 867-334-8718
	www.kwanlindun.com for more info
	awg2020.org for more info
The financial assistance deadline for the Spring/Summer semester is March 16	
	Kaitlyn Charlie: 867-334 -8728 Courtney Terriah: 867 -334-8718
Kwanlin Dün First Nation will hold a general election on Wednesday, March 18, 2020.	If you have any questions please contact: Norman Eady - Chief Returning Officer KDFN Election 2020 Email: KDFNelection2020@gmail.com Phone/text: 867-332-7444
Registration available February 24	Kaitlyn Charlie: 867-334-8728 Courtney Terriah: 867- 334-8718
Please wear your regalia to the ceremony	633-7800



As part of the Youth Rereation's After School Program, Yukon College Kid's Camp facilitates teachings and activities in S.T.E.M. twice a month throughout the Fall and the Winter. This is a favorite activity for youth.

RETURN ADDRESS:

Kwanlin Dün First Nation

www.kwanlindun.com

 Find us on Facebook!

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Phone: 867-633-7800
Fax: 867-668-5057
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DESTINATION ADDRESS