



Ímbè / Summer 2019

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Message from Chief and Deputy Chief



Dännch'a!

Summer is here and we hope you are enjoying the beautiful weather and the longer days. It is a good time to be out on the land reconnecting with our traditional territory and our culture. The summer is always festive with the celebration of Indigenous culture during National Indigenous People's Day, the Adäka festival, and more. We are very proud of our own Ta'an dancers and drummers who performed at Adäka this year!



Over the past few months, Administration has been focused on the new fiscal year and implementing departmental work plans. TKC has been working on renegotiating our Federal Transfer Agreement (FTA) with the Government of Canada, which will bring additional funding to our First Nation for programs and services. Agreements for the repayment of negotiations loans that were incurred during our land claims negotiations are in progress. TKC will receive approximately \$13.8 million over five years, once the agreement is finalized.

In April, TKC was an important partner in the *Safe At Home* Forum. This well-attended, two-day event brought together a wide cross-section of individuals with lived experience, organizations, and governments to discuss how we are working to end and prevent homelessness across Yukon.

In June, the Council of Yukon First Nations held their Annual General Assembly in Dawson City. TKC had five delegates participate in the meetings. TKC also participated in the Yukon Forum in May and Intergovernmental Forum at the end of April. The forums included discussions on a number of shared priorities, including land use planning, child and family services, education, housing, and fiscal issues. As Co-Chair of the CYFN Chief's Committee on Education (CCOE), Chief Kane had multiple meetings with the CCOE, Yukon Government, and the Government of Canada regarding the status of education for Yukon First Nation students and moving towards a First Nation-controlled education system. The CCOE is in the process of establishing an Education Directorate and alongside, TKC is exploring establishing an education agreement with Yukon Government. TKC has also had opportunities to contribute feedback regarding legislation with the transition of Yukon College to Yukon University.

Citizens met almost weekly from March to May, with the Da Daghay Development Corporation to further develop plans for our new Administration Building. Draft design concepts and discussions on the ideal site for the building are ongoing.

TKC was happy to be able to offer summer programming for TKC children throughout June and July, followed by culture camp and a family camp in August. We encourage all families to attend and participate in this special time where we can connect with each other and our land.

Please continue to watch for events in our monthly bulletins, on our website and on Facebook.

In unity,

Chief Kristina Kane & Deputy Chief Christina Peters

Council Notes

During the last few months Council dealt with a wide variety of matters. Council approved to be a signatory on a Heritage Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between ten other self-governing Yukon First Nations (YFN) and Yukon Government. The goal of this agreement is realizing the objectives of *Chapter 13–Heritage* of the Final Agreement. In terms of collaborating with other YFNs, another MOU was signed, but this time about mining. Most of the expertise was provided by other First Nations including Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Nacho Nyak Dun, who have significant mining activity on their Traditional Territories. They were amongst those who led the way and established recommendations for the Mining MoU. Lastly, TKC's cooperation with nine other self-governing First Nations was approved by Chief and Council on the issue of Income Tax Sharing.

Salmon were also on the agenda and Council approved two contribution agreements to enable Ta'an to continue to prioritize the work in the restoration of the Chinook Salmon stock at Fox Creek, which is especially critical following last year's unfortunate events at the hatchery.

Following damage caused by flooding water in the spring of 2018, Council approved the replacement of the roof of the current Administration building, which is to begin in August. This follows work to replace the flooring on the lower level of the building.

Elisha Sidoun
Clerk of the Council
clerkofcouncil@taan.ca
(867) 668-3613

Council approved Yukon Government and the Government of Canada to begin its assessment in the remediation and reclaiming of a long inactive placer mining site on a Settlement Land Parcel just off the Klondike Highway near Horse Creek. YG and Canada will be funding the entirety of the site remediation.

Separately, Council, has significantly advanced work on the Physical Activity Fund Policy. The purpose of policy is to encourage Citizens to be physically active in order to promote good physical and mental health, as well as improve physical fitness. The policy is at the legal review stage and will be back at Council table in the near-term.

