

August 2024 Bulletin

Ta'an Kwäch'än Council - 117 Industrial Road , Whitehorse, YT



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EVENTS & COMMUNITY NOTICES

Election for Chief & Deputy Chief October 21, 2024

There will be an election for Chief and Deputy Chief on Monday October 21, 2024. Details will be posted shortly through the Chief Returning Officer, Colleen Craft. For all election information contact Colleen at tckelection.cro@gmail.com.



Special Salmon Event at TKC Fish Camp August 20-23, 2024

TKC Citizens are welcome to meet at TKC Fish Camp for a week of cutting, smoking and canning salmon. The event is set to take place August 20-23, from 9:30-3:30 daily. Snacks and lunches provided. Plans for the event include viewing YFN Genealogy charts, the examination of Ice Patch artifacts, as well as boat rides to the Old Village. Citizens can also enter to win prize draws! Come for the fun and to enjoy each other's company! Take in the whole week or come when you can. For more information contact Debbie Burns at (867) 668-3613 ext. 702.



School Council Vacancies

Have you ever considered sitting on a School Council? Did you know that TKC has upcoming vacancies on School Councils at:

- Elijah Smith Elementary School
- Whitehorse Elementary School
- Porter Creek Secondary School
- FH Collins Secondary School

These seats will involve a term from August 26, 2024 to May of 2026. We are looking for a parent, grandparent or other TKC citizen interested in being a representative for Ta'an students to sit on these Councils to provide advice on school programming, staffing, transportation and other important matters related to our student's education. Honoraria is provided per meeting. Please contact Development Manager, Charles Pugh, at 867-668-3613 ext. 408 or email developmentmanager@taan.ca for more

information about this exciting opportunity. The deadline is August 26, 2024.



Elders Meeting set for September 17 9:30am-4:00pm

TKC Elders will be gathering for a meeting on Tuesday September 17 at the Golden Age Society meeting room. The meeting will start at 9:30am with lunch and snacks provided. For more information, or to arrange a ride, please contact Francis Van Kessel, Elders Coordinator at (867) 668-3613 ext. 414 or email elderscoordinator@taan.ca. To attend the meeting via Zoom, please contact Victoria Holmes, Clerk of Council, at (867) 668-3613 ext. 210 to arrange an access link.



Salmon Conservation Mentorship Now Open – Youth Ages 18-35

To Swim and Speak with Salmon is an Indigenous-led project now recruiting Indigenous youth (ages 18-35) from the Yukon Territory, Alaska, and British Columbia for a special intermittent training opportunity. Through collaboration with Indigenous and First Nation knowledge holders, spiritual leaders, salmon people, Indigenous salmon biologists and managers, the youth will gain knowledge through stories of salmon culture and relationships. This will follow with trips throughout the Yukon, Alaska, and British Columbia. The program is seeking youth who already have a strong skill set and motivation to start from, such as those who have leadership and communication skills and/or may be employed in your Nation. Ideally, they will be from ages 25-35 but they will consider 18 and upwards with displayed maturity. This will be a two-and-a-half-year long intermittent commitment, with most travel taking place during summer (3-4 weeks) and some workshops taking place during the winter (3-4 weeks). You can expect youth to have 6-8 weeks of training over the course of a year. Please send letters of interest to Brandon Crawford, Supervisor of Fish & Wildlife at fishandwildlife@taan.ca.



TKC, KDFN and C/TFN gathered on Friday August 2nd at McClintock Bay Resort to honour our Southern Lakes Salmon Plan, celebrate salmon culture and discuss the successes and future work ahead in conserving our Yukon River Chinook. Ceremony, family activities, salmon cutting and a feast were all part of the festivities. Summer student Alex Lebarge, of the Lands & Resources Department won the grand prize, an ultimate outdoor camping set!



Citizens, please remember
to update your address, email, and
phone number with TKC!

In order to better serve you, it is
important we have your up-to-date
mailing address and phone number on file.

If your information has changed please
contact the Enrollment Office
at (867) 668-3613 ext. 304 or email

enroll@taan.ca



Shāw Nithän

**YOUR
VOTE
COUNTS**

We need
your address

NEWS DIGEST



Yukon Member of Parliament Brendan Hanley, TKC Chief Amanda Leas and KDFN Chief Sean Smith helped announce \$7.2 million in new funding dollars for both First Nations on July 22 in Whitehorse.

New Housing Horizons

Housing history is being made in the Yukon with the recent announcement to fast-track federal housing dollars to the Yukon First Nation level.

