

Moving Forward

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

SUMMER 2012

Hello to all TKC Citizens: A Message from Chief Brenda Sam

Hello to all TKC citizens. Happy summer.

The Board of directors has dropped the writ for our upcoming election. October 15, 2012, is slated for the election of Chief and Deputy Chief. Time has flown by for my term. There have been many challenges that I have faced as Chief. One of the biggest challenges is having family appointed Directors of the Board. I really believe that we need to start the process for an elected Board of Directors so that they will be more accountable to the citizens that they represent. I have called many Board meetings that have been cancelled due to lack of quorum and often when we do meet quorum is broken early due to other commitments of the Directors. The Directors focus primarily on administrative matters, rather than governance issues such as legislation, policy development and fulfilling the mandates and direction provided by the General Assembly. Our Agendas have numerous outstanding governance items; some of which have been tabled for months or even years. Our *Constitution* states that there needs to be six of the nine appointed Directors of the Board available for quorum. We have the largest leadership Board in Yukon with one of the smallest citizenship. I believe that 9 Directors is too large and unsustainable. If we want to continue to grow as a government we need to cut down the number on the Board; we need to think long term; we need to examine if the composition of the Board has been effective for TKC. The family system also means that a large part of our citizen base is left unrepresented at the table. I believe that the process of family appointments has caused considerable dissension among the individual family lines, and has resulted in hurt feelings and damaged family relationships. If we all have a say in who represents us at the Board level, this will keep us moving forward as a Government; united.

The Board of Directors have set August 11, 2012, as a community concerns meeting. This will be at Helen's Fish Camp starting at 10:00

a.m. Our General Assembly will be September 7, 8 & 9, 2012 at Deep Creek Center starting at 9:00 a.m. Advertisements will be in the newspapers. We have a Lands Act that is in limbo and the Board needs to set a date to continue with the second reading (The Lands Act has been at the table for over 7 years). This Act legislates what we want to do with our land....we want it to be protected now and into the future for our great grandchildren who are not born yet. The subdivision on Mayo Road has been sitting empty since it was developed 4 years ago. The revenue that could be generated by leasing this land could assist in providing better programs and services to the citizens.

I would like to thank the citizens who submitted their names to sit on the various TKC Boards and Committees. Unfortunately the Board had decided to continue with the existing representation and just add to it to ensure equal family representation. If you don't put your name forward, the equal representation won't happen.

As Chief I oversee the Administration of TKC and as you know I called for a Financial Investigation in January of 2011. Several recommendations came out of that report and also from the citizens at the Community Meeting. Since that time the administration has been diligent in implementing the recommendations and I am pleased to say that we have not gone over budget since.

I encourage you as a citizen to attend our Board of Directors meetings, to see your Government in action. I also encourage each of you to go out and vote on Election Day, this is your right to choose who you want as your Chief and Deputy Chief.

In closing, I would also like to encourage you to take more responsibility for your Government. Get involved.

*I am looking
forward to
seeing everyone
at the
community
meeting on the
11th of August.*

From the desk of the Deputy Chief

Hello everyone,

I hope that you are enjoying your summer! I have been extremely busy here at the TKC offices, attending meetings, following up with and doing due diligence on several proposed projects and economic opportunities. Most recently, I have attended meetings regarding own Source Revenue, community infrastructure, traditional territory overlaps, and resource revenue. I also sit on the First Nation Education Committee and attended the strategic planning sessions for the Southern Tutchone Tribal Council.

The TKC Board of Directors has set a community meeting for August 11th to be fol-

lowed up with a General Assembly on September 7-9th. Our hope is that the citizens will have an opportunity to share their concerns and offer suggestions at the community meeting so that we can focus on constitutional issues at the General assembly. There are numerous legislative and policy issues that have been outstanding at the Board level for quite some time, which has made it difficult for us to move forward in a positive way. These include:

- Lands and Resources Legislation
- Trusts
- Boards and Committees

The Board was directed in 2010 (by the General Assembly) to establish a Trust; to

date this has not been done.

Money was submitted in the 2011/2012 budget for Renovations for housing, but it was vetoed and moved elsewhere in the budget. There are sustainable economic opportunities within reach, and if this process continues we will be missing out on the possible gains these would provide.

I am just pointing out the facts as it is difficult to move forward if a governing body is not willing to deal with all issues pertaining to their duties as prescribed in the Constitution. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the community meeting on the 11th of August.

Executive Administrator

In January, 2011 the report on the Financial Investigation was received from Blair MacKay Mynett Valuations Inc. On March 12th, 2011 a community meeting was held to discuss the results and the recommendations needed to be implemented to ensure, as a citizen stated, (that) "our money is there for the Children and Grandchildren." The administration has heard you and has put into operation several of the recommendations and at fiscal yearend we were under budget and did not have to access any of the investment funds for operations.

