



Selkirk First Nation



# HETS EDAYS

## TELLING STORIES

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*Caring, Sharing, Respect, Teaching*

Fall 2019  
Volume 15 • Issue 1



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# A message from Chief Sharon Nelson

Inye dóhúch'i (*how are you*)

I hope your summer was filled with fun activities and relaxing moments. Summer means a time with our families, holidays, fish camp and of course, SFN's General Assembly.

I always look forward to seeing everyone gather during our General Assembly. This year, at Minto Landing, many joined us as we discussed and reached decisions on matters that are important to our government and our Citizens.

“

*Climate Change is upon us. It is no longer something in the future! We are experiencing it on a daily basis, especially in the North.*

”

I was encouraged to see some of our youth participate at the G.A. They spoke about their concerns and aspirations. These youth delegates are our future leaders.

It's important to encourage and support them as they learn. A Youth Working Group, open to Citizens from ages 14 to 25 was created. We hope that many youths will get engaged. Council will listen to their input and include them in shaping our future.

SFN will host an Elder and Youth Summit in the near future that will focus on pressing issues such as Climate Change, a Recycling Program for our community and language. SFN has finalised the 5-year Language Strategy. We can now focus on its implementation.

The federal election was on October 21st, 2019. I hope all Citizens who could vote, did vote! Climate Change was at the forefront of the election. Climate Change is upon us. It is no longer something in the future! We are experiencing it on a daily basis, especially in the North. We need to develop concrete actions that will help us deal with the rapidly changing environment. One of the areas that SFN will focus on is food security.

We are now at the last phase of the Wellness Strategy. We are conducting a needs assessment of all Health and Social Programs



to make sure that we are offering the right services and programs to our Citizens as well as meeting their needs. Following the analysis of the needs assessment, we will implement changes based on the recommendations presented to us. We will keep Citizens informed as we move forward.

Our children are back at school. We wish them a successful year full of learning experiences. Fall is harvest season and a time to be thankful for the bounty we enjoy from our land and our water.

On behalf of Council, thank you for your support!

Mussi  
Chief Nelson

# Council highlights

## COUNCIL OF YUKON FIRST NATION (CYFN) GENERAL ASSEMBLY

CYFN held their General Assembly on June 25, 26, and 26 in Dawson City. Chief Nelson, Councillor George McGinty, Councillor Morris Morrison, Elder Councillor Millie Johnson, and Councillor Dean Gill attended the Assembly. Grand Chief Peter Johnson was acclaimed for another 4-year term. Youth Councillor Morrison was sworn in as the CYFN Youth representative.

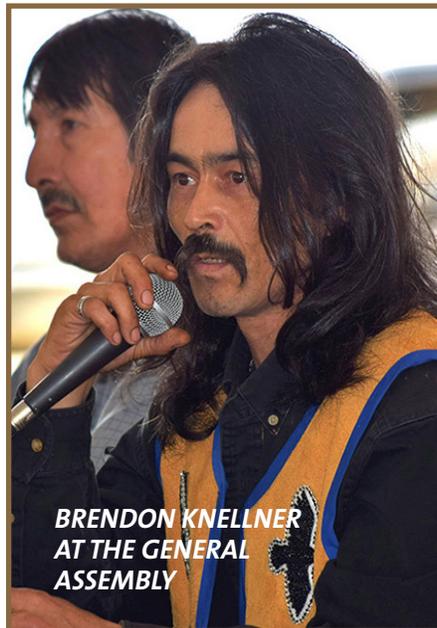


## FINANCIAL TRANSFER AGREEMENT

After many years of negotiations, SFN and 5 other Yukon First Nations have signed a renewed Financial Transfer Agreement.

## VISIT FROM THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION

Honourable Tracy McPhee, Minister of Education came to



Pelly Crossing to discuss SFN's Community Safety Plan and how her department could assist us in its implementation. Council also discussed moving forward with the Education Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed in 2015. Assistant Deputy Minister of First Nation Initiatives, Lori Duncan, has been appointed to this file and we hope to be able to give Citizens an update soon on the implementation of the Education MOU.

## ELDER COUNCIL

Elder's Council met on different files such as the Community Safety Plan, the Wellness Strategy and the 5-year Language Strategy.

## VISIT FROM MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Honourable Pauline Frost, Minister of Health and Social Services met with Council, SFN Health and Social Department staff in Pelly Crossing to discuss changes to some health services offered by the Government of Yukon.

### Health Centre

A nurse practitioner will come to Pelly Crossing bi-weekly. A physician will come every two weeks for one day. Council requested that the health care providers receive cross-cultural awareness training as well as making the effort to get to know the people in our community.

SFN offered to administer Yukon Government's Extended Family Care Agreement. We are presently negotiating with Yukon Government's Health and Social Services Department and will keep Citizens apprised of any new development.

SFN Council has requested funding for On-the-Land Healing Program. SFN would like to collaborate with YG in creating a program that is relevant to Citizens and others for their healing journey.

SFN again has requested lights for the airport, which would enable

*cont'd on page 4*



a medivac plane to land on our runway in times of dire need. Council has requested this for years. Finally, we received a letter from the Department of Highways and Public Works stating that they will do an assessment. We hope this leads to having lights on the Pelly Crossing airport runway.

## **NORTHERN TUTCHONE CHIEFS**

Northern Tutchone Chiefs signed a Declaration and Resolution to reaffirm the joint responsibility to protect our Aboriginal Title and Rights. Chief Nelson met with Chief Russell Blackjack of Little Salmon Carmacks, and Chief Simon Mervyn of Nacho Nyak Dun.

Highlights of the Declaration Include 3 New Areas of Priority Action.

