



2019-2020
ANNUAL
REPORT



KWANLIN DÜN FIRST NATION

Together

we can write the best story for our children

Kwänlin Dän Najjı̨ yu

Kwanlin people live here

Community

Alhayea

Together

Connection

Nàts'etsat

We are strong

Strength

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

Our government upholds our nation's principles to:

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

Our government supports our nation's values to:

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

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Committed to building the most
vibrant, healthy & sustainable
nation possible.

Message from the Chief

CHIEF DORIS BILL

KWANLIN DÜN FIRST NATION



Photo: Alistair Maitland

On behalf of Kwanlin Dün First Nation Council, I am proud to share the 2019-20 Annual Report. I encourage citizens to read through this document as it is a great reflection of the hard work our government has undertaken over the past year to continue building the most healthy, vibrant and sustainable community possible.

Despite the unique challenges presented during COVID-19, KDFN has made substantial progress and we have been able to keep programs and services operating with minimal disruption.

We continued the work on establishing a land administration system and KDFN's new Lands Act will be enacted on October 15, 2020. It gives KDFN authority to manage, protect and enforce laws on settlement land; and allows KDFN to make land available to meet the residential and other lands needs of Beneficiaries and Citizens on settlement lands. The Act was developed over the past three years with guidance from Kwanlin Dün Council, and in consultation with Citizens.

Historical submissions from Beneficiaries and Citizens will be processed in chronological order based on when the submission was first made. Priority or special consideration may be given to historical submissions from Elders or those with urgent needs.

I am also pleased to report the finances of KDFN remain strong and the First Nation will receive an additional boost in the coming years. During the 2019 Federal Budget announcement, the Liberal government tabled a motion to include \$1.4 billion for loan forgiveness to Indigenous nations such as ours that had taken on debt to negotiate our comprehensive Land Claim Agreements. KDFN will be reimbursed approximately \$22,703,233.58, over the next five years.

Other exciting projects in the community include: the construction of a new community hub/administration building which is well underway and the multi-purpose building is expected to be opening soon. New

housing units are close to being completed and a supported living housing unit, "Sarah's Place," has been established. We continue to work with the community on the concept of "Auntie's House" aimed at providing a safe place for our young people requiring supports.

Together we are meeting the challenge. As we move forward, we don't know what will happen next or how long it will take to get through this pandemic. Getting back to normal is not going to happen quickly and what we thought was normal will likely be redefined. Such uncertainty only adds to the stress and complexity we are all facing.

My commitment is that Council will continue to make the best decisions we can and always with the intention of keeping our community and citizens safe. My only ask is that you continue to support each other, take care of yourself and your family. Please also remember, you are part of a broader community and that we all need to look out for each other, especially those who are most vulnerable in such difficult times. We also must remain vigilant and continue to follow the recommendations of the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

In closing, I would like to recognize the dedication of the team that we have the privilege of working with: our Elders, Senior Management, our dedicated staff and most especially, our Citizens. We want to extend our sincere appreciation and recognition for the efforts of all those who are helping our First Nation grow, and we extend our best wishes to the outgoing Council.

My heartfelt and ongoing thanks to each of you for your support and for all that you contribute to our community.

PART 1

Our Departments, Programs & Services

EXECUTIVE SERVICES

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE

ADMINISTRATION

COMMUNITY SERVICES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

EDUCATION AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

FINANCE

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

COMMUNITY JUSTICE

HERITAGE, LANDS AND RESOURCES



Youth Councillor Isaac Bill at his swearing-in ceremony.

EXECUTIVE SERVICES

The department of Executive Services delivers corporate and administrative services to Council.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE (ECO)

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

Implementation: Oversees the implementation of KDFN's Final Agreement and Self-Government Agreements. This includes working closely with Yukon's other self-governing First Nations, meeting requirements of KDFN's Financial Transfer Agreement, and coordinating negotiation of programs and services.

Registrar of Citizenship: is responsible for maintaining the Citizenship Registry, and providing information and assistance to applicants, Citizens and Beneficiaries. The Registrar works with other First Nations on citizenship matters and works in conjunction with the Citizenship Committee.

Administrative Coordination: Provides administrative support to ECO staff and oversight and coordination for events and special projects. Also provides support for KDFN's boards and committees including maintaining terms of reference, tracking committee appointments, and recruitment.

Records Management: Manages all electronic and paper-based records for KDFN including: storage, classification, retention and disposition scheduling, digitization and database maintenance.

Legal and Regulatory Policy Services: Works with KDFN departments to coordinate and prepare legislation, regulations, terms of reference, policies, procedures and resolutions; and oversees and manages election, constitutional review and referendum processes.

THE FOLLOWING RECEIVED FUNDING THIS YEAR:

- 14 Adults' baseball registrations
- 4 Children's hockey school registrations
- 3 Children's hockey league registrations
- 10 Hockey jerseys for Adult hockey team

- 6 Kids' handgames tournament registrations
- 12 Adults' handgames tournament registrations
- 1 Child's piano lessons
- 1 Child's skating lesson
- 5 Citizens to attend a graduation ceremony in Toronto
- 1 Music festival donation
- 10 Educational activities/project funding

\$16,085

Total budget spent for Council Donation Initiatives this fiscal year (e.g., First Nation Grad, National Indigenous Day, ADAKA, Handgames Tournament to name a few)

BY THE NUMBERS

DONATIONS/FIRST NATIONS ARTWORK AND CRAFTS COMMITTEE (DAC)

5

People run the DAC Committee to manage funds for donations and arts and craft supplies on behalf of Council

\$2,000

Maximum amount of funding available per project

\$29,898.18

Total budget spend by DAC for this fiscal year

8

Times that the DAC met this fiscal year

ADMINISTRATION

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

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

Legal Counsel: Provides legal services to Council and the Administration.

BY THE NUMBERS

180
Houses inspected (out of 224)

50
Oil Tanks Replaced

12
Furnaces Replaced

50
Roofs Replaced

350
Solar Panels Installed on new
Community Hub building

3
Citizens in Fire Smart
Development Program
training

COMMUNITY SERVICES

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

Rental Housing Property Management: Oversees rental payments and arrears, home inspections, maintenance and repairs and evictions. Also provides support to the Housing Allocations Committee while they manage allocations and transfers.

Capital Development: Plans and budgets for capital expenditures, construction of new capital infrastructure and manages contracts with suppliers.

KDFN Building Maintenance: Performs inspections, maintenance and repairs including upgrades, and major renovations. As well, the department manages and operates the buildings, providing heat and power along with janitorial and cleaning services.

Land-based Infrastructure: Maintains KDFN rental properties and government buildings. Also delivers the Fire Smart Program and develops trails.

Municipal Services: Provides garbage removal, water delivery, pest control and snow removal for Elders.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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

Yukon Asset and Construction Agreements (YACAs): Involves capital development projects funded by the Government of Yukon that take place within KDFN's traditional territory. As stated in the KDFN Final Agreement, these projects must provide benefits for KDFN people through programming and infrastructure development.

Self-Government Agreement Appendix A & B Lands within City of Whitehorse: Provides assistance to the Lands and Resources Department for lands with high economic development potential. Assists the Executive Council Office to develop the beneficiary land allocation regulations.

Economic Development Plan: Collaborates with the Lands and Resources Department in developing a comprehensive community land use plan within the City of Whitehorse.

Chu Níikwän Development Corporation: An arms-length development corporation that provides oversight for all of KDFN's business investments and holdings. This year, Chu Níikwän continued to develop a foundation for long-term growth and financial prosperity. The shareholder (KDFN Council) has a high-performing board of directors and has developed strong relationships with the private and government sectors.