On July 22, Ta'an Kwach'an Council, the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Government of Canada announced new agreements that will bring 106 housing units over the next three years to both First Nations. These agreements are under the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF).

TKC's action plan under the funding will commit to

five local initiatives including creating a management system to streamline the construction of multiple units simultaneously as well as developing housing policy changes that will permit different approaches to residential land use.

“Many of our Citizens are living in substandard rental accommodation. Some of our Citizens live day-to-day in temporary housing, some living with extended family members as they have no where else to go. Many of our young families are unable to get their

foot in the door of homeownership because of the lack of availability. We want to change that reality,” Chief Leas told those gathered at the announcement. “Today’s agreement will help us fast-track our readiness for the development of 48 new housing units over the next three years and result in a total of 68 new affordable housing units over the next 10 years. This is exactly the type of progress we need.”

Chief Leas explained “as a self-governing First Nation who is competing with the housing needs across the country, this experience has taught TKC a lot and overall been a rewarding experience.”

“We are pleased with our results and the stronger relationships we’ve made with the Government of Canada, CMHC and the Yukon Government who have shared with us this journey.”

How much funding is TKC receiving through HAF?

- TKC will receive \$3.124 million through HAF.

What is TKC committing to?

- 5 Local Initiatives are projected to incentivize 44 additional permitted units over the next three years and 68 new affordable housing units over the next 10 years.

What are the TKC’s planned initiatives?

- Upgrade housing and infrastructure department and policies.
- Develop a municipal service agreement (MSA).
- Update inventory and management systems.
- Diversify community development.
- Update policies and procedures to support Citizenship homeownership.

At right:: The development now underway in Whistle Bend will see new affordable housing units ready for TKC Citizen occupancy for sometime in 2025.





By Teya Seguin

Our Summer Camp was wonderful this year, with plenty of kids and a variety of activities. Starting the first week we had 10 children joining us. We went fish sampling out at Fox lake, constructed paper mache volcanoes, and visited animals at the Wildlife Preserve. Week 2 involved glass blowing at Lumel Studios and laser tag, mini golf, and lots of fun and games with bubble soccer. We also had lots of fun with the bouncy castle and inflatable sumo wrestling. Week 3 began with a train trip from Fraser BC to Carcross, attending Culture Camp and rafting on the Yukon River. Week 4 we went rock climbing and dog walking with the Humane Society, We also had tie-dye beach day at Long Lake. Week 5 brought us disc golf, McBride Museum, a visit to the splash park as well as lots of art making and craft making sessions. Tie dying, beach day at long lake. Week 5 Disc Golf, MacBride Museum, Splash Park, Art making crafts, coloring and painting rocks and more Tie dying. Week 6 we ended the last week with Skateboarding Camp, and end of year Rafting Day on the Yukon River.



CYFN Wall of Honour



During the Council of Yukon's 2024 General Assembly, CYFN proudly added two Ta'an Kwäch'än Citizens Irene Adamson and Alice McGuire, to their CYFN Wall of Honour. Their legacy and contributions will continue to inspire us all!

**Irene Rose Adamson/Uka'Ts'inätayà
Wolf Clan/Agünda**

Irene was imperative to the formation and naming of the First Nation, now called Ta'an Kwach'an Council. As demonstrated by numerous news paper articles as well as in the memory of those from the beginning, those who met at the "Gym" of CYI in Riverdale. With her busy life, she made time to bring "Dun k'e" to the Old folks homes, making sure the Elders got to eat the food they had eaten all of their lives.

Irene held exceptional fluency in both Kwech'el Kwachin and English languages. She knew all the political goings on of the day as it affected First Nations People, which she explained to Elders and young people.

She helped with place names for Yukon Government, worked at Yukon Enrollment Commission, as a resource person for Kwanlin Dun First Nation, and in enrollment for CYFN in her later years. She worked extensively at YANSI (Yukon Association of Non-Status Indians) and was involved with Yukon Native Brotherhood. Irene taught Indigenous Language and culture in the schools and told stories of the People. Irene had many children with her husband John, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren who are still influenced by her strength and integrity to this day.

**Alice Pamela McGuire
Member of the Jenny Leberge Traditional Family
Member of the Wolf Clan/Agünda**

Alice was born in Whitehorse to William (Billy) Clethero from the Falkland Islands and Amy Leberge, member of Ta'an of Lake Leberge.

The family lived at Livingstone Creek which grew to be a mining camp with a trading post, post office and a 40-mile telephone line from the Hootalinqua Trading Post. She attended the Lambert Street school, Whitehorse Elementary and High School.

