



Selkirk First Nation



Summer 2017

SFN News • Volume 13 • Issue 2

Caring, Sharing, Respect, Teaching



Hets Eday

Telling Stories

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Photo: SFN families held fish camps while continuing conservation practices of the Chinook Salmon

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A message from Chief Sharon Nelson

Inyę dóhúch'i (how are you).

It is with great honour that I take on the role of Chief for Selkirk First Nation. I would like to thank all of you, SFN Citizens, for voting in the April 2017 Election and putting your support behind us to be your next Chief and Council.

Since our swearing in, we have focused on getting up to speed in our government's affairs. Council spent most of the month of May receiving orientation and briefings from Departments. It is important that Council understands the workings of our government.

In June, Council finalized the budgets for 2017-18 with the assistance of the program Directors. During this process, we also met with Finance Committee to provide them with direction/priorities for this fiscal year. We will also be meeting with the Constitution Committee to do the same.

Council has started to engage with the mining industry in our traditional territory. We started with initial meetings and site tours so that we have a clear understanding of the plans for operation, business opportunities, employment opportunities, and environmental safety.

Our next steps will be to engage with other governing bodies of SFN to start developing a working relationship.

With 20 years of Self-government, Selkirk First Nation has built a government that Citizens can be proud of. We, the Council, know that there is still much work to do.



It is important for Council to determine what our priorities will be over our three year term. With this in mind, Council will be developing a three year priority list. This tool will help guide the Council and SFN Departments.

We look forward to the upcoming General Assembly where we will engage with Citizens to make important decisions for the Nation.

This year marks our 20 years of self-government so we have dedicated the last day of the General Assembly to celebrate and honour past leaders who were involved in the negotiation of our Final and Self-government Agreements.

We look forward to celebrating with you, SFN Citizens. We wish you all a safe and happy summer.



Left to right: Chief Sharon Nelson, Councillor George McGinty, Youth Councillor Moris Morrison, Councillor Dean Gill, Elder Councillor Milly Johnson, Councillor Nest Hager, Absent Councillor Teddy Charlie

Council Highlights (April, May, June 2017)

With the election completed and the Swearing-In Ceremony held on April 12, the new Council got right to work and held their first business meeting the next day.

When a new Chief and Council start their mandate, it takes a lot of work to get to know the running of the government. As most of the Council members are new to the position, a number of training and transition meetings were held. Previous Chief, Kevin McGinty, attended a number of the Council meetings as part of the transition and transferring of knowledge.

The Council met with each Department Director and their staff to get an overview of the Department and updates of the programs and services that they provide to Citizens. They reviewed the SFN Constitution with the legal advisor. Council also heard updates on the negotiation of the Financial Transfer Agreement and other major files. They set their meetings for the following months.

An initial meeting was held with the Selkirk Development Corporation (SDC) as the Chief and Council are the Shareholders on behalf of the Citizens. The new Council members went on a tour of SDC owned buildings in Whitehorse. As the Chief and Council represent SFN, it is vital that they meet and get to know key partners. They met with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Area Director, Steve Gotch and Goldcorp Inc., a mining company operating within SFN's traditional territory.

Chief Sharon Nelson has been quite busy with ensuring Selkirk First Nation's presence at the Council of Yukon First Nations Leadership meetings and the Yukon Forum. It is important for Selkirk First Nation to have a voice at these tables as decisions are made that potentially affect SFN.

The Chief and Deputy Chief, George McGinty attended the Yukon Forum where all Self-governing

...continued on next page...

Council Highlights

Yukon First Nations and Yukon Government Premier and Ministers meet to discuss key issues. The Council also invited a youth (Shaun Roberts) to attend the Yukon Forum as part of encouraging and developing youth leadership skills. The Council wishes to invite youth to events such as this as they are our future leaders.

The Council, along with the Department Directors and Managers, attended a presentation on Employment law where the essentials of employment law were reviewed.

In addition to all these meetings, Council attended a number of community events such as the Women in Mining at the Link Building (photo below), the May Gathering, and the Native Graduation in Whitehorse (photo top-right). This year there were over a 100 First Nation graduates in the Yukon!

In the last months, the Council has been quite busy reviewing each Department's work plan and budget. The previous Council had reviewed the work plans and budgets, but thought it was important that the new Council approve them since they would be the ones accountable for their implementation. Because of this, it has taken a bit longer than usual to have approved budgets and work plans in place. The Council



Above: SFN graduate, Courtney Alfred and Chief Nelson at CYFN's Native Grad Ceremony

would like to thank the Directors, Managers and staff for their patience.

According to the SFN Constitution, (Section 10.13), the Council chooses the Deputy Chief from amongst the members and fixes the term of office. The Council decided to rotate the position of Deputy Chief as it is a learning opportunity for Councillors. It is important to give all Councillors the opportunity to experience this role. The rotation for Deputy Chief will go as follows:

George McGinty: May 29, 2017 – Aug 29, 2017;
Nesta Hager: Aug 30, 2017 – Nov 30, 2017;
Dean Gill: Dec 1, 2017– Feb 28, 2018;
Teddy Charlie: March 1, 2018 – June 1, 2018;
Milly Johnson: June 2, 2018 – Aug 2, 2018.

In other news, Councillor Nesta Hager has been accepted into the COADY Institute's Indigenous Women in Community Leadership Program. This is a four month program with 5 weeks residency in Nova Scotia. Nesta attended her first 3 week residency in May and will be returning again in August. This program is 100% funded through the Institute. There are 16 women selected from across Canada, and Councillor Hager was the only woman selected from the Yukon to attend. We are so proud of her!