BY THE NUMBERS

25

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

1,678

Tutoring sessions held, the highest number achieved in the history of the program

6

Adult students received individual tutoring

11

Students received assistance through the After-School Reading program

11

Students enjoyed the Literacy Program

81

Afternoon After-School Reading Program and Literacy Program sessions held

7

High School graduates

26

Post-secondary students received financial aid for the Summer 2019, Fall 2019 and Winter 2020 terms



EDUCATION AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Education and Social Development Department is based at Kenädän Kû- House of Learning and the Dusk'a Head Start Family Learning Centre. The main focus of the department is to cultivate a community dedicated to life-long learning in order to grow strong roots through language and culture and to build foundations of empowerment, self-reliance, identity and belonging. There are five main areas:

Dusk'a Head Start Family Learning Centre: A fully-licensed early childhood education centre for children ranging from 18 months to pre-kindergarten. Dusk'a emphasizes kindergarten readiness, health promotion, nutrition, language, culture, and parental and community involvement.

School Age Education (K-12): Focuses on the provision of education support services to school-aged children from Kindergarten to Grade 12. It assists with the delivery of cultural activities in schools KDFN children attend, as well as the overall wellbeing and success of students in the school system.

Programs include:

- 1) Community Education Liaison Coordinators (CELCs), who liaise among school teachers, school administration, families, students, and relevant service providers to support student success.
- 2) The Tutoring Program provides tutoring for students after school and at lunch time.
- 3) The After-School Reading program and Literacy Afternoon program help improve reading levels of students in kindergarten to Grade 5.

BY THE NUMBERS

Adult Education and Employment: Is a circle-of-care case management service to assist citizens in identifying and developing plans to achieve their goals.

Programs include:

- 1) The Indigenous Skills and Employment Training (ISET) program for KDFN was previously administered by the Aboriginal Labour Force Alliance (ALFA). The drawdown of this program took place on April 1, 2019, and KDFN now administers the ISET Program funding. It is a work-related fund that enables unemployed or underemployed KDFN citizens to access employment and training support, including funding for work gear, training sponsorship, and in some cases, a wage subsidy.
- 2) Post-Secondary Student Support provides financial and educational support to eligible post-secondary students and is designed to be supportive and flexible. Students graduated this fiscal year with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art History and Visual Studies and a Bachelor of Education.
- 3) Computer Access at Kenädän Kù- House of Learning computer lab provides computer and internet access for KDFN students to use for work, study and research. The foyer computer station is available to citizens for job searches and email.
- 4) Employment Services works one-on-one with citizens in the areas of career and life planning and employment-related training and action plans. They also maintain an active job board.
- 5) Adult Education provides one-on-one holistic services in the areas of education, career and life planning and also offers training programs and adult tutoring.

Income Support (Social Assistance): Supports eligible citizens and families who are in need with financial support. The Pathways to Empowerment Program offers a circle-of-care case management service to all citizens receiving Income Support from KDFN for improved quality of life and a movement towards self-sufficiency. Citizens are supported through a process that includes intake and assessment, evaluation of participant needs (physical, emotional, spiritual, mental, health, social, education, employment and other), and development and implementation of a Pathways Plan to assist with identifying and actualizing participants goals and to determine the individualized supports needed.

Language and Culture: The new Language and Culture department was developed in the spring of 2019. This new area is responsible for increasing the use of Kwanlin Dün languages, culture and traditions in the KDFN government and community and will be developing and delivering culturally appropriate programming.

3

Citizens graduated Post-Secondary

4

Citizens enrolled in First Nations Arts Certificate at Yukon College

99

Citizens accessed funding through the ISET Program for training, work gear and wage subsidies

69

Citizens reported finding employment with the assistance of Employment/training staff

22

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

20

Adult education courses/workshops offered at the Kenädän Kù- House of Learning

3

Adult Education multi-week programs (6-weeks and 20-weeks) were offered at Kenädän Kù- House of Learning

BY THE NUMBERS

HUMAN RESOURCES

22

Training programs offered

241

Individual clients served for 1,808 activities/programs

611

Client meetings with HR

118

Citizens received Employment Assistance

41

Citizens reported finding employment

94

Citizens accessed Indigenous Skills and Employment Training (ISET) funding

70

Citizens employed through ISET

25

KDFN citizens, family members or community members hired by KDFN

FINANCE

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

Human Resources Unit: Provides staffing services for KDFN positions and supports the development and retention of existing staff.

Occupational Health and Safety: Oversees KDFN's compliance to workplace safety regulations and related training. Also develops protocols and provides equipment and training.

Information Technology and Network Administration: Oversees and maintains KDFN's information technology and computer systems.

First Nation Market Housing Program: This Assembly of First Nations initiative includes the new KDFN Market Housing Program. The KDFN program supports citizens to build, purchase or renovate homes on Kwanlin Dün settlement lands.

52%

of workforce self-identify as KDFN or immediate family of KDFN

164

Individuals employed in permanent and term positions

62%

identify as Yukon First Nation, Indigenous people of Canada





HEALTH & WELLNESS

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

Health Promotion: Provides integrated and comprehensive health education, disease prevention, harm reduction, and health promotion programs to groups and individuals from pre-conception to adulthood. It includes a variety of maternal, paternal and child programs, and adult activities. Health Promotion is also responsible for overseeing the immunization program, nursing walk-in clinics.

Outreach: Using both trauma-informed care and harm-reduction approaches, staff provide healthcare to individuals experiencing homelessness, poverty, addiction, mental health issues, sexualized assault, and domestic violence. Outreach is also responsible for overseeing the Communicable Disease program within Kwanlin Dün. Services are provided directly to individuals and groups on the streets, in shelters, and in homes through point of care work, as well as the Downtown Outreach Clinic, and the Outreach Van. Kwanlin Dün continues to champion the Safe at Home plan with other community partners. This team leads the response to our current opioid crisis.

Home and Community Care: Provides advocacy, support and nursing care to Elders and other eligible individuals and families, often in their homes, who require an advanced level of care for temporary periods of time. This program works collaboratively with a variety of other organizations and service providers to ensure citizens receive appropriate referrals and care for chronic conditions, cancer and palliative care. Staff use a case management approach to support community members and offer doctor clinics and traditional and holistic health programming.

Counselling Services: Provides comprehensive and culturally appropriate services to support children, youth, adults and families who live with addictions, mental health illnesses, family violence and other concerns. Staff focus on the client, their family and the community. They follow professional standards and support Kwanlin Dün values.

Land-Based Healing and related programs: Develops and delivers land-based healing and culturally appropriate programs.

BY THE NUMBERS

HEALTH

11
Elder foot-care clinics offered at Natsékhi Kù Health Centre

60
Elders supported by Home & Community Care Program

1440
Client contacts in the Elder's Day Program

53
Families making up over 250 individuals who are supported by Healthy Babies, Healthy Generation Program

LAND-BASED CAMPS AT JACKSON LAKE

3
Family Camps

2
One-week Youth & Elder Spring break camps

2
Women's Reunion Retreats

1
Men's Four-Week Retreat

50
Participants in the 10-day Youth and Elder Spring Break Camp

Community safety officers Jesse Ryder, Michael Carlisle, Tyler O'Brien and Elias Park ready for duty in front of the CSO office.



BY THE NUMBERS

JUSTICE

6695

Points of contact with citizens by a Community Safety Officer (CSO) for the 2019 Calendar Year

2181

Points of contact with citizens by a CSO between January and June 2020

2183

Participants in Youth Justice/ Recreation programs

41

Recreational offerings: programs and outings

COMMUNITY JUSTICE

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

Justice Program and Restorative Justice: Provides assistance and support to KDFN citizens and families in conflict with the law or in need of support in victim services, child welfare, probation, corrections or court-related services. The department follows First Nation values and restorative principles and practices whenever possible.

Child Welfare: Supports healthy, culturally-relevant lifestyles for children and families. Provides advocacy services to families dealing with child welfare issues.

