



Selkirk First Nation



Fall 2016

SFN News • Volume 12 • Issue 3

Share, Care, Teach, Respect



# Hets Eday

## Telling Stories

Photo: Selkirk Spirit Dancers opening SFN 2016 General Assembly

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# A message from your Chief

Kevin McGinty

As we approach the end of 2016, we can reflect on the year and be proud of what we have accomplished as a community. As a Leader, it is inspiring to see Citizens collaborating for the betterment of our community and our people and working together on hard issues to find solutions that we can all live with.

We have entrusted people to work on our behalf through the Committees and these past few months we have witnessed real progress.

During the July General Assembly, Citizens gave clear direction regarding our Trust Fund. These important decisions let us, as a government; move forward with important initiatives such as housing. We have built and renovated many houses and we continue to improve living conditions for our Citizens. During the fall Special Assembly, Citizens adopted the proposed amendments to the SFN Election Act.

We have started to clear the site for the Childhood Development Centre. We hired an architect to develop a design and an engineer for the mechanical design. We are making sure we do it right so it meets the needs of our community and our little ones.

Council continues to work on its priorities. We have made important strides in Education. We are implementing the Education Memorandum of Understanding with Yukon Government and every 6 months I meet with the Minister of Education to make sure everything is going, as it should be. Also, SFN works closely with the



Eliza Van Bibber School to ensure our students are succeeding in their learning.

Our culture and language remain a priority. We continue to look for funding and good language programming. Our culture is vibrant and alive. We see this during the fish camps and in the fall, when families go on the land to harvest moose.

For the first time, we installed a sonar at the mouth of the Pelly River to count the Chinook Salmon. This provided us with important information on the health of the Chinook Salmon and it is helping us develop a management plan that will ensure that we have salmon for our future generations.

As we approach the holiday season, let us be thankful and also mindful of those that have passed and the families that are grieving these losses.

In the past years, I've grown and I've learned a lot. It's been an honour to serve you.

Chief Kevin McGinty



# Council Highlights 2016 (Spring, Summer, Fall)

**Financial Update:** This year, the Directors and Managers were able to present their workplans and proposed budgets for Council approval early enough that the SFN Operating budget was passed on June 6. In addition, the audit was completed for the General Assembly in July.

**Some of the events that Council attended these past months:**

- Halloween festivities
- Selkirk Renewable Resources Council honouring Linch Curry with a long service award
- Community Annual Orientation Day
- Community garden harvesting
- Richard and Audrey Baker's 50th wedding anniversary
- Farewell to Beth and Kevin
- Tour of the Minto Mine
- End of Year School Award

**Grand Chief Peter Johnston - CYFN General**

**Assembly:** the Chief and Council members attended the CYFN General Assembly in May; it was hosted by the Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation at Airport Lake. At the three-day gathering the new Grand Chief, Peter Johnson, was sworn in by acclamation. A fond farewell was given to former Grand Chief Ruth Massie for her many years of service to Yukon First Nations.

**Selkirk Development Corporation Shareholders:** the Chief and members of the Council are the principal shareholders in the Selkirk Development Corporation (SDC). As part of their Shareholder responsibilities, the Council holds quarterly meetings (4 times a year) to receive updates and provide direction to the Board of the SDC. The Council receives updates on all the Board's activities, including the Pelly Operations (Store, etc.). In 2017, the SDC will be holding meetings with Citizens in Pelly Crossing and Whitehorse. Details will be forthcoming in January.

**Governing Bodies Working Together:** Regular meetings are held by the Elders Council and Family Heads; the Chief or Council members attend these by invitation. The Chief will be attending an upcoming Elders Council meeting to provide updates on a number of items that have been requested.

**Community Infrastructure – Early Childhood**

**Development Centre:** the plans for building the new Early Childhood Development Centre are well underway. The clearing for the new building has started; it will be situated across the street from the Administration building. This has been in planning stages for some time, and the Council is looking forward to having the new building completed in 2017.