Above: Our future generation attend the Yukon Women in Mining event held at the Link Building in Pelly Crossing

Yukon Forum

During the Yukon Forum on May 26, 2017, Yukon's Premier and Chiefs committed to work together on a number of shared priorities.

Developed jointly by the Government of Yukon and First Nations governments, the priorities include fiscal matters; cooperation on justice, education, health, and heritage

initiatives; implementing the land claim and self-government agreements; and ensuring that Yukon's legislation respects the agreements and considers First Nations' priorities.

With the approval of these joint priorities at the May Yukon Forum, the leaders have tasked their officials to develop an action plan for their implementation.



Above: Council of Yukon First Nations' Leaders and Yukon Government Leaders

Left: Chief Nelson, Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation Deputy Chief Ed Schulz, Champagne and Aishik First Nations Chief Steve Smith

Photos courtesy Government of Yukon

Council Tours Goldcorp

Goldcorp is a gold producer. In 2016, Goldcorp announced the purchase of Kaminak. Kaminak's key asset is the 100%-owned Coffee Gold project ("Coffee"), a gold deposit located approximately 130 kilometres south of the City of Dawson, Yukon. Coffee is a high-grade, open pit, heap leach mining project. The project proposal was submitted to the Yukon Environmental Socio-economic Assessment Board who determined that the company needed to do more consultation with First Nations. One community information session has been held, but expect more community meetings in the future. This project is of interest to SFN because it is partially located in the SFN Traditional Territory and has the potential to impact SFN land and resources.

On May 29, 2017, Goldcorp officials met with the new SFN Council and presented their project. Council took a site tour of the proposed mine site to help them better understand the Coffee Project.

On June 23, 2017, Chief Sharon Nelson, Deputy Chief George McGinty, Councillors, Teddy Charlie and Dean Gill, Elder Councillor, Milly Johnson, and Youth Councillor, Morris Morrison, were accompanied by Elder Franklin Roberts, Selkirk Development Corporation's (SDC) Board of Directors Michelle Kolla and Jeremy Harper, as well as Negotiator/Legal Counsel James Harper on a tour of the GoldCorp mine site.

The SFN delegation flew by small plane from Pelly Crossing to the Coffee Creek airstrip where they were met by GoldCorp officials. After introductions and a short safety session, the SFN delegation then flew, by helicopter, to the top of the mountain and toured the proposed mine site. The officials showed the SFN delegation proposed locations for the heap leach, waste rock, and milling plant.

Elder Franklin Roberts was asked to come with Council as his family lived at Coffee Creek and he had lots of stories to share with Council and GoldCorp officials. "As for me, I don't have anything against mining, as long as you do it



Above: Left to right: SDC Board Member, Michelle Kolla, Elder Councillor Milly Johnson, back Councillor Teddy Charlie and Goldcorp employee

Below: Council touring the site of the proposed Coffee Gold Project



Council Highlights

the right way. This area used to be a farm” (GoldCorp camp), stated Elder Roberts. “Our family used to live here a long time ago (Coffee Creek). At Carlisle Creek there used to be lots of houses there. They cut wood there for the steamboat. One winter they cut 750 cords.”

The tour presented an opportunity for the SDC Board of Directors to gain insight on potential business possibilities from the proposed mine. Both SDC Board of Directors were thankful for the opportunity to get a better understanding of the project.

“Seeing the site gave us all a better understanding of what is being planned at the proposed mine. It is difficult to understand by looking at maps alone and when you see the location, personally, it all makes better sense,” stated Chief Sharon Nelson. “This mine is located at Coffee Creek, an area that was well used by Selkirk People in the past. Some families

lived there. Our main concern is to ensure that the site and surrounding creeks remain as pristine as possible, that wildlife is minimally disturbed and that the mine puts measures in place to ensure this. At the same time, we want to ensure we are able to get as many business opportunities as we can.”

The Lands, Heritage and Resources Department is currently working with a team of technical experts to review the proposed gold mine and ensure the project respects and protects SFN values and interests in the area for the benefit of present and future generations.

Capstone Minto Mine – Meet and Greet

The new Council was invited to a meet and greet with Minto Mine officials (photo below). This was an opportunity to get a better sense of the mine’s operations, and the plans for remediation while touring the site. Regular meetings between Capstone and Council will continue.



Above: New Council tour Minto Mine

Award Fuels Indigenous Arts Practice

On May 22, Eugene Alfred received the REVEAL Indigenous Art Awards during a ceremony in Winnipeg that included National Chief Perry Bellegarde, Mayor of Winnipeg Brian Bowman and Canada Council CEO Simon Brault as speakers. The aim of this one-time-only REVEAL prize is to “fuel Indigenous arts practice for the next 150 years,” says the Hnatyshyn Foundation. Artists from a wide range of art forms were honoured, including visual artists, media artists, craftspeople, musicians, writers, storytellers, dancers and actors. Each artist received a cash prize.

Of the 150 artists selected to receive an award, 11 are from the North, 40 are from BC, 26 are from the Prairies, 50 are from Ontario, 18 are from Quebec and five are from the Atlantic region.

Laureates were selected by a national jury of peers led by Victoria Henry, chair of the Hnatyshyn Foundation.

Congratulations Eugene on a well deserved award!



Parks Day Thanks, Government of Yukon

A big thank you to Jamie, the boat drivers and the interpreter for doing such a wonderful job on Parks Day at Fort Selkirk! The site looked beautiful, all the boat drivers were on time and professional and people really appreciated the interpreted tour. We were able to host nearly 100 people to the site, and no one had to wait more than half an hour for a boat ride, which was an amazing feat.