Youth Outreach: Greatly expanded in 2019-20, Youth Outreach delivers youth-oriented, culturally relevant activities and support to Kwanlin Dün youth and young adults. A focus is to support at-risk youth to make positive decisions on the direction of their lives.

Administration of Justice: Advances the Administration of Justice agreement development process to develop KDFN authority and capacity in priority justice areas.

Community Justice and Safety: Improves safety in the KDFN community through efforts such as the Community Safety Program and the Crisis and Emergency Response Plan (CERP).

Support to the Judicial Council: Provides administration and financial management support to the Judicial Council.

HERITAGE, LANDS AND RESOURCES

The Heritage, Lands and Resources Department has implementation responsibilities from 11 chapters of Kwanlin Dün's Final and Self-Government Agreements, including the management of settlement lands, special management areas, land use planning, development assessment, heritage, water, fish, wildlife and other resource management. To carry out these responsibilities the department has functional units that include:

Heritage: Includes the inventory, mapping, and application of data for planning and YESAB project reviews as well as the implementation of the Whitehorse Waterfront Heritage project.

Planning: Provides planning services for urban lands, rural lands, special management areas, forestry, gravel and other resources.

Geographic and Information Systems (GIS) and Data Management: Includes responsibility for all mapping and spatial data organization.

Land Administration and Management: Includes developing the Lands and Resources Act, Regulations and policies. This unit oversees development assessment under the Yukon Environmental Assessment and Socio-economic Assessment Act (YESAA) that includes forest, mining, water, lands and agriculture resource management activities and other development project reviews and proposals. This unit manages the land registry, Settlement Land leasing and other authorizations. This unit also participates in legislation, policy amendment and program review initiatives with the municipal, territorial and federal governments.

Operations and Land Stewards: Inspection of land parcels, encouraging responsible use and protection of KDFN settlement lands and Traditional Territory, including: fish and wildlife management planning, hunt permits, habitat protection, legislative reviews, environmental assessments and coordination with municipal, territorial and federal agencies.

Departmental Administration: Includes records management, policy development, budgeting, proposal writing, preparation of briefings and intergovernmental communication.





MAJOR PROJECTS UNDERWAY BY THE HERITAGE, LANDS AND RESOURCES DEPARTMENT IN 2019-2020

- KDFN Lands Act passed by Council
- Digital Land Registry Implementation
- 5 Year Planning strategy with CNDC (KDFN Development Corporation)
- C-15 Range Road Development Planning
- Southern Lakes Forest Resources Management Plan
- How We Walk with the Land & Water Indigenous land use planning
- The Waterfront Heritage Project
- Southern Lakes First Nation Caribou Management Plan
- Participation in the Fox Lake Cooperative Local Area Plan
- Participation in the Mining Matters Working Group
- Participation in the Yukon Lands and Resource Committee with most Yukon First Nations
- In the process of developing a Southern Lakes Salmon Plan with CTFN
- Development assessment reviews of land and resource use proposals are conducted regularly through YESAB and with Yukon government departments outside the YESAB process, throughout Kwanlin Dün Traditional Territory
- Fish Lake Local Area Planning
- Michie Creek salmon monitoring project
- Chinook Salmon restoration on the Ibex River
- Southern Lakes Community-based Salmon Plan

70+

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS are completed, on average, annually through the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB) throughout Kwanlin Dün traditional territory



A young boy with dark hair, wearing a blue quilted puffer jacket and dark pants, stands in a garden. He is holding a clear plastic bag filled with green leafy vegetables. A white label on the bag has 'Evan' written on it. He is giving a thumbs-up gesture with his left hand. The background shows wooden raised garden beds and a gravel path.

PART 2

Good News Stories

Strategic Plan Shapes Annual Reporting

The 2018-2022 KDFN Strategic Plan identifies seven “Priorities” – areas that guide KDFN’s programming, special projects and initiatives determined to be cornerstones to our progress. This section of the annual report highlights accomplishments and fiscal-year highlights centered on the seven key Priorities. The following collection of good-news stories demonstrates that the KDFN government and citizens are well on their way to fulfilling the vision of these seven Priorities.

Vision

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

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

THE SEVEN STRATEGIC PRIORITIES ARE:

1. Supporting our Citizens through Programs and Services
2. Our Families, Children and Youth
3. Our Indigenous Culture, Heritage and Language
4. Responsible Economic Development
5. Protecting our Natural Environment
6. Implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and Intergovernmental Relations
7. A Strong and Effective KDFN Government



1 Supporting our Citizens through programs and services

A key KDFN priority is to support citizens and their families in their pursuit of a good quality of life. KDFN provides many programs and services to the community that are both culturally relevant and highly effective. These offerings include community and individual wellness (including healing) programs, health, jobs, education, community safety, recreation and on-the-land activities, justice and affordable housing – to name a few. While a great deal has been accomplished, so much more can be done. Too many KDFN citizens struggle with homelessness, unemployment and addiction. Many of our young people struggle to find work. While we still grapple with the repercussions of colonialism, we are working hard to restore a belief in a stronger future for all citizens.

Where we ultimately want to be as a First Nation:

- Kwanlin Dün communities are safe, healthy and crime-free.
- Kwanlin Dün citizens have access to employment opportunities that provide a good quality of life for themselves and their families.
- Kwanlin Dün citizens can access quality and culturally-reflective health care in their own community.
- Kwanlin Dün citizens and their families have a safe, affordable and appropriate place to call home.
- Kwanlin Dün citizens have the life skills, education, healing and wellness support they need to heal, reduce vulnerability, build confidence and restore self-sufficiency.

STRATEGY:

Develop a comprehensive, long-term KDFN housing strategy to support citizens who aspire to home ownership, to ensure KDFN's existing housing stock is financially and structurally sustainable, and explore feasibility of establishing a KDFN Housing Authority.

GOOD NEWS:

- **New Housing Support Liaison Worker position created.** This new staff member has been working with the Tenant Relations Officer to assist tenants in looking after their homes, dealing with rent, utilities, and any issues that may arise.
- **Policy Analyst hired to work on the Housing Rental Policy** with the Director of Community Services and the Tenant Relations Officer.
- **Housing Needs Survey completed** to research the desire for home ownership among tenants and citizens in general, the barriers faced, and the opportunities available.
- **Decommissioned outdated housing stock** including one apartment building.
- **Construction of five two-bedroom detached houses** on Macaulay Road for either rental or purchase.
- **Conversion of a duplex into a 7-unit supportive living residence** for the Health Department.
- **Increased number of major renovation for houses** – houses were stripped down to the studs, vapour barriers were replaced, plus all the finishes redone including new cabinets.





STRATEGY:

Develop a comprehensive community recreation strategy (infrastructure, programming) to enhance recreational and cultural opportunities for our citizens and youth.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Full roster of recreation programming** offered for adults and youth. Some examples include:
 - » Three-day Spring Break Bison Hunt for youth with Elders in partnership with WCC and RCMP
 - » Swimming lessons and kayaking club at Canada Games Centre aquatic centre
 - » Kidz Zone at the Canada Games Centre
 - » 10-day Youth and Elder Spring Break Camp with over 50 youth participants enjoying storytelling, Dene games, ice fishing, drum making, kick sledding and moose hide tanning
 - » Youth Recreation offered after school activities three times a week at the ball diamond/covered rink from softball skills to field sports
 - » Wilderness Wellness Expeditions offered various on-the-land multi-day adventures
 - » Youth culinary arts sessions at Well Bread Culinary Centre
 - » Youth Beading Circle
 - » Elders Walking Group

- **New Dunèna Nàkwäts'äye playground** was officially opened spring 2019. It provides safe, culturally-relevant play equipment (with funding from Government of Yukon's Community Development Fund). The old playground beside the Admin building was relocated to Crow and Swan Street.
- **New gym and recreation space** planned for the new multipurpose building that will provide an opportunity for Elder, adult and youth recreation and possible youth drop-in hours.
- **Canadian Olympic Committee provides \$240,000** for recreational equipment and supplies for new multi-purpose building.
- **New digital sign installed in front of Nàkwät'à Kù Potlatch House** to share information about events and important announcements.
- **KDFN hosted 31st Yukon Annual Hand Games Tournament** at Jackson Lake in August 2019.
- **Auntie's House Consultation and report completed.** KDFN Justice conducted over 100 interviews with KDFN citizens, Elders, youth, staff and stakeholders about Auntie's House, a temporary safe house intended for children and youth during a family crisis. A draft report proposes five models of Auntie's House and next steps are under consideration.
- **New KDFN Website** offers improved usability and access to recreation programming information and schedules.



