

Kwanlin Dän Ch'a

"Kwanlin people of Whitehorse, how are you?"



Kwanlin Dün's Wildland Fire Management crew members worked one of Yukon's busiest fire seasons.

Wildland Fire Management

Through a partnership with Yukon government, Kwanlin Dün recruited three Citizens for crew positions on Yukon government's Wildland Fire Management crew for the 2013 forest fire season.

Kwanlin Dün members Kory Sawrenko, Daniel Cletheroe and Darcey Carlick worked on the crew and were commended for their dedication in working through the duration of the 2013 fire season and remaining together as a crew for the

duration. The 2013 fire season was a busy one and ranked as the fifth most severe in the territory in the last 55 years. A total 176 fires burned in Yukon this season and burned approximately 270,000 hectares which is 150 per cent more than normal.

Kudos to Kory, Daniel and Darcey on a job well done! Wildland Fire Management has expressed an interest in bringing on more Kwanlin Dün crew members next season.

WEEKLY EVENTS:

NEW! Culture Nights Activity Group

Formerly known as Sewing Night, the new Dusk'a Culture Night activities will include more than just sewing. Activities to look forward to this year include language lessons, self-care, earring making, purse making, headband making, singing, drumming and much more!

When: Monday evenings
(except holidays)

Time: 5:30-7:00p.m.

Where: Dusk'a Head Start and Family Learning Center

Light snacks will be provided. All are welcome, but children must be accompanied and cared for by a responsible adult. Contact Erin Pauls at 633-7816 for more information.

MONTHLY EVENTS:

Talk Series: Helping your Child Succeed at School

When: First Monday of every month

Time: 5:00-6:00p.m.

Where: House of Learning

Pizza and drinks provided. Call Tara to learn more - 633-8422 ext. 7896.

Dusk'a Monthly Family Luncheon

When: Last Thursday of every month

Time: 11:00a.m.

Where: Dusk'a Head Start and Family Learning Center

Need more info? Call Erin Pauls at 633-7816.

Internal Career Development Positions

As part of KDFN's commitment to providing employees with training and development opportunities to increase their competence in present jobs and to prepare for advancement, we are pleased to congratulate the following KDFN employees who were the successful job candidates in the following career development opportunities within KDFN:

- **Estelle Lavis** has assumed a one-year term as Acting Director of Finance from her regular position of Finance Comptroller.
- **Miranda Vigliotti** will be working in one-year term position as Finance Comptroller from her regular General Finance Clerk position.
- Within the Health department, **Crystal Edzerza** is now working in the one-year term position of Acting Manager of Home and Community Care from her regular position as Community Health Nurse.
- **Lester Wilson** has assumed a one-year term position with KDFN as Economic Development Advisor from his original position in Lands as GIS/Data Maintenance Specialist.
- **David Sembsmoen** is now KDFN's Acting Director of Lands, Resources and Claims Implementation and continues to cover the duties of his original position as Manager, Fish and Wildlife.

Kwanlin Dün Elder Judy Gingell Invested into the Order of Canada



Photo credit: Sgt Ronald Duchesne, Rideau Hall © Her Majesty The Queen in Right of Canada represented by the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General (2013).

Kwanlin Dün Elder Judy Gingell pictured with David Johnston, Governor General of Canada.

On May 3, 2013, His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, presided over an Order of Canada investiture ceremony at Rideau Hall. Kwanlin Dün Elder Judy Gingell was among the 44 recipients being honoured that day. She was invested as Member of the Order of Canada.

For more than 40 years, Judy Gingell has promoted and advanced Aboriginal rights and governance in Yukon. As chair of the Council of Yukon First Nations, she was instrumental in self-governance and land claims negotiations with the Government of Canada. She served as Yukon's first Aboriginal commissioner and was renowned for her ability to build bridges between peoples, notably by raising awareness of First Nations culture through the annual Commissioner's Potlatch. As a leader and Elder of Kwanlin Dün First Nation, she has ensured that First Nations communities are key players in the territorial economy.

