



Kwanlin Dun Newsletter

Vol II, Issue 2

February 2003



Kwanlin Dun gets \$200K for Cultural Centre

Premier Dennis Fentie hand delivered a cheque for \$200,000.00 to Kwanlin Dun Chief Rick O'Brien, just in time for Christmas. The presentation was made in the KDFN council chambers on December 16, 2002.

The cheque is the first installment of \$1,250,000.00 to be made by the Yukon Government to KDFN for the construction of a cultural center on the waterfront. The Federal Government will be kicking in \$6 Million dollars as part of the deal. The contribution from both governments is part of the Kwanlin Dun Land Claim that has yet to be ratified.

Media reports say Kwanlin Dun plans to build a store, restaurant and a hotel on the old Motorways site. But that hasn't been decided yet. The Kwanlin Dun Cultural Center Steering Committee has been busy talking to members and beneficiaries about what they would like to see on that property. Once that is done, a final decision will be made about what the new center will look like.



KDFN Chief Rick O'Brien, Yukon Premier Dennis Fentie and McIntyre-Takhini MLA, John Edzerza.

McIntyre-Takhini Riding goes to the Yukon Party

The Yukon Party won a significant majority in the November 4, 2002 territorial election by taking 12 of the 18 seats in the legislature. It was the largest majority in the Yukon's history.

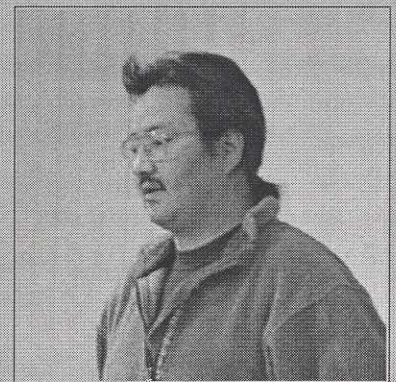
KDFN member John Edzerza will be representing the McIntyre-Takhini riding. Edzerza narrowly won his seat with 288 votes. He finished just ahead of NDP candidate Maureen Stephens who received 270 votes.

Liberal candidate and KDFN member Judy Gingell finished in third

place with 204 votes. KDFN member and Independent candidate Wayne Jim finished in fourth place with 129 votes. Geoffrey Capp another Independent candidate finished in last place with 15 votes.

The Yukon Party MLA was sworn in on November 30 in the foyer of the Yukon Legislature. He was given the Education and Public Service Commission portfolios.

If you have any concerns that you wish to discuss with your MLA, John Edzerza, call 667-8644.



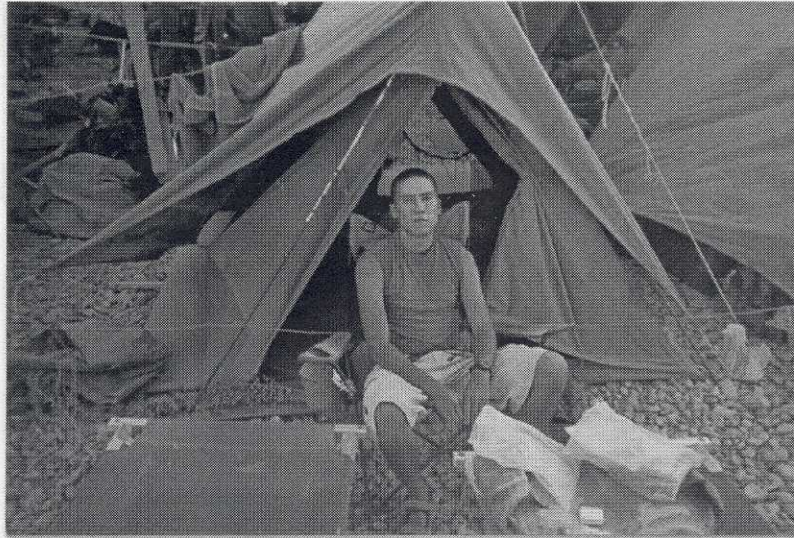
Allan Taylor elected in by-election on December 21, 2002, and replaces John Edzerza.



Tizya returns from Afghanistan

Private Doug Tizya arrived home to a hero's welcome after serving five months in Afghanistan. Family and friends rushed to hug Tizya as he arrived at the Whitehorse International Airport. Tizya is a Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation member, but he grew up in the Kwanlin Dun community.

"I haven't been here in five years, I'm so excited I'm shaking", he told reporters. He is staying with his aunt, Charlene Burns, and Uncle, Stewart Tizya, for about a month. Asked what he planned on doing here, Tizya said, "sleep in a comfortable bed and eat something wild". He also wants to visit Old Crow during his stay.



know, just to be out of that hell-hole (Afghanistan); that's what I call it anyway," said Tizya. "It was hot, the food was terrible, so was the living conditions, even the water was bad. Life was hard, but after a few months, you just got used to it, you just adapt and overcome".

He was joined by his fiancée, April, a day later. The couple plans

on getting married, but haven't set a date yet. Tizya has since gone back to Winnipeg where he is waiting for his next assignment.

Tizya joined the second battalion in August 2001, a month before the September 11 terrorist attacks in the United States.

Tizya was in Afghanistan with the Princess Patricia's Light Infantry, second battalion. He actually flew back to Canada, July 31, with the rest of his regiment, but had to go through debriefing before he was free to return to the Yukon on August 22.

"I'm so happy to be home; you

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Child Welfare Liaison hired

Child welfare has been a long-standing concern with KDFN members. Often, families feel they have no voice in these matters or they find it difficult to deal with the child welfare system on their own.

To try and address some of these concerns, KDFN has signed a three-year agreement with the Yukon Government's Family and Children Services Department. The agreement will allow KDFN to hire its own Child Welfare liaison to assist families in Child Welfare matters.

"I'm pleased with this agreement", said Chief Rick

O'Brien. "It means KDFN families will finally have a voice in these matters. It will also help to ensure KDFN children stay connected to their First Nation heritage, family and community," he said.

KDFN's Health and Justice Departments are also investigating the possibilities of co-managing child welfare programming with the Yukon Government's Family and Children Services. It would enable KDFN to play a more meaningful role in child welfare programming for community members.



