

Dàkwäni

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING



Friends and family from near and far gathered for the Kaalaxch' (Kohklux) Potlatch October 18 and 19 at Da Kų Cultural Centre.

YÚK'E - WINTER 2019/20

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- BY-ELECTION RESULTS
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CAFN.ca

KOHLUX MAP POTLATCH

Celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Chief Kaalaxch' (Kohklux) Map

Champagne and Aishihik First Nations (CAFN) hosted the Kohklux Map Anniversary Potlatch this October 18-19, at Da Kų Cultural Centre in Dakwäkäda (Haines Junction). This event celebrated the 150th anniversary of the drawing of the maps by Chief Kaalaxch' (Kohklux) and his wives.

"This special gathering is an opportunity for Dän (Southern Tutchone) and Tlingit to come together to celebrate 19th century trade between our ancestors" says Dän nätthe äda Kaaxnox (Chief Steve Smith). "We're excited to welcome our friends, neighbors and relatives to celebrate our shared history and connections, as shown by the trading routes on the Kohklux maps."

Highlights of the Potlatch included screening of films related to Dän and Tlingit history on the Friday evening,

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KOHLUX MAP POTLATCH

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followed by a full day of storytelling, workshops, displays and sharing on Saturday.

The event offered a rare opportunity to view one of the two original maps prepared by Chief Kohklux and his wives. Drawn in 1869 by the Tlingit Chief Kaalałxch' (Kohklux), these rare maps are examples of early Indigenous map making in the North. The Kohklux maps are especially important to CAFN because they are the oldest maps of dákeyi (our traditional territory). During the event, we wanted to share the story behind the maps, as well as family and community stories related to the trade. One of the original maps came north from San Francisco and was on site at Da Kų Cultural Centre throughout the potlatch.

Several Kwädā y kwädān (our ancestors' or long ago peoples') tools were also on site for viewing.

Participants travelled from all over the Yukon and Alaska to attend. Kwānischiss to all who joined us! We look forward to continuing to share and connect with you.

For more details, please visit <https://cafn.ca/event/kohklux-map-anniversary-gathering>.



(Above): Participants enjoyed meals served in the Yukon and Parks Canada visitor information wing at Da Kų.



(Left): A popular copper bead making workshop was hosted by Brenda Lee Asp.

(Bottom Left): Ron Chambers shared stories about Southern Tutchone/Tlingit trade.

(Bottom Middle): Tom Buzzell spoke about the history of the two Kohklux maps.

(Bottom Right): Lawrence Joe told about CAFN's work and rediscovery of some of the trails and villages shown on the maps.





DÄN NÄTTHE ÄDA DÄKWÄL MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Dänách'é

THE NATION (through better governance)

Council met in early November to continue strategic planning for the future, with a focus on how our growing government is organized. We look forward to putting new structures in place that are more dän k'e and better meet the needs of Citizens, staff and Council.

Our Council continues to work on behalf of Citizens to implement Dän K'e in all aspects of CAFN. Please see more details on Dän Tán Gà Dījäl (We all walk along the Dän K'e trail) in this newsletter.

Work is underway on next steps for resolutions passed by the 2019 Nĥshējel (General Assembly). Changes to our Elders benefits program are moving forward based on the GA's direction. Once in effect, the new program will be open to Citizens who live outside Canada, including our Alaskan brothers and sisters. Please see more details in this newsletter.

Deputy Chief Rose Kushniruk and I travelled to Ottawa the first week of December to participate in Yukon Days and Assembly of First Nations meetings. It was a very full week of formal meetings, as well as one-on-one meetings with several federal

ministers on specific requests for CAFN priorities.

EACH OTHER (through connection and self-reliance)

Connection

We're excited to be hosting a wide range of Christmas Connects activities again over the 2019-20 holiday season, including our extremely popular Lift Your Spirits days. Please stay tuned at CAFN.ca and Champagne and Aishihik First Nations for full details!

Self-Reliance

The Mät'atāna Resort Steering Committee is continuing its work to complete due diligence for this exciting potential project. We look forward to reporting to Citizens on the results of their work later this winter. Please see more details on Mät'atāna in the article in this issue of Däkwāní.

Our Council vision for 2018 through 2022 is:

Dän Shāwthān ghàách'é, who speak for the nation, the land and water, and for each other.

We are Dän Shāwthān, responsible for:

- **The Nation (through better governance);**
- **Each Other (through connection and self reliance); and**
- **The Land and the Water.**

We are using the term *Dän Shāwthān*, which means "good people". That is what we are trying to do: walk as good CAFN people by being caring, taking care of each other, mindful of our rules, caring and speaking for our four-legged and winged creatures, and caring for the land water and air.

THE LAND and WATER

Our efforts continue to reach agreements with the government of Yukon and Yukon Energy Corporation toward a better future for the Äshèyi region. Please stay tuned for more details as work progresses.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

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Congratulations!