Clare Daitch, MMSt
Historic Sites Interpretive Planner
Cultural Services Branch
Tourism & Culture
Government of Yukon



Danny Joe honoured for years of leadership



Danny Joe was recognised during the CYFN General Assembly for his important contribution to the land claims and self-government process. Danny Joe was one of the delegates that went to Ottawa to present “Together Today for Our Children Tomorrow” to then Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau. He was also a witness when Selkirk First Nation signed their Final and Self-government Agreements in 1997.

Left: Elder Danny Joe with CFTN’s Grand Chief, Peter Johnston



29th Annual Handgames Championship Results

Adults:

- 1st – Last Stick Standing
- 2nd – Selkirk Gamblers
- 3rd – Beauty and the Beast

Youth:

- 1st – McMillan Shooters
- 2nd – Hucha duna
- 3rd – Fight club

Lands, Heritage and Resources Department

Heritage branch inspiring SFN youth

On Tuesday, June 6th the EVBS students from grade 5-8 class held a screening of 3 Heritage videos produced by the students. These awesome videos were made possible through the leadership and support of Teri-Lee Isaac and Gina Gill, SFN Heritage staff. In the words of the classroom teacher, "It has been excellent working alongside these two inspiring and powerful leaders. They have been great at sharing their knowledge and traditions with the students with this film project in interviews."

Thanks to Teri-Lee and Gina for encouraging SFN youth! If you missed the screening, but would like to see the videos resulting from this collaboration, please contact EVBS.

Salmon

This year again, Pelly received an early communal fish licence. This helps with SFN's approach for salmon management. We continue to work on our Salmon Management Plan, which will be presented to the community once it is completed.

Presently, we are doing the same thing as last year. We recommend for fish camps harvest no



more than 30 salmon, releasing live females and using 50-foot nets with 5-6 inch mesh.

SFN is also developing a Chum Utilisation Program to encourage Citizens to eat Chum as another source of country foods. We will present different methods of preserving and preparing this tasty salmon and also serve it at the hot lunch program for kids. We want to introduce the Chum to our younger generation. We are still in the planning stages. We will continue to inform our Citizens when the Chum is running.

May Gathering – May 16-18

Selkirk First Nation has hosted the May Gathering since 2000, in partnership with the other two Northern Tutchone Nations. Before this gathering began, Elders talked about how their people (Dän) used to gather on the land after spring break-up. It was a poor time to travel and many animals were about to have their young. The Dän spoke about what was happening with the land, water, animals and fish. They made decisions about what to do for the coming season – where to hunt and fish, where to avoid, things to watch out for. Elders said that the Dän needed to get back to doing this each year, and so the May Gathering was born.

This year's May Gathering was a truly successful partnership between the three Northern Tutchone Nations.

ATTENTION SFN MEMBERS

Please update your mailing address and phone number with SFN Enrollment /IRA Officer, Jerry Alfred:

By Telephone: **(867) 537-3331 Ext.211**
Or Email: **alfredjerry@selkirkfn.com.**

Mussi Cho

Department updates

May Gathering (May 16-18, 2017)



Top: Elders Rachel and Lizzie making babiche
Middle: Northern Tutchone Council Elders enjoying the fire
Bottom: Elder Walter showing his cutting skills



Above: Elders Johnson and Franklin making snowshoes
Below: Elder Danny Joe dancing with his great grandchildren, Jaden and Sarah



Lands, Heritage and Resources *(continued)*

Bear Safety

This message is provided by Aaron-Koss Young, Human Wildlife Conservation Officer, Conservation Officer Services Branch, Environment Yukon.

Bears can develop a habit of going into a community if they associate that community with food sources. Once a bear has developed this habit, it is considered food- conditioned. At this point, Conservation Officers use aversive conditioning techniques such as rubber bullets to try and deter the bear, but often the bear is unlikely to break the habit.

Cleaning up food sources and attractants around your yard is a great way to help make sure bears don't develop the habit of coming into your community. Attractants include garbage, recycling, compost, bird seed, BBQ's, smokers, pet food and discarded bones or animal parts, and petroleum products. If you have livestock like chickens, installing an electric fence is highly advisable.

If you are aware that a bear keeps coming into your community, you should carry bear spray at all times and be prepared to use it very quickly if needed.

Conservation Officers are asking anyone who sees a bear near a residential area, approaching people or property, to call the 24/7 TIPP Line toll-free 1-800-661-0525. It's helpful if you can provide a detailed description of the bear, when and where it was seen, and a phone number to contact you on. You may leave your name if you wish. Your name will not be made public.

We highly recommend that Yukoners continue to educate themselves on bear behaviour and bear safety, and make sure visitors to the territory are also aware of bears. Pick up pamphlets on bear safety from the nearest Environment office, or download them from the bear safety page on our website: www.env.gov.yk.ca/bears

Follow the Conservation Officers Facebook page: www.facebook.com/yukoncoservices and stay up to date on our news. Thank you for doing your part in keeping Yukon's bears wild and alive.



Photo: Yukon Government

Conservation Officers Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/yukoncoservices

24/7 TIPP Line:
1-800-661-0525

Bear Safety Page:
www.env.gov.yk.ca/bears

Capital Department

New Director

Darcy Marcotte is the new Director of the Capital Department. Since his arrival, Darcy has been getting up to speed and preparing the Department for the summer while working on getting the Capital budget approved by the SFN Council.

The Capital Department continues to provide essential services to SFN Citizens in Pelly Crossing.

Darcy is not the only new face in Capital. George Magrum and Scott Roberts were hired as the summer landscaping crew. Also, there are 2 water tank cleaner positions that will be filled shortly.