**Greetings to Families and Friends across the Nation:**

With the year 2016 coming to an end, Council would like to extend their best wishes to all. Christmas is an exciting time of the year, it brings back fond memories of the old traditions and gatherings with families and friends. It's a busy time of the year, not only preparing for the holiday season but also preparing our homes for the cold winter temperatures ahead. We encourage you to look out for one another within your communities. Best wishes to you, have a joyful and safe holiday season and may the New Year bring fresh hope and bright beginnings. Thank you for your encouragement, support and guidance throughout 2016

Mussi Cho in Unity

Chief McGinty, Deputy Chief Annabell, Councillors Milly, Lori, Shaheen, Ashley and George





**Skin Dress Exhibited** – Our very own Emma Alfred has her piece, Skin Dress, exhibited at the Public Gallery of the Yukon Art Centre. Emma's piece was chosen out of many, is part of a project connected to Aboriginal Curatorial Collective's biennial gathering, Kwän Mày Dàatth'i (Sit by the fire with us). Make sure to stop at the Yukon Art centre to see this beautiful piece of Art. Congratulations Emma!

## Elders in Edmonton

On August 22 to August 28, SFN Elders headed out to Edmonton. They had a busy schedule. They received a warm welcome wherever they went. They visited the Friendship Centre and the Poundmaker's Treatment Lodge. They also went to visit the Camsell Hospital Grave site where Danny Johnny rests. This brought back memories for some of the travelers since they went to the Camsell Hospital because of tuberculosis. The Elders trip was arranged by Betty Baptiste and Emma Alfred.

Elders are very thankful to have had this opportunity. Thank you to Chief and Council!

Thank you to Darcy, Ellie, Betty.  
See Emma for a full event report.







## Praise for Fort Selkirk

### Dear Organizers:

My husband and I took a visitor from Italy with us to this amazing day of stepping back in history and seeing this wonderful site that is still a huge part of your culture and tradition.

We all had a wonderful time. Everyone we met who was helping put on this day was kind and friendly. Your boat drivers were especially skilled and willing to talk about their experiences.

Thank you for preserving these buildings, using these buildings and keeping a good spirit alive.

Sincerely,  
Barb Evans-Ehricht  
Whitehorse Yukon

### Good afternoon

I had the privilege of staying at Fort Selkirk for the first time on the night of June 28th while paddling down the Yukon River from Carmacks to Dawson. What a wonderful site! The buildings are beautifully restored and the staff were really friendly and helpful. I also had the opportunity to hear a talk by Lone Christensen. This is definitely one of my favourite Yukon sites. I hope to return soon.

Thank you,  
Melissa Halpenny  
Whitehorse, YT



## Message from the Pool Managers

For the past two years, we have been spending our summer managing the pool in the beautiful community of Pelly Crossing. Originally from Montreal, Quebec, we were looking for new adventures and experiences away from the busy city. By hiring us, Selkirk First Nation and Pelly Crossing gave us the opportunity to work during the summer in a wonderful place that we never imagined visiting.

On June 1st 2015, we set foot in Pelly Crossing for our very first time. Having never been in a First Nation community before, we had no idea what to expect. We knew we wanted to keep an open mind and learn as much as possible about the First Nation culture. To our great content, we were very well welcomed and everyone was extremely friendly. Not only did we learn about the culture here in Pelly Crossing, but we also got the chance to participate in some important traditional events. We celebrated Aboriginal day with our community, and we also got invited to join a stick gambling team for the 28th annual Hand Games Championship.

We are proud to say that we are now the best stick gamblers in Montreal. It has also been great spending our entire summer at the pool with the kids of Pelly Crossing. We highly appreciate the children, they have a lot to teach us and we are very grateful and proud to have made a difference in their lives by teaching them how to swim.

We enjoyed last summer so much that we came back this year, three months was just not enough for us. It is great to be back and see the kids again and see how much they have changed. We have been living new adventures this year as well, hiking in beautiful mountains and visiting new communities.

We consider ourselves very lucky to have had the opportunity to work and live in such a great community. We are looking forward to many more summers in the Yukon.

Miguel Reynaud and Olivia Johnson  
Pelly Crossing Pool Managers







**Cultural Activities** – (Left) Elder Peter Johnny making a drum and (right) Balsam picking

## Grieving as a Community

Communication is the key to coping and growing as a community through grief. It is important to be together to talk, cry, rage, or even sit in silence. At the same time there should be respect for each person's way of handling his or her grief. Some people will grieve privately, others openly, and others a combination of these two styles. In many ways each community member will grieve alone depending on the relationship with the deceased.

Here are some suggestions to help with community grief:

- Expect that each person will grieve in their own particular way and at their own pace. This may affect your ability to support one another.
- Even though you may be really focused on this specific death, remember to take good

care of yourself. As much as possible get some physical exercise, eat well and sleep. Be gentle with yourself and others.