The Order of Canada was created in 1967, during Canada's centennial year, to recognize a lifetime of outstanding achievement, dedication to the community and service to the nation. Since its creation, more than 6 000 people from all sectors of society have been invested into the Order.



Yukon Government Photo

Kwanlin Dün recognizes Yukoners for Prehistoric Bison Fossil Discoveries

Chief O'Brien and Tourism and Culture Minister Nixon pictured with Craig Duncan and Marcus Deuling.

Two unexpected and rare discoveries were made by Yukoners in April 2012 when prehistoric bison fossils were unearthed in the Whitehorse area. Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Yukon government hosted an event to publicly thank the individuals for their actions that led to the recovery of two sets of fossils.

“It’s not every day that such exciting discoveries are made. It’s important that we take the time to appreciate the contribution that these discoveries make to our understanding of the past and to recognize the people who discovered them,” said Chief Rick O’Brien at the event.

Marcus Deuling, son of Jud and Amanda Deuling made the first discovery April 22, 2012 while skiing at Fish Lake. Deuling noticed part of a bison skull eroding out of the frozen bank. The Deuling family took photos of the skull and contacted the Yukon Paleontology Program. Due to the frozen conditions, recovery work took place later that summer. Radio carbon dating puts the Fish Lake bison fossil skull at approximately 3,800 years old.

Marcus Deuling’s find was in the Fish Lake area within Kwanlin Dün Settlement Land. Kwanlin Dün’s Lands department worked with Yukon government officials to unearth the skull. An agreement between our governments allows for Yukon government to house the

artifact until such time as we are able to store artifacts ourselves. The cooperation between our governments on this find is just one of the many ways that we are working together in areas of common concern.

“The Fish Lake area of Kwanlin Dün’s Settlement Land is of great significance to Kwanlin Dün and finds of this nature help shed light on ancestral times,” Chief Rick O’Brien said. “I’m pleased to extend Kwanlin Dün’s appreciation to the Deuling family for their diligence in reporting this exciting find.”

Kwanlin Dün First Nation Lands officers and Department of Tourism and Culture archaeologists and palaeontologists unearthed a complete bison skull. By agreement between Government of Yukon and Kwanlin Dün First Nation, the Fish Lake bison fossil is currently stored in Yukon’s palaeontology fossil collection.

Fish Lake is a significant area for Kwanlin Dün people and these historical finds are valuable resources for us all to share and learn from. Oral history gathered from our Elders and digs of the area have revealed patterns of land use and settlement by our people spanning thousands of years in the Fish Lake area. Discoveries like the ones discussed here allow for greater understanding of the history of the land and our people.



Young Dusk'a graduates at Community KDFN's Graduation Celebration in May.

Creating Employment Pathways through Training and Mentorship Positions



An important part of Kwanlin Dün's approach to Human Resources involves continually seeking out and leveraging opportunities to create employment for KDFN members.

One of the ways that we are doing this is through trainee and mentor positions that provide work experience and on the job training by working under an experienced mentor. These positions provide members with the opportunity to gain work experience and training that they can use to pursue employment with KDFN or that they can bring to other organizations.

In the 2012-13 fiscal year, Kwanlin Dün created and hired members in to temporary trainee and mentorship positions with funding support through an Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) program. Kwanlin Dün has been successful in accessing funding dollars for mentoring positions again this year. These positions provide for a minimum of 15 weeks' employment and provide on the job training for members.

Under the program, Jeanine George was hired as KDFN's Records Management Clerk Trainee. Jeanine is working as part of Kwanlin Dün's records management team. The team is working towards documenting, classifying and storing Kwanlin Dün's paper and electronic records.

Kwanlin Dün's trainee positions are supported by a learning program with modules that the incumbents complete during the course of their employment in the trainee program. *Welcome Jeanine!*

Tips on Preventing Home Thefts - from KDFN's R.C.M.P. Constables

Due to a sharp increase in recent thefts from houses in the McIntyre community, Kwanlin Dün's R.C.M.P. Constables are advising all Citizens to be vigilant and follow the following precautions to help prevent home thefts:

- Please keep your windows and doors locked when you are not home.
- Make sure that you can trust people that you allow to stay in your home when you are not there.