Kwanlin Dun RCMP Satellite Detachment Opens in McIntyre

Kwanlin Dun First Nation (KDFN) citizens now have greater access to police services in their own community. The opening of the RCMP satellite detachment took place on November 8, 2002, at # 3 O'Brien Road. The office will be manned by Cst. Dennis Grimard, Cst. Yvon Largess and a Community Cst., Corey Edzerza.

Work on the re-opening of the RCMP Satellite office began over two years ago after the death of KDFN member Harley Timmers. He was shot during a struggle with an RCMP officer. "Since the Timmers shooting, the relationship between the community and RCMP have been somewhat strained. We are working hard with the RCMP to repair the damage caused by that tragic incident", said Chief Rick O'Brien. "I hope the community can benefit from a stronger police presence in our community. Safety has always been a big concern for KDFN members. I hope the increased police presence will help make our community stronger and healthier", he added.

Two of the RCMP officers involved with re-opening the KDFN detachment have worked with the community since 1999. Cst. Largess and Cst. Ray Warner were the only two RCMP members working full time with KDFN Justice. Warner has since been transferred to Beaver Creek and Cst. Grimard arrived last January to take his place. Meanwhile, Edzerza is upgrading his education at Yukon College while training for the RCMP Academy in Regina. Edzerza is a member of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation and has family ties in KDFN.

Asides from working to get the office up and running, members of the RCMP/KDFN Satellite Office, along with several partners, have established a Community Capacity Asset Mapping Building Program (CCAMPB).

"The aim of the program is to find people in the KDFN community with special gifts such as: snow shoe making, welding, coaching, cooking skills and more. These skills are then taught to other community members. Each event has to involve fun and food. So far the program has been very successful simply because of volunteers coming forward with ideas that bring the community closer", said Cst. Largess.

Members of the KDFN Satellite Office also took part

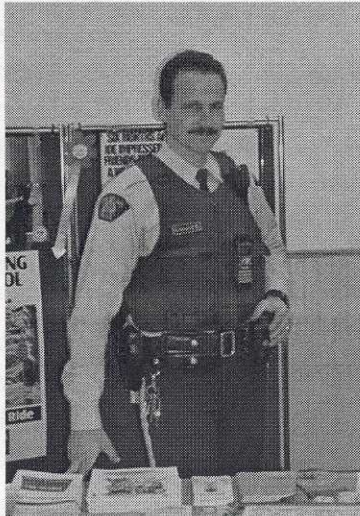
in another major community event. The KDFN Bike Rodeo was organized by the Health Center with the help of sponsors such as the RCMP, YTG Victim Services, Whitehorse Parks and Recreation and the Yukon Workers

Compensation Board. Many other sponsors came forward with gifts and donations. "That's what community building stands for", said Cst. Largess. "It's people coming together for a better tomorrow with crime prevention programs. Many of the ideas come from the community, such as KDFN Education and Capital Housing. We the RCMP are only the catalyst in making these programs work," he added.

Largess has a few goals for their new location. "Our former office was too small and uninviting. Our new location will fill some voids like more space and a friendlier office. We hope people will drop by for coffee or to view some crime prevention tapes. We will also have an interview room for privacy where we hope community members will feel a sense of being respected and being heard".

Both officers also attend Chief and Council meetings, Justice meetings and other community events as required.

Should you need to contact Cst. Largess and Cst. Grimard, the number for the KDFN Satellite Office is 633-7842. This number is for non-emergency requests only. If the officers can't be reached, the Whitehorse RCMP Detachment downtown will attend all calls for service during their absence. In an emergency dial 911 and someone will attend to your call.



Cst. Dennis Grimard





KDFN Constitution (Governance) Project

The KDFN Land Claims Department has received funding from the federal government to work on developing a self-government constitution and model government for KDFN over the next year. The project will focus on four main areas:

1. Government-to-government relations.
2. KDFN constitution;
3. KDFN model government; and,
4. KDFN ratification procedures for KDFN Final and Self-Government agreements.

Objectives:

- A community-based project that will include the participation of the KDFN membership;
- Education of KDFN membership on government issues;

- Communications and appropriate and accessible information on KDFN governance issues;
- Community guidance in the development of preferred governance options;
- Expert independent advice on options for addressing KDFN governance issues based on approaches and models from other jurisdictions; and,
- Communications personnel will facilitate discussion with the KDFN membership.

Actions:

- Established a community advisory committee comprised of the KDFN Chief and Council, KDFN Land Claims Caucus and anyone interested in participating in the process;
- Hired an independent advisor to assist the committee to develop a self-government constitution and governance option; and,
- Preparation of draft working papers for community consultation

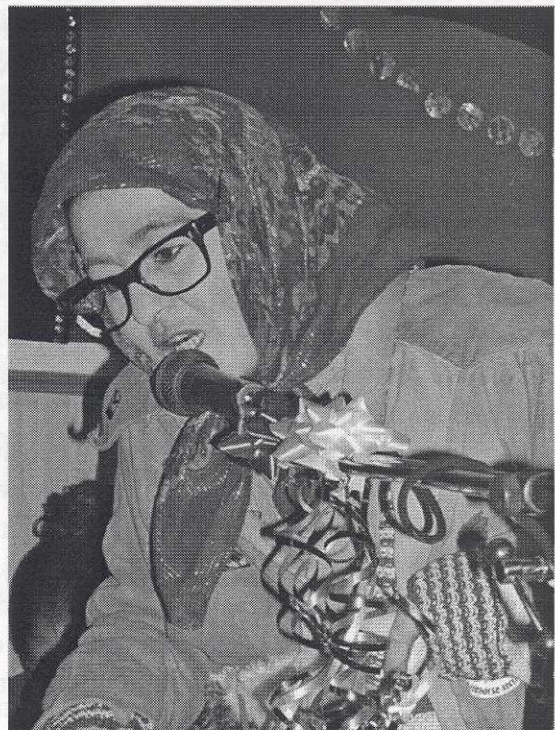
Governance Community Meetings will be held at Nakwataku Potlatch House on the following dates:

February 26, 2003
1:00 pm and 6:00 pm

March 20, 2003
1:30 pm and 6:00 pm

All Kwanlin Dun citizens are encouraged to attend.

For more information, please call Eileen Vance-Duchesne at (867)633-7813.