- Try to find balance between what is missing and what is here.
- Try to be sensitive to each other's feelings. Feelings are often difficult to verbalize. Listen to what is meant as well as to what is said.
- When appropriate, a hand on the arm or back gives comfort and a sense of closeness.
- Remember, the life stages of people (child, youth, adult) affect how they deal with their grief. So too does their personality, life experiences, and support systems.
- Remember, if the grief feels overwhelming; seek support from services in your community.

## Committee Updates

### CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

After consultation with SFN Citizens, the Constitution Committee presented their recommendations for amendments to the SFN Election Act to the General Assembly in July 2016.

Citizens wanted clarification regarding the amendments and requested that a Special Assembly be held in the fall to review the proposed amendments and also to appoint an Election Committee.



The Special Assembly passed the 2016 Election Act by consensus and appointed the Election Committee: Sharon Nelson, Gina Gill and Principal Elder, Amy Johnny.

Citizens also wanted to discuss the ability for Citizens residing outside of the Traditional Territory to run for Chief and also take part in legislative development. However, they realized that this matters needed more time for discussion. Citizens recognized the importance of these topics and decided that further discussions were needed and should include Citizens residing outside the Traditional Territory. The Constitution Committee was asked to hold discussion with Citizens in the next year.

The Assembly strongly recommended that SFN Administration and Constitution Committee consult further on these issues. The Assembly also directed the Committee to develop a Legislative/Consultation Process that everyone can agree on. The purpose of the Process would be to clearly outline expectations and obligations; how and when Citizens can

participate in the consultation process; and at what point the consultation would be done.

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

During the July 2016 General Assembly, the Finance Committee presented recommendations on how best to use the Minto Royalty. The Finance Committee developed these recommendations after consulting extensively with SFN Citizens for the last year. The General Assembly discussed at length the recommendations and the different options for the Fund keeping in mind the current state of the economy. Finally the General Assembly passed by consensus (no vote was needed) that there would be a one-time, last time distribution to Citizens and then, half of the remainder would go to the Selkirk Investment Fund; and the other half would go to a fund for Capital and Strategic Purposes. All future royalties will be distributed 50/50 between the Selkirk Investment Fund and the Capital and Strategic Purposes Fund.



### HOUSING COMMITTEE

The Housing Committee has accomplished a lot of work in the last few months. There were approximately 135 houses inspected and out of these inspection were 4 major renovations. Capital also built 6 new houses. They have established a point system that keeps the Committee from knowing who they select for getting their houses renovated or who gets a new house. This way, the people who are in dire need of new housing or renovations get it. In the New Year, the Housing Committee plans to meet with Citizens to inform them of their activities and also to get feedback.



# Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Study

Selkirk First Nation has an agreement with Casino Mining Corporation to fund a Traditional Land Use Study.

The study will focus on the western portion of the traditional territory of Selkirk First Nation and lies west of Klondike Highway, along Yukon River from Yukon Crossing to Coffee Creek to Wellesley Lake.

We are currently in the planning stages of the project and the interviews will start in winter 2017 and end in the Fall of 2017.

Purpose of the Traditional Land Use Study is to document past and present SFN traditional use of lands and waters within the SFN traditional territory.

The study will:

- establish historic and current conditions of SFN traditional use of the SFN traditional territory
- provide the basis for identifying the conditions

and measures necessary to conserve and protect SFN traditional use of land and water now and in the future.

The study will focus on SFN citizens resident in Pelly Crossing age 16 and over who are or have been active users of the land and water for hunting, fishing, and other traditional activities.

### **"Together We Can Make a Difference"**

We will collect and record patterns of traditional use. This includes:

- Interviews and discussions with elders and land users
- Historical and other existing information
- Mapping traditional uses including sites and activities.

Contact: Jennifer Lee, Director of Lands, Heritage and Resources, Selkirk First Nation, [governance@selkirkfn.com](mailto:governance@selkirkfn.com)

## Minto Mine – Community Update

Minto Mine Liaison continues to provide support to Selkirk First Nation Citizens with writing and updating resumes, recruitment, assisting Citizens with substance referrals, transportation support for test in Whitehorse and using the ASETS for financial support due to unemployment.