Community Education Liaison Coordinator Evelyn Troy and Councillor Jessie Dawson pictured with KDFN's 2013 High School Graduates.



Young dancers performing at KDFN's Community Graduation Celebration.

KDFN Graduation Celebration

Dusk'a Graduates:

Tahlaya Dawson
 Hazen Bailie
 Darius Hager
 Aidan West
 Takaska Calbery
 Sophie-Lee Smarch-Charlie
 Xavier Boss

Kwanlin Dün High School Graduates:

Brenda Lee Smith
 Selina Richard
 Synclair Peter Smith
 Kody Pelletier
 Dakota Inglis
 Gabriella Charlie
 Matthew Jim
 Mary-Rose Williams

College/University Graduates:

Cody Robbins
 Bachelor of Education/Fine Arts
 (Thompson River University)
 James Williams
 Bachelor of Science,
 Biochemistry Major
 (UBC)
 Mikah Fox
 Marketing Management Diploma
 (BCIT)
 Marie Wilcott
 Certificate in Infant Development and
 Supported Child Development (UBC)
 Michael Linville
 Culinary Arts Certificate
 (Yukon College)

Edith Baker
 Office Administration
 Certificate/Accounting Clerk
 (Yukon College)
 Stephanie Stewart
 Education Assistant Certificate
 (Yukon College)
 Paula Taylor
 Early Childhood Development
 Diploma (Yukon College)
 Pricilla Dawson
 Bachelor of Education Degree
 (Yukon College)
 Lily Sembsmoen
 First Nations Public
 Administration Certificate
 (Yukon College)

- Record the serial number, make and model of all items of value in your home and keep this list in a secure place. This is the information that the R.C.M.P. use in their system to trace located items and provide them back to their rightful owners.
- Report any unusual activity that you see in your neighborhood. Residents have a shared responsibility when it comes to protecting the safety and security of the community.

Healthy Babies, Healthy Generations Program Summer Recap



It has been a busy summer for the Healthy Babies Healthy Generations Program. May started out with a purse making workshop with Dianne Smith mentoring our moms to create some beautiful purses! We finished off the month planting a garden box in the community garden, producing fresh veggies to complement one of our hosted lunches. In June, we teamed up with the other members from the Health Centre to pick and make medicine. In July we joined a group of Elders for a barbecue and swim at the Takhini Hot Springs, and participated in fish camp for a day. Midway through August, we began focussing on fall harvest and nutrition.

We were very lucky to have Zoe Uiterwaal join our team as our summer S.T.E.P. student. Her eagerness to learn and easy-going nature made her a huge asset to our program and the community as a whole. Zoe is going into her fourth year of Nursing at the University of Lethbridge and although we wish her the best as she completes her program, we were very sad to see her go!

If you or someone you know is expecting a baby, call Carrie Huffman, RN at 668-7289 ext. 210 to find out more about all the support our Healthy Babies Healthy Generations Program offers.



Notice: Tank Farm Trail Users

If you use the trail toward downtown that runs through the 'tank farm' property (located across Hamilton Boulevard), please note that access to the property is prohibited, and may be unsafe.

The expansive property, commonly referred to as the 'tank farm' contains numerous buried fuel tanks that were originally placed there by the military and White Pass. The current owners of the property have begun a remediation project to unearth and dispose of the tanks and to restore the soils.

The project will involve unearthing hazardous waste and will utilize heavy equipment in the area. KDFN Lands department in cooperation with the City of Whitehorse are advising residents of the dangers and have devised an alternate trail for those who wish to utilize a trail system to reach downtown.

The map printed here shows the suggested alternate route in blue, and shows the original tank farm trail in red. Due to the health hazards and remediation work involving heavy equipment, residents are strongly advised to respect the signs and fencing intended to keep the public safe by forbidding access to the site.