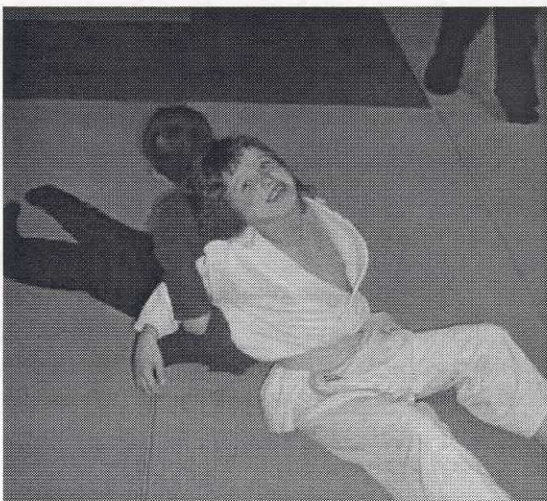
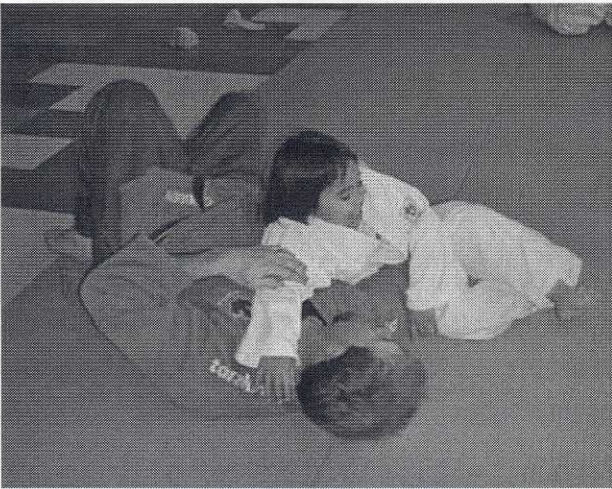
Sara entertains at the KDFN Trade Show Dinner.



Community members attending the KDFN Trade Show were treated to a demonstration by the KDFN Kiichi-Sai Judo club. This event is very popular among children who range in age from 6 to 13. Some of the children also competed in a local tournament, on December 7, 2002 at the Ecole Emily Tremblay School. Students of the KDFN Kiichi-Sai Judo Club took home 8 medals.

The winners are:

Kumi Shorty Costea	First place
Jeanine George	First place
Kaitlyn Johns	Second place
Frank Charlie	Second place
Patty Jim	Second place
Brandon Webb	Second place
Krystal Lindstrom	Third place
Vgut Shorty	Third place



Above right - Brown belt, Councillor Darwin O'Brien introduces KDFN Kiichi-Sai Judo Club at the KDFN Trade Show community feast.

Top left - Eight year old Deanna Dawson looks on.

Middle left - Six year old Cheyenne Bradley pins Sensei Dan Gribben to the mat.

Bottom left - Eight year old Laura Bellon demonstrates some moves.

House of Learning

Upgrading Class:

The House of Learning Upgrading Classes are off to a good start with 15 people signed up in each class, 30 students in all! There is a good mix of elders and younger students in the morning class working on their literacy and levels, 1, 2 and 3. The afternoon class has been working on levels 2 and 3.

Julie Hawkins is the instructor for both classes and Daniel Sheldon is back to help out for two days a week.

Thanks to Holly Pullar for the wonderful binders and supplies. They will come in handy during our year of hard work! Thanks also goes out to Kwanlin Dun and Yukon College for making this program available.

The upgrading class started on September 4, 2002. Jason Charlie is the new teacher's assistant.

Cathy Borsa is the instructor of 040 Math and 040 English. There are 8 students in her class doing College Prep Math and English and level 3.

CELC Manger:

Kwanlin Dun First Nation Guaranteed Representatives to Elijah Smith Elementary School Council are as follows:

Jessie Dawson, Ed Gordon and Susan Burns. Elijah Smith Elementary School Council meetings take place on the first Monday of each month.

Time: 06:30 pm

Place: Elijah Smith Elementary School in the library.

Parents are welcome to attend the meetings. Volunteers are important for ESES. Parents can be directly involved in the day-to-day operation of our school. The

following is a list of suggestions if you are considering volunteering your time:

Library, field trips, fundraising, breakfast program, reading stories, hand gambling, traditional dance, cultural events, teaching handicrafts, art, moose hide cleaning, making drums and carving.

We also welcome Evelyn Troy the new Community Education Liason Coordinator at Porter Creek Secondary. Evelyn invites all staff,



parents and First Nation students to drop by her office to meet her.

Notice to Volunteers:

Are you interested in sharing and teaching young students about native culture and traditional life style? If interested, you must have knowledge in at least one of the following and experience working with students:

Snowshoe making, Moose Hair Tufting, traditional dancing, traditional songs, traditional games, arts and crafts, painting, beadwork, quillwork traditional blankets, carving soap, wood or stone. Drumming, storytelling, trapping/hunting, moose hide cleaning, knowledge of cultural camps, preserving traditional foods,

bannock making, berry picking/jam making, traditional medicine, Tlingit hats.

Forward your information to Elijah Smith Elementary School Cultural Committee, c/o John Wright, Principal. 1399 Hamilton Blvd., Whitehorse, YT Y1A 5A5. Phone 667-5992 or fax 393-6288.

Tradition and Technology:

The fall session of mini computer courses started the last week in September. The course listing is advertised on KDFN office notice boards. Courses are 2 hours long and include Introductory Word, Excel, Power Point, Access (database), HTML, Internet and Web Mail, and Resume Writing.

The winter session of mini courses will be announced in the upcoming weeks. The Saturday morning and Tuesday evening class may be cancelled due to lack of interest. Watch for more information.

The computer lab is open for public use Monday to Friday 8:45 to 4:15, Tuesday evenings 6:30 to 9:30 and Saturday morning 9:00 am to noon. Mike Stanley is working as our part-time lab assistant and instructor. Private instruction or assistance can be booked through Carole or Mike at 633-7835.

An adult literacy instructor will also be hired to assist adults and older teens to learn to read and write. Interested participants should contact Carole at 633-7835. Space will be limited!

Tutoring is available with Krystal Profeit at Tuesday from 4:30 to 6:00 pm, Wednesday from 4:30 to 9:30 pm and Thursday from 4:30 to 6:00 pm. Sessions will be held at the Elijah Smith School. For more information call the House of Learning.