Presently, there are approximately 20 to 23 SFN Citizens employed at the Minto Mine. Their work include:

- Site Services – 13 Citizens (Labourers, Mine Tech., Surveyor, Sample Prep, Carpenter, Environmental Monitor, Warehouse apprentice, Maintenance clerk, heavy equipment operator, Mill Operation, Mill supervisor)
- Sodexo Company – 7 Citizens (Janitorial, housekeeping and kitchen/general help)

We continue to support our Citizens with employment and training opportunities. We have made inquiries at the Faro Mine with Parson Company. We will continue to pursue employment opportunities at the Faro Mine.

For information on temporary closure or closure, please contact the SFN Chief and Council.

### **Welcome New SFN Staff**

Tony Elwell – Human Resource Director

Debbie Trudeau – Executive Assistant

Marissa Blackjack – Administrative Assistant  
Lands

## General Assembly Highlights 2016

Over 80 Citizens attended the SFN General Assembly last July. The Assembly presents an opportunity for Citizens to hear about government initiatives, projects and plans.

The Assembly provides leadership, direction, priorities and mandates for Selkirk First Nation. All the governing bodies are accountable to the General Assembly.



**Sights from the GA** – (clockwise from top-left:) Mila Sawyer, a little Spirit Dancer. Chief McGinty giving opening address. Council listen to the Spirit Dancers thank you remarks. Newly Elected CYFN Grand Chief, Peter Johnston, attends SFN 2016 GA.



## May Gathering 2016

For the first time since its creation, the May Gathering was held in Minto Landing. The decision to hold it there was based on Elders advice and recommendations received from prior Gatherings. It marked the 16th anniversary of reporting on fish and wildlife.

The May Gathering is an important time for the three Northern Tutchone First Nations' to bring Elders together and share their knowledge. It is a time to be together as Northern Tutchone People; hear stories from the Elders; and participate in the traditional activities.

The May Gathering's main objective is to report to Northern Tutchone people on the health of fish and wildlife populations and share the traditional knowledge that comes from harvesting wild game such as fish, moose and other small animals.

A few of the highlights included welcoming visitors from White River First Nation and hearing Elder Stories. This year's agenda was diverse and touched upon:

- Pelly River Chinook Salmon and the sonar that was placed 20 km upstream of the river mouth of the Pelly River,
- Climate Change Project, and
- Report on the Moose Monitoring Project.

Mussi Cho

Teri-Lee Isaac, SFN Heritage Manager.





## Heritage Update

### Big Jonathan Heritage Center - 2016 Report

The Big Jonathan House Heritage Center opened mid May 2016 with two interpreters and Coordinator to operate the facility for the summer season. The Artist Onsite Project formerly Live Art Project was very successful. After sixteen years of funding from the Arts Fund, the project helps employ local artists who exhibit and perform their arts and crafts in front of visiting tourists in wall tents next to the Big Jonathan Heritage Center. Also, the museum displayed its most interesting exhibit, the moose skin boat. The boat was displayed in the middle of the museum which attracts a lot of visitors. With two new display cabinets, we were able to showcase more replicated objects which were made locally such as moccasins, babiche bag, and traditional tools.

Overall, the season was a success with over one thousand visitors to the Heritage Center.

Most visitors are impressed by how authentic our exhibits are. The tourists appreciate reliable information.

We continue to train staff and continue to improve the displays of our beautiful SFN heritage.

### Fall Cultural Camp – Minto Landing September 13-15, 2016

This year's Fall Cultural Camp was held from September 13 to 15 in Minto Landing. The annual Fall Cultural Camp started three years ago in Minto Landing and was led by the SFN Heritage Staff. Each year, the Eliza Van Bibber School collaborates with SFN Heritage to have the students involved in their traditional knowledge. The community and Elders are involved by either participation or teaching activities. They provide important traditional skills and knowledge.

This year, the Heritage Department started planning well in advance and sought input from the EVBS Principal to generate new ideas and



## Department Updates

ensure the Camp is successful. We believe this was our best Camp to date.

Participants are split into groups of four and go to each of the activities all through the day. This year's activities included Arts/Crafts, Hunter Education, Storytelling, Song/Dance, Snaring, Pitch Picking, Traditional Cooking, Mini Raft/Bush Camp Skills, Roles and Responsibilities, Grouse/Gopher hunting, Moose/Crow Call, Grouse Dance Contest. People from the community can participate wherever their interests lie. All of the teachers were split into groups with the students and were a huge help in bringing the students out to Minto and keeping them together.

