

Spring 2017 Newsletter

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Read about Ta'an's new language app and how it's helping save TKC's dialect of Southern Tutchone (p. 6-7)



See our two-page photo spread celebrating 15 years as a self-governing First Nation! (p. 12-13)

Message from the Chief and Deputy Chief

Danchea and happy spring!

It is so great to start seeing the sunshine so brightly again after the winter months. 2017 is starting off with a lot of awesome initiatives for Ta'an Kwäch'än Council. One of the most important aspects of being a leader is to share our history and look for opportunities for partnerships to advance our government priorities and with a new Federal and Territorial government in place the timing could not be better for First Nations in Yukon and Canada.

Chief Kane travelled to Ottawa for Yukon Days in early February along with other Yukon Chiefs and Yukon Government Ministers.



Chief Kristina Kane and Deputy Chief Michelle Telep met with Yukon Premier Sandy Silver on Feb. 13th to discuss TKC priorities and how both governments can build partnerships on a number of issues.

This lobby effort was a historic moment, as it is the first-time Yukon Chiefs and Territorial Ministers jointly attended meetings with Federal Ministers.

One of the meetings of great significance was with Marion Monsef, Minister of Status of Women, regarding Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. Chief Kane also met with Jane Philpott, Federal Minister of Health, on improving the state of health for First Nations people. Finally, Chief Kane spoke about the success of Ta'an's Salmon Restoration Project with the Department of Fisheries and Ocean's Minister, Dominic Leblanc, emphasizing the need for more support for the continued efforts to revitalize the Yukon River Chinook Salmon population.

Chief Kane and Deputy Chief Telep met with Premier Sandy Silver in February and the focus was on TKC's government priorities including meaningful employment for TKC Citizens, protection of TKC Land, Housing and Homelessness and TKC's vision of a new Administration Building and Cultural Centre. This conversation will be ongoing to align areas where partnerships would be beneficial between the two governments.

Also in February, Chief Kane, along with Mayor Dan Curtis and Chief Doris Bill, met with the Mayor of Edmonton Don Iveson. Mayor Iveson shared his experience around housing and homelessness and gathered information from the partnership we have been working on building between TKC and the City of Whitehorse.

We are really looking forward to the next few months. On April 7, 2017 TKC Council and senior staff



From left to right: KDFN councilor Charlene Charlie, Chief Kristine Kane, Yukon MLA Mathieya Alatini, Minister of Status of Women Maryam Monsef, Yukon MLA Jeanie Dendys and KDFN Chief Doris Bill during Yukon Days in Ottawa in February.

will be participating in our first Intergovernmental Forum with the City of Whitehorse. We look forward to discussing key issues of common interest and determining how we can continue to build formal partnerships for the benefit of our community and Whitehorse as a whole.

Deputy Chief Telep and Cindy Allen, TKC's Implementation Officer, travelled to Ottawa in February for the Land Claims Agreements Coalition (LCAC) Annual Leadership Meeting. The LCAC meeting with Aboriginal and Self-Governing First Nation Governments from across Canada is in part a lobby effort and strategic planning session to have effective and full implementation of modern land claims agreements between Aboriginal peoples and the Federal Government. Deputy Chief Telep, along with other YFN Chiefs and technicians, also met with Don Rusnak, a Member of Parliament and the Chair of the Liberal Indigenous Caucus as well as with senior staff of Employment and Social Development Canada. Deputy Chief Telep, along with other LCAC attendees, got to see the award-winning documentary "Angry Inuk" on how the anti-seal hunt campaign has hurt Canadian Inuit life and Inuit efforts to develop a sustainable economy for Inuit in remote northern communities.

TKC Council has been working with Strategy North to develop a strategic plan to guide TKC over the next five years.

Over the course of the next few months citizens will have the opportunity to review the work that has been done so far, and provide feedback to be incorporated into the final plan. We hope that you will take the opportunity to provide your feedback and the community's insight is the most important guidance we can have towards success. Please connect with Strategy North at strategynorth@outlook.com or call 867-334-2730.