We reduced the organizational departments from eleven (with 11 managers) to a more efficient number of five, which reduced overlaps, redundancies, reporting requirements, and cost overruns. An Organizational Strategic & Implementation Plan was developed with all of the staff that works out the operational framework for each department. We are now in the process of implementing the Plan.

The administration of TKC has been lacking in human resources capacity and you may have noticed the various

job ads in the newspapers and the website. We are now in the process of hiring the successful candidates and by the next newsletter we will be able to introduce you to the new staff.

I am very appreciative of all the hard work and dedication shown by all the staff of the Ta'an Kwäch'än government.

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council's Summer Camp August 6-10, 2012

- Located on traditional territory at Helen's Fish Camp

- Free

- Learn about:

- Language
- Trapping gophers
- Net fishing
- Canoeing
- Hand games
- Bush skills
- Archery
- Carving



Come to culture camp out on the land!

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council is putting on another summer culture camp! TKC Elders and staff are partnering up to bring youth a wide range of activities from August 6 to 10, 2012. Come and join us for: canoeing, language instruction, bush skills, hand games, carving and more. This is a **free** overnight camp at Helen's Fish Camp for youth aged 8-16. All are welcome to register; however, preference is given to TKC citizens.

Please call to register or for more information Heritage Department bjackson@taan.ca **668-3613** www.taan.ca

Heritage by Jason Shorty



Chief Jim Boss Cabin

Just a quick update, the Ta'an Heritage department restoration crew has begun work on the roof of the Frank and Aggie Slim cabin. We have collected approximately 200 poles for the corduroy roof. Once we have planed the poles and put them up on the roof we will cover that with 3/8" tongue and groove fir plywood. On top of that we will put roofing felt, and finally we will glue or nail the gas can shingles on top of the roofing felt.

Glenn Grady is the person who dedicates his time and

resources to this project; we would like to express our thanks to Glenn! We anticipate completion of the roof, and time permitting we would like to get started on the front porch.

We have also recently met with Elders from the communities participating on the Chapter 13 Arky definitions manual. These meetings will result in a definition of what archaeological artifacts belong to a First Nation, and what is to be owned by Yukon Government.

I have participated in the KDFN Cultural Centre opening ceremony, with the newly formed Kwanlin Dun Dancers and the Ta'an Dance group performing together! We were honored to be the first performers during the official grand opening of the new Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre! The Kwanlin Dun Dancers could not have done this without the help and guidance of Ta'an Dancers, especially Linda Harvey!

Gunalchéesh and Shāw Níthän!



General Assembly

September 7-9, 2012

Deep Creek

Contact the administration office at 668-3613 for more information.

Education Department by the Education Department

It has been busy with the Education Department. We have much to celebrate: three new secondary school graduates and two post-secondary school program graduates. Awesome!

Throughout the past year there have been opportunities for our youth to receive support for both school and winter activities. Many of our youth received in-class assistance and after-school tutoring during their academic year. School support is provided to youth in response to requests by youth, parents and teachers. Winter skiing and snowboarding at Mount Sima occurred throughout the ski season for interested youth. With assistance from the

Heritage Department, cultural activities were arranged for local school groups at Helen's Fish Camp. TKC Elders lead outside teaching and learning activities for over 200 school youth. We will be continuing to promote TKC culture within the elementary schools in the fall.

The ASETS and Post-Secondary student support programs continue to offer support and facilitate opportunities for citizens. The ASETS program and the Human Resource Department has been busy building a database of working age TKC citizens that will help us connect citizens with work opportunities that are presented to TKC. ASETS has also



helped to sign agreement with Kwailin Dun First Nations' Ashea daycare to provide funding to support citizens and their need for daycare spaces.

Please feel free to contact the education department about any of the initiatives mentioned above, our email address is: education@taan.ca.

Entering grade 10?

Wood St. School has the CHAOS program aimed at students who want to learn out on the land through trips and activities. Registration has been extended until end of the first week of school.

Contact YTG's Department of Education for more info.
Janet.mcdonald@gov.yk.ca
Chris.hobbis@yesnet.yk.ca

Human Resource Department by Human Resources

Greetings to All from the Human Resources Dept. The HR department has been quite busy these past few months. Having completed (almost) all of the TKC Departmental Strategic Plans via our P&ID initiative, we have begun the basic implementation process of hiring the staff necessary to move the strategic plans forward. This has entailed recruitments on behalf of TKC Administration, Lands & Resources as well as Health. Like all recruitments, the process is lengthy and time consuming but proving well worth the effort as TKC has secured some highly competent people with which to fill these positions.