- 1) Overlap (based on principles in the 95 Accord) and to develop Land Use Planning and Resource Management actions areas;
- 2) Wellness and;
- 3) Develop new strategic work planning items to bring action to the Chief's priorities.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Council met with the Finance Committee to review the audit as well as review new policies. Council meets regularly with the Finance Committee to discuss allocation of funds that best serves our Citizens. We are developing a 5-year Capital budget. This outlook would capture all funding available as well as considering the Capital Plan and the assessments that were done. Our government will be able to

plan more effectively and will give us a longer-term view of funding requirements. Council also reviews SFN investments' performance is regularly reviewed with our Investment Managers and the Finance Committee.

## **SFN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

The Annual General Assembly was held on August 2-4, 2019 at Minto Landing. The resolutions passed: Multi-Use Community Recreation, Community Safety Plan, and an SFN Resolution Committee.

### **RESOLUTIONS PASSED DURING THE ASSEMBLY:**

**Resolution #5 Multi-Use Community Recreation Centre:**  
With such a vital role in healthy development of our community, it is of an utmost importance that

*cont'd on page 5*

the MLA collaborate with SFN and Yukon Member of Parliament. A Recreation multi-plex would promote healthy and active lifestyles for Citizens of all ages with a variety of sports, activities, and future events.

**Resolution #9 Community Safety**

**Plan:** Council has committed to the strategic priority of a safe, unified community with opportunities to live a fulfilling and sustaining life. SFN Council initiate the process to implement the recommendation set out in the community safety reports.

**Resolution #10 Selkirk First Nation Resolution Committee:**

Assembly Resolutions are an essential mechanism by which SFN Citizens provide specific mandates and direction to Council.

Three (3) SFN Citizens were nominated and appointed to the resolution committee at the 2019 SFN Annual General Assembly for the ensuing year to carry out the work.

**VISIT FROM THE PREMIER AND MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Premier Sandy Silver and the Honourable John Streicker, Minister of Community Services visited Pelly Crossing to discuss several matters with Council such as the G.A. resolutions for a recreation multiplex and other infrastructure priorities. Government of Yukon confirmed that Infrastructure Canada will be funding the Early Childhood Development Center, Jon Ra Piped Water Expansion, and upgrading streetlights and roads. YG will assist us with their expertise to tender the Jon Ra Project which will be ready to begin in 2020.

We also reminded Premier Silver and Minister Streicker that there's an outstanding issue with Granite Canyon. While they have relinquished the site for a dam, YG has also relinquish the flood zone for that area.

**VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS**

Council once again emphasized to the Premier and Minister the importance of having an operating volunteer Fire Hall in Pelly Crossing for safety reasons. YG agreed to offer training with their equipment once SFN Community Safety Officers recruit the volunteers. They assured us that they would include a new fire truck for our community in their funding cycle. This doesn't mean that Pelly Crossing will get a truck immediately, but it does mean that YG recognizes the need to provide us with a fire truck in the coming years. The Fire Marshal came on October 22nd to start training the volunteers.

**STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM**

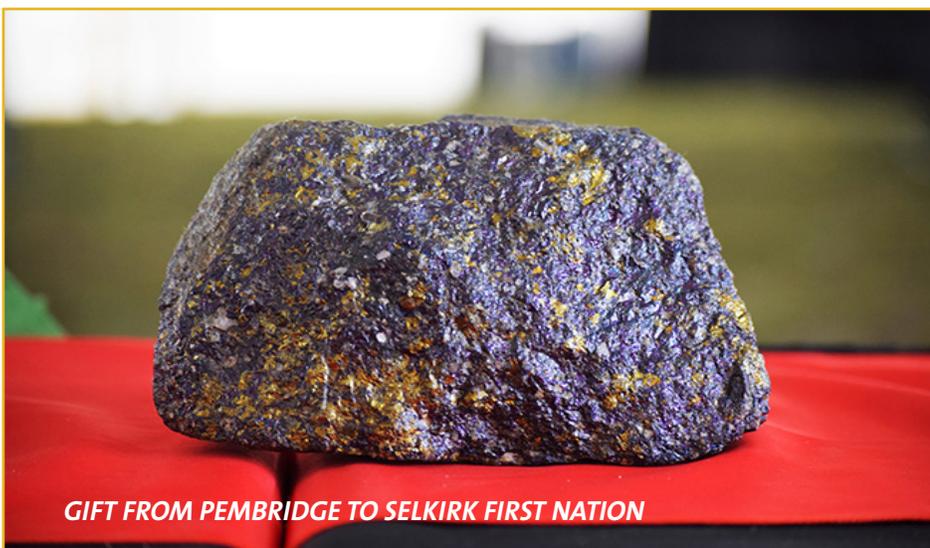
We are doing a pilot project with the Department of Energy Mines and Resources on joint Stewardship Program/Inspections. This will help build capacity.

**PEMBRIDGE MINING**

Pembridge has a new CEO, Gati Al Jebouri who met briefly with Chief Nelson via teleconference. A more in-depth meeting will occur with Chief Nelson, Mine Manager Kevin McGinty, and Legal Advisor Jim Harper.

**END OF TERM**

In April 2020, Council's three-year term will be ending. Council continues to work on their priorities, keeping the best interest of our Citizens in mind.