In Implementation matters, a renewal of the Financial Transfer Agreement was extensively negotiated, brought back to Council and in turn approved. Moreover, a large sum (~\$13.8M) was negotiated as part of the Negotiations Loans Repayment.

The Elders Council dealt with a variety of topics and issues with the main focus during this period being on the renewed Rules of Procedure of the Judicial Council (TKCJC). The TKCJC as well as Councilors attended two Elders Council meetings for an in-depth review.

The Da Daghay Development Corporation attended Chief and Council to discuss the ongoing Administration Building Project and Phase 2 of the Riverbend project. Council decided that the extensive public consultation on the Administration building had run its course and that DDDC were to proceed forward with the project and the funding applications. Regarding Riverbend, TKC has been allocated eight units in Phase 2.

Last but not least, Chief and Council have decided to set the General Assembly for October 4, 5, and 6, 2019. Stay tuned for more details.

Da Dán Dzenu Shà Kwath'än/Indigenous Peoples Day 2019



Watching the Totem Pole unveiling at YG



Unveiling of the restored totem pole, carved by the late Tsimshian hereditary Chief William Jeffrey that the British Columbia government gifted to the Yukon in 1971.



John and Nakhela



Raising the Indigenous Policing Flag at M Division



Welcoming remarks from Chief Kane



RCMP Indigenous Policing Services Flag



Hanging out at Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre!

Let's Hear It For The Dancers!



Practice at Helen's Fish Camp



Showin' em how it's done!



Hanging at the Lake



Beautiful dance vests!



One fluid motion!



Taking the stage at Adäka

Looking for work opportunities?

We would love to meet with you!

**TKC is accepting resumes for
casual/on call employees.**

Positions include cooks, receptionists &
other fill-ins as needed.

Please send your resumes to
rkufeldt@taan.ca and include your
area of interest and availability.