STRATEGY:

Develop a long-term strategic plan for the Jackson Lake Healing Camp.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Spiritual and Mental Wellness Evaluation completed** including a review of all Jackson Lake programs.
- **Restructuring of programs** underway, following recommendations of the evaluation. Changes include the creation of a standalone wellness team that is focused solely on KDFN citizens. There are now two different teams operating out of Jackson Lake: the Kwanlin Dün Wellness Team and the Land-Based Healing Team.
- **The Land-Based Healing Team developed a new Provider Skills Program** that offers skill development to staff from rural communities, based out of Jackson Lake. These Provider Camps are aimed at helping those working in other First Nation communities to be able to provide support and after care to their community members who return from Jackson Lake, Yukon MWSU, or out-of-territory treatment programs. Some participants of the Provider Camps will be invited to mentor in our six-week Mentorship Camps and bring those skills back to their own communities for providing much needed after care.
- **Youth and Elder Spring Break Camp at Jackson Lake** offered 10 days of cultural activities attended by a total of 50 different youth. Youth made drums, went ice fishing, shuttled Elders around on kick-sleds and smoked moose hide. They created art, listened to stories from Elders, played Dene games, among other activities.
- **Community Services now responsible for the Facility Management of Jackson Lake Healing Camp.** Substantial work was conducted including renovation of existing cabins and roofs, conversion of tent frame sites into cabins, upgrading the cook shack to a commercial kitchen, and spreading gravel required for various projects.



STRATEGY:

Develop a comprehensive addiction strategy that focuses on supporting citizens with substance abuse issues while also minimizing the impact of illicit activity on our community.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Supported Housing Residence** proposed for the community, based on recommendations from the Safe At Home report, assessment of community data, and other harm reduction model assessments.
- **Completed renovations on a seven-unit Supported Housing Residence** on Murphy Road in the McIntyre community. Will house citizens with 24-hour support. Program development and staffing is underway.
- **Signed Community Tripartite Agreement (CTA) for the First Nation Policing Partnership Program** that enables three RCMP officers to be stationed within the community and be dedicated to serving KDFN citizens.



STRATEGY:

Support the inquiry into the Whitehorse Correctional Centre and identify ways to support KDFN citizens who exit the justice system to reintegrate with our community.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Bail Plan Verification Program pilot project was great success.** This pilot saw a huge uptake from KDFN citizens seeking out assistance developing good bail plans, leading to considerable reduction of bail charges.
- **Reinitiated partnerships with WCC and Victim Services to ensure a probation officer and a victim services worker work out of an office space in the community.** These one-day-a-week office hours improve accessibility to and use of services.
- **WCC evaluation report completed** in partnership with Council of Yukon First Nations and KDFN Justice. Currently awaiting report and recommendations from a Yukon Government investigator.
- **Justice Director on the WCC Implementation Review Committee,** reviewing and providing feedback and direction on recommendations.
- **Health and Justice meeting with Yukon Government Justice department staff** to discuss potential partnership in the delivery of Land Based Healing camps specific to the needs of inmates.

STRATEGY:

Develop a KDFN-specific sexual assault and sex trafficking prevention strategy.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Health staff received training in this field.**
- **Health hosted a one day workshop for service providers** from throughout Yukon to discuss current issues with sex trade work and trafficking, and provide meaningful tools for staff to support affected community members.

STRATEGY:

Finalize the Social Assistance Review by establishing new legislation and policies to support KDFN's new Pathways to Empowerment and Support program.

GOOD NEWS:

- **A new position was developed and staffed for a Manager of Pathways and Social Development.** Pathways Coordinator position in development. The Pathways Program has purchased one vehicle to assist with participant case management and client transport.
- **Renovations at Kenädän Kù - House of Learning** took place to ensure office space needed for new positions required in this area.
- **Draft legislation and polices under development for the Pathways to Empowerment Program.** StrategyNorth was hired to work on the draft legislation and policies. A Cultural Program Developer was also hired to work with an Elder to assist with the development of the Pathways Program, Pathways Plan and the administrative processes.



2 Our Families, Children and Youth

Our children are the future of our nation. As a government, we play a pivotal role in ensuring they are supported to perform well in school, to remain connected to their community, and to access the recreational, artistic, cultural and athletic opportunities that are meaningful to their development. It is particularly important to ensure our future generations are taught about and connected to our traditions, languages and values in order to foster pride in their identity both as individuals and as First Nation citizens.

A key challenge is determining how to return Kwanlin Dün children who are currently in the foster care system to our communities. Another key challenge is how to ensure that our children, youth and young adults have access to positive role models and safe places to play and interact.

Where we ultimately want to be as a First Nation:

- Kwanlin Dün children and youth are supported to complete high school and to continue their education.
- Kwanlin Dün children receive an education rooted in Kwanlin Dün's cultures, traditions, heritage and languages.
- Kwanlin Dün children and youth are safe, protected and supported to remain in our community instead of the foster care system.
- Kwanlin Dün children and youth can participate in the recreational, artistic, cultural, traditional and on-the-land activities meaningful to them.
- Kwanlin Dün youth and young adults have a meaningful and consistent voice in the affairs of this government.

STRATEGY:

Develop a work/education incentive program that encourages young adults to work for KDFN once they complete their post-secondary education.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Consultant completed literature review on the benefits and challenges of work/school incentive programs.** Consultant also conducted an interjurisdictional review on the efforts by other First Nations governments to encourage their citizens to work for their communities.
- **The new draft Indigenous Skills and Employment Training (ISET) Program policy is under development** along with proposed updates to the Post-Secondary policy to allow both policies to complement the supports and services offered by the Department of Education.
- **The First Nation and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy (FNIYES) program employed citizens in several departments.** Employment Support and training is being offered under a Transfer Payment Agreement (TPA) with Yukon Government. The Indigenous Skills and Employment Training (ISET) Program offered wage subsidies, training, education and work gear.

*Chief Bill and Education staff
hold up signed Memorandum of
Understanding*



STRATEGY:

Develop a strategy to engage with Kwanlin Dün parents, children and youth to see the value and importance of continuing their education post high school, and re-engage with youth who no longer attend school or training.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Follow-ups with some students that have dropped school** by the Community Education Liaison Coordinators (CELCs) and the Manager of School Aged Education to engage with education or employment.
- **Outreach initiatives to encourage parents to register their children with the KDFN Citizenship Registrar.**
- **Signed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Government of Yukon's Department of Education;** implementation commenced.
- **A proposed Data Sharing Agreement with Yukon Government** for KDFN to be able to access KDFN Education data is currently under negotiation.



STRATEGY:

Explore expansion of Early Childhood Learning Services.

GOOD NEWS:

- **New Manager at Dusk'a Head Start Family Learning Centre** enables continuation of early childhood learning programs.
- **Funding secured to build sensory room at Dusk'a** including funds available through Aboriginal Head Start with Health Canada.
- **Early planning stages for new building or renovations for Dusk'a,** including looking into funding sources for this necessary expansion.



Housing Maintainer grads and staff pose outside their renovation project.