**GIFT FROM PEMBRIDGE TO SELKIRK FIRST NATION**

# 2019 GENERAL ASSEMBLY





# 2019 GENERAL ASSEMBLY



# Government Business



## SELKIRK DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

At the 2019 General Assembly, Chief Executive Officer of SDC Zachary Fulton updated the SFN Citizens on all the operations under the SDC umbrella. Their newest company is Selkirk Mueller Indigenous Electric (SMIE), captured approximately \$1.5 million in contracts at the Faro mine including a large-scale electrical generator, and E-house

supply. A topic of interest for Selkirk Citizens is the 1.75 mega watt generator, which could power the entire village of Pelly Crossing, 24/7. The new generator is expected to arrive in Faro this month. SDC is also inviting any Selkirk Citizen to apply as an electrician apprentice, regardless of experience. As Fulton explained, *“If there’s a Selkirk First Nation Citizen that wants to be in the electrical trade, we want to train you. We want to give you hours and the experience and start you working today.”* Fulton

later spoke of SDC’s intention on assisting with contracts concerning local infrastructure, including: The Early Childhood Development Centre, Swimming Pool, Piped Water, and Road Work.

SDC has also captured other contracts through partnerships with drilling companies such as Midnight Sun and Kluane Drilling. SDC may be awarded contracts for all the electrical work of wiring the new Faro water treatment plant. Other potential work on the table is power generation at Silvertip Mine and the emergency reclamation of Wolverine Mine. If awarded all the contracts, it could very well be the biggest revenue producer for SDC yet.

## JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Council has selected Lucy McGinty, David Silas, Kala Smith, and Michelle Kolla to sit on the Justice Committee. The Committee’s primary function is to research other Justice Councils, Justice Programs and hold consultation with Citizens.

The Justice Council is an independent judicial authority of Selkirk First Nation.

Please watch for Consultation meeting notices in the very near future.



SELKIRK DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION HEADQUARTERS

*cont'd on page 10*



**YUKON FORUM HELD ON THE TESLIN TLINGIT COUNCIL HERITAGE CENTER.**

**YUKON FORUM**  
**September 18, 2019**

The Yukon Forum is a quarterly meeting with all of Yukon's political leaders, including the Yukon's Premier, Cabinet members, Council of Yukon First Nation's Grand Chief and Yukon First Nation Chiefs.

This was the 11<sup>th</sup> Yukon Forum meeting since the signing of the Working Together Declaration in January 2017 and marks the second year of implementing the Joint Action Plan of the Yukon Forum. Leaders discussed several shared priorities such as justice, family and children services, and Yukon Days, a yearly meeting of Yukon leaders with federal Ministers in Ottawa. The Advisory Committee regarding the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls presented an update to the leaders. The final report of the independent

review of the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board was presented to the Yukon Forum. The report includes recommendations calling on all parties to work with the board to strengthen public accountability, improve board oversight and leadership, and build clarity and collaboration on Yukon's fish and wildlife management structure.

Leaders also discussed the Yukon Government's New Representative Public Service Plan, *'Breaking Trail Together'*. The *'Breaking Trail'* plan was developed collaboratively with First Nation governments and is intended to increase representation of First Nation employees in the public service.

**LOAN REIMBURSEMENT**

In the 2019 federal budget, Canada committed \$1.4 billion over 7

years to forgive all outstanding comprehensive land claim negotiation loans and to reimburse indigenous governments that had already repaid their loans. SFN, having repaid the loan, will be reimbursed over a 5-year period. However, this is pending Parliamentary approvals and annual appropriation of funds. After the October 21<sup>st</sup> election and Parliament resumes, we hope to receive confirmation of repayment.

**DIGITIZING OUR LANGUAGE**

The Council of Yukon First Nations' (CYFN) Yukon Native Language Centre (YNLC) has digitized nearly 10,000 pages of language resources in all eight Yukon First Nations languages. The collection includes literacy sessions, language lessons and storybooks that have been

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created and collected over the past 30 years.

To digitize the collection, YNLC collaborated with the Government of Yukon's Department of Education First Nations Programs and Partnerships (FNPP) unit and Carleton University. The resources were once only available in hard copy at the Language Centre, but are now available for searching, downloading, printing and offline use for free on YNLC's website.

### SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE and WATER SERVICES

Pelly Crossing received funding for three local infrastructure projects which would include a new pool, a New Early Childhood Development Centre and an additional water plant in the Jon Ra Subdivision.

Construction of this new pool will begin in 2020. This recreational

facility will support healthy and active lifestyles in the community and provide a place where friends and families can come together.

The new Early Childhood Development Centre will provide care to the children of Pelly Crossing between the ages of 12 months old to 8 years of age.

The installation of upgrades to the Taraw Water Plant and new water mains in the Jon Ra subdivision will provide much needed piped water services to existing houses and supply water to future lots in the community for years to come.

The Government of Canada is investing over \$11.1 million in these projects through the Small Communities Fund (SCF) and through the *Investing in Canada* infrastructure plan. The Government of Yukon will contribute over \$3.7 million to these projects.

### HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW

Minister Pauline Frost announced that an independent, expert panel would provide strategic advice. The expert panel hosted a community meeting for consultation.

The review will include assessing all programs and services delivered by Health and Social Services and the Yukon Hospital Corporation, as well as those funded by the department and delivered by non-government organizations. The panel will look at how services are organized, managed and delivered, and will try to find efficiencies to better deliver services to Yukoners. A final report is expected to be developed by late 2019.

Over the coming months Yukoners, First Nations governments and non-governmental organizations will have the opportunity to provide input and feedback into the review.



# Top News



BRENDEEN HUTTON, DIANA DAWSON, SAMANTHA DAWSON, AND YOUTH COUNCILLOR MORRIS MORRISON.

Congratulations to **Samantha Dawson** on completing law school, articling, and getting called to the bar in both BC and Yukon.