KDFN Records Management Initiative Takes Flight



Kwanlin Dün is forging ahead in an initiative to implement a KDFN-wide electronic records management system. To date, departments providing front-line services for Citizens have integrated systems to manage their records and meet reporting requirements, but Kwanlin Dün lacked a centralized solution for classifying and storing its records.

Part of the work to identify, document and sort existing records began last fiscal year with the hiring of Records Management Clerks Irma Scharff and Melissa O'Brien, who began the tedious process of reviewing and sorting documents housed in various storage areas within KDFN's buildings.

It quickly became evident that a system of classification and storage was needed in order to properly account for the existing documents and for all the records created on a daily basis across the organization.

In early 2013, Kwanlin Dün began the work of researching and analyzing options for electronic records management systems through research, interviews and best practices gathered by Jacquie Shorty.

Jacquie's research led her to study the best practices, requirements and systems used by First Nation governments in other parts of the country as no known electronic records management systems are in use among Yukon's First Nations.

With thanks to Jacquie's commitment and hard work, Kwanlin Dün was successful in attracting Teslin Tlingit Council to partner in a three-year project to implement electronic records management systems. Funds supporting the project proposal were awarded from the Indian People Training Trust fund administered by the Training Policy Committee of CYFN.

The three-year training plan will guide Kwanlin Dün and Teslin Tlingit Council through the processes, training and administrative requirements that must be in place prior to adoption of an electronic records management system.

Prior to establishing its electronic records management system, Kwanlin Dün's records management team will be guiding the organization in the following tasks:

- Defining a system for organizing and classifying records;
- Drafting a schedule that dictates how long certain record types are kept active before being archived;
- Developing a Records Management policy;
- Creating a Procedures Manual and communication plan for the ongoing training and educating of staff members;
- Establishing a "Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy" Act to define how KDFN shares its documents in a way that respects all its Citizens.

Council recognizes the importance of keeping comprehensive and accessible records and has supported the creation of a permanent Records Management Unit within Kwanlin Dün. Jacquie Shorty leads the Unit as Information and Records Management Administrator, Melissa O'Brien and Irma Scharff are Records Management Clerks and Jeanine George was hired as our Records Management Clerk Trainee. All KDFN's records management staff members are involved in the funded training plan, which help Kwanlin Dün to develop the knowledge and internal capacity to support its commitment to records management.

Special General Assembly “Moving Forward Together” Applauds Citizen Contributions to Kwanlin Dün First Nation



Grama Susie recruits Constable Whiles for a two-step dance during lunch break at the special General Assembly.



Citizens and KDFN staff from KDFN's various working groups provided updates during the special GA.

Kwanlin Dün hosted another successful special General Assembly on the land from June 14-15th at Jackson Lake Healing Centre. Hosting the event on the land during the summer provides an opportunity for Citizens to enjoy a mix of KDFN business updates, socializing and leisure activities on the land.

The theme for the special General Assembly was “Moving Forward Together” and was chosen as a way to acknowledge the vital role that Kwanlin Dün Citizens play in shaping the priorities of the First Nation. Kwanlin Dün’s programs, services and initiatives benefit greatly due to the active participation of our Citizens during consultation sessions and through Citizen involvement on our many boards and committees.

All the fun began on Friday evening at Jackson Lake with a dance performance by our Kwanlin Dün dancers before dinner. The evening entertainment included a hilarious, yet good-natured hypnotist show by renowned entertainer, Scott Ward, followed by a campfire jam session to complete the evening.

The agenda for the special General Assembly meeting on Saturday focussed on providing updates from a number of our working groups including the

Investment Trust, Housing Policy, Administration of Justice, Donations and Artwork, Constitutional Review, Citizenship and Elections Act working groups. We thank all KDFN Citizens who contribute to these committees and special thanks to those members who helped deliver working group updates to the General Assembly.

Executive Director Roxanne Vallevand and Assistant Executive Director Dorothy Sam provided a year in review summary of accomplishments and highlights from the recent fiscal year that included updates and information from all KDFN departments.