Alice married Dean McGuire in 1954 and lived in Dawson Creek where she attended Vocational School taking courses in accounting and administration.

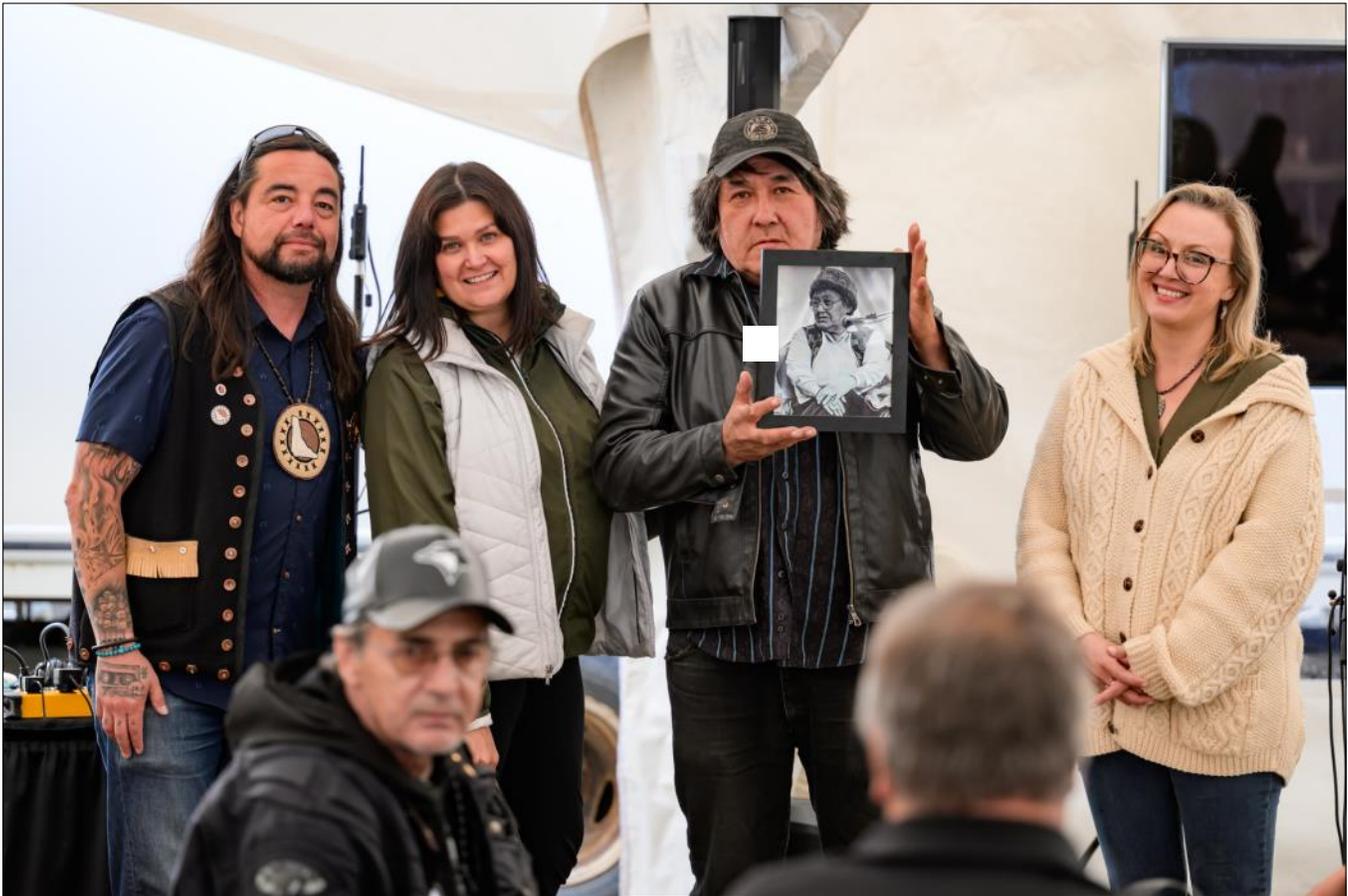
After moving back to Whitehorse, she got involved with the Yukon Indian News, the First Nation Special Police Program, Grey Mountain Housing Association and was later hired as the Manager of the Yukon Indian Centre. She also worked for the federal government as an outreach worker.

Two years later, Alice and Dean moved to Haines Junction and bought and ran the Blue Mountain Service Station, Motel and Cafe and the General Store.