## Employment and Training Program

The goal of the project is to enhance the employability skills of Selkirk Citizens by offering seasonal employment from May to September. Twenty-seven (27) employees were hired for four different projects that included: *Beautification, Painting, Slashing, and Greenhouse/Garden.*

## Projects Descriptions:

1. *Beautification Project:* Responsible for the clean-up and maintenance of the community which also includes the Riverfront Park, Pelly River Campground, and the Mica Creek Cemetery.
2. *Painting Project:* Re-paint the administration building, Minto Landing site buildings, wooden structures at the Pelly River Campground, baseball

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING WORKERS GETTING BUSY IN THE FIELD AND THE OFFICE.



GETTING THE FENCE READY FOR THE BALL TOURNAMENT.





park wall/ bleachers/ dugout, and Curling Rink- the outdoor entrance.

3. *Slashing Project:* Developed with the Community Safety Program to slash identified fire smart areas and clear out blind spots that are safety concerns.
4. *Greenhouse/Garden Project:* Learn and apply the full growth cycle with gardening in the North including seeding dates to harvesting in September.

### Training:

Employees participated in skill based and wellness training opportunities which will hopefully enable them to pursue their ambitions and be successful in any future endeavour. The training aspect of the program included ticket training at Yukon College, holistic traditional healing as well as in-house workshops hosted by Selkirk First Nation, which includes:

- Financial Literacy with Yukon Literacy Coalition
- Two Sessions of First Aid CPR-C through Yukon College
- Counselling and massaging
- Positive Choices Positive Voices Workshop Phase 2
- Minto Healing Camp
- Community Safety In-Class sessions
- Food Safe
- Presentation on Tiny Homes project
- Employment and Training Program Workshop

Congratulations to the employees of the four projects, along with the leadership displayed by the supervisors in implementing the workplan. Your efforts are greatly appreciated!



# Event: MINTO HEALING CAMP – August 12-16, 2019



**SELKIRK CITIZENS AND EMPLOYEES ATTEND MINTO HEALING CAMP WITH JOE MIGWANS AND JOHNNIE BRASS.**



**SHANE, CRYSTAL, AND NICOLE WORK ON DRUMS**



**KENNY CHECKS HIS HANDY WORK FOR ANY IMPERFECTIONS**

“discussed healthy behaviour such as traditional activities, such as beading, hunting, fishing, as well as the importance of spending quality time with sober friends and family members”



**MARCEL NOTICES AN IMPERFECTION.**



**SHANNON MORRISON SPORTING THE FINISHED PRODUCT.**

The Selkirk First Nation *Minto Healing Camp* was coordinated in collaboration with the staff of SFN Citizen Development and Health and Social Department: Carmen Baker, Jessica Alfred, Millie Johnson, and Martin Morberg. The 27 people from the Employment and Training Program and several Selkirk Citizens travelled daily for a 5-day camp facilitated by Joe Migwans and Johnnie Brass.

Each morning began with a smudge, a prayer and breakfast. After introductions, Migwans and Brass started a *Sharing*

*Circle* in which members of the group had the option to share past experiences. For 5-days, participants had the opportunity to sign up for a 2-hour session with energy healer Monika Steputh, for massage therapy and counseling.

Day 2 started with the spiritual topic of “*How to Develop a Relationship with the Creator*”, the sub-topics included: “*how to*

*be healthy, mind, body, and spirit, and how to honour oneself with the Land.*” The coordinators were pleased and amazed to see a very attentive and inquisitive group in the circle, where they shared their own spiritual journeys and beliefs. In the afternoon, a guest speaker shared his journey to sobriety from rock bottom with the raw honesty of an open wound. Drum making



HEALING CAMP SHARING CIRCLE.

NORA HARPER, ROSEMARY SAM, JOE MIGWANS, ANDY SILVERFOX, ARNOLD JOE, AND KENNY MCGINTY.

and beading both proved to be a huge hit with the group, who made 30 drums for hand games and traditional ceremonies.

In Day 3, the circle discussed personal goals, and positive life choices, as well as the addictive cycle and *Wellness vs Final Rock Bottom*. Under this topic, the Mind was broken into – *Spiritual Sickness, Anxiety, Shame (allergy of the body), Guilt, Remorse, Fear, Past, and Pain*. They then spoke about the addictive cycle, where drugs and alcohol are abused.

Afterwards, the group continued their rigorous work on drums and sewing projects.

Day 4 began with the topic of Self-Care and Self-Love, which then can be formulated into positive, healthy habits such as: “8 hours of sleep, smudge/prayer, A.A. meetings, eating 3 square meals a day, and socializing.” They also discussed healthy behaviour such as traditional activities, beading, hunting, fishing, as well as the importance of spending quality time with sober friends and family

members. Drum making and sewing continued and the day ended with a group prayer around the fire.

The 5th and final day began with closing remarks, sharing and it ended with gifts and farewells. Health and Social Wellness Coordinator, Millie Johnson reflected: “It was a very successful week... I would like to thank the facilitators, and all the staff who were involved in the week.”



CHARLES JOE NEARING COMPLETION OF HIS DRUM.



# Event STICK-GAMBLING TOURNAMENT

PARENT'S CAPACITY PROGRAM AND HERITAGE COLLABORATED TO HOST A TOURNAMENT AT ELIZA VAN BIBBER SCHOOL.