Grama Suzie and fiddler Boyd Benjamin treated the General Assembly with a funny and lively performance that left the crowd in stitches many times over! The gracious audience participation really helped make the show entertaining for everyone. Special thanks to our special guest Liard First Nation Chief Liard McMillan for gracing the crowd and Grama Suzie with his grouse dance and to Councillor Jessie Dawson and Constable Philip Whiles for dancing the two-step with Grama Suzie!

Chief Liard McMillan Addresses Special General Assembly on the Many Impacts of Defamation

Chief Liard McMillan of Liard First Nation was a guest of the special General Assembly and offered a presentation regarding the legal consequences and damaging effects that knowingly spreading mistruths about others can have within a First Nation.

Liard spoke to the General Assembly regarding his recent experience in a Yukon Supreme Court ruling in his favour on a defamation lawsuit against a First Nation member who knowingly spread and published mistruths about the Chief and members of his administration.

The Chief explained some of the unexpected ill-effects that the gossip had on moving the business of the First Nation forward. His Nation was subject to stricter requirements around program accountabilities to its funders and experienced challenges in accessing funding to provide services for their Citizens. Chief Liard also described a negative impact on the confidence level among industry in partnering with the First Nation. Internally, the First Nation noted an increase in stress-related ailments and loss of productivity among those targeted by the defamatory statements.

Inform Yourself:

What is defamation?

The Canadian Bar Association website defines defamation as communication about a person that tends to hurt the person's reputation. The communication must be made to other people, not just to the person it's about. The statement must be false to be classified as defamation. If it is spoken, then defamation is termed "slander". If it is written with a permanent record, like a newspaper, a letter, a website posting, an email, a picture, or a radio or TV broadcast, it is termed "libel".

The law protects an individual's reputation against defamation, libel and slander. Making defamatory statements about another person can be grounds for a lawsuit. The person who has made the statements can be ordered by the court to pay money for damage to another person's reputation caused by their actions.

What about the right to free speech?

The law protects a person's reputation but this protection can restrict other rights, such as the right to free speech. The law tries to balance these competing rights.



¹The Canadian Bar Association, "Defamation: Libel and Slander," <CBA.ORG> (September 11, 2013).

Ready to Meet You, Wherever You Are – KDFN’s Employment Services Office at the House of Learning

In July, Kwanlin Dün opened its Employment Services Office, located at the House of Learning in McIntyre. The purpose of the Office is to assist Kwanlin Dün Citizens in meeting their employment goals no matter where they are in their employment journey.

Tannis Preete is Kwanlin Dün’s full-time Employment Services Officer. Tannis explains that each person’s path to satisfying employment looks different, as each person’s employment goals are unique to them. As the Employment Services Officer, Tannis works one-on-one with each of her clients. Tannis guides her clients in creating their own path toward employment and supports them as they move through the steps of the plan toward finding and keeping rewarding employment.

The Employment Services Office works within KDFN’s team approach to assist Citizens in reaching their goals. This case management approach recognizes that one aspect of a person’s life can have an impact on other areas of their life. A person wanting to move forward in one area of their life may also need support and assistance in other areas. When clients ask for help in different areas, KDFN departments are ready to work together to meet that person’s individual needs.

The Employment Services Office can connect clients to other services within Kwanlin Dün or in Whitehorse to help them move through challenges that they face in securing rewarding employment. The Officer also has ties to employers, counselling services, education, labour market programs and information, job opportunities of all kinds and training opportunities. The Employment Services Officer can connect clients to the information and services they need to move ahead, but most importantly, stays connected to the client every step of

Call or visit the Employment Services Office today and find out what they can do for you. Call 633-8422 ext. 7897 or visit the House of Learning in McIntyre.

the way.

Our Employment Services Office can help you:

- learn how and where to look for jobs and how to apply for jobs;
- prepare and practice for an interview;
- create a targeted/specific resume and cover letter that has the right information in it;
- link to information about jobs that are or will be in demand;
- find jobs that match your skills, interests and personality;

The Employment Services Office keeps regular and up-to-date:

- job bulletin board postings including government and industry-specific jobs;
- labour market information about which jobs are or will be in demand;
- contact with local employers on their current needs for employees;
- information on training, educational, mentoring programs and opportunities;
- workshops and information sessions on employment-related topics.