We have had the very good fortune of having Vicki Irvine assist us with some of these recruitments. She is very busy learning some complex HR practises with YTG and we were very lucky indeed to have her join us. Keep up the great work Vicki and TKC certainly looks forward to your return with the many skills and considerable knowledge you will undoubtedly bring back.

We look forward to working with each TKC department in the near future to see how best to move forward with each Strategic Plan. This will involve considerable ongoing work to see the plans through to implementation. This will entail many factors including some classification work that must take place. Our plan at this point in time is to have a one or two day training on classification for the HR department staff to undertake. This will assist greatly in the over-

all understanding of both the process and purpose of job classification. Overall, the HR department is greatly encouraged to see the high levels of competence and enthusiasm with which the staff go about their work. It is part of our work to encourage and maintain these positive levels and, when needed, to facilitate and support those staff who are finding significant challenges with their work. Remember, we are here to assist where we can but we are simply part of the larger team that, when working together in a good and positive way, can overcome most challenges, learn from them and continue to grow as the professional and highly competent team we have here within TKC. We certainly wish you all the best for the rest of the summer months and as the Fall starts to take shape, we also hope you have a safe and enjoyable harvest season. Safe travels on the water, lots of fat on the moose, good smoke on the fish, lots of dry-meat hanging up and only friendly bear visits to camp!

In Unity....your HR Staff



Photo credit: Copper Tom Tom

Fish and Wildlife by Coralee Johns

RE: Projects

We are currently under way with our Community Stewardship project 2012 – My technician Jessica Jacobs and I are assisting with the Tagging and Clipping of approximately 90,000 Chinook salmon fry at the McIntyre Creek Incubation Facility which are to be released in to Fox Creek later this month (July 24th – All are welcome). We began the Community Stewardship project in 2007 with a major focus to restore Chinook salmon into Fox creek; a once salmon bearing stream. The Fox Creek Chinook salmon Stock Restoration Plan was Implemented with the support and mentorship of our project partners: Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and Environmental Dynamics Inc. (EDI) to proclaim the identity of salmon bearing streams within our Traditional Territory.

“This marks our 4th year of releasing salmon fry into Fox Creek and we hope to see precious 4 year old jacks returning to Fox Creek”

This concludes various salmon related activities. This marks our 4th year of releasing salmon fry

into Fox Creek and we hope to see precious 4 year old jacks returning to Fox Creek this salmon season. With much, much more details to cover on this project.

RE: Salmon Harvest 2012

With the status report from Pilot Station in lower Yukon of Alaska, the adult king salmon numbers migrating up the Yukon River are at 49,000. As per our Treaty obligations with Alaska, the escapement goal to be met is 49,000 crossing the Canadian border in to Canada and any numbers above that, First Nations and subsistence fishers are allocated to fulfill their subsistence needs. We are yet to make any decisions about subsistence harvest numbers, possible mesh size reduction, and if the season is an opened or closed season. There is an In-season report provided by DFO Stock assessment.

RE: Laberge Renewable Resources Council (LRRC)

The TKC renewable resources department is seeking interested and keen parties to put their name forward to participate on the council. They meet

once a month; with dinner provided, and you are to be actively involved in Lands applications and any correspondence with regards to TKC traditional Territories and our resources. We are looking for person (s) with a background in renewable resources, understanding First Nation governance and provide valuable decisions making for your First Nation. You will be able to participate in meetings of interest to you ex: Fish and Wildlife issues.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the above information, please contact me at the office and or by email.

Please contact me if you would like a copy of the Yukon River Salmon update.

Thank you for your patience and understanding at this time!



One of our youth with a Pike at Spring Culture Camp

Who's Who in the Finance Department



Rose

The Finance Department consists of Hugh Carruthers (Manager), Rose Irvine (Accounts Payable), Teresa Jacobs (Payroll) and Gloria Cashin (Finance).

Ms Rose Irvine has been with



Teresa

Ta'an for 18 years and is a citizen of Ta'an.

Ms Teresa Jacobs has worked for Ta'an for 6 years and is a Ta'an citizen.

Ms Gloria Cashin has worked for Ta'an 3 years and is a citi-



Gloria



Hugh

zen of Little Salmon Carmacks.

Mr. Carruthers joined us at Ta'an in October. He has Certified Management Accountant designation (CMA) and has been in the Yukon for almost 20 years.

Health Department Submitted by Glenna Tetlitchi

I hope that everyone is enjoying the summer season. It is a privilege to provide an update on behalf of the Health and Education Department.

We have had a busy summer in the department with an emphasis on getting programs in place to take advantage of the warmer weather and longer days.

Staff updates:

I'm pleased to announce our new staff; Ashley Boss was recently hired as the new Family Support Worker, she started her new role on June 22nd. Ashley is from Champagne and A FN and is proving to be a promising young person, with huge potential and a keen interest in learning about Ta'an's culture and history as it relates to her position. Ms. Boss is currently finishing off her degree in Criminal Justice.