We welcomed a couple of guests to participate in the activities. One of our guests was the Department of Education Superintendent, Lorraine Taillefer, and the other was the mother of Northern Tutchone daughters who had never visited Pelly or their traditional territory. They were very interested in camping in Minto. It was important to the mother to give her girls the experience of Northern Tutchone Culture.

On September 13th, we received a gift. During that evening, the moose monitors got a moose and donated it to the Cultural Camp. The maintenance guys set up a small cache for

the moose to hang for the night. The next day, the students learned how to cut up the moose meat. The meat was cut so each student could take some moose home. The rest of the moose was donated to the school for their graduation ceremony next June 2017.

The RCMP also participates in the Camp. This year, they donated gophers and grouse for the kids to prepare to eat at the camp.

The Lands and Resources Department staff lent a helping hand. They helped set up the camp; hunt for the moose; brought wood; set up the tents; made a cache; made the fire; and brought supplies back and forth from Minto to Pelly. The Selkirk First Nation Social Programs and Education Department contributed money and effort.

It takes a lot of planning, organising and coordinating to run a Cultural Camp. We couldn't do it without the help of other Departments, the School and the participants. We are very proud of this year's Cultural Camp.

Mussi Cho to everyone who attended and helped in this amazing event!

Until next year!  
The Heritage Department



## Education Update

Beginning in December, 2015 the Education Department was restructured and became Citizen Development Department to bring together all aspects of education services under a single department, and to focus on the efforts of the department on expanding and improving education services and employment & training programs to meet the needs of our citizens.

Citizen Development current programs, services and initiatives include:

- Child Care services and Early Childhood Education at the Dunya Ra Kats Inte Ku Daycare
- Student support services and cultural content at Eliza Van Bibber School (K-12)
- Post-Secondary Education Program
- Employment and Training Program
- Recreational programming at the school and in the community
- Mine Training and employment and seasonally scheduled community employment projects

### Attendance Works!

Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success from kindergarten through to high school. Families play a key role in making sure students get to school every day.

### Why Parents and Community Support Matters

Studies indicate that good schools become better schools when there is a strong connection with parents as part of the learning community. Parents have a primary influence on their child's attitudes towards school, their learning, and their future success.

The more families support their children's learning and educational progress, the more their children tend to do well in school and continue their education.

The positive results of a genuine partnership between parents and schools include improved student achievement, reduced absenteeism, better behaviour, and increased public confidence among parents in their children's schooling.

### Post-Secondary Education Highlights

My position commenced on June 28th, 2016 with the Citizen Development Department. My position requires me to assist Selkirk First Nation Citizens with their individual Post-Secondary Educational pursuits. Since I began working as the Post-Secondary Education Administrator the following are the highlights of my position so far:

1. Yukon College Post-Secondary Education Luncheon that took place on September 16th, 2016. We invited all the students that lived in Whitehorse.



**Above:** Story Telling at Eliza Van Bibber School



## Department Updates

2. Presidents Advisory Committee on First Nations Initiatives (PACFNI) was from October 4th to the 6th in Whitehorse at the Yukon College. The Committee is comprised of representatives from each 14 First Nations in the Yukon that works in the Post-Secondary field. The Committee meets on a quarterly basis and gives recommendations to the different programs that are offered at the College.

I enjoy working with the students and being part of the Citizen Development Department team. Please refer to SFN's website for post-secondary funding application deadlines.

Jessica Alfred  
Post-Secondary Education Administrator

Julia Joe  
Cultural/Education Liaison Coordinator

### **Activities in ASETS Program Dept. 2016**

Aboriginal Skills Employment and Training Strategy (ASETS) is busy with the Housing Maintainer Program since Oct.3, 16 and this

program will continue on until Dec. 16, 2016 and will resume in January 2017 to May 2017. Six (6) SFN citizens are currently training in this program. The maintainer program is geared toward community member who are in the ages 18 to 30. The six students will be training towards the Red Seal Certification. This is hands-on training that will give the students experience in carpentry, plumbing, electrical.

Other programs that were offered to SFN citizens included: Fish & Wild-life Monitoring Program. Six 6 SFN citizens completed their training and 3 were employed for the summer. This program provides knowledge and skills to work as Wild-Life Monitor Officer for Selkirk.

ASETS contributed wage subsidy for summer student employment. Summer Employment provides students with work experience such as: Greenhouse, Beautification Project, Recreation, Minto Resort and Pelly Store.

Two Selkirk Citizens are attending Yukon College Trades Program in Heavy Equipment Technician.