Back in Whitehorse in 1978 she made history when she became one of two First Nations elected to the Yukon Legislative Assembly representing the Kluane district under the Liberal banner for four years. Alice enjoyed and felt confident as a Member of the Legislative Assembly. When asked if she would seek political office again, she responded “Being in the legislature is so time-consuming, it took up all of my life. I like to work independently, be on my own, so I am happiest working for myself.” Alice then worked for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation for a period of time in 1987/88. In 1992 she began operating the Caribou Hotel in Carcross and was happily back in business for herself. She was an integral member of the Ta’an Kwäch’än Council and her dedication for preserving strength for community building will be forever missed. She was hardworking, self-sufficient and lived her life fearlessly and to the fullest. She was a great cook, and a tremendously gifted storyteller.



Thelma Sawyer, Ruth Massie, Grand Chief Peter Johnston, Frances McGuire, John McGuire, Roberta Auston and Bobby McGuire.



Grand Chief Peter Johnston, Chantal Genier, Kevin Adamson and Delilah Pillai.



*Welcome to
TKC's newest
staff members!*



Heather Profeit
Assistant Finance Manager

Hello Taan Elders, Citizens, and fellow co-workers, my Tlingit name is Khasamdu.axh and my English name is Heather Profeit. I belong to the Ishkitan clan in Teslin and from the Crow motiety and am a member/beneficiary of Kwanlin Dün First Nation. My career in Finance started over 34 years ago and I have worked for various First Nations. I am married and have two daughters, 5 grandsons and a brand new granddaughter that blessed our family on July 26, 2024. I have worked for TKC for a short term in the past and am very happy to be back again. I look forward to being a part of the Finance Team. I love learning new ways of accounting and the programs also. When I am not working, I love to spend time with my grandbabies, also being on the land whether its berry picking, hunting, fishing, gathering medicines or just camping. During the long winter months, I love to bead/sew and learn as I go. My parents were the late Emma and Russell Sam Sr. My dad came from Lake Lebarge and I know he would be proud that I am working here. My mom's family comes from Teslin. I hope to meet you all at some point and look forward to you popping in to say Hi anytime! You can reach Heather at (867) 668-3613 ext. 307 or email assistfinmanager@taan.ca.

Tania is a citizen of Ta'an Kwäch'än Council and a member of the Jenny Dawson traditional family. Tania spent the past 6 weeks working at TKC's summer camp and had the opportunity to connect with a few of TKC's youth. Tania is honoured to play a role in nurturing the next generation, fostering their talents and encouraging them to embrace their unique identities. Through her work she strives to create a supportive environment where every young person feels valued and empowered to pursue their dreams. You can reach Tania at (867) 334-8306 or by email at youthsupport@taan.ca.



Tania Pope
**Youth Outreach
Support Worker**

At age 8, Casey moved from Edmonton, Alberta to Whitehorse and grew up on the shore of Shallow Bay (Màn Tl'át). After graduating from high school, she returned to Alberta for post-secondary studies and earned her Bachelor of Science in Geography with a Concentration in GIS from the University of Lethbridge. She returned to the Yukon in 2011 to work in the booming mineral exploration industry and has since worked in a variety of roles, from soil sampler and camp cook, to GIS and data management specialist and licensing/permitting agent for placer miners. Most recently, Casey worked as Lands Manager for Newmont Mining Corporation where she was responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the company's mineral claims and land tenures in the Yukon, BC and NWT. Aside from mapping, she enjoys fishing and getting out on the land with her husband and two kids, as well as working on her many unfinished beading projects. Casey is excited to join the TKC team and looks forward to helping the Lands and Resources department expand and improve our GIS and mapping capabilities. Citizens are welcome to reach out to Casey for maps and other spatial data requests. You can reach Casey at (867) 668-3613 ext. 606 or email gisanalyst@taan.ca.



Casey Cardinal
GIS Coordinator and Site Analyst

New role for TKC Team Leader

TKC's senior staff member Charles Pugh has taken on a new role with our government. In late July, Charles accepted the role of Education & Development Manager with TKC.

Welcome to your new role Charles!



CYFN General Assembly



TKC's Youth Council member Brooklyn Massie didn't let an injury to her hand get in the way of her co-chairing the CYFN 44th Annual General Assembly held July 30-August 1 at TKC Fish Camp. The General Assembly was hosted by TKC. Congratulations Brooklyn for a job well done! Photos courtesy of Allistair Maitland Photography . Below are some archival photos CYFN had on display at their assembly.



Blast from the Past

Tiffany Eckert-Maret and Nicole Smith as youngsters.

Meetings of the Past

Dave Irvine, Kristina Kane and Gail Anderson attend a CYFN GA.