## 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE:

*MAGGIE SILVERFOX, CHRISSEY JOE, NORA HARPER, RICKY JOE-HARPER, CARLA JOE, AND LORI JOE.*



## 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE:

*KIM GILL, ANGELL JOHNNIE, SHANDAL SAM, CHARLENE SILVERFOX, MACKENZIE BOYDEN, AND DAVE GILILS.*



## HONOURABLE MENTION:

*THE SENTIMENTAL FAVOURITES*

## HONOURABLE MENTION:

*ROSS RIVER AND FAMOUS AMOS*







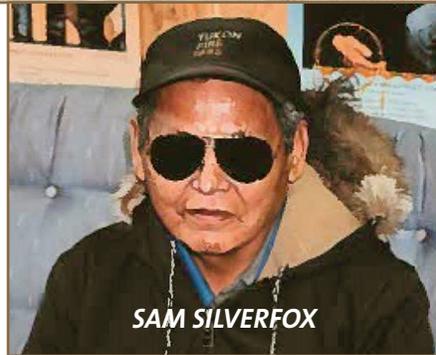


# Event 18<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SAM SILVERFOX SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT



The annual tournament is named after Sam Silverfox, an Elder of Selkirk First Nation and an avid baseball fan. Since the days of the Pelly Panthers, Sam has always been our number one fan. No matter if it was a local game, or a battle with our neighbours from Carmacks or Mayo, Sam was at the field because he loved the game of baseball.

Pelly Crossing, Carmacks, and Mayo have a long history of baseball, hockey, and curling together. Since day 1, Pelly has spent a great deal of time on the field and the ice playing against our neighbours from Carmacks



SAM SILVERFOX

and Mayo. Every regular from Pelly knows every regular from Carmacks and Mayo. Add Whitehorse into the mix, and you have the ingredients for the 18th Annual Sam Silverfox Softball Tournament.

The Carmacks *Hawks* took home the gold and the top cash prize, with Whitehorse's *Back-Door Sliders* going home carrying the silver. The *Hawks* are a team that plays together all season, with

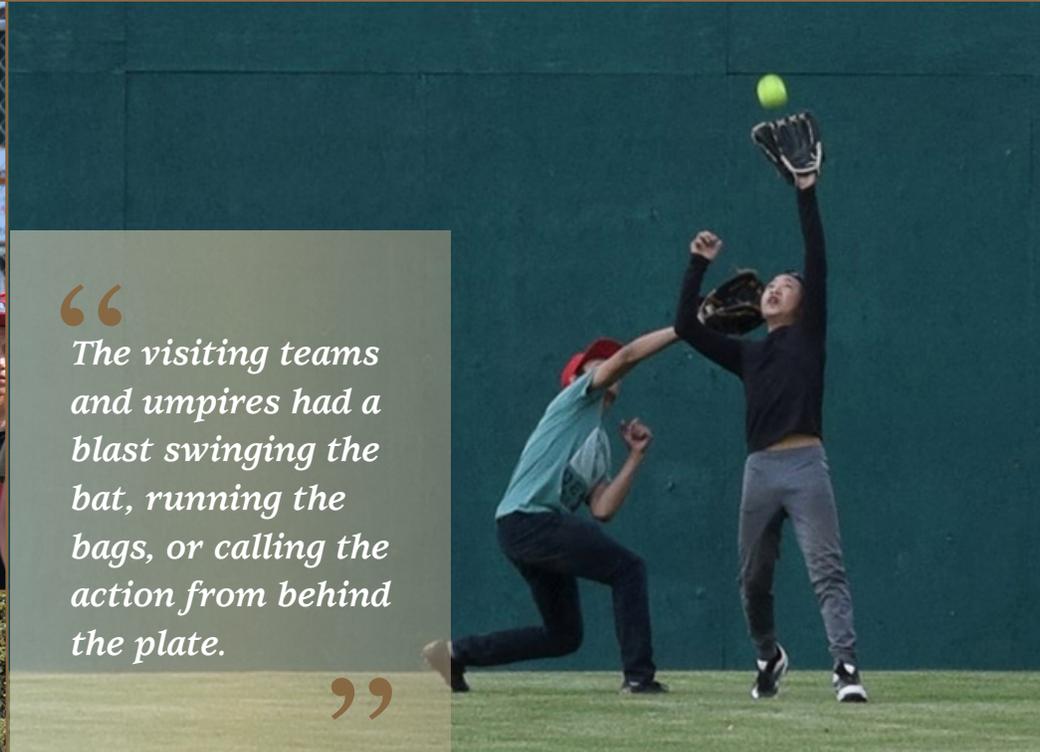
solid hours on the field against stiff competition. In the end, the *Hawks* had the most well-rounded team and more than enough to earn the win.

Overall, the tournament was a success. The visiting teams and umpires had a blast swinging the bat, running the bags, or calling the action from behind the plate.

Mike Menzies was hired over the weekend as an Umpire and spoke highly of Pelly Crossing and the local Recreation Coordinator, Jeremy Harper: *"I've been coming down here for the last few years, and Pelly has treated us well. Jeremy has always treated us well, so we're always happy to make the journey to Pelly Crossing."*



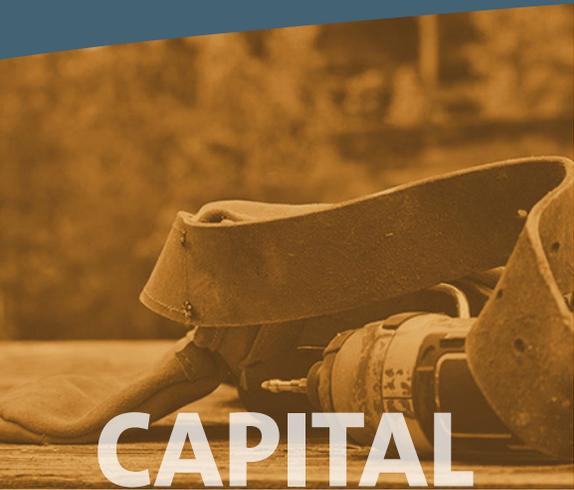
PLAYERS FROM PELLY, MAYO, CARMACKS, AND WHITEHORSE COMPETE IN THE SAM SILVERFOX TOURNAMENT.