Summer means that Minto Resorts is in operation and Capital plays an active and important role in getting it ready to start-up for this new season. This year, it involved the installation of a new electrical shack and some minor water repairs.

Housing

Housing continues to be a focus for Capital. To date:

- Two major renovations in Willow Creek have now been completed.
- The six new houses have been allocated to Citizens in Pelly Crossing. Two houses are located in Jon Ra and four in the main village.
- Four houses will be demolished in the near future. The community will be informed before the demolitions. Capital will post a bulletin before this project moves forward. The houses are situated in Willow Creek subdivision and in the main village.
- Capital installed 10 new heating systems

which included furnaces, woodstoves and HRV units as well as new fuel tanks.

- Three complete septic tanks and fields were installed and three more are in urgent need to be done.
- Capital renovated a bathroom and three kitchens and will complete five more bathrooms, pending budget approval.

Capital continues to receive a high volume of services calls such as requests for changing doors, windows, doorknobs, septic pump-outs, etc.

Housing is a very important issue for all Citizens. Capital is organising a Housing Fair in Pelly Crossing for the fall to give SFN Citizens the opportunity to get information on various housing matters such HRV systems, cleaning oil furnace filters, etc. We hope to make this Housing Fair interactive and interesting for everyone.

WOOD CONTRACTS

Capital issued a public notice that wood contracts are now available. Interested individuals can request a 10-cord contract. Capital will pay \$240 per cord cut into 3 foot lengths. No unauthorized wood cutting is permitted. Please see the SFN Lands, Heritage and Resources Department to obtain permits before cutting.

DON'T FORGET...

Community garbage pick ups are Mondays and Thursdays.

Citizen Development Department



Above: Left to right: Chief Nelson, Courtney Alfred, Dylen Alfred, Jessa Frost-Klugie, Councillor Charlie absent Maureen McGinty and Colton Wheeler-Blackjack and Jada Shelstad

Congratulations Highschool Graduates!

Daylen Alfred, Maureen McGinty, Courtney Alfred, Colton Wheeler-Blackjack, Jessa Frost-Klugie and Jada Shelstad (Gill).

Yukon First Nations Graduation Ceremony

First Nations students who graduated from high school this year recently gathered from across the territory for the First Nations Graduation Ceremony, coordinated by the Council of Yukon First Nations, and hosted at the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre on Friday, June 2.

This year, 109 graduating students participated in the ceremony. The graduating students wore traditional regalia, and many worked with family members to bead and sew their clothing months before the ceremony.

This ceremony is a wonderful way to recognize an important milestone in the journey of lifelong learning for these young people. Congratulations everyone!

Eliza Van Bibber High School Graduates

This year, Eliza Van Bibber High school (EVBS) had four graduates and there were also two SFN Graduates from outside of Pelly Crossing. The EVBS Graduation and Traditional Ceremony were held on June 9th, 2017 in Pelly Crossing. The Traditional SFN Graduation Ceremony is open to all SFN graduates. The EVBS Graduation Ceremony is only for their students graduating.

Also, Eliza Van Bibber School grads attended the Native Grad in Whitehorse with their families on June 2, 2017.



Above: EVBS Kindergarten graduates. *Left to right, back row:* Keenan, Levi, Kaleb. *Front row:* Ava, Sophie, Brianna

Words of Encouragement to the Graduates from Director of Citizen Development, Tara Roberts

Over the past few years we have seen these graduates work exceptionally hard. We remember you as children starting school looking somewhat overwhelmed by the whole experience. We feel lucky to have had the privilege of helping you with your educational growth.

Growth comes in many ways. Through school activities, helping others and dealing with the changes, as well as school achievements. You, as graduates, have shown a readiness to tackle all these areas. It has also meant you have grown as people into well rounded young adults.

The future holds many challenges and successes for all of you. Each of you will have your own unique opportunities to grow. I am confident you will rise to every occasion.

I hope your dreams take you to the corners of your smiles, to the highest of your hopes, to the windows of your opportunities, and to the most special places your heart has ever known.

Again congratulations class of 2017 and have a fantastic summer!



Above: Danielle Marcotte and Samantha Dawson

Post- Secondary Education Update

The Selkirk First Nation Citizen Development Department would like to congratulate all Post-Secondary Education Graduates that successfully completed their studies. Your hard work and commitment has made your nation very proud and we wish you all the best! You truly are an inspiration to us all!

Andrew Wiebe

Institute: Lakeland College, Vermilion, Alberta
Program: Child and Youth Care Program - Diploma
Graduation Date: March 2017

Shadae Johnson

Institute: Northwest Indian College, Bellingham, Washington
Program: Direct Transfer Program - Diploma
Graduation Date: June 2017

Danielle Marcotte

Institute: University of British Columbia, Vancouver
Program: Bachelor of Science Program with a combined Major - Bachelor

Graduation Date: May 29th, 2017

Felicity Oien

Institute: Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec
Program: Bachelor of Arts, Major Anthropology
Graduation Date: August 2017

Rene Weening

Institute: Discovery Community College Ltd., Parksville
Program: Health Care Assistant- Certificate
Graduation Date: June 2017

Darlene McGinty

Institute: Yukon College, Whitehorse, Yukon
Program: Native Language Instructor Program- Diploma
Graduation Date: May 19th, 2017

Samantha Dawson

Institute: University of British Columbia, Vancouver
Program: Degree of Juris Doctor - Doctorate Degree
Graduation Date: August 17, 2017

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

Citizen Development *(continued)*

Changes Happening in Yukon Schools

Announcement from Education Department – Yukon Government

Dear Parents,

The world is changing and B.C.'s new curriculum is critical in making sure your child is connected with the skills he or she needs to succeed in this changing world.