STRATEGY:

Explore the feasibility for establishing co-op education, apprenticeship and work share programs for Kwanlin Dün students and adults.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Consultant completed literature review on the benefits and challenges of work/school incentive programs.** Consultant also conducted an interjurisdictional review on the efforts by other First Nations governments to encourage their citizens to work for their communities.
- **New draft ISET policy is being developed by a consultant.** Once new policies have been adopted and capacity has been established in the ISET Program Coordinator role, work will move forward in creating additional partnerships with businesses in apprenticeship and work share/work experiences.
- **Six KDFN citizens graduate from the 2019 Maintainer Program,** a 20-week pilot project where participants conduct a full renovation of a house in McIntyre. Offered through collaboration between the KDFN departments of Education and Community Services, and Yukon College.
- **Collaboration with Wildstone Construction,** the company building the Community Hub. Support has been provided through the Employment Support Facilitator to assist in hiring KDFN citizens.
- **FNIYES funding has been secured to assist in employing KDFN citizens in various KDFN departments.** Employment Support is being offered under a Transfer Payment Agreement (TPA) with Yukon Government. The ISET Program currently offers wage subsidies, training, education and work gear.

*KDFN citizens at the 2019
“Fun Day” event painting a
mural prepared by Youth of
Today Society.*



STRATEGY:

Develop a comprehensive child welfare strategy that explores the impact of the current foster care system and identifies strategies that ensures that KDFN children in foster care remain in our community if they so choose.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Strategy development was started and is underway.**
- **Five Yukon Government Social Workers based out of offices in the community** have strengthened relationship between KDFN and Family and Child services. This team of 5 social workers and 1 supervisor work full-time out of their own trailer. Their physical presence in the community has resulted in improved relationships and a notable shift away from child protection and toward family support. During this fiscal year, not a single child was taken into care.
- **Honoring Connection agreement signed** with Yukon Government resulting in the review of files for all children in care and the exploring of options such as: return-to-parent, reconnecting with the community or additional support of existing placement.

STRATEGY:

Develop a comprehensive strategy that encourages and supports children and youth to improve their physical health and fitness, and mental wellbeing.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Youth Recreation Programming saw higher than ever participation** in their regular and special programs – from kayaking to softball to snowboarding at Mt. Sima.
- **Completed Spiritual and Mental Wellness Evaluation** addresses youth mental, physical and spiritual wellbeing.
- **Food Security Initiatives for families at risk** available throughout the fiscal with Jordan's Principle funding. This support increase in March as COVID-19 began to impact families.
- **Pre-kindergarten Health Fair** offered for all children entering kindergarten, offering weight, height, hearing, eye and dental checks plus fun activities.



STRATEGY:

Implement the Memorandum of Agreement with the Yukon Government with respect to the delivery of child welfare services to Kwanlin Dün children and families under the Child & Family Services Act.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Progress made at completing a work plan based on MOA.** Received comments and feedback from Yukon Government on draft review.



3 Our Indigenous Culture, Heritage and Language

This priority reflects our ongoing commitment to working with citizens, Elders and youth to represent and revitalize our diverse culture, languages, teachings, identities and ways of life. We believe our traditional expressions will prepare future generations to ‘walk in two worlds’ as modern and urban First Nations people, while also preserving and celebrating what makes us unique. We believe it is critical to ensure programs, services and systems within KDFN – and in partnership with other governments – reflect Indigenous, natural and traditional practices and perspectives to help reverse the harm of colonization and achieve reconciliation. This priority is also about working with the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre to ensure that KDFN artists receive the support they need to showcase and celebrate our culture to the world. This provides economic opportunities for

our citizens through the sale of art and increased tourism revenue. It is also provides the opportunity to repatriate important cultural and artistic items held elsewhere.

Where we ultimately want to be as a First Nation:

- Kwanlin Dün programs and services reflect Indigenous practices, languages, culture, traditions, teachings and perspectives.
- Kwanlin Dün Elders are supported in sharing and teaching KDFN's traditions, ceremonies, history, cultures and languages.
- Kwanlin Dün artists, carvers, dancers, musicians, singers, cultural artisans and traditional storytellers are effectively supported to showcase our unique cultural expressions and traditions.

Left: Participants Kenädän Kù House of Learning's four-week trapping program at Elder Russel Burns's camp. This four-week program ran from November 12 - December 5, 2019.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Waterfront Heritage Book completed.** This thorough compilation of stories, photographs and interviews contributed by members of the community was delivered to the publisher.
- **Southern Tutchone language and culture classes for KDFN staff** were held in a lunch-and-learn-style setting. These regular classes offered cultural teachings for staff to use in the workplace, home, and on the land.
- **Family Southern Tutchone language lessons** offered at Dusk'a Head Start Family Learning Centre. Called Äsųą K'e (Grandmother's Ways), these parent and child language lessons in the Southern Tutchone Ta'an Dialect were held every Tuesday.
- **New Wolf Creek Campground trail signs in Southern Tutchone.** Tān tàgá shro t'sān yū: The trail to the big river—is an interpretive, wheel-chair accessible trail that winds through boreal forest to viewpoints overlooking Chū Nii Kwān, the original name for the Yukon River. The Government of Yukon worked with both Kwanlin Dūn First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'ān Council.
- **KDFN and the Yukon Native Language Centre hosted “We are our language” gathering** in January at the Nàkwät'à Kù Potlatch House. In partnership with KDFN's new Language and Culture department, the Yukon Native Language Centre (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. Guest speakers shared their experiences with language revitalization and Elders spoke about how important it is to recruit individuals to not just learn the language, but to become fluent.
- **Four-week trapping program** with nine participants held at Kenädän Kù - House of Learning over the winter. The program included three separate courses and finished with trips out to Russell Burns' trapline.



4 Responsible Economic Development

A key priority for Council is supporting the generation of wealth and economic opportunities for our citizens, particularly through the responsible development of land and natural resources. Responsible economic development creates a wide-range of employment and apprenticeship opportunities for our citizens, opening pathways to self-sufficiency, self-confidence and financial security. In order to achieve these objectives, we must first finalize an effective land and resource management framework, and identify further partnerships and opportunities through the Chu Níikwän Development Corporation.

Where we ultimately want to be as a First Nation:

- Economic development activities that occur on KDFN's Traditional Territory generate significant revenues and economic opportunities for our citizens.
- KDFN regulatory regimes around land use and economic development are clear, consistently applied and enforced.
- Kwanlin Dün entrepreneurs, contractors and business owners are effectively supported to generate significant revenues and economic opportunities for our citizens.

STRATEGY:

Explore the creation of sustainable KDFN community economic development strategy that provides training and employment opportunities for citizens in a supportive and healing environment.

GOOD NEWS:

- **A First Nations Procurement strategy is under development.**
- **Regular meetings of a procurement committee with senior Yukon Government** staff developed rebates such as those available to KDFN companies involved in Multi-Purpose Building.
- **Wildstone Construction and Engineering held a well-attended job fair** in October at the Nàkwät'à Kù Potlatch House in advance of commencing construction on the Community Hub building.
- **CNDC developed and sold condos on KDFN Settlement Land.** As a result of the 2018 Land Titles agreement, KDFN can now register both residential and commercial land in the Yukon Land Titles office and major banks can now provide financing to individuals and businesses. Having a clear legal and financial framework for developments on KDFN land provides quality options for anyone looking to build a home or business in Whitehorse with confidence and security. People owning homes on settlement lands also now pay property taxes directly to KDFN – a substantial revenue source for the government.
- **Much-needed and centrally-located commercial industrial land available** to Yukon businesses through Land Titles agreement. Leases meet the test for bank financing providing real opportunities to start or grow their business.
- **Hammerstone Business Centre** offers high quality lease-able commercial space that can generate cash flow and set the stage for future developments by CNDC.
- **Gravel aggregates were produced in Canyon City Construction's McLean Lake and Golden Horn Quarries.** The gravel went through the highest possible quality control and compliance acceptance standards before it was approved for use. Major Projects Supplied Includes: Alaska Highway upgrades, FH Collins Construction, Hammerstone Business Park, Kulan Industrial Development, Residential Developments, and Tlingit Road Upgrades.