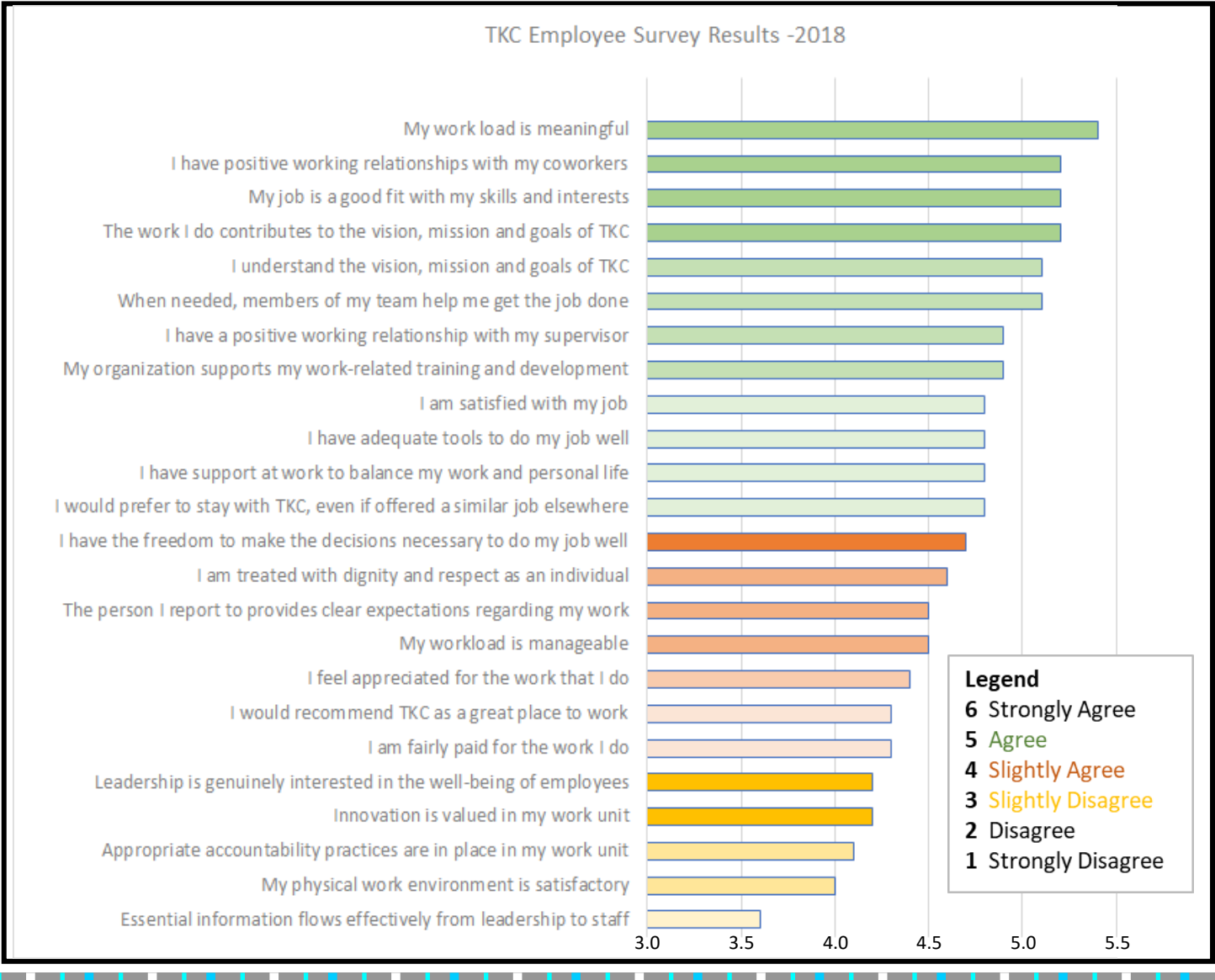
Employee Engagement & Morale Survey

In 2018, an independent survey was given to TKC staff to look at their overall satisfaction with working at TKC. All employees were provided with a paper survey containing 30 questions and a space for general narrative or story sharing. The response rate was very good (over 90%) with 38 completed surveys submitted.

Questions in the *Employee Engagement & Morale Survey* related to the following themes:

- Organization commitment
 - Job satisfaction/Suitability
 - Vision, Mission, Goals
 - Compensation
- Empowerment
 - Respectful/Healthy Environment
 - Stress and Workload
 - Teamwork
- Tools/Job Descriptions
 - Training and Development
 - Supervisory Level Leadership
 - Senior Leadership

Overall, employees are happy in their jobs and feel a strong commitment to the organization and the work that they do. There was a high level of agreement that the work of employees is meaningful and contributes to the vision, mission and goals of TKC. Employees have positive relationships with their coworkers and have a strong sense of teamwork. These results are to be celebrated. Areas of improvement related to the physical office space, appropriate accountability structures, and effective communication between leadership and staff. Overall, majority of employee responses agreed or strongly agreed with the statements in the survey (see Figure below).



Ta'an Kwach'an Council Online:

Follow TKC online at www.taanan.ca.

Tune in for community information, citizen news and upcoming events.

Follow us on Facebook!

(search Ta'an Kwäch'än Council)



Chìch'a dakwäch'a?

How is it outside?

Sha njsha: It is raining

Sha kwänlj: It is sunny

Ints'i dhäl nits'i: A warm wind is blowing

Ûr nàjèagwát: It is foggy

From the Southern Tutchone Phrase Book, Tàá'an Män Dialect, by Hazel Nakhela Bunbury. Available at TKC

Ta'an Kwach'an Council General Assembly

We encourage Citizens to attend the General Assembly set for **October 4 - 6, 2019** at the **Grey Mountain Banquet Room** at **Mount McIntyre Recreation Centre**.

- The deadline for the submission of Constitutional Amendments is **September 9, 2019**.
- In accordance with S. 6.11 of the Constitution: "Each Traditional Family shall provide written notice to the General Assembly prior to the meeting, signed by the Family Head and elder, identifying its six representatives for each meeting of the General Assembly".