We are still working hard on the Safe at Home Action Plan to End and Prevent Homelessness. **In partnership with the City of Whitehorse, Kwanlin Dun First Nation and Yukon Government, we have been developing this community based action plan.** As many of you have experienced, our community has a housing crisis, which leaves many people homeless or at risk of

homelessness. We hope to see the plan released in May of 2017 and implementation beginning soon after that. This plan has been getting national and international recognition for a one-of-a-kind partnership between three levels of government, including First Nations.

Finally, as you know, 2017 is an exciting year for Ta'an Kwäch'än Council. **On April 1st, 2017, we are celebrating our 15th year of Self-Government.** We hope that you will join us at 4:00pm on April 1st at the Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre, to celebrate this incredible accomplishment. TKC could not have come this far without the dedication and vision of our community and citizens continuing to guide us to success. We hope that you will join us.

Respectfully,

Chief Kristina Kane and Deputy Chief Michelle Telep



Chief Kristina Kane, Edmonton Mayor Don Iveson, Whitehorse Mayor Dan Curtis and Kwanlin Dun First Nation Chief Doris Bill met on Feb. 23rd as part of the Edmonton Mayor's trip to build relationships with and learn from Northern municipalities.

Job Search Booklet



- ✓ Community Programs & Services
 - ✓ Job Search Resources
 - ✓ Personal Job Search Plan
- ✓ Cover Letter & Résumé Templates

New Resource for Citizens looking for employment

TKC's Capacity Development Working Group has created a "Job Search Booklet" to help Citizens who are looking for employment.

This booklet contains information regarding the resources available at TKC, as well as in the greater Whitehorse area, that can help you find a job.

Also included are tools to help with your job search and job application. This booklet is available from the Health and Education department at TKC, as well as on the TKC website at www.taان.ca

Inside you'll find:

- Job search websites
- Information about the Education and Employment Training Program
- Information about Yukon College courses
- A personal job search plan
- Common interview questions
- Checklist for before, during and after the interview
- Sample cover letter
- Sample resume template

We wish you the best of luck in your job search endeavors!

Interested in a summer job with TKC?

For High School students

Are you in high school and interested in a career in the outdoors? Apply for a (paid) summer position with the Lands, Resources and Heritage department. The position lasts for the duration of the summer break (end of June to late August). Please send your resume to Bobbie Kufeldt (rkufeldt@taan.ca) **by May 26th.**

For Post-Secondary students

Are you a TKC Post-Secondary Student who is interested in applying your skills and abilities in a summer position at TKC? Do you want to gain valuable hands-on experience? Do you want an opportunity to contribute to your community?

We are creating several student jobs this summer that are relevant to our students' programs of study and career goals. Help us create summer student jobs that will help you get ahead!

To discuss what kind of summer job you would love to see at TKC this summer, please contact Jessica Bryant at (867) 668-3613 ext. 408 or jbryant@taan.ca. (positions will run for 12-weeks between May – August)

Graduating student reflects on nursing program, thanks TKC

As a member of TKC, I am proud and ecstatic to be nearing my program of the BScN under a rural focus. This has been an exceptionally long haul, beginning with myself being uncertain if I had it within myself to endure this journey to further my career within healthcare. The program ran with the first two years under a college and the latter two years under the university as a shared program endeavor between the two institutions. I am so very glad and appreciative of all the ongoing support and assistance the council has provided me throughout this process.

Returning to school has allowed myself to improve my children and family life as well as have the ability to assist others and provide a service to humanity within the healthcare sect. I have had a passion to be in healthcare since I was a little girl, having family within healthcare allowed me to emulate their actions in play. Since then, I have worked extremely hard to get to my current place which is at the very end of this four-year program. The knowledge and education I have gained are invaluable and important in every aspect of nursing care. Because I have been given the ability to have this opportunity to further my education, has also shown my children how dedication and hard work do indeed pay off.

That when difficult times are present, having a support network and having a listening ear are important. I will forever be grateful for all the council has done for me and my gratitude is endless. Thank you again for everything and I look forward to staying in contact long after my education has subsided. With many thanks and abundance of appreciation.