STRATEGY:

Work with the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre and the Chu Níkwän Development Corporation to develop a comprehensive KDFN tourism and cultural artist support strategy.

GOOD NEWS:

- **New Waterfront Hotel – planning advanced and partnerships developed.** Concepts have been drafted and City of Whitehorse zoning approval secured for waterfront site next to the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre.
- **A full roster of workshops, shows, presentations and residences held at KDCC to support tourism and cultural artists.** (See last page of this Annual Report for full summary of KDCC activities held this fiscal).





STRATEGY:

Within the context of KDFN's Land Vision, finalize implementation of KDFN's lands administrative management system (LAMS) to facilitate citizen access to settlement land in a fair and consistent matter.

GOOD NEWS:

- **KDFN Council passed new Lands Act in March, 2020.** The Act was guided by KDFN's Traditional Territory Land Vision, and follows the direction from KDFN Council, Beneficiaries and Citizens to meet residential needs on settlement lands.
- **Lands purchased a Land Management Database system called Landfolio.** HLR is currently working to get this Database up and running as well as train and hire appropriate staff.
- **Lands is developing a Memorandum of Agreement with Chu Níikwän Development Corporation** which will define roles and responsibilities, and provide clear direction.



5 Protecting our Natural Environment

Having inhabited this region for millennia, we believe our people are best positioned to promote the wise stewardship of land, air, water, plants, fish and animals to ensure that they are preserved for future generations. This is a critically important priority in light of the unrelenting reality of climate change. As a nation, we must play a leadership role to promote respect for the Earth and to manage the current and future impacts of climate change. This means making changes within KDFN in terms of energy conservation, recycling waste, and exploring and implementing renewable and green energy sources. A continuing challenge is to implement our Land and Resources Act and to reflect the following four goals of our Traditional Territory Land Vision: community development (to provide land for KDFN residential and infrastructure needs); wildlife (to conserve areas of high ecological value and maintain the health of wildlife populations); heritage (to conserve

areas of high heritage value while maintaining and creating opportunities for continued traditional use of the land); and revenue generation (to make lands available to generate revenue for the community's benefit).

Where we ultimately want to be as a First Nation:

- Kwanlin Dün lands and natural resources are protected for future generations.
- Indigenous rights as reflected in our land claim agreements are respected and fully implemented.
- KDFN is a Yukon leader in using traditional knowledge and cultural values to protect and preserve the land and natural environment, including against the effects of climate change.
- Economic development that occurs on KDFN Settlement Land is environmentally responsible and reflects our land-based, traditional values.

STRATEGY:

Continue the development of a policy and planning regime to address existing environmental issues on KDFN lands and preparing for any potential environmental risks.

GOOD NEWS:

- **CMI Operations Unit (Compliance, Monitoring and Inspections) is in full force**, and continued to inspect sites on a complaint-driven basis, and then systematically inspected the C-Lands, R-Blocks and S-Sites as time allows.
- **Operations Unit has been building a depository of information in the existing database that will be the foundation of the new land management system.** This fiscal, the unit began fully digital inspection reports and did a comprehensive review of all existing occupants on settlement land.
- **Digitized analog records related to R-Blocks and S-sites** and hired staff to complete this work in 2019. These are critical for the Planning and GIS Units, and managing of future land applications.
- **All known land uses are now being authorized appropriately**, or brought under compliance with the development of the new Lands Act and Regulations.
- **All contaminated sites are being identified for future remediation.**
- **Continued participation in the Southern Lakes Caribou Management Steering Committee and First Nation Caribou Working Group.**
- **Operations staff commenced discussions around a Salmon Management Strategy in the Southern Lakes.**



STRATEGY:

Develop an ecosystem-based conservation approach to support an integrated, multi-party Southern Lakes land use planning process.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Continued participation in the Southern Lakes Indigenous Planning Process (ILUP) called 'How we walk with the land and water', with Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, Carcross/Tagish First Nation and KDFN Elders.** Several mapping products have been created, including the first Indigenous place names map for the entire Southern Lakes region. This process continues to coordinate heritage, ecosystems and wildlife information on a scale that has never been done before. This process will result in the 'big picture' of planning in the southern lakes region, using Indigenous and scientific knowledge to understand how this land should be managed.



STRATEGY:

Develop a comprehensive education, communication and enforcement strategy with respect to our efforts to protect and preserve the land, air, water, trees, fish and animals on our Traditional Territory.

GOOD NEWS:

- **The Operations Unit ran a TIP line and made strategic visits to Settlement Lands (e.g., hunting season, tourist season).** This information was logged and entered into our current database.
- **Lands negotiated a number of draft MOUs with Yukon Government** related to compliance, monitoring and inspections on mutual jurisdictions. KDFN has a good relationship with YG's Energy Mines and Resources Department and Environment Department and met regularly to discuss areas of concern and plan joint inspections.
- **Lands completed extensive surveys of KDFN Land in the past year** to get a better understanding of the condition of the land, unauthorized uses and existing occupants on settlement land.
- **Lands crews have also been busy posting new “KDFN Settlement Lands” signs and recording these locations.**



6 Implementing the TRC and Intergovernmental Relations

This priority recognizes that if we are to fully succeed as a First Nation, we need positive, informed and productive relationships with the governments of Canada, Yukon, other First Nations, Whitehorse and other non-government partners. We cannot do it alone. This point was made clear by several landmark initiatives such as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, and the ongoing work of the Yukon Forum.

We are committed to assuming a leadership role, along with our partners, to implement the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). In so doing, we take steps to reverse the harm of colonization and restore Indigenous perspectives to the forefront of our First Nation. There is still much work to do to break the

chains cast by the residential school system: we now have three generations of citizens struggling to regain their sense of hope, pride and self-sufficiency. In addition, we need to address the current justice system, which rarely produces real change because it is not based in our culture and traditions. We need to move away from the imposed colonial approaches to one that is based on our collective culture, teachings and traditions. Only then can we affect real change for our people.

Where we ultimately want to be as a First Nation:

- TRC Recommendations are fully understood and implemented, both within KDFN and in our working relationships with other governments and organizations.
- KDFN has strong, effective, consistent and productive relationships with key partners.
- KDFN programs and services are decolonized and reflect Indigenous perspectives, cultures

STRATEGY:

Establish an internal KDFN TRC working group to develop and implement a community engagement and communication strategy. This strategy would outline what each TRC recommendation means with respect to KDFN, what needs to be done and how best to communicate progress made over time toward milestones.

GOOD NEWS:

- **TRC recommendations are used in all of the proposals that are developed for KDFN funding and projects.**
- **Working group formed on renaming Miles Canyon**, involving KDFN, TKC, and the City of Whitehorse. The group has met to discuss the need to choose a more appropriate name and a Terms of Reference has been drafted.

STRATEGY:

Support the work of the City of Whitehorse's Intergovernmental Accord and the Yukon Government's Intergovernmental Accord to ensure key KDFN issues are addressed and solutions/actions appropriately resourced.

GOOD NEWS:

- **KDFN has made progress on the Intergovernmental Accord with Yukon Government** and is finalizing a draft and an implementation plan. City of Whitehorse IA is in planning phase.



7 A strong and Effective KDFN Government

While the other priorities have a more outward focus, it is critical that our government look closely within itself to ensure maximum effectiveness. This means attracting and retaining motivated, trained and capable staff—particularly our own citizens. It is also about ensuring KDFN provides safe workplaces that fully comply with occupational health and safety standards. This priority reflects the continued importance of securing a sustainable financial future. It means that we need to ensure decision makers are held to account, and that the decisions we make are transparent and consistent with our values, culture and traditions. One overriding message from our staff is the need for all KDFN departments to have sufficient capacity and resources so that all citizens can access the programs and services they need. We also strive toward being

recognized as a strong example in Yukon with regard to helping staff strike a healthy work-life balance, and ensuring that they are supported with needed training and mentoring opportunities.