For submissions or any questions please contact **Clerk of the Council, Elisha Sidoun** at clerkofcouncil@taan.ca or (867) 668-3613 ext.210. If you are uncertain if your suggestion is a Constitutional Amendment, you should still contact Elisha.

Our hard work, unity and vision for our Nation will create an empowered and prosperous future for our children and grandchildren.

Yukon First Nation Graduation

The Yukon First Nation Graduation Ceremony was first held in 1975 with six students. The ceremony celebrates the importance of education and culture and has continued this tradition for over four decades.

This year, the 44th Yukon First Nations Graduation Ceremony was held at the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre, celebrating 94 graduates! In a sea of regalia reflecting 26 different nations, graduates and celebrants gathered at the banks of Chu Ni Kwan



(Yukon River) as the Selkirk Spirit Dancers drummed in the procession. The excitement of success and future dreams floated in the air with the rhythm of the drum. Ta'an Kwäch'än Council is proud of our four high school graduates represented this year. **Dylan Massie, Kadin Hare, Bêlit Peters** and **Sarrah Telep** worked hard to achieve one of the first adult milestones. As they move into their future, we wish them much success and fulfillment.



TKC High School Graduates!



Chief Kane with MC Luke Campbell



Sarrah Telep and Family

Post secondary graduates celebrated advances in their education. LeaAnne Geddes received a certificate in the Health Care Assistant program; Thalia Hare received a Bachelors of Social Work Degree from the University of Saskatchewan and Yukon College; Dean Smarch received a Diploma in Business Administration from Yukon College, and Caroline Grady received a JD in Law from the University of Victoria. Ta'an Kwäch'än Council wishes great success to all graduates in their future endeavours!



Thalia Hare



Caroline Grady



Kadin Hare and Family



LeaAnne Geddes



Dylan Massie and Family



Bêlit Peters and Family

TKC Social Well-Being

In Budget 2018, Canada announced \$189.2 million for modern treaty nations to reduce socio-economic gaps in communities, as compared to the broader Canadian population.

TKC will be able to access up to \$2.8 million over two years, once a socio-economic gap assessment and action plan are completed. The assessment will identify gaps such as infrastructure, housing, and programming for Citizens. From this, an action plan will be developed.

Taylor Zeeg, Tributary Project Services has been awarded the contract to lead this process. We will also be hiring TKC Citizens to be a part of Taylor's team to assist with the research.

Over the coming months, Taylor and his team will be reaching out to Citizens and asking you to participate in information gathering related to a variety of subjects including housing, recreation, community safety, and more. Citizen participation will help us to identify the socio-economic, infrastructure and housing gaps.

We encourage you to participate, as we will be using this information to access funding to strengthen and improve TKC infrastructure and programs. The information collected will be a powerful tool that will assist in determining how to improve the lives of our Citizens.



Taylor Zeeg

For more information please contact **Barb Joe** at (867) 668-3613 x211 or ImplementationOffice@taan.ca





SIMON FRASER
UNIVERSITY



Council of Yukon
First Nations

Simon Fraser University and Yukon Native Language Centre First Nation Language Proficiency (FNLTP) Programs – Fall 2019

Certificate of First Nation Language Proficiency

For students who wish to acquire conversational and literacy skills in a First Nations language, to teach this language in schools, or to enhance their language for cultural reasons or professional objectives. All courses are taught with the expertise of fluent speakers of the language and/or are team taught by a linguist and a fluent speaker or elder.

FNLG 133 – Introduction to First Nations Language I (3)

FNLG 134 – Introduction to First Nations Language II (3)

FNLG 130 – Practical Phonetics for First Nations Languages (3)

FNLG 335 – Topics in First Nations Language I (3) – Language Revitalization

FNLG 435 – Topics in a First Nations Language II (3) – Language Learning and Recordings

FNLG 433 – Mentor-Apprentice Learning I (3)*

FNLG 434 – Mentor-Apprentice Learning II (3)*

Diploma of First Nation Language Proficiency

For students who wish to acquire high intermediate to advanced oral proficiency in a First Nations language, to revitalize their languages in their communities by contributing to restore intergenerational transmission through institutional and family-oriented use of the language, to teach this language in schools or to adult learners, and to develop resources for First Nations Language learners at all levels.