“  
The visiting teams and umpires had a blast swinging the bat, running the bags, or calling the action from behind the plate.  
”



# Department Updates: CAPITAL



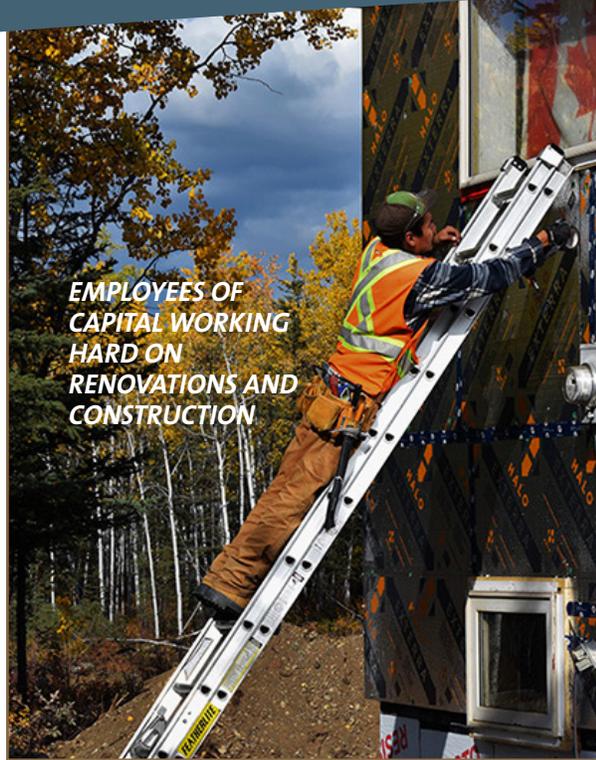
## CAPITAL

### RENOVATIONS

Capital has been busy with a few major renovations around town. Six homes are scheduled for exterior retrofit and damp proofing. The work includes removal and replacement of old siding with up to date material fit for the Yukon winter.

### HOUSING

The new office of the Community Safety Officers will be across



EMPLOYEES OF CAPITAL WORKING HARD ON RENOVATIONS AND CONSTRUCTION

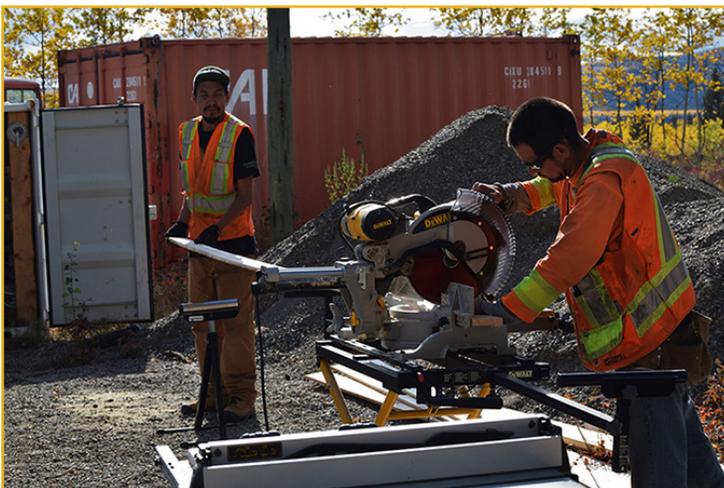
“  
The new system removes old, dead, stale air and replaces it with a fresh, clean air. It uses the heat in the outgoing air to warm the fresh air.  
”

from Eliza Van Bibber School. It is one of the four mobile homes. Government of Yukon is also renting an office in the same building. The other three mobile homes will be residents for Selkirk Citizens. Two mobile homes will be in Willow Creek and one in the main village.

Capital is planning to begin construction in the main village area.

### HEATING RECOVERY SYSTEM

The new system removes old, dead, stale air and replaces it with





a fresh, clean air. It uses the heat in the outgoing air to warm the fresh air. A typical unit features two fans: one to take out household air and the other to bring in fresh air. The system is used to reduce the heating and cooling demands of a building. Six houses are scheduled to have the HRV system put in place.

## ENERGY AUDITS

An energy audit is designed to determine where, when, why, and how energy is being used. The information gathered is used to identify opportunities to improve efficiency, decrease energy

costs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change. The audits can also verify the effectiveness of energy management opportunities (EMOs). Nine homes will undergo Energy Audits as will two community buildings.



# Department Updates: HEALTH & SOCIAL PROGRAMS

## Parent's Capacity Events

This winter, SFN and Government of Yukon will be hosting monthly parenting programs to discuss topics such as children's communication and language skills, imaginary play, and children's health.

During National Families' week, community meals and activities took place throughout October. The program also hosted local Stick-Gambling Tournaments for all ages at the Link Building.

November 20th, dinner and games will take place for National Kids Day at the Link Building.

## COMMUNITY WELLNESS STRATEGY – Phase 3

Selkirk has taken the initiative to create a Community Wellness Strategy with the community, a process which is conducted in 3-Phases.

PHASE 1: Conduct analysis of management

PHASE 2: Safety initiative, review and revise Health and Social's policies

### PHASE 3:

Community needs assessment to better understand the needs of SFN Citizens and current state of wellness and develop questionnaires accordingly. After the questionnaires are developed, informal focus groups will be held in

the mornings, afternoons, and evenings in a "community kitchen format", in order to maximize community participation and accommodate the various age groups. Once the data is collected, a database will be compiled, and statistics will be analyzed to identify commonalities and anomalies. The Final Report will summarize the findings and be published and distributed to the community. All collected data from the focus groups will be in the Findings section. Phase 3 began in September with the development of a questionnaire and focus groups will commence in mid-late October.