Where we ultimately want to be as a First Nation:

- Effective, trained and motivated staff.
- KDFN workplaces are safe and healthy.
- KDFN attracts and retains a quality and culturally-reflective workforce.
- KDFN is fiscally responsible and sustainable.
- KDFN Citizens are meaningfully engaged and consulted on matters affecting their government.
- KDFN's Constitution and Final Agreement reflect and meet the needs of our First Nation.

STRATEGY:

Continue to plan for and develop a new KDFN Administration Building.

GOOD NEWS:

- **The Community Hub construction underway (new administration building and multi-purpose gymnasium).** Funding was secured, groundwork completed and design team hired.
- **Design plans strive for new Hub to be a “Net Zero” building** with many green features such as 350 solar panels.

STRATEGY:

Develop and implement a comprehensive 20-year capital asset management vision and strategy (with policies, procedures and funding) to ensure the proper care and maintenance of KDFN buildings, rental homes and infrastructure, and to ensure future capacity concerns are effectively planned for and addressed.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Phase 1 Capital Management Report completed** and detailed condition reports have been completed on all government buildings. Currently developing full maintenance schedule as well as means of tracking and maintaining the schedule for government buildings including housing. Inspections complete and input into data base. Procedure for maintaining data base being developed for repairs and maintenance planning.
- **New data base system (ASAP) is in place.** Data, including data from housing assessment inspections, input into new system. Currently developing a procedure for continual updating and analysis of information on file.

STRATEGY:

Begin preparations and undertake negotiations for a new Fiscal Transfer Agreement for 2020.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Council approved pursuing an early Renewal of the Financial Transfer Agreement in November 2018.** Participated in meetings and teleconferences regarding the Federal Fiscal Policy.
- **New 5-year Financial Transfer Agreement Renewal signed.** Working on new funding to be included in FTA for Infrastructure, Heritage, and Lands and Resources.

STRATEGY:

Finalize and implement an integrated community emergency response plan and business continuity plan.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Reviewed status of KDFN Emergency and Crisis Response Plan,** which resulted in moving all crisis components to existing KDFN justice programs and processes
- **Community Emergency response plan** is underway with contractor hired.

STRATEGY:

Undertake a comprehensive review of KDFN's Constitution and governance processes, and develop a strategy to address concerns and opportunities.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Beneficiaries Referendum held December 2019.**
- **Ongoing policy workshops in the area of records.**



KDFN citizen Aurora Hardy, coordinator at Youth for Lateral Kindness, taking Health Department staff through a Blanket Exercise.

STRATEGY:

Develop a KDFN staff and management professional development training program.

GOOD NEWS:

- **KDFN Finance Comptroller Miranda Vigliotti earned the Certified Aboriginal Finance Manager (CAFM) designation** from the Aboriginal Financial Officers Association (AFOA) Canada.
- **Developed contract to hire consultant to research education and training of staff** as well as policies to determine what professional development is necessary across the organization.
- **Lateral violence training offered** to all KDFN management staff in January 2020.
- **Kenādän Kù - House of Learning staff participated in Blanket Exercise** facilitated by Aurora Hardy and Teagyn Vallevand of Youth for Lateral Kindness in August 2019.



STRATEGY:

Explore the feasibility of adapting KDFN buildings to renewable energy sources to increase our government's reliance on clean energy.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Solar array installed at Jackson Lake Healing Camp** should provide for the needs of the camp 10 months of the year. Funding came from Yukon Government's Energy Solutions Centre and Gas Tax Fund. Diesel savings of 15,000 litres per year are predicted.
- **New Community Hub Building designed to be a “Net Zero” building** and will feature a solar array of over 350 panels.
- **Community Hub project has rough-in to accommodate a future district heating system**, which would be viable with other buildings on the system.
- **Evaluation of biomass possibilities for KDCC and other buildings.**
- **Evaluation of energy saving options now a mandatory component of all new RFP's for design work in the community.**

STRATEGY:

Conduct an assessment of all KDFN programs and services to ensure that there are no gaps in service delivery and capacity, and that there is stronger program and service integration within our government and with other governments.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Completed review of health department; planning review for Citizenship and Social Assistance.**

STRATEGY:

Formalize and implement a job shadowing and mentoring program for identified staff and management positions.

GOOD NEWS:

- **Funding to support mentorships secured:** First Nation and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy (Canada), Indigenous Student Employment Program (Canada), Professional & Institutional Development Program (Canada), and the Government of Yukon.
- **19 Mentorship and apprenticeship positions held across many departments. They include:**
 - » **3 in Administration Department**
 - » **5 in Justice**
 - » **3 in Finance**
 - » **7 in Community Services**
 - » **1 in Heritage Lands and resources**
- **Several KDFN Managers continue in the 6-module Management training program** with Yukon Government (Managing for an Engaged Workforce).
- **KDFN Human Resources Unit offered 'in house' KDFN-specific workshops for all management (supervisors, managers & directors)** to equip them better to have tools necessary to supervise & manage staff.
- **Fire Smart Development Opportunities** offered to three KDFN citizens to learn skills needed for employment in this field.



PART 3

2019-2020

Financial Statements

- Kwanlin Dün First Nation remains in a solid financial situation with an accumulated surplus.
- KDFN receives two principal sources of funding to operate; fiscal transfer agreement (FTA) dollars - negotiated through our final agreement and, proposal-driven funding. Proposal-driven funds must be spent on specific programs and reports to the funder are required. FTA dollars from Canada provide flexibility on how programs are delivered and funds may be re-allocated.
- KDFN's audited statements are qualified because there has not yet been an assessment of Kwanlin Dün's tangible assets, such as houses and infrastructure.
- KDFN government uses the Accrual Accounting method, a method that records revenues and expenses when they are incurred, regardless of when cash is exchanged. This is a challenge for the Nation because expenses are recorded as they occur but the funds from agreements are not recognized until received.

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

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

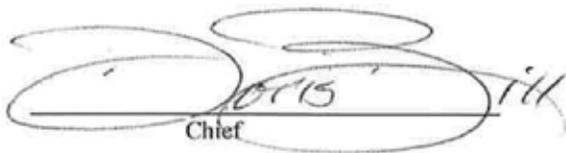
The consolidated financial statements of Kwanlin Dun First Nation have been prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards (PSAS). Financial statements are not precise since they include certain amounts based on estimates and judgements. When alternative accounting methods exist, management has chosen those it deems most appropriate in the circumstances, in order to ensure that the consolidated financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects.

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

The Chief and Council are responsible for ensuring that management fulfills its responsibilities for financial reporting and is ultimately responsible for reviewing and approving the consolidated financial statements.

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

The consolidated financial statements have been audited on behalf of the members by Estrada & Tan, Chartered Professional Accountants, in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards (PSAS). Estrada & Tan has full access to the Chief and Council.



Chief



Councillor

Whitehorse, YT
September 15, 2020



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of Kwanlin Dun First Nation

Qualified Opinion

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Kwanlin Dun First Nation (the "First Nation"), which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at March 31, 2020, and the consolidated statements of operations and accumulated surplus, changes in net financial assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the consolidated financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the accompanying consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the First Nation as at March 31, 2020, and the consolidated results of its operations and consolidated cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards (PSAS).

Basis for Qualified Opinion

The Summary of Significant Accounting Policies describes the capitalization policies with respect to the First Nation's tangible capital assets. The First Nation has not completed a full assessment of their tangible capital assets with respect to PS 3150 Tangible Capital Assets adoption. The recognized tangible capital asset amounts and related amortization expense reported may not be complete. The First Nation does not expect to complete this on a timely basis. Accordingly, we were unable to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to tangible capital assets, amortization expense, annual surplus and accumulated surplus as at and for the year ended March 31, 2020.