Kwanlin Dun First Nation and the Southern Lakes Caribou Recovery



What do we have to show for 10 years of Caribou Recovery?

Caribou! Before this program began, there were less than 150 caribou in the Ibex herd and they were likely still declining in numbers. There was no sign of change in these numbers. Caribou were being hunted and dying from various causes sources so that any potential for growth was lost. The recovery program started in 1992, and by 1998 Ibex herd caribou numbers increased to about 425 caribou animals. But since then that time, calf numbers have been low, just enough to keep caribou numbers stable or only a small amount of growth.

How do we find out how the recovery is going?

Kwanlin Dun is involved in the Caribou Recovery Program! Dave Sembsmoen and Joshua Smith have been working with the program to ensure that Kwanlin Dun's voice and interests are brought to the Southern Lakes Steering Committee. Kwanlin Dun will be involved in this year's caribou count. After the counts this winter, when the counts are done, we will have a better idea of how much longer our harvest ban on caribou will be needed.

I'm not seeing many moose out there!

Moose have been declining in the Ibex area. The numbers have been going down for for the last 7 years or longer! In

1995 there were about 900 moose living south of Whitehorse between Kusawa Lake and the Carcross Road. In 2000, when they were counted again, there were only about 600 moose were estimated in the same area. With numbers like this, taking more than about 12 moose total out of that area, the population will continue to drop. The Southern Lakes Caribou Recovery Program is now looking into ways to help bring back our moose as well. But they need your help and your ideas.

How long will the Recovery Program Go?

The recovery program is trying to reach the goal of 2000 caribou between the Ibex herd (south of Whitehorse) and the Carcross herd (east of Whitehorse). This winter's surveys will give all of the partners a better idea of how long this will take.

If you want to help or if you want to hear more about these projects, contact Joshua Smith in our Lands and Resources Department.

Joshua Smith
Lands and Resource Officer
Kwanlin Dun First Nation
35 McIntyre Drive
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 5A5
Phone: (867) 633-7808
Fax: (867) 668-5057



Top left - Some of the outfits for sale at the KDFN Trade Show.

Left - Ben Charlie and Wilbur Kendi fiddling around.

Bottom - Elder Johnnie Smith plays traditional songs.



Barb Fred and Judy Gingell talk to...



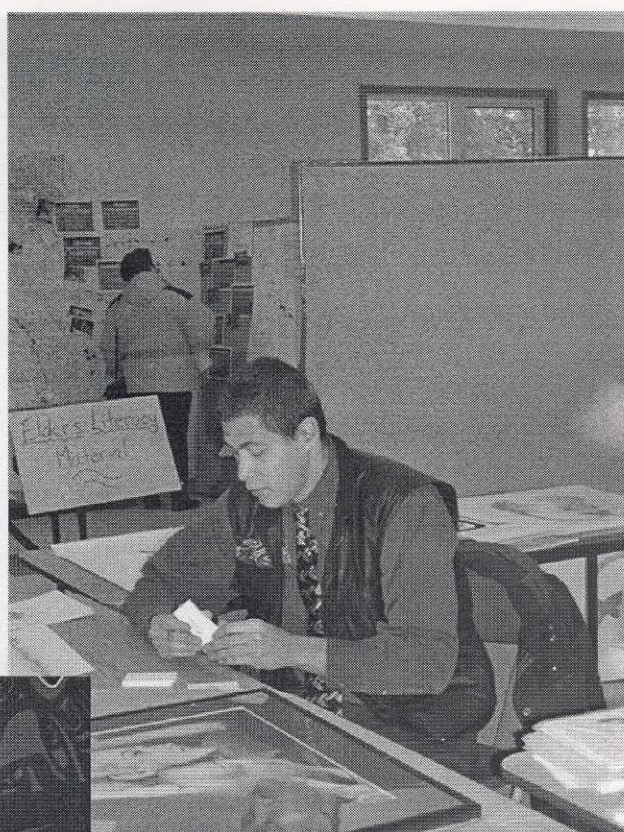
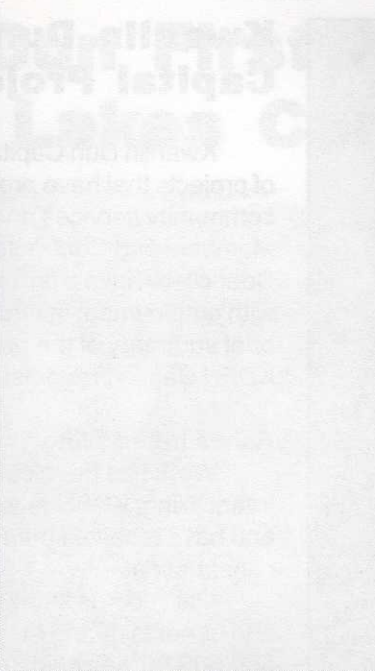
KDFN



The second annual KDFN Trade Show, the Nakwataku Potlatch House visited this year's trade show. The KDFN Trade Show was est... chance to view the programs and se... citizens a chance to mee... KDFN programs and services inc... their wares. Everything from art... decorations was for sale. Cash, door a... of the KDFN programs and services... stores and business contributed ge



...k to participants about the Kwanlin Development Corporation.



Top right - Clifton Fred selling his artwork.

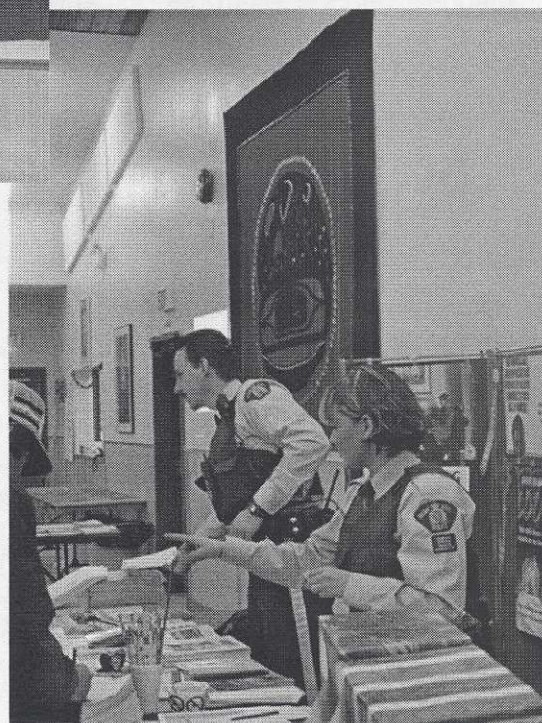
Right - Jacqueline Shorty announcing one of the Trade Show many prizes.