FNLG 433 – Mentor-Apprentice Learning I (3)*

FNLG 434 – Mentor-Apprentice Learning II (3)*

**FNLG 433 and FNLG 434 (Mentor Apprentice courses) require you to have a fluent speaker to work with.*

Registration begins on July 29, 2019

Enrollment forms will be posted on the YNLC website.

All courses run from 8:30am to 4:30pm. See registration forms for course dates.

For further information, please phone (867) 668-8820 or e-mail info@ynlc.ca.

For program descriptions please visit:

<https://www.sfu.ca/students/calendar/2019/spring/programs/first-nations-language-proficiency/certificate.html>

or

<https://www.sfu.ca/students/calendar/2019/spring/programs/first-nations-language-proficiency/diploma.html>

The certificate and diploma can be completed on a full or part-time basis. Courses are available to be offered in cooperation with local First Nations communities and language authorities. Courses in other locations and/or in other languages can be offered at the request of the First Nation communities.



Ta'an Fun in the Summer



Summer Sun

MMIWG Final Report

On June 3rd 2019, the Final Report of the National Inquiry Into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA* was released.

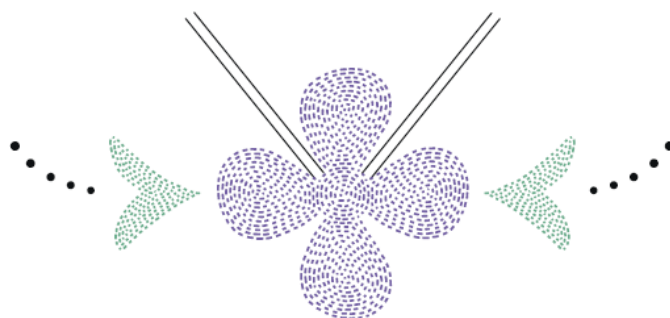
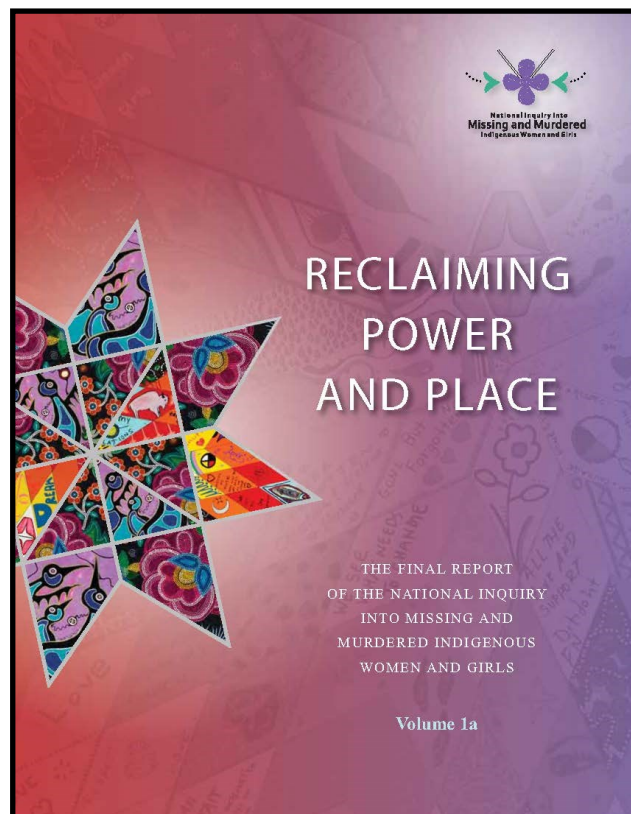
The National Inquiry's Final Report reveals that persistent and deliberate human and Indigenous rights violations and abuses are the root cause behind Canada's staggering rates of violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA people. The two-volume report calls for transformative legal and social changes to resolve the crisis that has devastated Indigenous communities across the country.