## COMMUNITY HALL, YOUTH CENTRE AND ELDER LANGUAGE PROGRAM

The youth of Selkirk First Nation have moved to the community hall. The youth and elders will now share the old community hall for recreational activities and the language program.

## EDUCATION POST SECONDARY WINTER SEMESTER

If you wish to apply for funding, the deadline for Winter Semester is November 15th, 2019. Contact Tara Roberts for additional info: E-Mail [education2@selkirkfn.com](mailto:education2@selkirkfn.com) Phone 867-537-3331.



### **COMMUNITY SAFETY OFFICERS**

Darcy Marcotte – CSO – LEAD **867-332 5585**

David Bennett – CSO - **867-334-2242**

Emergency Call **911**

# Early Childhood Development Centre (ECDC)

## STAFF

Manager: Lori Sims - Preschool  
Preschool Childcare: Vicky Joe  
Childcare: Amber Kinney

Afterschool Childcare: Maryann  
Sam - Floater: Roxanne Buyck  
Hager - Custodian: Sharon  
Morrison

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Four Staff of our staff are working on their levels 1A and have entered the Early Learning and Child Care program for the Fall Semester

## LICENSE

The Centre is licensed for 18 children, ages 12 months to 8 years of age. The Centre runs 3 program groups: Toddler, Preschool and Afterschool program. We currently have 18 children registered.

## CCS INSPECTION

Every year the Centre has to comply with the regulations for a childcare centre in order to get an operating license. Inspections are carried out to ensure the children are safe when at ECDC. Once again this year, the Centre passed licensing inspection.



## MESSAGE TO PARENTS

With fall gone and winter here, we ask parents to please dress their children accordingly as we continue outdoor play.

## ATTENDANCE

Daily attendance and tracking are important to us, please keep the worker in your group up to date on your child's attendance and absences.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Centre is looking for  
**Auxiliary/Subs**  
Apply today.

For further information about the Centre, you can call or stop by the Centre at anytime.

# LANDS, HERITAGE, AND RESOURCES

OVER 90 NORTHERN TUTCHONE WOMEN GATHER AT MINTO LANDING FOR AUNTIE'S RETREAT.

## 2019 AUNTIES RETREAT





## AUNTIES RETREAT & UNCLES RETREAT

Men and women of both Selkirk First Nation and Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation came together to celebrate and practice our traditions. The annual Aunties Retreat was held at Minto Landing, near Pelly Crossing, where Aunties, Elders, and Youth were invited to join in on the beading, drawing, and making of natural remedies. Over 90 participants attended the three-day Aunties retreat.. Uncle's Retreat was held at Airport Lake where Northern Tutchone men could absorb the wisdom of Peter Isaac, who told stories and gave a tutorial on how to sharpen a

## 2019 UNCLES RETREAT



# 2019 UNCLE'S RETREAT CONT.

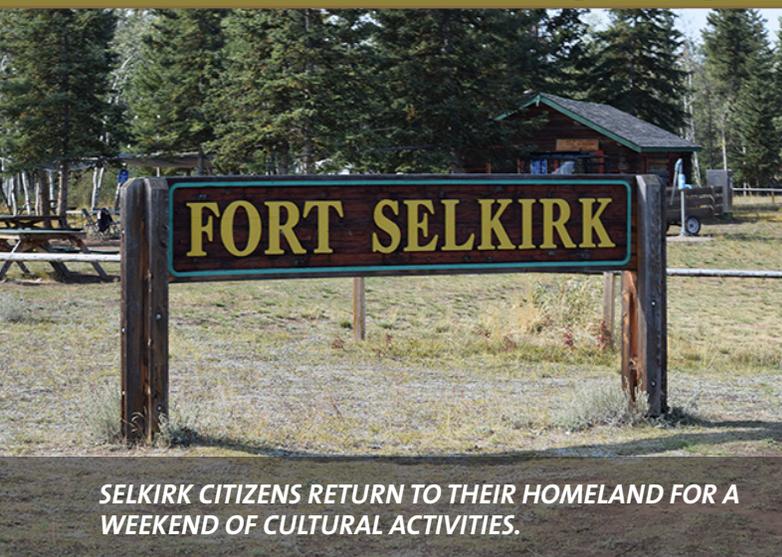


saw blade. Selkirk's Eugene Alfred shared his knowledge and skills of carving and sharpening tools. Selkirk Citizens who made the journey to Airport Lake were Atticus Baker, Ethan Isaac-Smith, Kenny Harper, Kyland and Norman Silas, Ranon Sawyer, Roger Alfred, Samuel Alfred, and Sheldon Joe.

Both camps had a great turn out, infectious enthusiasm spread to all who attended, and most importantly, everybody walked away with fresh traditional knowledge.



## FORT SELKIRK DAYS



SELKIRK CITIZENS RETURN TO THEIR HOMELAND FOR A WEEKEND OF CULTURAL ACTIVITIES.