Bottom - RCMP man the KDFN Justice booth at the trade show.

Trade Show a Hit!

ow was a huge success. Like the first Trade was packed to its rafters. Over 300 people hat was held on December 6th, 2002. ublished last year to give KDFN citizens a rvices available to them. It also gives the and talk with the KDFN staff. uding other local venders came to show off e and crafts, buffalo meat to Christmas d passport prizes were also given out. Many held their own draws and once again local nerously to the door and passport prizes.





Housing Program Highlights:

In the first seven months of this fiscal year, the Housing Program has contracted out to First Nation Contractors \$205,000 worth of work on KDFN HOUSING. We have and continue to encourage KDFN Members to become a part of this economic opportunity. The Housing Program is very flexible in how these contracts are completed and provides our purchasing power and resources to these entrepreneurs, when required.

The Housing Program has spent approximately \$100,000 replacing windows in 12 houses. Approximately \$50,000 was paid out to KDFN Employees on this project. Housing hopes to continue this project in the future it will be dependant on additional financing from CMHC and rental revenues.

We have replaced a lot of Kitchen Ranges and Refrigerators, where the old ones had given up.

All the oil furnaces are currently being serviced by Fireweed Plumbing and Heating. Two of the apartments have had new boilers installed.

We continue to experience a lot of Vandalism. In the past seven months over \$26,000 was spent on repairs to broken windows and kicked-in doors. This money could have been put too much better use.

The flat rent system is working well for the most part. We have had an increase of \$100 per month to Non Kwanlin Dun members. We no longer have to do income assessments on everybody, which lessens the paperwork.

At the direction of Chief and Council, from January 2001, we have been working very hard and have been very aggressive at collecting rental arrears. In 2000, the rental arrears rose by \$106,554.00 for an average of \$8,879.50 per month. In 2001, our arrears did not go up, but in fact the total arrears were reduced by \$2,691.00. For the first 10 months of 2002, our arrears rose by \$19,822.00 or \$1,982.00 per month. Housing will be renewing its efforts to collect the outstanding funds.

Kwanlin Dun First Nation: Capital Projects Report

Kwanlin Dun Capital has completed a very productive year of projects that have provided necessary improvements to our community services and substantial employment to KDFN Members and Contractors. Thanks to the vision of Chief and Council we have a firm commitment to provide KDFN members with employment in future Capital projects. The following is a brief summary of the project KDFN capital has undertaken by KDFN Capital Projects:

Ashea Infant Wing:

Work has been completed on the construction of the Ashea Infant Wing. KDFN employees performed the majority of the work and have received many compliments on the quality of the construction.

Our records show that \$155,000.00 was paid out in wages and benefits during the course of this project. An additional \$50,500.00 was paid to KDFN contractors for their services. We have also mobilized a construction trailer and purchased a small inventory of specialized tools.

Two Bay Garage:

Work has been completed on the construction of this facility. Once again KDFN Employees were hired in the construction of this project.

Our records show that approximately \$60,000.00 was paid out in wages and benefits. An additional \$8,000.00 has been paid to KDFN contractors for their services. Again, we have received numerous compliments on the quality of the work performed by our members.

Renovations:

Several renovations were completed within the Capital program using KDFN employees to perform the work. The renovations include a new metal roof for the House of Learning, construction of a new office for Economic Development, construction of an office addition to the Housing Building and an office expansion for the hard working Ladies in our Finance department.

Approximately \$89,500.00 was paid to KDFN contractors and employees over the course of the renovations.

Furniture and Computers:

Capital has spent \$170,000.00 on furniture and computers for all of the departments in Kwanlin Dun. The majority of the money was spent on a much-needed upgrade of the Finance Program's hardware and software systems.

Truck, Trailer and Bobcat Purchase:

Capital has recently purchased a one-ton Truck and a Caterpillar Skid Steer Loader with a 16-foot lowboy trailer. In light of the money spent by KDFN on Truck and Bobcat rentals in the past, we believe it was a wise investment to purchase equipment to perform work on upcoming Construction and Landscaping



projects.

A hydraulic auger and sweeper broom attachments have also been purchased. The equipment will be used in the upcoming fencing project and in keeping the sidewalks and facilities free of snow in winter.

We will train KDFN people to operate the bobcat, with high priority on care and maintenance of this machine. This will help to protect our investment.

Fencing and Landscaping:

A recent fencing survey shows that 50 % community members requested wood and 50% requested metal fencing. It was decided that we would choose metal fencing for the first stage of this project. Metal fencing requires less maintenance and is more difficult to vandalize.

Selection was made at random with priority given to families with small children and elders. KDFN Employees using the new bobcat with auger attachment will do construction of the fencing.

The response has been very positive and so far we have constructed fences at 37 units, with more to come. We have noticed that people have taken the initiative to clean their yards and many seemed quite excited that they would finally be able to begin landscaping.

KDFN work crews have also been blocking all unnecessary roads and trails to help reduce the incidents of speeding snowmobiles and 4 wheelers. This created a huge safety concern among KDFN residents.

To date, we have 100 % KDFN hire. This includes 7 employees, 2 will be transferred to the Health Center project when it begins. We estimate that approximately \$100,000.00 will be paid in wages to KDFN employees.

In regards to landscaping, the only project on the agenda is the Ashea daycare. This facility has a high priority due to the large number of small children that are in attendance.

Health Center Addition:

Funding for the addition has been secured from DIAND and Health Canada. The total cost of this project is estimated at approximately \$770,000.00.

The Health Center Addition is in the final finishing stages of construction. We are awaiting installation of the elevator and final inspections from the City of Whitehorse and the architects, Ferguson, Simek & Clark.

A new technique was used in the building of the Health Center addition. We are using insulated forms for the basement walls. These insulated forms exceed specifications and KDFN will receive additional energy savings in the long run. This new building technology is more suited to Northern construction and will enable our employees to advance their skills.