The Final Report is comprised of the truths of more than 2,380 family members, survivors of violence, experts and Knowledge Keepers shared over two years of cross-country public hearings and evidence gathering. It delivers 231 individual **Calls for Justice** directed at governments, institutions, social service providers, industries and all Canadians.

As documented in the Final Report, testimony from family members and survivors of violence spoke about a surrounding context marked by multigenerational and intergenerational trauma and marginalization in the form of poverty, insecure housing or homelessness and barriers to education, employment, health care and cultural support. Experts and Knowledge Keepers spoke to specific colonial and patriarchal policies that displaced women from their traditional roles in communities and governance and diminished their status in society; leaving them vulnerable to violence.

Read the full report at <http://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca>

* 2SLGBTQQIA = Two-spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual, Queer, Questioning, Intersex, Asexual



Da Daghay Development Corporation

In early June 2019, DDDC secured funding with Yukon Government for a unique opportunity to visit some southern BC First Nations to view their administration buildings and businesses, to provide ideas for the planning of the new TKC administration building. Chief and Council appointed a few delegates to attend and DDDC asked Elders and youth as well. In total, twelve people had the opportunity to go.

The purpose of the tour was to:

- > Gain a better understanding of economic and land development opportunities that other First Nations are working on.
- > Gain an understanding of the synergies in development ideas and opportunities and explore how these can be incorporated or adopted by Yukon First Nations.
- > Exchange ideas, histories, and lessons learned in business and economic development.
- > Develop collaborative relationships with other First Nations in developing future endeavours.
- > Be inspired by other cultural and administration buildings, view how cultural identity is woven into these spaces, and understand challenges in the journey from visioning to completion.

To meet the purposes outlined, the group visited multiple locations in BC. The places included:

- > Okanagan Nation Alliance
- > ƛ́ ƛ́ ƛ́ ƛ́ Hatchery
- > Osoyoos Indian Band
- > Nk'Mip Desert Cultural Centre
- > Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre
- > Skwachays Lodge Hotel and Art Gallery
- > UBC Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre
- > Museum of Anthropology

While the trip was long and the delegation had a packed agenda, it was well worth it. At the following DDDC community gathering meeting, the delegates explained the places they visited and shared their stories and experiences with the TKC Community.



Signing of Heritage Management Agreement



Chief Kristina Kane and Minister Jeanie Dendys

A Memorandum of Understanding establishing a formal process for collaboration on heritage management between the Government of Yukon and Yukon First Nations was signed at an official ceremony during the May 30, 2019, Yukon Forum in Carmacks, Yukon. The agreement is the result of extensive work by the Heritage Working Group, comprised of representatives from all 11 self-governing First Nations, the Council of Yukon First Nations and Government of Yukon. The Memorandum of Understanding lays the foundation for all parties to work towards a clear and constructive process for heritage matters throughout the territory, including archaeological and paleontological discoveries, cultural artifacts, and the stewardship of heritage and historic sites. Through this working group, the First Nations and YG will establish an effective process and collaborative working group to advance Heritage priorities.

Chief Kane providing remarks at the CANDO
Yukon Links to Learning conference in June.



Ädéch'är/Going Fishing

King Salmon: **Gyü**

Pike: **Tàte**

Inconnu: **shür**

Chum (dog) salmon: **thi**

Whitefish: **fù**

Rainbow Trout: **mbetà**

Sockeye Salmon: **sàmbäy**

Sucker: **tàts'at**

Lingcod: **kwäsu**

Trout: **mbèt**

Grayling: **t'äwà**

What kind of music do killer whales listen to?

The Orca-stra!

Why do some fish swim in salt water?

Because pepper water would make them sneeze!

Why don't Fish go on vacation?

Because they are always in school!

What Birthday Party Game do fish like to play?