With sincerest regards,
Heidi Weberg
TKC citizen



Motion 2016-11-19 (November 28, 2016) approved the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council Education Vision Statement developed by the TKC Education Commission.

Turning to Tech to Preserve a Language

Ashley Joannou Wednesday

January 25, 2017

Growing up with her grandparents, Nicole Smith was familiar with a handful of Southern Tutchone phrases.

Irene and Elijah Smith mostly spoke to their granddaughter in English, but common phrases like “close the door” or “make a cup of tea” would come in Southern Tutchone.

“So I knew those little commands but not much more than that,” Smith said.

What Smith got as a child was a taste of a language that’s at risk of disappearing.

In the 2011 census, only 140 Yukoners listed Southern Tutchone as one of the first languages they learned at home and something they still understood.

The federal numbers aren’t broken down into the various individual dialects that were once spoken across much of the southwestern part of the territory.

As she got older, Smith wanted to know more about the language. She got her teaching certificate, found a mentor to help her

improve her speaking skills and now teaches Southern Tutchone to children at Whitehorse Elementary School.

Three generations of Smith’s family are part of a new effort by

language lesson and are now the centerpiece of the app.

Nicole Smith and her mother, Linda Harvey, who both speak Southern Tutchone, are helping with more words and phrases for



the Ta’an Kwäch’än Council to use technology to help preserve its language.

The First Nation is creating a phone app that will allow users to learn words and phrases in the Ta’an dialect of Southern Tutchone.

With the press of a button, users will be able to hear Irene Smith articulate everyday words and phrases to repeat.

In 2003, years before she died, Irene Smith recorded herself speaking Southern Tutchone for the Yukon Native Language Centre. The recordings first became part of a conventional

the app as they come up.

Ta’an Kwäch’än Council deputy chief Michelle Telep said the free app is meant to make learning the language accessible to anyone who has a smartphone.

As it stands, the First Nation only has “a handful” of fluent speakers left, she said.

“I’ve had a lot of elders approach me and say our language is very important to keeping our identity and who we are as Ta’an people. So we need to really work at preserving that language.”

Being able to hear someone speaking Southern Tutchone is important when it comes to

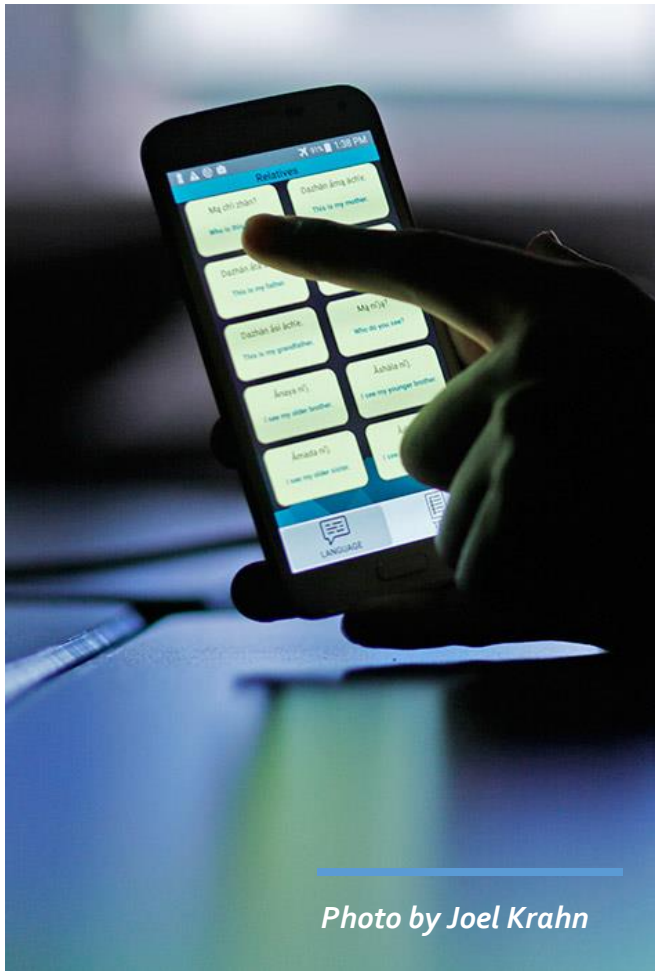


Photo by Joel Krahn

learning the language, said Loretta Jensen, a linguist with the Yukon Native Language Centre. In Southern Tutchone, knowing what tone to use is part of expressing yourself.