This project provided employment for several KDFN members and contractors and approximately \$250,000.00 in wages and benefits were paid out over the last year. The addition will bring all KDFN health departments under one roof and will give Kwanlin Dun one of the nicest Health Centers in the Yukon.

Rural Roads Upgrade:

With direction from Chief and Council, we have upgraded some roads in the rural areas and renovated some rural Elder "DIA" housing. To date, we have completed renovations in the No More Lake area and we anticipate more work in the near future.

Furniture and Equipment:

Work continues on the upgrading of KDFN's computer network and the purchase of furniture and office equipment for all departments. Some of the purchases include; a new photocopier, operating software and hardware upgrades, wireless communication network and office equipment for various departments.

Ballpark Improvements

Over the summer, we removed the existing grass & soil from the ball field and stockpiled it to one side. It was replaced with crushed granite in the infield to proper specifications.

Kwanlin Koyotes Ski Hut

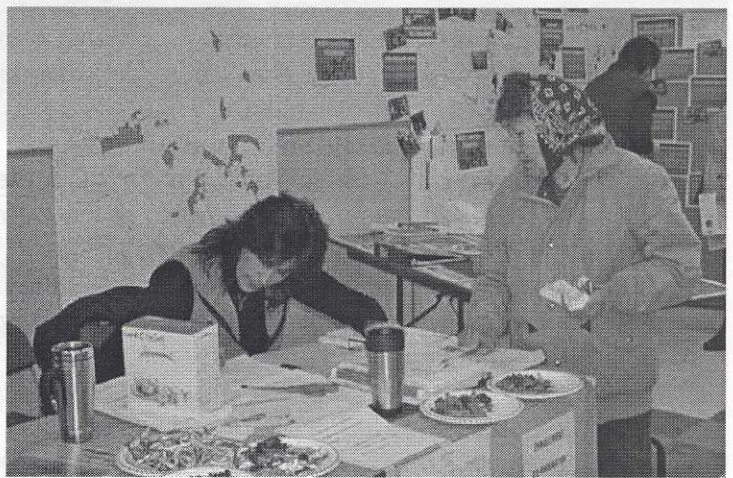
With approval from Chief & Council and funding from Project Yukon, the construction of the Ski Hut for the Kwanlin Koyotes Ski Team is nearing completion.

The construction is a volunteer effort and we have had good response from the community.

Volunteers include; Gary Bailie, Stewart Tizya, Andrew Joe, Viola Papequash, Ron and Marsha Pearson, Jimi Graham, Sean Sam, Dezi Graham, Ian and Thorin Mullin, Deborah Emerson and some of the Kwanlin Koyote Kids.

The Building plans were supplied by Ian Stallabrass of True Scale Design.

This facility will serve as a waxing & warming hut for the Kwanlin Koyotes Ski Team and also for any KDFN members who would like to try cross-country skiing.



Shirley Bien updates the membership list at the KDFN Trade Show.



OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

The Operation and Maintenance Program is to provide for the Health and Safety of Kwanlin Dun First Nation Staff / Citizens and protection and security of property by:

Coordinating the activities of the Operation and Maintenance of KDFN assets. (Capital assets are permanent resources in the community such as houses, schools, community buildings, roads, electricity, sewage disposal, water delivery systems and equipment).

- We have 4 persons working in the O&M department: Andrew Joe, Manager, George Scurvey, Garbage and Maintenance, William Smith, Water Delivery and Rudy Huebschwerlen, Maintenance Helper Trainee. All are Kwanlin Dun band members.

Program Highlights

- We were able to access funds from HRD - Employment and Training to hire Rudy in this position. This has been a tremendous help to both Housing and the O&M departments.
- Training - George Scurvey has taken the Air brakes course and Mile 918 driver training. He has acquired Class "3" drivers license with Air. Rudy is in the process of doing the same. The reason this was done was that we needed spare drivers in case water truck driver gets sick or goes on holidays.
- Training - Events in Walkerton and elsewhere have highlighted the need for operator training to maintain the safety of our drinking water supplies and delivery systems. William Smith and Andrew Joe attended a two-day "small Water Systems Course". This provides us a basic understanding of the water treatment process and gives us information from other water system operators about their systems. As a follow up, William Smith and George Scurvey, will be attending "Small Trucked" Water Systems Course on November 25 & 26. This course will provide a basic knowledge of trucked water distribution and treatment practices and focuses on the basic aspects of system construction, operation and maintenance.
- Crow Street - We know have three people on staff

who have a basic knowledge of the operation of the Crow Street Pumpouse. We have been monitoring this building for the past year and it has worked out well for KDFN.

- Renovation at #3 O'Brien Place to safe guard building for use as RCMP Satellite Station.
- Conversion of recycling building to storage space for HOL and Recreation. They had been storing recreation and camping gear in basement of HOL, which was not safe.
- Assist Housing with various projects:
 - Window replacement
 - Landings and decks
 - Renovations of RCMP Satellite Detachment
- Security - tighten up on Security for buildings.

Suggestions to reduce O & M costs:

- Education of staff to think energy efficient (turning off lights, turning heat down at night, turning off radios, etc).
- Bulk purchasing of supplies (janitorial, office, etc).
- Tendering out supply of heating fuel, gas, vehicle servicing and janitorial services.



There's a little something for everyone at the KDFN Trade Show.



Nats' Ekhi Ku Health Centre Follows the Traditional Path

Our traditions and Elders have always taught us that everything in the Circle of Life is inter-related. This is called "Holism". We see this in the seasons of the year or the cycles of the animals.

At the Health Center, we believe the life and well being of the people is also inter-related. We depend on ourselves, on others, on the environment and the Creator. To be healthy we must be in balance.

First Nations have this approach to health: body, mind and spirit work together to form the person. The Western or non-First Nation approach to health separates body, mind and spirit and there is a total split between medicine and religion.

Just as we are taught about the four directions or the four seasons, so too are we taught that humans are made of four parts.

We define our parts as:

- physical self, which is our bodies and our environment
- mental self, which is our thinking and learning and our creativity
- emotional self, which is our relationship with ourselves and with others
- spiritual self, which is our relationship with the Creator and the environment

The Kwanlin Dun Health Department works to respect this and to assist our clients in achieving balance for health. That is, when we design a program, we not only think of the physical aspect, but also of the client's mental, emotional and spiritual needs as well. That doesn't mean that we can provide these services completely, but it does mean we can help the client find somebody who can.