Salmon Says!

My Son (MAN SPEAKING) is fishing (by hook) **Äyea ädéch'är**

My older sister is fishing for grayling **Ämbàdà t'äwa ka ädéch'är**

My father is setting a fish net **Äta cheməl chè tl'ı**

My Grandmother is cutting king salmon for hanging **Äsıą gyü dekät'äw**

My Mother is cutting king salmon for drying **Ämà gyü äk'à**

From the Southern Tutchone Phrase Book, Tàá'an Män Dialect, by Hazel Nakhela Bunbury. Available at TKC.

Tän Tágà Shro

On June 5th 2019, representatives from Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, Kwanlin Dün First Nation, and Yukon Government, gathered at beautiful Wolf Creek Campground to celebrate the opening of a new wheelchair accessible interpretive trail. Minister of Environment Pauline Frost, TKC Heritage Technician Anne-Marie Miller, Kwanlin Dün First Nation Councillor Jessie Dawson as well as Elders and project partners were on hand for the official opening.

Tän Tágà Shro, or "trail (to the) big river," was developed collaboratively by the Government of Yukon, Kwänlin Dün First Nation, Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, and the City of Whitehorse. It is the territory's second wheelchair accessible trail. The trail features interpretive signage in English, French and Southern Tutchone – the first of its kind in Yukon territorial parks. The place names, maps, and signposts for the trail are also written in Southern Tutchone. The translation of the place names were provided by TKC Culture and Language Holders, Hazel Nakhela Bunbury, and Shirley Adamson.



Photo credit: YG-A. Maitland



Photo credit: YG-A. Maitland



Roberta A. and Francis Woolsey enjoying the trail



TKC and APTN taking in the signs



One of the many interpretive signs on the new trail



The crew overlooking Chu Ni Kwan (Yukon River)



Gail Anderson with APTN



Rock Climbing Youth

Throughout the summer months, TKC Youth have been participating in many fun activities! One such activity saw the Youth get together with Climbing Access Yukon Society for a rock climbing night at Porter Creek Secondary School.

TKC Youth are accustomed to achieving great heights in all they do, and that includes climbing the walls!





Photo: Parks Canada

Stories on the Big Boat

On July 6th 2019, Ta'an Kwäch'än Council and Kwanlin Dün First Nation Elders joined Parks Canada for storytelling and sharing of memories in honour of Canada Historic Places day.

TKC and KDFN Elders told stories about river travel, local wood camps, the Yukon River, Whiskey Flats and historic fishing locations in the Yukon.

