



Nen ye, tu ye da ne dii kânáda
 Aat á x yaa has na.át. aáni ka heen
 Nän ye, chu jutzän da näll ye - Nan ye chu ye ts'adnäl
 How We Walk with the Land and Water



How We Walk With Land & Water

- Looking Back -

What We Have Been Doing

The How We Walk with the Land and Water (HWW) team hosted three large engagement events this past year. In April we hosted two Open Houses, one in Whitehorse at Mount McIntyre Recreation Centre and one in Carcross at Haa Shagóon Hídi.

The Renewed Charter Signing Ceremony took place on May 30, 2024, in the M'Clintock area. The Renewed Charter is a commitment of our three Nations (Carcross/Tagish First Nation, Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council) to work together for the betterment of our three communities, the land, water and all beings - to prepare for and meaningfully participate in Indigenous-led Land and Water Relationship Planning processes, consistent with natural law and traditional customs.



← Belit Peters interviews Elder Charlie James

Bélit Peters, HWW Youth Community Coordinator, interviewed citizens from each Nation. This was well-received, with about six interviews taking place over the two days. Bélit is now currently pulling land & water relationship values from the interviews that will help support HWW's Calls-to-Action.

Renewed Charter Signing

Ceremony

The Renewed Charter Signing Ceremony took place on a beautiful, sunny day, bringing together Elders, Leaders, Citizens, and staff of the three Nations to celebrate the renewed commitment to working together. The sacred fire opened the afternoon in a meaningful way, creating a space for attendees to introduce themselves and share thoughts and memories about HWW.



The signing of the Renewed Charter was a historic moment, with Chief Amanda Leas, Chief Sean Smith, and Deputy Kaa Shaa Du Hen Darla-Jean Lindstrom representing their Nations in this ongoing commitment to working together.

Family of honouree Elder Charlie Burns ➡

An important part of the day was the presentation of gifts to honour those who have been involved in and contributed to HWW, including Elders that have passed.

Family members accepted gifts on their behalf and were able to share memories and teachings with everyone present. Our ancestors and Together Today for Our Children Tomorrow, broke trail for us all. We are grateful for this.



CBC Yukon was provided an exclusive briefing ahead of the event and was invited to attend. The HWW team was happy with the report: <https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/video/9.4877752>.

Next Steps

- **Governance Committee**

Establish HWW Governance Committee – the three nations have signed the Renew Charter and committed to the establishment of a HWW Governance Committee(GC). The GC role is to advise and provide overall strategic direction to the initiative, to have Government to Government discussions, and initiate land and water relationship planning. Next steps are to draft a mandate or TOR to help people understand what is being asked of them, the role of the GC, how often do they meet?

- **Calls to Action**

Calls-to-Action/Policy Development - The Calls to Action will aim to consider and provide solutions in guiding decision-making processes, regional planning processes, recreational and residential land use, Indigenous land-uses and subsistence, water and land travel routes, wildlife corridors, fish and wildlife migration routes, seasonality – in ways which are based on our Ancestors' Ways.