"These languages, the tone itself, whether it goes up and down can change the meaning of the word itself," Jensen said.

The language is also polysynthetic, meaning some single words in Southern Tutchone could translate into a full English sentence.

The First Nation has been working on the project for about the last

year. It hired Winnipeg-based Ogoki Learning to develop the app and local staff have been trained to maintain it and upload more audio files.

Right now, it has about 600 common words and phrases, said Chantelle Blackjack, the First Nation's heritage program coordinator. The plan is to eventually add more content and expand what the app is capable of doing.

"(We want to) take it one level up from what is existing in the

territory right now," she said. "We are going to incorporate some quizzes, try and encompass the structure of the language. How does it work? How do you put together sentences? How do we become conversational?"

The language program where Nicole Smith works is one of nearly two dozen Indigenous language programs across the territory.

At Whitehorse Elementary School every class gets lessons in Southern Tutchone twice a week.

Smith said she's sometimes amazed by how fast children will pick up a new language.

"We're teaching our youth to walk two paths, not just one or the other. Along with teaching them culture, we can teach them culture on iPads."

So far, the First Nation's app does not have an official name. Its working title is the Southern Tutchone Ta'an Dialect language app. The First Nation says it will provide updates on its website if the name changes, so anyone interested can search for the app online.

It's slated to go live on both iTunes and Google Play sometime this week.

If Ta'an's app is successful, Telep hopes other First Nations will create similar versions for other languages.

It's something her grandmother would approve of, Nicole Smith said.

"She would definitely have been supportive and same with my grandfather. They were both very supportive of children."

(This article appeared in the January 25th edition of the Yukon News and is reprinted here with permission)



Draw for computer workstations – May 1st

As a consequence of the 2015-2016 hardware turnover plan, TKC's IT department has the following surplus equipment available. These workstations (3) have been wiped of data and come loaded with Windows 10, but without Microsoft Office. The IT department recommends using either Microsoft online or Google Docs for the private user.

Each workstation includes;

- Monitor
- Printer
- UPS (battery backup)
- Keyboard and mouse
- All cables required
- HP Z220 Computer tower - (3.2ghz Xeon 4 core, 4GB ram, 500GB HDD, NVidia Quadro 410)
- Windows 10 pro – fully licensed upgrade from Windows 7 (windows 7 code supplied with computer)
- Epson printer software
- Bing desktop
- Windows defender (virus and spyware protection)

A large Xerox industrial printer is also available!

Enter your name for the draw at TKC by April 28th! Draw takes place May 1st.

TKC Current Council Members



Top row, from left to right: Christina Peters, Deputy Chief Michelle Telep, Carol Chambers Boss, Tiffany Eckert-Maret, Alison Harpe and Diane Graham. Bottom row, from left to right: Roberta Auston, Bengie Clethero and Chief Kristina Kane. Missing: Conrad Jack.

Pursuant to section 8 of the Constitution of the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, the Council is the lawmaking branch of the Government of the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council. The Council is composed of the Chief, Deputy-Chief and nine councillors who may either be appointed or elected by each of the five traditional Ta'an Kwäch'än families. The official way of the operations and business of the Council is prescribed in the Rules of Procedure for the Board.

In accordance with sections 8.4, 8.10 and 8.14 of Constitution of the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, a Council Member must be a citizen of a traditional Ta'an Kwäch'än family, must be at least sixteen years of age, must reside within the traditional territory or surrounding area of the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, and must not have a criminal record of an indictable offence or the offence of theft, fraud, or false pretenses.