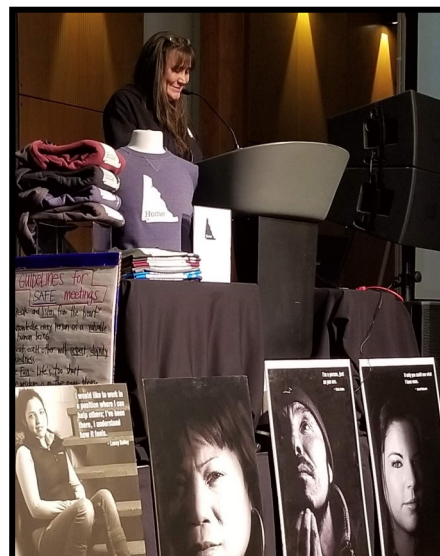


RCMP Reconciliation Garden

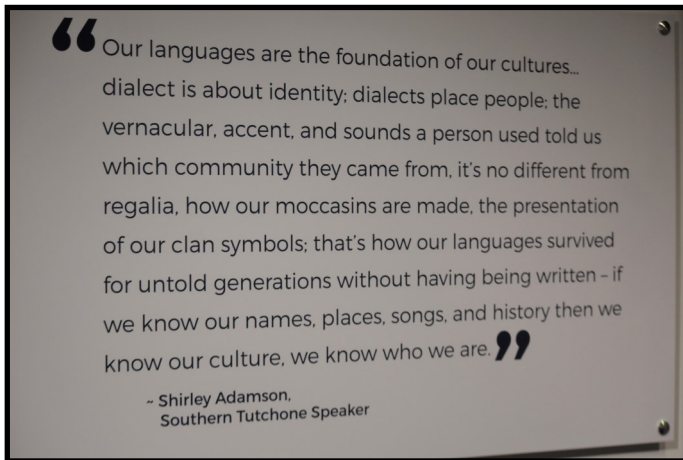
TKC and KDFN with the RCMP "M" Division in Whitehorse, planted a reconciliation heart garden in early summer. Similar initiatives have been taking place in communities across the North. An official opening ceremony will follow in the Fall.

Safe At Home Forum

Deputy Chief Peters provided welcome remarks to delegates at the Safe At Home Community Action Forum on April 23, 2019. TKC is an active partner of the *Safe At Home Community Action Plan to End Homelessness* and contributed funding and to the planning of the Forum.



We Are Our Language



Language Keeper Shirley Adamson with her grandson, Joseph

In celebration of 2019 as the Year of Indigenous Languages, the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre, in partnership with the Council of Yukon First Nations and the Yukon Native Language Centre presents: ***We Are Our Language***. The exhibit opened on June 29th, during the Adäka Cultural Festival at the Hudę Njü Kú Gallery in the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre and runs until October 2nd, 2019.

Arctic Winter Games 2020



On April 6th, Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, along with Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Council of Yukon First Nations signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the International Committee and Host Society of the Arctic Winter Games (AWG). The MOU highlights AWG 2020's commitment to active engagement with Yukon First Nations throughout the Games planning and the event itself. The Arctic Winter Games will be celebrating their 50th anniversary and they will be held in Whitehorse, March 15-21, 2020.

AWG are seeking volunteers! Check out <https://awg2020.org> for more details.

Our Place Names

Nètdinlin

(Roaring Bull Rapids)

Nètdinlin is located at an area on the Teslin River (Dèlin Chù) at the mouth of the Indian River (Dän Tágà). The Southern Tutchone name translates to “water flows downhill”, as the water from the Indian River flows quickly into the Teslin River and creates small rapids during periods of low water.



Tli Yel Ätan

(Miller Lake or Dog Pack Lake)

This lake is east of Lake Laberge and the Southern Tutchone translation roughly refers to “dog pack laying there.” Tli Yel Ätan is located in the proximity of traditional trails that went from Lower Laberge overland to the Teslin River. Many people fished at the Lake when they were travelling and it was called “dog pack laying there” because that was a food source similar to food that would be stored in a dog pack. The Lake is also the source of Miller Creek (Toshik Chù) where the English name is derived from.



Feeling Overwhelmed?

YSS
YOUTH SUPPORT SERVICES

What is YSS?

Youth Support Services at Skookum Jim Friendship Centre is a program for all youth aged 12-24. We are a team of support workers who are here to help you with (almost) anything!

YSS Can Help You:

- Get Identification
- Navigate Government Services
- Housing and College Applications
- Connect to Resources
- and more!

 Monday - Friday:
9 am to 5 pm

 3159 - 3rd Avenue,
Whitehorse YT

 867-633-7688

 SJFCSSY@northwestel.com

  Funded by the
Department of Health
and
Social Services



Jordan's Principle ensures First Nation children receive the public services they need.

Does your child need health and medical support? Examples of eligible funded services are: speech language therapy, occupational therapy, specialized medical equipment, parental FASD training, and sensory toys. Please call CYFN at 1-833-393-9200 and speak to one of our staff.

JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE
a better future starts today



Ta'an Kwäch'än Council

117 Industrial Road

Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2T8

Telephone: 867-668-3613

E-mail: info@taan.ca

Citizens, please remember to forward your changes of address.



**Do you have a story you would like to see featured in the newsletter?
We are looking for stories and photos (new and old) of Citizens to feature!
Contact the Communications Office at: 668-3613, ext. 204 or by email at:
communicationsoffice@taan.ca.**