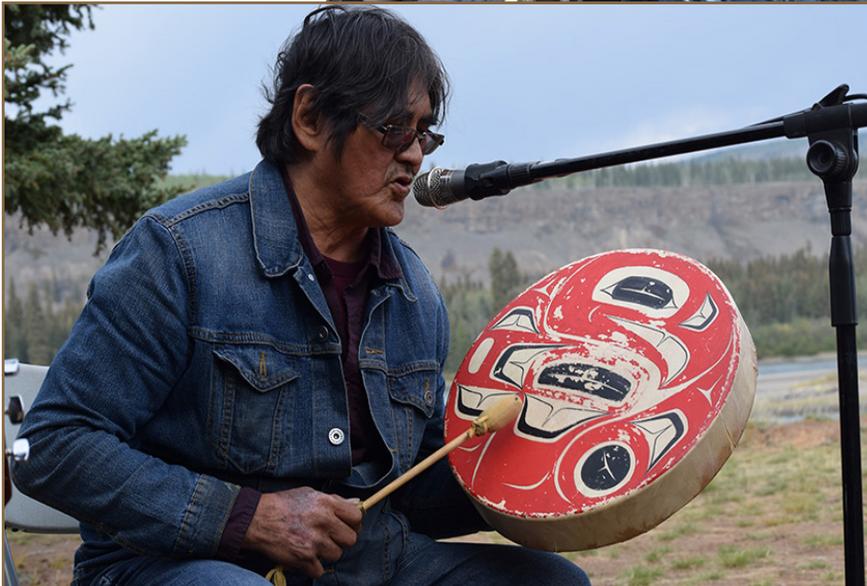
# FORT SELKIRK DAYS CONT.

## FORT SELKIRK DAYS

Citizens of all ages gathered on our traditional territory of Fort Selkirk for three days of cultural activities, contests, and entertainment. A variety of contests were held, and many participated in stick-bannock making, chew making and stick-gambling. The activities included sewing with Kaylyn Baker, earring making with Rayven Svendson, drum making, scavenger hunt and storytelling. Tara Roberts won the bannock making, Charlene Silverfox won the chew making, and Freda's team won the stick-gambling tournament. Jerry Alfred provided the night's entertainment and rocked out like it was 1969.

## CULTURE CAMP at FORT SELKIRK

The Fall Camp was hosted in Fort Selkirk as the McMillian River was too shallow to host at Little John Slough. The Fall camp had 13 families in Fort Selkirk at the camp and 32 people helped cut the first moose in which was distributed out to the people in camp.



# COLLEGE CORNER – Hets' Edan Ku



## We had a very busy year and are looking forward to this upcoming year.

Last year Pelly Campus offered 51 courses with over 140 students. This year we are hoping for more offerings. Our upgrading courses are underway with Math, English and Science in three different levels. We have Early Childhood courses being offered and have students in the current program.

The College offers many online/video courses to choose from such as: Office Admin, Education- Yukon Native Teacher, Community Education and Employment Support, First Nations Governance and Public Administration, and Business Admin.

If you are interested in any of these programs come on in and lets chat! Coffee is always on!

If there are any training opportunities you would like to see at the Pelly Crossing Campus, stop by and let us know.

Best Regards,

Michelle Koehl

This training was to take place October/November/December, but dates have changed so we are able to spend more time in the mines and do hands on training. This training start date is now January.

## Upcoming Courses

- FOODSAFE
- Standard First Aid CPR/C
- Introduction to Computers
- Personal Financial Management
- Resume and cover letter writing
- Mining Workforce Readiness Program

### **Mining Workforce Readiness Program will consist of the following courses:**

- Crane Operator Certificate
- Bobcat Operator Certificate
- Intro to Environmental Monitoring
- History of Mining in the Yukon

## CLAYTON ROBERTS' PORCUPINE STORY

In 1978, two boats travelled up the MacMillian River, one was a 24ft plywood boat, and the other was a 12ft aluminum boat. In the plywood boat was Franklin Roberts, Mary Alfred, and a 13-year-old Clayton Roberts. In the small boat was 15-year-old Kenny McGinty and his parents Tommy and Annie McGinty. For 3 weeks, the group struggled as they ran low on food, they survived on rations, berries, and hunted small game like beaver and grouse.

One day by 12-Mile, the group hunted for big game when a porcupine swam by them across the river. The group docked their boats and followed the porcupine.

Tommy approached the porcupine and spoke in Northern Tutchone, "I'm going to eat you, you help us but I'm looking for moose. Give us moose when I take you."

Tommy then asked the animal for its forgiveness and thanked it in his mother tongue once more before he told the group, "that porcupine will give us something now, because we took its life."

After the group replenished with much needed nourishment, they travelled towards their camp at Horseshoe Lake and spotted fresh moose tracks. Bull and cow tracks

that went from the river to the thickets. Behind the thickets was a bank, and behind it was a ridge. Tommy sent Franklin and Clayton up the ridge to chase the moose back to him.



Franklin and Clayton went up the ridge while Tommy, Annie, Mary, and Kenny waited down below.

Once up the hill, Franklin and Clayton saw a bull moose at the bottom of the hill, so they snuck after it. As Clayton described it:

"We were sneaking up to that moose, trying to chase it out to Tommy McGinty. Then there was a slough there, can't get across, so we're walking on the side of that slough. Then we hear that moose in front of us, then it start running away, so Franklin fired a couple of shots, and it was gone. So, I start running behind it too and we come to that slough and I see Franklin on the other side, running across

that slough.....Here we got a bull moose, Franklin shot it."

The next thing Franklin and Clayton heard was the frantic thrashing of a 2nd moose in the distance. Gunshots echoed from Tommy's rifle and then nothing.

Franklin and Clayton yelled to the other group and approached them. They discovered Tommy had shot his own fat bull. After both moose were skinned and gutted, and all the meat was packed and hanged, camp was set, and Tommy reflected to the group, "that porcupine gave meat to us."

Clayton detailed the significance of the porcupine...

"When you hunt for moose, you're not supposed to hunt that porcupine. So, we took that porcupine before we took that moose. Tommy McGinty did something there that I didn't understand, I don't know how he did it. Some kind of Indian way he talk to it, I'm not sure. It help us because we need to eat. Give us moose because we can't find moose. So, he tell that porcupine some kind of story and the porcupine feed us and then he give another moose to us, two bull moose."

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