Thank you!

The Ta'an Kwäch'än Council would like to thank its citizens for coming out to the Strategic Planning Open House that was held at the Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre on Saturday, March 11th.

Chief and Council have been working with StrategyNorth to identify a strategic vision and direction for the future of our First Nation.

At the Open House, citizens provided input on what TKC's strategic priorities should be over the next five years. A number of pillars were identified including Our People; Our Ta'an Kwäch'än Culture, Heritage, Language and Traditions; Protecting and Preserving Our Lands and Resources; Our Children and Youth; Economic Development and Job Creation and TKC Governance.

Keep an eye out for summary findings of the Open House in the next TKC newsletter.

April						
Saturday / Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 15-year Party! 2	3 House cleaning for Elders by appointment	4 Äsqä ke Yukon Family Literacy Centre 4-6 p.m.	5 Traditional Sewing Group 5 to 8 pm / House cleaning for Elders by appointment	6	7 House cleaning for Elders by appointment	8
9	10 Family Easter Party 5-7 p.m. / House cleaning for Elders by appointment	11 Äsqä ke Yukon Family Literacy Centre 4-6 p.m.	12 Traditional Sewing Group 5 to 8 pm / House cleaning for Elders by appointment	13	14 Good Friday	15
16 Happy Easter!	17 Easter Monday	18	19 Traditional Sewing Group 5 to 8 pm / House cleaning for Elders by appointment	20	21 House cleaning for Elders by appointment	22
23	24 House cleaning for Elders by appointment	25	26 Traditional Sewing Group 5 to 8 pm / House cleaning for Elders by appointment	27	28 House cleaning for Elders by appointment	29

May						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1 House cleaning for Elders by appointment	2	3 Traditional Sewing Group 5 to 8 pm / House cleaning for Elders by appointment	4 Slow cooker cooking class 5-7 p.m. Health building	5 House cleaning for Elders by appointment	6
7	8 House cleaning for Elders by appointment	9	10 Traditional Sewing Group 5 to 8 pm / House cleaning for Elders by appointment	11 Mother's Day BBQ 4-7 p.m. Location TBD	12 House cleaning for Elders by appointment	13
14	15 House cleaning for Elders by appointment	16	17 Traditional Sewing Group 5 to 8 pm / House cleaning for Elders by appointment	18	19 House cleaning for Elders by appointment	20
21	22 Victoria Day	23	24 Traditional Sewing Group 5 to 8 pm / House cleaning for Elders by appointment	25 High School Exam Preparation (tutoring sessions) until June 14 - time and location TBD	26 Spring tea 2-4 p.m. Health boardroom / House cleaning for Elders by appointment	27
28	29 House cleaning for Elders by appointment	30	31 Traditional Sewing Group 5 to 8 pm / House cleaning for Elders by appointment			

June						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 House cleaning for Elders by appointment	3
4	5 House cleaning for Elders by appointment	6	7 Traditional Sewing Group 5 to 8 pm / House cleaning for Elders by appointment	8 Spruce tip gathering (depending on weather) 12-4 p.m.	9 House cleaning for Elders by appointment	10
11	12 Spruce tip jelly making (time TBD) House cleaning for Elders by appointment	13	14 Traditional Sewing Group 5 to 8 pm / House cleaning for Elders by appointment	15 Father's Day BBQ 4-7 p.m. Location TBD	16 House cleaning for Elders by appointment	17
18	19	20	21 National Aboriginal Day	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



You are invited to
Celebrate 15 Years as a
Self-Governing
First Nation

April 1, 2017
Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre
4:00pm-7:00pm

~Dinner~
~Entertainment~
~Door Prizes~
~Cake~
~Slide Show "Then & Now"~

Come and celebrate our First Nation
with past and present leadership,
dignitaries and staff

Please R.S.V.P to info@taan.ca or call
867.668.3613

TKC 2002 - 2017

Äsuä K'e "Grandmother's Ways"

4-6 pm

Every Tuesday starting February 14th

@ Family Literacy Centre - Canada Games Centre

This weekly pilot program will run similar to the "Parent-Child Mother Goose Program." Storytelling/ rhymes and songs are an integral part of the program and these will be taught in Southern Tutchone along with Ta'an oral histories. The program is facilitated by Linda Harvey and Nicole Smith

A healthy meal will be provided at each session.