The First Nation either directly or through a trust of which it is the sole beneficiary, holds investments in entities that are wholly-owned as well as investments in entities that are subject to significant influence. Canadian public sector accounting standards require such investments to be recorded on a modified equity basis to the year-end date of the consolidated financial statements. Chu Niiqwan Limited Partnership, a government business enterprise of the First Nation, has an interest in a partnership for which audited financial statements are only available to December 31, 2019. In addition, only unaudited financial information to March 31, 2020 is available for its investment on three other partnerships. Investments are recorded based on available information. As a result we were unable to determine whether adjustments were required to assets, partners' capital and income of Chu Niiqwan Limited Partnership.

Our audit opinion on the consolidated financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2020 was modified because of the effects of these departures from Canadian public sector accounting standards.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the First Nation in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the consolidated financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Consolidated Financial Statements

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

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the First Nation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the First Nation or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the First Nation's financial reporting process.

(continues)



Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Kwanlin Dun First Nation *(continued)*

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the First Nation's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the First Nation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the First Nation to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Estrada & Tan

Whitehorse, Yukon Territory
September 15, 2020

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

KWANLIN DUN FIRST NATION
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
March 31, 2020

FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 9,305,607	\$ 3,824,354
Restricted cash (Note 3)	17,706,356	21,617,796
Accounts receivable (Net of allowance for doubtful accounts) (Note 4)	1,391,992	1,686,210
Due from related businesses (Note 6)	8,079,383	8,079,383
Grants receivable	3,160,003	3,466,717
Investment in government business enterprises (Note 18)	10,462,478	7,236,653
	<u>50,105,819</u>	<u>45,911,113</u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 7)	3,763,123	1,695,933
Wages payable	1,682,665	1,417,723
Deferred revenues (Note 9)	4,137,534	699,621
Long term debt (Note 10)	309,831	421,522
	<u>9,893,153</u>	<u>4,234,799</u>
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	<u>40,212,666</u>	<u>41,676,314</u>
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Prepaid expenses	6,042	34,820
Tangible capital assets (Net of accumulated amortization) (Note 5)	42,130,125	32,268,703
	<u>42,136,167</u>	<u>32,303,523</u>
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS (Note 11)	<u>\$ 82,348,833</u>	<u>\$ 73,979,837</u>
CONTINGENT LIABILITY (Note 13)		
CONTRACTUAL RIGHTS (Note 14)		

ON BEHALF OF COUNCIL


 _____ Chief

 _____ Councillor

See notes to financial statements

KWANLIN DUN FIRST NATION
Consolidated Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus
Year Ended March 31, 2020

	Budget	2020	2019
REVENUES			
Government of Canada - financial transfer agreement	\$ 17,522,448	\$ 23,497,358	\$ 18,578,366
Government of Yukon	1,099,116	9,556,779	2,724,908
Equity income from investment in business enterprises	-	3,225,825	2,133,394
Rental revenue	-	1,874,999	1,855,615
Health and Welfare Canada	-	1,370,179	1,858,873
Personal income tax and goods and services tax	970,708	1,190,849	973,873
Government of Canada - others	1,140,000	1,124,884	553,548
Property management lease	-	732,668	726,429
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada	-	597,639	939,306
Interest income	243,937	586,362	490,702
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation	1,178,856	85,586	106,148
Aboriginal Labour Force Alliance	-	51,000	166,645
Compensation payment	-	-	2,677,750
Other revenues	749,485	910,407	1,870,528
Repayable to funding agencies	-	(269,858)	(166,440)
Transfer from deferred revenue	776,416	670,060	983,912
Transfer to deferred revenue	-	(4,039,310)	(830,929)
	<u>23,680,966</u>	<u>41,165,427</u>	<u>35,642,628</u>
EXPENSES			
Education and Social Assistance	5,635,717	6,417,739	6,524,493
Capital Operations and Community Services	1,201,550	5,465,820	5,176,674
Natural and Cultural Resources	2,337,617	3,501,111	3,455,474
Health	3,537,117	3,314,017	3,393,578
Human Resources, Administration and Finance	4,414,177	3,231,569	2,075,367
Governance and Implementation	4,982,956	2,558,230	2,467,054
Justice	1,316,259	1,904,780	2,079,594
Economic Development	232,207	977,369	902,523
Amortization of tangible capital assets	-	2,600,954	2,400,433
Administration fees	4,866	51,645	19,516
Interest and bank charges	18,500	40,785	46,445
	<u>23,680,966</u>	<u>30,064,019</u>	<u>28,541,151</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	-	11,101,408	7,101,477
OTHER EXPENSE			
Transfer from compensation fund to Kwanlin Dun First Nation trust	-	(2,732,412)	(2,247,996)
ANNUAL SURPLUS	-	8,368,996	4,853,481
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	-	73,979,837	69,126,356
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS - END OF YEAR	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 82,348,833</u>	<u>\$ 73,979,837</u>

See notes to financial statements

Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre

The KDCC enjoyed another successful year as Yukon's premier site for cultural events, event rentals and exhibits.

This past year, KDCC was the venue for many notable events such as the **National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women and Girls Final Event, National Aboriginal Hockey Championships, Adaka Cultural Festival, Yukon Culinary Festival, Release of the Peel Watershed Report, KDFN Youth Gathering, Culture Days 10 Year Celebration, Breakout West, CYFN All Candidate Forum, Kohklux Map Conference** and so many more.

They also hosted numerous exhibits in partnership with other organizations including the following:

EXHIBIT: **We Are Our Language**

In June 2019, the KDCC opened the We Are Our Language exhibit in partnership with the Yukon Native Language Centre. In response to the United Nations declaration to recognize 2019 as the year of Indigenous Languages, the KDCC partnered with YNLC to host an exhibit on native language in Yukon. The exhibit opened in June and remained on display until the end of September.

EXHIBIT: **Our Trails Bring Us Together / Łä ch i tän kwaäga dūjal du**

In partnership with the Yukon Historical & Museums Association the KDCC hosted Our Trails Bring Us Together exhibit from October to November 2019. This exhibition and corresponding conference celebrated and explored the legacy of the 1869 Kohklux Maps and the 1880 Kandik Map, the oldest known Indigenous maps showing trails and cultural features within Alaska and Yukon.

The exhibition was a tremendous success as two of the smaller original maps came north from the Bancroft Library in California and were on display the week of the conference.

Beaded Poppy Workshop Series

In October and November 2019, the KDCC partnered with Stormy Bradley to host a series of three beaded poppy workshops. The workshops were very popular and sold out within a matter of days. Through the workshops, the KDCC was able to donate \$1000 to the Royal Canadian Legion's red poppy fund.

KDCC-WPL Annual Christmas Craft Fair and Open House

Every November, the KDCC partners with the Whitehorse Public Library to host our annual Christmas Craft Fair and Open House. The 2019 event was extremely successful with close to sixty vendors and hundreds of visitors. Prior to the event, the KDCC hosted two field trips with KDFN Recreation and their after-school program offering dinner and cookie decoration.

Indigenous Book Club

The KDCC partnered with the Whitehorse Public Library to host a series of Indigenous Book Club Meetings where the public is invited to share a meal and discuss a book. Two such events were held this year, and they were well attended. Facilitators were selected from the community and the discussion was intended to be broad and open to everyone.

Yuk'e Arts Market

New for the 2019 season, the KDCC partnered with the Yukon First Nations Culture and Tourism Association to host the first annual Yuk'e Arts Market. This new market showcased and sold Yukon First Nation art, craft and gift products in a beautiful gallery setting through the Christmas season. The market was held in the Artist Studio at the KDCC for over three weeks and coincided with well-established craft fairs and major events.

2019-2020

Annual Report

Kwanlin Dün First Nation

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