In May, Department of Education gave a presentation at Eliza Van Bibber School to parents, students, staff and citizens on the Yukon's curriculum re-design. Yukon schools follow the British Columbia (B.C.) curriculum which is changing. Yukon schools will begin to use the new B.C. curriculum with Yukon content and Yukon First Nations' ways of knowing and doing in all grades.

The new curriculum will focus on skill development. A curriculum is an outline of the lessons, academic content and standards that students learn in school classes and programs. The new curriculum will help students develop the skills they need to succeed in work and in life, while supporting the different needs of every student. One of the goals is to increase the number of students that graduate and allow students to pursue a variety of paths after secondary school, including postsecondary education.

The focus of the new curriculum is developing essential skills: literacy (reading, writing, speaking), numeracy (math, problem-solving), communication, critical thinking and analysis, and personal-social skills.

The curriculum will include more hands-on learning, finance and career education in all grades.

Building on the good practices already happening in Yukon schools, teachers will use and develop Yukon resources to teach curriculum and integrate Yukon First Nations' ways of knowing and doing at all grade levels.

Students will continue to do assignments, projects, tests, exams and receive progress report cards. There will be no changes to the number of credits or courses required to graduate. The five required B.C. Provincial Exams (BCPEs) will be replaced in the 2017-2018 school year by two new skills-based provincial exams: the literacy and the numeracy exam.

When will the changes happen?

Schools and staff are preparing now for the changes. In the 2017/2018 school year, changes will be in effect from Kindergarten to Grade 9. Students in Grade 4 and 7 will write Yukon Foundation Skills Assessments in fall 2017. The new numeracy exam will begin in January 2018.

In the 2018/2019 school year, changes will be in effect for grades 10 to 12 and the new B.C. Literacy exam is expected to begin.

In the 2019/2020 school year, all changes will be in effect from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

Education & Training Program

The intent of the Education and Training Program is to help clients get the training they need to become employed. This program has helped individuals financially to obtain tickets and skills such as WHIMS, H2S, First Aid, etc. There were two seats available for the "Introduction to Surface Mining" course. Unfortunately, only one person was recruited to take the course. The training included going to Alaska. The Education and Training Program has also helped clients in purchasing work boots (a requirement for their job). ASETS also provided funding for the tuition and living allowance with the "Community At Risk" program and the "Selkirk Trades and Apprenticeship Recognition Training". SFN also submitted a proposal for "Childcare Expenditure Plan" for our local daycare and is waiting to hear back.

Minto Mine Liaison – Mary McGinty

Employee status:

Currently, there are fourteen (14) Selkirk First Nation Citizens in Pelly Crossing and several residents employed with Minto exploration.

The Sodexo Catering Company also employs Citizens. There are six (6) Citizens hired with Sodexo as housekeepers, cooks, Janitors and office administrators.

Pelly Construction continues to employ SFN Citizens. There are approximately four (4) Citizens employed, two (2) are Pelly Crossing residents, and other Northern Tutchone Citizens work for Pelly Construction.

There were two (2) SFN Citizens working for Dumas UG as office administrators. However, it has since closed but is planning to re-open in the fall.

The numbers of SFN Citizens working at the Minto Mine is steadier than it has been in the past. The numbers fluctuate between twenty (20) to twenty-eight (28). We encourage SFN Citizens to apply for

jobs at the mine and take advantage of employment opportunities. Check for the job postings on the SFN Website, at the SFN Administration Building and the store bulletin boards.

Events:

- The Sodexo Company visited the Eliza Van Bibber School on June 7th, and did a presentation on training opportunities and careers. Selkirk First Nation and Sodexo are partnering to offer Cook Training at Minto Mine. More information will be posted as it becomes available.
- On June 20th Minto Mine presented information to the Eliza Van Bibber School's students on Trades, Careers, and Training Opportunities at Minto Mine.
- Two positions were available at the Minto Mine for Summer Students Employment.
- The SFN Minto Mine Liaison visited the site often to provide support to the summer students.
- SFN Lands, Heritage and Resources Department along with ASETS are collaborating to offer two (2) seats for the Land Monitor Training. We encourage Citizens to apply. We will incorporate the traditional methods as well.
- Minto Liaison will continue to coordinate tours of the Minto Mine for new Council, SFN staff and community Elders/ youths and resources. Please watch for postings.
- Each year, the Minto Liaison coordinates a boat trip to Fort Selkirk for Minto Mine staff in collaboration with SFN Lands, Heritage and Resources Department and the Heritage Program. Minto Mine covers the cost for the Boat Rentals, lunch, and Elders

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Department Updates

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honorarium (1 or 2 Elders) to accompany the group. Elders share their knowledge on the history of Fort Selkirk. This annual trip is a real success. Sincere appreciation to the Elders, Lands, Heritage and Resource Department for their continued support.

For further information, please contact Mary McGinty at: (867) 537-3331, ext. 206
Email: mintolais@selkirkfn.com

Cultural Education Liaison Coordinator – Julia Joe

The Cultural Education Liaison Coordinator (CELC) Program begins in September along with the Eliza Van Bibber School (EVBS) schedule and runs until June.

As the CELC, I work closely with the EVBS staff and I assist when they request resources on any cultural activities or events for students' learning. During the four seasons throughout the school year, I promote and encourage cultural activities and teachings at the school. Our Elders say we have always lived with the four changing seasons and we must learn all the traditional ways of life within these four

seasons such as harvesting food, fishing, trapping, or collecting plants.