Transportation provided to Ta'an citizens —call Reanna to arrange

Geared to families with children aged 0-6 but everyone is welcome

This is a collaboration between Ta'an Kwäch'än Health and Education & Lands, Resource and Heritage Departments and the Yukon Literacy Coalition



Yukon Literacy
Coalition



For more information call:

Reanna Mohamed 668--3613 ext 405
Chantelle Blackjack 668--3613 ext 607

Celebrating 15 Years

as a self-
governing
First Nation



Clockwise from top: John Burdek at a TKC signing in Aug., 2001; Brittney Telep cuts fish during the 2007 culture camp; Rose Irvine and former Chief Ruth Massie take part in the 2007 office clean-up day; Linda Harvey dries some fish at Helen's Fish camp in 2001.



Top: John Burdek Jr. maneuvers a makeshift raft during the 2001 fish camp.

Middle: Former Chief Brenda Sam poses with three babies in 2003. Paddy Jim works on a pair of snowshoes during a 2011 workshop.

Bottom: Adrianna and Austin Kuster have some muddy fun during the 2007 culture camp.

Long-time employee Rose Irvine reflects on the past 15 years at TKC

In the past 15 years, I've seen people come and go. I've been here through every election and seen all five Chiefs come and go.

I've also seen many staff come and go during the past 15 years.

We're still working as a self-governing First Nation. We're doing some strategic planning to improve ourselves as a First Nation.

We're still striving to make Ta'an Kwäch'än Council do its best for its citizens.

We're looking forward to providing more housing for our citizens, and a new building to house our offices in the near future.

We have several programs in place such as our language lessons and sewing classes every week. We also have our Fire Smart Program, our Fish Hatchery Program and we just received funding to take our citizens for a bison hunt this spring. We have different camps for every season. It's a way to keep and pass on our traditions to the next generation.

We have our education and health program, pre-natal program, student tutoring program.

Chief Kristina Kane, Rose Irvine and Deputy Chief Michelle Telep celebrating Irvine's 10-year anniversary with TKC in 2012.



We are looking forward to hiring some students to work at TKC this summer.

I'm very proud to be a Ta'an Kwäch'än Council citizen and I look forward to working with more citizens in the future.

I'm happy to be working in Finance for many years to come.

I'll work here until I retire.

Keep on smiling!
Rose Irvine

Whitehorse Fishladder: Jobs and Cultural Opportunities for Ta'an Elders and Youth

Yukon Energy is working with Ta'an Kwäch'än Council to provide opportunities for Ta'an citizens at the Whitehorse Rapids Fishladder. They are looking for interested elders and youth to work at the facility.

Elders would spend two hours, one day a week throughout July and August, sharing their knowledge, traditional skills, and stories with visitors, and answering questions. This is a position that could be held by one elder throughout the summer, or by a number of elders who would like to rotate through a regular schedule.

For **youth**, there are job opportunities as Fishladder Attendants or Supervisors.

If this interests you, please contact Janet Patterson at 393-5333 or janet.patterson@yec.yk.ca.

What's in a name?

By Derek Cooke

Heritage Technician, Lands, Resources and Heritage

Kwätan'aya Män (Fox Lake)

"branching off into the woods"

The translation of the Southern Tutchone name is not totally clear, and it might refer to the fact that **Kwätan'aya Män (Fox Lake)** crosses a boundary from a clear area to a forest area. This was more apparent before the forest fire in 1998.

Fox Lake has been an important place for many generations of Ta'an Kwäch'än people. The southern end of the Lake has been the site of fish camps where many would come in the spring to take grayling in nearby Fox Creek and in the late fall, for the whitefish spawn. The Fox Lake area is also known as an important harvesting and trapping area for Ta'an Kwäch'än people.