Another one of our beliefs is that everyone has abilities, talents and skills that contribute to the overall health of the community. You told us this in our recent Community Wellness Study.

At the Health Center, we believe in the interconnectedness of much in our lives, because of that we have linked a number of community programs in a way that we think will serve the community well. Each of these programs adopts and builds their services upon the Health Department's Vision and Mission.

The Vision Statement describes our community as people see it in 10, 15 or 20 years. Change does not come fast, but is generational.

"The vision of the KDFN Health Department is of a community that is healthy, family centered, and self-

sufficient, a place where cultural values are respected and motivated people pray, work and play together."

The Mission of the Kwanlin Dun Health Center lays out what we are trying to accomplish and how we wish to do this.

"In the pursuit of health program and service delivery excellence the Health Department is committed to improving the quality of life of the community by adopting a collaborative, holistic and culturally appropriate approach to well being."

These programs are:

1. **The Health Center** provides a variety of innovative prevention/promotion programs. These include maternal and child health, communicable disease control, client advocacy, youth and adult services and Elder's health services. Also there are many health promotion initiatives ranging from community clean-ups and Health Career Day to Diabetes health fairs and aerobics classes. The Health Center does not provide medical treatment like other rural Yukon health centers. This is because our health center is located within the City of Whitehorse with its general hospital, physicians and 24-hour ambulance service. In rural Yukon communities there are no other health facilities.
2. **Ashea Day Care** offers culturally appropriate programming to First Nation children. The facility has the capacity for 54 children. There is full day service for preschoolers in addition to an after school program for school children.
3. **Ashea Head Start** serves the aboriginal children and families who reside in Whitehorse. The project is a program of Health Canada, but is controlled and administered the Kwanlin Dun Health Department. The Health Department also partners with the Child Development Center to provide early intervention programming for infants and preschoolers.
4. **Community Wellness** uses a holistic approach to work with the community for healing and wellness. Programming includes community

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Yukon River Drainage Basin Harvest Salmon Harvest Study

By: Joan Viksten

Introduction:

This is my second summer working as the KDFN Salmon Harvest Study Surveyor. This is the last year of the seven-year study collecting salmon harvest numbers for First Nations on the Yukon River Basin. LGL Limited is conducting the survey for the Basic Needs Allocation (BNA) entitlements as outlined in section 16.10.3 of the Umbrella Final Agreement.

This past summer two families set net downstream of Whitehorse within Kwanlin Dun traditional territory. On August 9, 2002 during a canoe survey down the Yukon River, from Rotary Park, to the Takhini River Bridge, the first net was observed. The net was appropriately marked with the Band Member's name. It was located upstream of the sewer lagoon crossing on the west side of the river. The other net was set downstream of Croucher Creek, also on the west side (personal communication). One family from Kwanlin Dun set a net in the Carmacks area.

The numbers of returning salmon counted through the Whitehorse Fishway was down from last year. There were 385 salmon, 87 of which were taken for brood stock. This return, based on figures over the last 17 years, is down by 57%.

During the years of 1998-2000, when returns were the poorest on record, many First Nations choose not to fish. Depleted runs not only affect food harvest but also ceremonial and traditional pursuits.

Lake of Fishing Sites outside of KDFN Traditional Territory

KDFN members who are LSCFN beneficiaries are requesting that their rights be clarified with regards to fishing and hunting.

On July 29, 2002 Kwanlin Dun and Carmacks Lands and Resources Departments met to discuss the issues affecting the salmon fishery. There is concern by LSCFN that other First Nations are using fish camps without first getting permission. Often catches are not reported and recorded appropriately. The outcome was that LSCFN is promoting a traditional approach called **Ne Ya Ne Chat**, which means, "I feed you" or "I give you food". LSCFN beneficiaries will be able to access a family fish camp in an area to be designated before the 2003 fishing season. Applications, supplied by LSCFN, will be available from Kwanlin Dun Lands Office at 35 McIntyre Dr. Future meetings on the salmon fishery will be announced.

Establishing a culture camp for Kwanlin Dun citizens in the Carmacks area could be used for several weeks each summer. This would help to promote healthy relationships and lifestyles for youth and other interested participants. It is important that we submit our recommendations or requirements to ensure harvest-sharing agreements are in place with other First Nations downstream of Whitehorse.

Chinook Salmon - Most Valued Species

Chinook salmon is such a valuable resource there have been

many studies done focused on enhancement and conservation on both side of the Yukon/Alaska border. Chinook salmon is the largest of the seven salmon species. They are the third least abundant of the seven Pacific salmon species and the most widespread. The largest recorded Chinook was caught off the coast of Alaska in a commercial net and weighed 57 kg or 126 lbs. Chinook have an evolutionary adaptation that divided the species into two races: stream-type and ocean-type. The Yukon River system is home to stream-type Chinook. They spend up to two years in rearing streams such as Croucher and Michie and probably in other unidentified streams that feed into Marsh and Teslin Lakes. The mystery is when do they migrate out to the ocean and how do we protect the fry as they make their way to the ocean. The Yukon Salmon Committee addressed similar issues in 2002;

Harvest allocation and conservation issues face severe logistical problems. The large area of the Yukon River Basin makes it difficult to collect and compile data in a timely manner to obtain meaningful results. Currently the management system is not delicate enough to avoid targeting individual stocks.

The DFO fish wheel tagging program near the Yukon/Alaska border and the test fishery in Dawson are used to determine how the run numbers are averaging.

Ichthyophonus Hoferi

Chinook returning on the Yukon River are the first wild population of



salmon documented to have the parasite *Ichthyophonus hoferi*. This parasite causes little white spots in the heart and/or liver and large grayish white lesions in the meat. While eating infected fish is not thought to be a human health concern people reported that meat from infected fish tasted and smelled odd.

While researchers are still compiling information the following theories are suggested causes of the disease:

- Warmer than usual ocean water temperatures
- Main food supply, Pacific Herring is a common carrier of the parasite
- High water levels

Should anyone catch a salmon suspected of having this parasite, they should record the date, location, size, sex and whether the adipose fin is clipped. The information should be reported to DFO or the nearest FN Land Resources Office.