Ashley will be responsible for all Child Welfare matters, and other relevant family support matters. Please help me in welcoming Ashley to Ta'an.

John Main was employed as the CELC this past school year, regretfully his term with TKC has come to an end, and he will be leaving on June 20th to pursue a teaching career. John was a huge asset to our team and to the TKC students he supported. John was an extremely dedicated employee; he was a positive role model and always made time to help out where he can. We are going to miss him and wish him all the best in his new career.

Cynthia James will be returning to her substantive position at the end of August as the CELC replacing John, welcome back Cynthia.

Gail took on the responsibility for the

administration of the new social assistance program; this program is intended to provide income assistance to Ta'an recipients who are unable to enter the work force for varying reasons. This program is managed and administered on behalf of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC). Gail Anderson is keeping up with daily tasks as the Social Administrator and helps out in other areas of the department as required.

Roberta Behn is a long time employee of the department; she works as the Health and Wellness Coordinator, and is responsible for coordinating all health, wellness and elders programs for TKC.

Patti Boss is another veteran employee, her position provides support and home care for TKC elders and those in need. HCC consists of light housecleaning and assorted chores. This program will also provide transportation as required to get clients to medical, dental and specialist appointments within Whitehorse. Please contact Patti if you would like to access the HCC program.

Program updates:

Evelyn Rattray is a traditional healer that will be at TKC Health & Education Boardroom during the week of July 23-27th. Evelyn is a FN traditional healer and will be offering private sessions to TKC staff and citizens. To book an appointment, please contact Debbie Burns at 668-3613.

If you are a TKC elder and are interested in going to Dawson for the Moosehide gathering, please contact our Wellness Coordinator, Roberta Behn for further information, seats are limited.

The TKC Health and Education De-

partment is partnering with Canadian Executive Service Organization (CESO) to work on developing a comprehensive Health/Education plan. The funding for this initiative will be provided by Health Canada and administered through CYFN. We are currently developing a citizen's survey that will be mailed out to you within the next two weeks. Please take time to fill these out and provide your feedback, it is greatly appreciated and will be incorporated into the Ta'an Comprehensive Health Plan (TCHP).

Health/Education staff is working with the Lands/Resource and Heritage staff on the Youth Culture Camp to be held in August, and Fall Harvest Camp scheduled for September. If you have a child interested in partaking in either of these programs, please contact Annie Bernard or Betsy Jackson for more information.

Medicine/Berry Harvest Program – A date has not been finalized for these two programs; notices will be appropriately advertised when we have a confirmed date. Please feel free to contact Roberta Behn for further information.

If you have any questions or suggestions relating to Health and Education, please drop by the office, the staff would be happy to assist you. Don't forget to fill in the survey questionnaire that will be mailed out to you soon, this is another opportunity for you to voice your concerns or to provide feedback to the department.

The Health and Education team will continue to working towards the vision of the TKC community, and to provide the best possible programs and services.

Ta'an Kwach'an Council Women's Circle



You are welcome to come to the Ta'an Kwach'an Council's Women's Circle.

Where: Ta'an Kwach'an Council Health Board Room

When: Beginning September 13, 2012 (Bi-weekly)

Time: 5:30 P.M.—8:00 P.M.

You are invited to come and hear the speakers, participate in the dinner and in our quilt making activity. A quilt will be donated to Karen's Room at the Whitehorse General Hospital.

There will be a Guest Speakers for each of the sessions.

Dinner: Potluck and Provided (at alternate Circle's)

For more information call Gail Anderson at 668-3613 extension 290.

This project is funded through the Prevention of Violence Against Aboriginal Women Fund from the Government of Yukon, Women's Directorate



Spring Camp





Ta'an Kwäch'än Council

117 Industrial Rd.
Whitehorse, YT
Y1A 2T8
Phone: 867-668-3613
Fax: 867-667-4295
E-mail: admin@taan.ca

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distribution list!**

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What for these events!

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council Annual General Assembly at Deep Creek	September 7-9, 2012
Ta'an Kwäch'än Council Women's Circle; Thursdays	Bi-weekly in the winter
Traditional Sewing	
Summer Camp! Call Betsy Jackosn at 668-3613	August 6-10, 2012

**Skilled Workers Resource List &
Auxiliary On-call List**

For TKC citizens, we are looking to compile a list of workers for Future Employment Opportunities

Carpenters/ General Laborers/ Electricians/ Plumbers/ Landscapers/ Roofers/ Equipment Operators/ Etc.

- Come in and talk to us
- Add your name to our growing list
 - Bring in your resume
 - Bring in a letter of interest

Contact: Annie Bernard
education@taan.ca