Tágá Shāw Jädali (Thirty Mile River)

"big river runs through"

The Thirty Mile section of the Yukon River has been declared a Canadian Heritage River as it is a nationally significant waterway. Ta'an Kwäch'än people travelled and used this section of the river for many traditional purposes. Fish traps were located around the mouth of Frank Creek on the Thirty Mile. Trails around this Creek were important travel routes as the Ogilvie Valley Route and the Fat Fish Creek Route connected it with Twin Lakes and Braeburn Lake. During the period of Sternwheeler travel on the River, there were many Southern Tutchone wood camps along the shore. The Thirty Mile section of the River was considered quite hazardous for sternwheelers due to its many turns and shallow reefs, which are still a problem for boaters today.



Kákwäts'änägru (Ibex Valley)

"chasing animals into snares"

The Ibex River valley was an important hunting area to Southern Tutchone people. It was also a salmon spawning river, connected to the Yukon River drainage through the Takhini River. Unfortunately, this area was also affected by a major forest fire in 1958 which had a major impact on fish and animal habitat.



Da Daghay Development Corp. update

Message from the CEO, Ben Asquith

Since the last newsletter:

Construction of River Bend is now 50% complete, Buildings 1 and 2 are clad to weather with windows and doors installed; building 3 to follow suit shortly. We continue to maintain 50% of onsite employment as TKC citizens and look forward to completion winter of 2017.

With firefighting season just around the corner, Da Daghay will be hosting a 7-day boot-camp from April 24th to May 1st which will include physical fitness training as well as first aid. We encourage any citizens who may be interested in a career in wildland fire fighting to submit a resume either by email or through our website at www.dadaghay.ca as soon as possible.



Da Daghay is proud to share a glimpse of our next development; River Wood, will be centrally located in the heart of Riverdale.

We have been working hard with our Advisory Committee and Kobayashi and Zedda over the last year to develop the preliminary concept that you see here.



More information will be released in the coming months, please visit our website www.dadaghay.ca for the latest updates on all of our developments.

If any TKC citizens are interested in employment or youth opportunities, please contact us either by phone at 867-667-6609 or email at admindadaghay@northwestel.net or dadaghay@northwestel.net.

A special thank you to our Board of Directors and Chief and Council for their continued efforts, hard work, and dedication.

Congratulations!!



Bridgette Dorothy Ellen Marie Genier was born on March 3, 2017, weighing 6lbs 13ozs and measuring 18 inches long.

Happy Mom & Dad, Amy and Matt Genier, and proud big brother Spencer.

(Photo courtesy of grandpa John Burdek)



TKC councilor Tiffany Eckert-Maret poses for a picture with Canadian actress Sandra Oh during last month's Available Light Film Festival.

Eckert-Maret also gave Oh a book titled "Stories from our elders," (Dashāw Ts'an Kwändür) written by TKC Elder Hazel Bunbury.

Oh is known for her role as Dr. Cristina Yang on the medical drama Grey's Anatomy.

New hires

Cindy Allen
Implementation Officer



For more than 15 years Cindy Allen has worked in the areas of Aboriginal governance as an Implementation Official, a land claims negotiator and a self-government and implementation negotiator in British Columbia, the Northwest Territories and the Yukon. Cindy is knowledgeable about Aboriginal law, corporate law, natural resources law and indigenous legal traditions, having received her juris doctor (law degree) in 2014. Prior to accepting this position with Ta'an Kwäch'än Council Cindy worked with the Carcross/Tagish First Nation as its Implementation Official, helping them fulfill the obligations under the C/FTN Final and Self-Government Agreements. Cindy Allen is a Weledeh, Yellowknives Dene, Tłjchq person with YKDFN membership in the NWT. She has two children, Sahcho and Kwan Sha Jack, both of whom are eligible to be TKC Citizens. Cindy is passionate about the north and loves being outdoors, running, hiking, biking and enjoying cookouts around campfires with friends and family. Please join me in welcoming Cindy to the TKC Team!