LGL Harvest Study and Future Collection Issues

Currently the Harvest Study is scheduled to end with the final report on May 31, 2003. Compilation of the harvest information for the Yukon River Basin will be used to negotiate future Basic Needs Allocation (BNA) for salmon catches within each First Nations respective territories. Factors that influence the allocations include: the seven years of harvest data; historical harvests/uses, First Nation population changes; salmon returns and conservation. Once determined, Basic Needs Allocation for Yukon River Basin First Nations will have priority over all other fisheries. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans

(DFO) will still be responsible for ensuring sustainable escapement levels/harvest.

The transfer of harvest monitoring and fishery management skills is of the utmost importance as we near the ratification of our Land Claims Agreement. Since the beginning of the harvest study in 1996 funding has come through agreements between CYFN and the Government of Canada (DFO). Expertise has been supplied by LGL Limited with help from the respective Lands and Resources Offices of each First Nation. After negotiations the monitoring and co-management of traditional fishing areas will be transferred to each First Nation. First Nations must decide on how to proceed with their negotiations of the BNA entitlements within 3 months of the release of the final report on May 31, 2003 or be bound by the limitations defined in UFA.

Summary of KDFN Reports 1996-2002

Issues that are unique to Kwanlin Dun include; historical fishing opportunity, resource availability and conservation concerns. According to the existing data 61% of KDFN people interviewed were interested in fishing for salmon (LGL Fishery Profile, 96-97 p.6). Most KDFN that actually fish within the Yukon River Basin are in the Carmacks and Pelly areas. To my knowledge 2 families set nets within KDFN traditional territory this past summer. Some fishers are still reluctant to share both harvest numbers and fishing areas/locations. They do not recognize the importance of participating in the Harvest Study and to establish fishing areas/sites for future use. As a result KDFN salmon

harvest numbers may be low and not represent Basic Needs. As "the River People" of the (former) Whitehorse Rapids, we have not only had a long history of harvesting salmon in our traditional area but are also entitled to a future salmon harvest.

The information gathered during this 7-year study leaves us fairly confident that we know the families from KDFN that fish for salmon in the Yukon and Takhini Rivers. Many members obtain salmon from other sources and locations proving that salmon is still considered an important dietary supplement and cultural pursuit.

Two recommendations of this report are; to negotiate a harvest sharing agreement with LSCFN that includes a salmon culture camp for general use; and information sessions for KDFN fishers identified by the survey that still set-net for salmon. Power is in numbers and possibly we have missed people. Your voice is necessary for effective input.

This is the final year of the 7-year LGL Salmon Harvest Study. Having worked for and with this Environmental Research Company for 2 years, I feel confident to say that I have never worked with more culturally sensitive people. Despite meeting odds that would fray anyone's nerves their survey/consultation style promoted effective communication and results.

Conservation - What can we do about it?

- Attend Yukon Salmon Committee public meetings that happen several times a year in Whitehorse and seasonally in the communities.

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outreach, counseling services, alcohol and drug addiction services and child support services.

5. **Healthy Families** provides encouragement, support and education to new families to help them become the best parents that they can be. This voluntary program includes access to services and information, planned home visiting and group activities such as community kitchen. Healthy Families partners with the Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program that operates out of the Health Center.
6. **Community Care** is a new initiative currently in the developmental stages. The program coordinates a variety of governmental and non-governmental services to community members as well as offering new programs and services as identified in the Community Wellness Survey.

The Kwanlin Dun Health Department is guided by the Kwanlin Dun Health Plan. Community input is provided through the Community Health Committee and the General Assembly. Policy is created by Chief and Council and mandatory program guidelines and funding agreements are with the Federal government.

The Health Director is responsible for the efficient and effective management of all of the Health Programs.

This integrated holistic approach to Community Health Services is distinctly First Nation. At a recent National Aboriginal Health Organization Meeting in Quebec, the Kwanlin Dun First Nation was praised for this innovative approach to Community Health.

With the opening of the new extension on the Health Center, we can look forward to even better services between the programs.

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- The annual Chinook fry drop at Wolf Creek is geared for public awareness.
- If you frequent the back country (bush) then you should know if the streams you cross are salmon bearing or spawning habitat and act accordingly.
- Report stream violations to DFO Habitat and illegal catches to Conservation Officers.
- Take the Stream Keepers workshop (watershed management) offered by DFO usually the first weekend in May. For 2003, May 2-4th. Cost is \$75. Ph. 8-7595
- Volunteer to do river clean up.
- Increase access to spawning habitat for adult salmon.
- This includes finding ways to integrate Traditional Knowledge (TK) with scientific data. How do we find ways to combine old ways with new to promote respect and innovation?

Yukon Stew

Mix some flour with seasoning to taste. Cut about 2 pounds moose round steak into 1-inch pieces, and roll in flour to coat well. Brown meat lightly, and scrape into a kettle. Add:

- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 2 onions, sliced
- 1 can of tomatoes

Cook over a slow fire or medium heat for one-and-a-half to two hours. Mushrooms may be added during the last half hour to 5 minutes before serving.

The stew may be varied by substituting 1 cup water for tomatoes, and the last hour of cooking adding sliced carrots and celery and cut-up potatoes.

Vegetable Soup

- 2-4 teaspoons pearl barley *
- 1-and-half quarts of water

Simmer Barley for 20 minutes.

Add:

- 2-3 teaspoons mixed dried vegetable flakes (with onion and red bell peppers)
- 1 carrot, sliced
- 1 stalk of celery, finely chopped (optional)
- about a quarter cup of cabbage, finely shredded
- about half a cup of string beans, fresh or frozen, finely cut, or zucchini, diced

*Rice may be used in place of barley

Campfire Bannock

- 2 cups of flour
- half teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 2 tablespoons lard, finely chopped
- enough water to make a soft dough

Heat frying pan over hot coals; add enough lard to cover bottom of pan. Spoon dough into pan; flatten top, and fry until bannock is well raised. Turn and cook the other side; add more lard if needed. Do not have frying pan too hot. You can also cook this as a dumpling in a stew.

RECIPES TAKEN FROM YUKON
COOKBOOK BY LEONA KANANEN