The Employment Services Office is located in the House of Learning and is open from 8:30-4:30p.m. Monday through Friday. Drop-in’s are accepted, but appointments are recommended so that Tannis can prepare for your visit.

NEW! Kwanlin Dün has secured funding to provide a KDFN Citizen with a Mentorship position within our Employment and Training Office. For all the latest Employment Opportunities, visit our office or check out our website at www.kwanlindun.com/employment for all our Employment Opportunities.

Honouring the Contributions of our Staff

Council hosted a staff appreciation luncheon at the Potlatch House on July 19th in recognition of the valuable contributions of our employees. All KDFN employees were invited to attend the luncheon that featured games, entertainment and a special presentation to recognize employees that have been with KDFN for five or more years. We are proud to share that over 20% of our full-time permanent employees are in the long service category, having stayed with Kwanlin Dün for five or more years.

5 Years:

Billi Jo Alexis
 Jeanie Dendys
 Helen Holway
 Henry Johnson
 Christina Sim
 Darlene Smith
 Lily Sembsmoen

7-10 Years:

Blair Blois
 Joseph Graham
 Eddie Scurvey
 Dave Sembsmoen
 Marion Fayant
 Marie Martin
 Clara Shorty
 Irene Winzer
 Tracy Oles
 Denis Peter
 Millie Sam

10-15 Years:

Gary Bailie
 Eva Burns
 Mary Dawson
 Carol Shorty
 Lester Wilson

16-20 Years:

Millie Gage
 Carmen Gibbons
 William Smith

20+ Years:

Donna Holcomb
 Shirley Smith



Donna Holcomb is Kwanlin Dün First Nation's longest-serving employee with 21 years of service.

Winter Clothing Donations

Kwanlin Dün Health Centre's 7th annual Winter Warmth Program and is accepting donations of gently used winter clothing that will go to those in need.



Contact Marion Fayant at 668-7289 or drop items off at the Health Centre.

Thank you





Kwanlin Dün First Nation would like to say thank you to all those who supported and participated in our second

Choices!

Youth Sexual Health Conference


Through the generous assistance of our partners, we... hosted 100 youth participants between the ages of 14 and 18; showcased the talent and expertise of 21 presenters; and hosted a very successful weekend with a small army of just 23 volunteers.

A HUGE thank you to our funding partners :

Many thanks to the following businesses for their donation of equipment and prizes:

Unitech	Season's Galleria
City of Whitehorse	Superstore
Supersave Fencing	Shopper's Drug Mart
MacPherson Rentals	Sam N' Andy's Restaurant
Canadian Tire	Better Bodies Crosstraining Centre
Titan Gaming & Collectibles	City of Whitehorse - Canada Games Centre
Climate Clothing	
Elements Esthetics	
Boston Pizza	
Mad Trapper Alleys	
Squash Yukon	
Triple J's Music Café - Tattoos & Piercings	
Dr. Anne Williams	
Paradise Alley	



Kwanlin Dün Partners with Community Development Fund for Community Recreation Projects

Kwanlin Dün has partnered with Government of Yukon's Community Development Fund and the federal government's Canada Infrastructure Improvement Fund to upgrade the skating rink and softball field in the McIntyre subdivision.

While the majority of funds come from Kwanlin Dün, the other supporting governments also share the objective of supporting projects that encourage recreation and healthy pursuits among residents.

"Our Council actively supports community-based recreation," Kwanlin Dün Chief Rick O'Brien said. "The funding assistance toward facility improvements will help to enhance our recreation programming in the community in addition to making our facilities more accessible and user-friendly for all to enjoy."




YG Photo

Assistant Executive Director Dorothy Sam and Acting Chief Alicia Vance with Premier Pasloski at the project site in McIntyre.

Kwanlin Dün First Nation

www.kwanlindun.com

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