Every month, we incorporate cultural seasonal activities during the school year.

This year's spring cultural activities included:

- March 2017 Winter Camp, students learned about Dogsledding. EVBS invited some of the Yukon Quest Dog teams to come out to the school's Winter Camp. EVBS students learned how to set-up and harness the dogs. Once the dogs were hooked up and ready to go and with the guidance of mushers, the students led the dogs through the trails. Students also learned how to unharness and hook the dogs back to the post and learned how to care for the dogs by feeding them. Long ago, dog teams were an important means of transportation, a way of life, for our grandparents and parents.

For all cultural teachings, we consult with Elders and have Elders come guide our presentations and camps. In the next school year, we are hoping to continue with more outdoor cultural camps for EVBS students.

NOTICE TO ALL SFN POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS

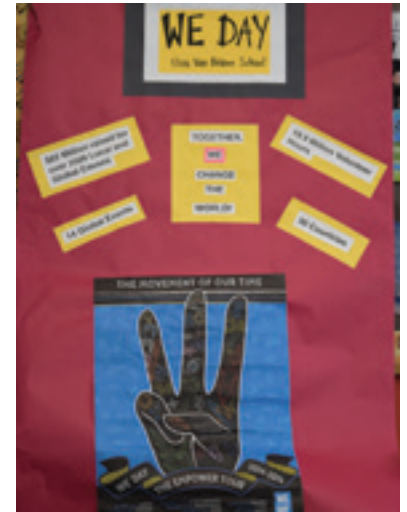
Selkirk First Nation Education Program is inviting applications for Post-Secondary Education funding for the Winter Semester starting January 2018.

All funding applications must be received by or before November 15th, 2017.

Please contact the Selkirk First Nation Post-Secondary Education Administrator at pse@selkirkfn.com or call (867) 537-3156 ext. 504 for application forms.

**** ALL INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED ****

ELiza VanBibber School Events



Above left: High school students show their musical talent. **Above right:** Positive Change

WE Day

On May 30th at EVBS we hosted the Yukon's first rural WE DAY! It was extremely special to have students and community members come together to celebrate youth making a difference in our local and global communities. We Day is an event that showcases local leaders, student talent and music. Each student left with a commitment to taking one local and one global action. Students were pledging to local actions like cleaning up garbage, bringing recycling to Raven Recycling, carpooling, cooking and

cleaning for Elders and learning more of their local Northern Tutchone language. Some of the global actions that students were pledging to are things like raising money for Ecuador Health Initiatives through running bake sales here at EVBS. Thanks to Jean Van Bibber, Chief Sharon Nelson, Gina Gill, Laird Herbert and BYTE for their inspiring speeches and contributions! We look up to our local, empowering and motivational leaders!

Let's continue to be the positive change we wish to see in this world!



Above left: EVBS graduates proudly show their drums. **Above right:** EVBS Graduates in their formal attire.

Selkirk Spirit Dancers represent Team Yukon at 2017 NAIG

The Selkirk Spirit Dancers represented Team Yukon for the 2017 North American Indigenous Games from July 16–23 in Toronto Ontario.

The North American Indigenous Games represented 5000 athletes. The Yukon and NWT were the only contingent that represented culture.

The Selkirk First Nation selected the dancers. The following dancers represented the community with respect and the true spirit of culture and team work: Carmen Baker, Teri-Lee Isaac, Cody Sims, Nyla Klugie (Mission Staff for Team Yukon), Shaheen Baker, Kaylyn Baker, Ethan Isaac-Smith, Colton Blackjack (dancer and soccer), Tyra Gill, Madison Gill, Keyshawn Sawyer.

PERFORMANCES

- 2 performances at main stage at McMaster University
- 1 stick gambling demonstration at York University
- 1 performance with the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario Elizabeth Dowell hosting the #88 team in recognition of role model athletes of Canada alongside NWT culture contingent
- Our final performance was the closing ceremonies for the North American Indigenous Games. We

also had the honor of meeting the Premier of Ontario Kathleen Wynne. She remembered Fort Selkirk when the healing canoe came in 2015.

- We also met the infamous Mascot for NAIG 2017. The name of mascot is Debwe. Debwe was designed by a 14 year old Anton, of Deer Lake, Ontario was selected from more than 200 submissions that came in from Indigenous youth across Canada. Debwe means “one who speaks the Truth”.

Nyla presented Debwe with a whole set of team Yukon pins. It was too thank the mascot for all the hours of volunteering for NAIG.

On behalf of Team Yukon we would like to thank the following: Selkirk First Nation; our parents and community; Government of Yukon – Culture Quest; and Team Yukon Chef de Mission Tara Wardle, Rose, Ian and Sandra Roach, Gord Reed.

Our Athletes at NAIG were:

SFN: Morgan (Kylie) Williams (canoe), Corey Roberts rifle shooting), Jessa Frost-Klugie (canoe), Amber Baker (wrestling)

LSCFN: Colton Wheeler-Blackjack (soccer), Riley Gill (badminton)



Photo: NAIG - SFN/LSCFN athletes, dancers, parents and volunteers

Recreation Department

Recreation doesn't only organise community events but also helps to keep Citizens and the community healthy and strong with fun activities and opportunities.

April

Pelly Crossing always organises something for Easter and this year was no exception. The Recreation Program held a Community BBQ with an Easter egg hunt for kids and youth. Children were given gifts and everyone enjoyed the festivities.