David Steele
Executive Director



We are pleased to inform you that the new Executive Director for Ta'an Kwäch'än Council is David Steele, starting Monday, February 6, 2017.

Having attained his MBA designation, David Steele has over 20 years' senior management experience. A significant portion of his experience has been gained in either working with or for First Nations governments for over 17 years in Yukon, British Columbia, the Northwest Territories and Saskatchewan. He has worked closely with First Nation leaders and their staff in the development and implementation of management systems and process.

Please join me in welcoming David Steele to the Ta'an Team!



Heather Griffiths' new role

Since becoming self-governing TKC has been committed to employing their citizens within TKC government offices and with TKC partners and projects whenever possible. This practice is evident when visiting or doing business at the TKC government offices and seeing TKC citizens working in all departments. This can also be observed at the Whistle Bend low cost housing building site where TKC citizens are employed in various construction positions for Evergreen Homes a partner of TKC on this project. Further to this, TKC recognizes that some citizens may not be familiar with the hiring process of TKC therefore, a plan to rectify this is in place and on April 1st 2017 I will become the Education and Employment Training Coordinator (EETC). This position is an enhanced version of the ASETS program. My duties will include implementing a detailed plan that TKC citizens of all ages can access to gain information on TKC positions that they may be interested in; what they need to do to meet the qualifications of that position: or even job shadow staff to determine their level of interest in that position. I will also assist and guide TKC citizens in employment and education planning, job searching and all of the things that are currently being done through ASETS such as funding for post-secondary education, skills training, individual life skills training, career counselling and many other services. I look forward to starting my new position on April 1st and continuing to work with TKC citizens to assist them on their life, educational and career paths.

TKC is looking for citizens to fill vacancies on the following committees:

- Citizenship Committee (one rep from the Susie Jim family)
- Investment Committee (one rep from each family)
- Housing Committee (one rep from the Jenny LaBarge family and one rep from the Maggie Broeren family)
- Education Commission (one rep from the Jenny Dawson family, one from the Jenny LaBarge family and one from the Jim Boss family)
- Audit Committee (one rep from each family)

Please contact Stephanie Tsigoulis, Governance Coordinator, at stsigoulis@taan.ca

ATTENTION TA'AN KWÄCH'ÄN COUNCIL CITIZENS

NEW TUTORING PROGRAMS FOR TKC STUDENTS IN K-12

The Ta'an Kwäch'än Council's Education Department is excited to announce that it will be offering two new tutoring programs for the 2016/17 school year:

1. *Individual Tutoring Program:*

- One-on-one tutoring for TKC students in Whitehorse (Kindergarten - Grade 12)

2. *Drop-In Tutoring Program:*

- Open tutorial sessions for exam preparation in all subjects (math, biology, etc.)
- Open to all TKC high-school students in Whitehorse (Grades 8-12)

For more information, please contact the TKC Education Support Worker at:

Jessica Bryant
668-3613 ext. 408
jbryant@taan.ca



FREE TUTORING!!!



Individual Tutoring Program

- ✓ This program is available to all TKC students in Whitehorse (Kindergarten to Grade 12)
- ✓ This program offers private, one-on-one tutoring with your child outside of school hours
- ✓ This program provides experienced, professional tutors to work with your child in specific subject areas
- ✓ Private tutoring can take place in your home or the tutoring office during times that work for your family
- ✓ **All sessions are FREE!!!**

Drop-In Tutoring Program

- ✓ This program is for high-school students only (Grades 8 to 12)
- ✓ This program offers 6 exam preparation tutoring sessions during the two weeks prior to exams
- ✓ Sessions are provided on a drop-in basis, but students are encouraged to sign-up (contact the Education Support Worker)
- ✓ This program provides experienced, professional tutors to work with your child in specific subject areas
- ✓ All tutoring takes place on-site at the TKC Health and Education building and a healthy snack will be provided
- ✓ **All sessions are FREE!!!**

The first step to success starts here!!!