## **Citizen Development Department Staff**

### **Who's in the Citizen Development Department**

Director Citizen Development, Tara Roberts

Community Education Liaison Coordinator,  
Julia Joe

Recreation Coordinator, Jeremy Harper

Day Care Manager, Lori Sims

Minto Mine Liaison, Mary McGinty

Employment & Training Officer, Agnes McGinty

EVB Education Assistant, Kim Joe

EVB Education Assistant, Cody Sims

Post-Secondary Education Administrator,  
Jessica Alfred

ECDC Tannis Charlie and Maryann Sam

Two Recreation Youth Workers



**Above:** SFN's Beautification Project

## Lands and Resources Update

### Lands and Resources Creates New Positions

The Department recruited additional seasonal staff to assist with the monitoring of the SFN traditional territory. Due to the high volume of harvesting that occurs along the Pelly and

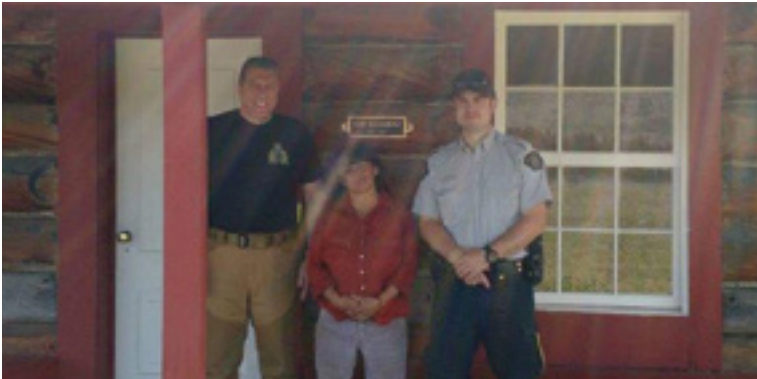
Yukon rivers during the moose-hunting season. Two monitors will patrol the rivers to ensure all hunters are in compliance with the SFN Agreements. For further information contact the Lands and Resources Department.



**Left:** Uncle's retreat at Ethel Lake  
**Above:** Teri-Lee Isaac cutting moose



### RCMP Update



Cpl Ken Boone, Cst Sam Anderson and Pelly Crossing Resident, and Fort Selkirk Interpreter, Freda Alfred, posing in front of the original RCMP Detachment in Fort Selkirk. The building is original and still stands due to the efforts of SFN and the YTG.



**Left:** Cpl Ken Boone, presenting Nicholas Shorty with a "Dooli Award" at Eliza VanBibber School Assembly on October 12, 2016.



**Right:** Cst Sam Anderson presenting a "Dooli Award" to Ranon Sawyer at the school.

Dooli Awards are presented to students exhibiting positive behavior at school while following the four practices of Dooli Law: Caring; Sharing; Teaching and Respect.

The RCMP in Pelly Crossing initiated the idea and followed up with the awards to youth to reward this positive behavior and to build relationships with the local youth.

Unfortunately we did not have pictures of all the reward recipients to submit at this time and apologize for anyone that was left out.

### Recreation Update

#### **Mother's Day Bingo, May 8, 2016**

Community BBQ with over 100 participants

Each mother was offered a Rose

#### **Paintball Battles**

Started in May at Mica Creek held twice a month until September. Kids and youth love this activity!

#### **Father's Day Event, June 19, 2016**

Community BBQ and archery shoot for Fathers

#### **National Aboriginal Day Event, June 21, 2016**

Hosted at the Link Building with a community BBQ and Hand Games Tournament, dice Bingo and archery shoot

#### **Canada Day Celebration, July 1, 2016**

Community Parade with 12 events throughout the day and a community BBQ

#### **Girls Rock Camp, July 18 to 24, 2016**

Recreation Department sent 4 chaperoned participants to the Girls Rock Camp in Dawson City

#### **Northwestel Summit Hockey School**

July 25 to 29, 2016

Recreation Department sent 12 participants to attend the hockey school in Whitehorse

#### **Pelly Crossing Annual Baseball Tournament,**

August 26-28, 2016

Popular event that attracts anywhere from 4 to 6 out of town teams

#### **Community Challenges**

Community Challenges take place year around and the sports that are played are Floor hockey, Baseball and Ice Hockey.

#### **Upgrade to Family Sliding Hill**

The smaller sliding hill has been upgraded and extended.