May

Mother's Day is an opportunity for the community to recognise and celebrate our mothers. This year, SFN held a community BBQ with activities that included Dice Bingo with a \$500 bonus that only mothers could win. Over 100 people participated as well as people from the other two Northern Tutchone communities. Each mother received a rose for the occasion.

Three SFN youths were sponsored to attend the Prospect Hockey camp in Whitehorse held May 19- 21. This hockey camp presents an opportunity for our talented hockey players to show their skills because scouts attend these camps to recruit for junior A & B and triple Midget hockey. Our participants this year were: Colton Blackjack, Daylen Alfred, and Eric Stewart.

June

Father's day means a community BBQ and plenty of activities for everyone. This year's activities included Dice bingo, poker tournament with a \$500 bonus that only fathers could win and an archery shoot mix. Many people participated and had a great time!

National Aboriginal Day

This was the first year that National Aboriginal Day was a statutory holiday in the Yukon. People in Pelly Crossing took advantage of the day off and came and enjoyed a Community BBQ, games for both kids and adults with prizes. We finished the day with an exciting handgame tournament.

Canada Day

It's Canada 150th Anniversary. We started the day with a community parade followed by a community BBQ. As always, we had kids and adult events, a wide variety of activities, a handgames tournament and gave out prizes throughout the day.

The Recreation Program offers activities throughout the summer. These include:

Paint balling: July and August for kids and adults at Mica Creek.

Northwestel Hockey Camp held in Whitehorse. Six youths will be chosen to attend the camp.

Youth Programs: Nutrition program – SFN provides healthy snacks for kids & youths at the youth centre.

Evening Activities: Two SFN youth workers, Daylen Alfred and Gavin Joe (auxiliary) are splitting shifts and running two different activities for youth every night from Monday to Friday. Kids activities total 2.5 hours per day. Adults 1.5 hours per day.

Keeping in shape: The exercise facility is open three nights a week Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 6:30 pm– 9:30 pm. It is open for people 16 years of age or older. Mondays are drop-in. Wednesdays are men's night. Fridays are women's night.

Swimming: Miguel Reynaud and Olivia Johnson are back for a third summer of swimming fun in Pelly Crossing. Kids get signed up for swimming lessons and also enjoy the pool.

Fun in Sports: Drop-in Volleyball every Wednesdays at the School Gym from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Drop-in Basketball every Tuesday and Thursdays at the Waterfront Park from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

1995 SFN Negotiation Days

by Emma Alfred

I was with Elders here at Pelly Crossing when we were negotiating for Ta'tla Mun Lake. There were many people around the table: negotiators, lawyers from the Yukon Government and Canada as well as SFN Elders, SFN negotiators, SFN lawyers, SFN leaders, the two (2) Northern Tutchone Communities. It was such an honour to be there to help our Elders during very tough times. Most of our Elders were saying: "why are we fighting for what we own? The government has never cared for us before. We were treated like we were invisible. We suffered. They take away our kids and now our land. No way! They will have a good fight with our educated future generation."

We had this meeting for three (3) days during 1995. At this meeting, our Elders stood their ground. They made it clear that they would not give into anyone's demand. When it was difficult for Elders to understand I would step in and explain what was said to them in our Northern Tutchone language, and then would interpret their response.

It was tough negotiating rights over a lake that we considered ours and to see our Elders so old, so dedicated, so tired, some sleeping. Our older Elders showed strength and resilience and encouraged the younger Elders to keep fighting for the future generations. As we negotiated for those 3 days I can see how tired our elders were becoming and still they never gave up.

Ta'tla Mun Lake saved many lives in the 40's when all resources across Canada went toward the war. First Nations from elsewhere also came and lived with SFN people until they were strong enough to go back to their Communities.



Finally on the 3rd day, a few of the older Elders met with the negotiators and said Canada is not giving up so we will only give a small portion, where there is a sandy part and showed Teddy Charlie on a map where they meant. Then, they sent an Elder with Teddy Charlie in a helicopter to select the area. Once we did that, the meeting was over, everyone shook hands. It was something to see how happy our Elders were about never giving up. That is why we need to care and respect our Elders. They fought hard for you through tough times, they walk this land for you and your future generations to carry on. As an Elder myself, I see how far I have come, just supporting and being there for Elders since I was very young in my 20's. I remember my 92 years old Dad sitting in meetings asking me what this meant, what was going on, what did they want. I face the same questions now when I see and visit Elders. Never disrespect Elders they have suffered far more than we have and they fought for us.

Thank for really opening your eyes and see how hard your Elders fought for you.



RCMP Update

Cpl Ken Boone, Cst Sam Anderson and Cst Andrew Imrie, all in red serge at the Chief and Council Swearing in Ceremony in April 2017, posing with Elder Don Trudeau.

Finance Committee Up-date Report

The Finance Committee members are Lois Joe, Zachary Fulton, Albert Drapeau, Diana Dawson and Lori Sims.

The Finance Committee mandate: Resolutions adopted by the Assembly in the period of 2008 to present, identify both ongoing and one-time matters, are the committee's mandate.

The 2016-2017 committee is currently reviewing their Terms of Reference and has established an on-going mandate to provide guidance and ensure transparency of the financial management of Selkirk First Nation.

Most recently the committee, in partnership with Selkirk's Investment Managers, have reviewed the Selkirk First Nation's Investment Policy. Specific changes to the Asset Mix Allocation have been determined. This will allow for a better return on our investments, given the current financial environment that we are working in today.

What is an Asset Allocation Mix? Asset Allocation contains a mix of equities, bonds, cash and cash equivalents. Managers of asset allocation funds adjust the asset mix based on the market conditions.