Hello everyone! The Food Security Program had another fantastic year, with lots of delicious fresh, local produce being grown right here in Pelly Crossing! This year we also got funded by Community Development Fund to build a Community Garden. The beds are built and in place, and next spring there will be a draw and the 16 chosen individuals will have a garden bed to grow food in next year, with the help of the Food Security Program.



The campus' main focus right now is on the trades. The Family Heads asked that because of all the construction happening in town, that SFN and the college use this opportunity to train local citizens in the trades, and not for labourer positions, but as Apprentices and eventually as Red Seal Tradespeople. So the college, SFN and Capital have created the START Program, a long term effort to support our youth to become registered as Apprentices and help them work towards Red Seal Certification.

The college will also be supporting citizens who are registered apprentices outside of the START program, by working with Yukon Mine Training Association (YMTA) and Advanced Education to organize tutoring sessions for folks who are soon to be registered as Apprentices under the new Rural Apprenticeship project, which is an initiative



from the college, YMTA and Advanced Ed. to allow community citizens to work towards their Red Seal while staying and working in their home community.

While we are focused on our trades training, the college continues to support students getting into programs at our Whitehorse campus and beyond, while offering First Aid training and other smaller courses to the general public. We appreciate the public's patience as we focus our efforts on our main trades programs, to help ensure the success of these programs and the students they are supporting.

In other news, Dorothy Johnson has retired from the college after 27 years of service to the college and to the community. We are sad to see her go, and are so grateful for the many years of service and hard work she has put into the field of adult education in this community. Over the years she has helped built an excellent working relationship between the college and SFN, while helping countless individuals achieve their educational and career goals. Thanks to her work, SFN and the college are in good positions to work well with each other to continue to offer training opportunities to local citizens!



## Announcements

### N-huudlin Dzenú Sóthän Happy Birthday!

We would like to wish our beautiful daughter **JENESTA KENDRA-LYNN BLACKJACK** a very **HAPPY 8TH BIRTHDAY** for November 7th, 2016  
Love Mama, Daddy, Sister's & Brother's

Wishing our sonny boys **RILEY** (13th) and **WILLIE** (11th) a very big **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for November 25th and 26th. Hope you both have an awesome day. Love Mom, Dad, Sister's & Brother's

Wishing **LEVI ANTHONY NIGEL CURRIE** a Happy 5th Birthday for December 21st, 2016! God blessed us in many ways the day you were born! We love you so much! Love: Dad, Mom, Luca and Julianna

Wishing my nephew **LEVI CURRIT** a **HAPPY 5TH BIRTHDAY** on December 21st, 2016.  
Love Auntie Elaine, Uncle Warren & Couz Delany

Wishing my step-dad a **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** on December 23rd, 2016. Have a wonderful day.  
Love Elaine, Warren & Grandson Delany

Happy 7th Birthday to miss **SHAYNA HARMONY SILVIA JEAN WILLIAMS** – December 4th, 2016  
Love & Hugs your mama, papa, and sisters Morgan and Ava!

### Wedding Announcements

Congratulations go out to the newlyweds **DEANNA** and **BRIAN TOM**, June 24, 2016

**JADA** and **WILFRED JEROME**  
June 28, 2016

**ASHLEY** and **COREY EZERTZA**  
July, 25, 2016

**KATHY** and **GEORGE MAGRUM**  
August, 5 2016

**ROBERTA** and **DWAYNE SHELSTAT**  
November 13, 2016



Congratulations to **RICHARD** and **AUDREY BAKERY** on their 50th Wedding Anniversary

### Thank You

to **APRIL BAKER** for all the work she accomplished during her tenure as the SFN Communications Officer. April was instrumental in the re-design of the website, developing a Communication Policy and Spokesperson Guidelines.

Thank You **EVERYONE!** For your donations to me and my family. I was surprised and grateful from the bottom of my heart. God Bless You. April Baker.

### Emergency Contacts over Christmas Break

**Capital Emergency Call Outs :**  
Darcy Marcotte, 867-334-6997

**Emergency Contact for  
Health and Social:**

December 18 to 22, Lena Joe  
867-334-1014 or 867-537-3277

December 23 to January 01, 2017  
Sharon Morrison, 867-689- 2495.

**Chief and Council Members:**

Chief Kevin McGinty (867) 689-0755  
Councillor Lori Sims (867) 689-0520  
Elder Councillor Annabell (867) 689-7099



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