To keep pace with changes in global markets, the committee has recommended this amendment to the Investment Policy that will allow greater diversification and be less restrictive. The amendment to the Asset Mix Allocation would allow for more Foreign markets and less investment in Bonds.

The proposed amendments to the Investment Policy were presented at community consultations held with

citizens in Pelly Crossing on July 18 and Whitehorse on July 19, 2017. The final recommended amendments will be presented at the Annual General Assembly in August 2017.

The Committee has also been working on reviewing draft financial policies that will be presented to Council for their review in September 2017. Council has also been mandated to monitor the implementation of the Royalty Policy and the Special Purposes Fund which was established to support the achievement of Selkirk's strategic, economic, and social goals for the long term. The Special Purposes Fund establishes two funding Programs, the Selkirk Investment Fund and the Selkirk Capital and Strategic fund.

The Committee is in the process of reviewing the Selkirk First Nation economic development strategy and will provide detailed policy direction to guide the implementation and use of these funds in the near future.

The Finance Committee meets regularly and receives presentations from the Finance Director and other advisors. Regular duties include reviewing the annual budget and quarterly financial statements, monitoring investment reports, reviewing the performance of the investment managers, Toronto Dominion Wealth Private Investment Counsel and RBC Dominion Securities Inc. and reviewing the draft audit before it is presented to the Assembly.

The Finance Committee looks forward to presenting their report to the Annual General Assembly in August.

20th Anniversary of the signing of the Final and Self-government Agreements – July 21, 1997

The late Danny Roberts (*below, left*) and his wife Abbie were the sole remaining occupants of Fort Selkirk. After the Klondike Highway ended the river transport during the gold rush, people moved on from Selkirk to Minto then onto Pelly Crossing. Danny and Abbie continued living in Selkirk. As years passed, Danny witnessed the changes from living off the land to a self governing First Nation. Danny passed on in 2000 leaving his wish behind to have Fort Selkirk taken care of, and for people to remember their history and culture as Selkirk First Nation people.



Above: Left to right: Premier Piers MacDonald, INAC Minister, Jane Stewart, Elder Dan Van Bibber, Chief Pat Van Bibber Jr.

20th Anniversary



Above left: Elder Dan Van Bibber. **Above right:** Northern Tutchone Council Chiefs. Left to right: Chief Robert Hager, Chief Pat Van Bibber Jr., Hon. Jane Stewart, Chief Eddie Skookum. **Below left:** Chief Pat Van Bibber signing the Agreements. **Below right:** Danny Joe witnessing the Agreements.



A new program at Yukon College's Pelly Crossing campus started with a unique assignment – students will build a raft and use it to travel from Pelly Crossing to Fort Selkirk. It's part of the programming at the Huchá Hudän Field School. The month-long pilot project, a collaboration between the College and Selkirk First Nation, is modelled after Dechinta Bush University in the Northwest Territories.

The land-based program blends traditional and cultural skills with critical academic discourse, workplace readiness certificates, and additional training.

Graduates can use the program, the experience and the certificates to apply for jobs in moose monitoring, salmon enhancement, and any other bush-based employment. Alternatively, the experience and curriculum could be suited to interpreter work, at Fort Selkirk or at the Big Jonathan House.

The focus is on emphasizing student empowerment as a necessary condition of employability and academic success. It also invites people to think about what land-based education can accomplish, and how the curriculum can vary to meet different needs.

One can envision students attending a one or two month long, land-based program, and coming out of it empowered culturally, physically, psychologically, spiritually and academically, and with the pre-requisite courses and skills they need to be



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successful in the post-secondary program of their choice. The academic content could consist of university level, credit courses that students need for their diploma or degree.

We're hoping that this iteration sees high levels of student participation, completion and satisfaction, to show the efficacy of this type of programming, and to increase the demand for it in the future.

The class ran from June 12 to July 7. Students spent their days working with Elders and instructors learning Northern Tutchone, making and use fish traps, preparing camps, and discussing topics including decolonization, Indigenous governance, and self-determination. There was also a moose hunt, and modules on wilderness first aid, and GPS as well as traditional navigation.

Announcements

Happy Birthday!

Happy belated birthday on June 6/17 to my baby girl granddaughter, **Julie**, who turned 3. Julie is special in our eyes. Thanks to Jess and TJ for giving Roy and I our 2nd girl in the family! From Grandma and Grandpa.

Happy 3rd birthday to our princess **Julianna** on June 6 - Love Auntie Elaine and Uncle Warren.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to our nephew **Daylen Alfred**. We are so proud of you finally finishing school. Love Auntie Elaine and Uncle Warren

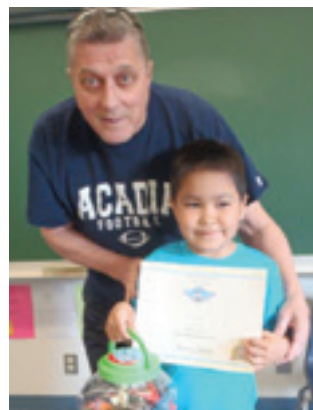
To nephew **Daylen Alfred**: Congratulation you did a fine job with finishing your grade 12. The road doesn't end there you have many miles to go, but keep up the good work! Uncle Daniel Alfred

ATTENTION ALL SELKIRK CITIZENS:

SFN General Assembly – August 25th & 26th
Pelly Crossing in the Link Building

Join us as we celebrate 20 years of self-government on Sunday, August 27.

Contact: Sandra Roach, Governance Director,
867-537-3331



Above: Cpl. Boone presenting “Dooli Awards” to EVB students Keenan Johnnie (top left) and Brianna Albert (top right).

Summer 2017

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