Shāw nithän – congratulations – to new Councillor Michael (Mickey) Beattie who swore his oath of office this November 1 and went to work the same day.

I hold my hands up to all the candidates who put their names forward for this by-election. It is fantastic and rewarding to see so many Citizens with courage and vision who want to contribute on behalf of our people.

Gunatchish,

Dän nātthe äda Kaaxnox

Chief Steve Smith



Vivian Smith, Sharon Shadow, Liza Jacobs and Dän nātthe äda Kaaxnox attended the Let Language Live international conference on Indigenous language revitalization in Victoria, BC this June.



Leaders at the Yukon Forum meeting in Teslin this September.

DÄN NÄTTHE DÄTTH'I DEK'I CHIEF AND COUNCIL UPDATE

The following are summaries of decisions made by Chief and Council from September to November 2019

Boards and Committees

Champagne and Aishihik First Nations Chief and Council appointed Lilly Smith to the Champagne and Aishihik Language, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee for a term to May 31, 2022.

Financial Transfer Agreement

CAFN Council approved the proposed Financial Transfer Agreement (FTA) for the period of April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2024; and

Further, Council authorized the Chief to sign the FTA for April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2024 on behalf of CAFN.

Banking and Signing Authority for Chief Financial Officer

The Council authorized Gayle Corry (Chief Financial Officer) to have access to banking information for all CAFN bank and guaranteed investment certificate/term deposit accounts and loans and to have access to the online banking information effective immediately.

Budget Requests

The CAFN Council approved the CAFN 2019-20 supplemental budget requests for the fiscal year April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020.

First Nations Bank of Canada Signing Authority

Champagne and Aishihik First Nations Council resolved that in accordance with the Financial

Administration Act, newly elected Councillor Michael Beattie is authorized for and on behalf of CAFN to execute and deliver all banking documents and instruments.

By-Election Results

A by-election was held for one Councillor on October 28, 2019. Eight candidates participated in the by-election, including candidate forums in Dakwäkäda (Haines Junction) and Kwanlin (Whitehorse). Michael Beattie was elected.

Full details on the by-election are available at <https://cafn.ca/2019-by-election/>

Congratulations – shāw nithän – to all the candidates.



The CAFN Council serving till 2022 is (left to right): Dän nätthe dätth'i (Councillor) Michael Beattie, Dän nätthe äda Kaaxnox (Chief Steve Smith), Dän nätthe dätth'i (Councillor) Barb Joe, Dän nätthe dätth'i (Councillor) Marie McLaren, Äshāw Dän nätthe äda (Elder Councillor) Mundy Joe, Dän nätthe dätth'i (Councillor) Rose Kushniruk (Deputy Chief to Dec 31, 2019), and Shāna Dän nätthe äda (Youth Councillor) Jessica Mazur (not pictured).

Dän Tăn Gà Dījäl

We all walk along the dän k'e trail

Dän K'e – Our way of knowing, doing and being – is our path forward, restoring our ancestors' vision for the future.

CAFN continues our ongoing work to build Dän K'e into everything we do. This is a journey we began decades ago with our efforts to achieve land claims and re-instate self-government of our people, lands and processes. It is a journey we expect to continue for decades to come, as we continue to reinvigorate Kwaday Kwandur (our stories), Dákwänjē (language), and our Dän K'e values.

Since 2015, CAFN has continued to work to create more holistic systems for Citizen services that are focused on each individual and break down barriers to communication and effective service.

The initiative is guided by the Dän Tăn Gà Dījäl Standing Committee, which includes Deputy Chief Rose Kushniruk, Councillor Marie McLaren, CAFN's Senior Director of Citizen Services, and directors for Community Wellness, Language and Culture, Education and Property Services.

ONE WINDOW APPROACH

The One Window Approach is about simplifying and improving our approach to serving citizens, while bringing Dän K'e philosophies and approaches into our service model.

A staff working group is tasked with helping build and enhance this new approach.

What does a one-window approach mean for Citizens?

- You don't have to run around to learn the system



- You can access services through the "one window" or directly to the department
- You have one "person" that advocates on your behalf to ensure your inquiry is responded to or resolved, so Citizen requests don't fall through the cracks
- Staff come to Elders and house-bound Citizens when needed

- Privacy is managed and protected
- Improved communication with Citizens

What will a one-window approach mean for staff?

- Shifting our thinking about how we serve Citizens
 - Improving how we interactive with Citizens in a positive way
 - Seamless service delivery between staff/departments with a holistic view of Citizens
 - Staff continue working with Citizens until they are connected to the programs and services they require
 - One staff person advocates on behalf of each Citizen to ensure they are connected to the right programs and services
 - Recognition of extra time required to assist clients to navigate our programs and services
 - Decreased departmental load of data intake and document collection
- Staff share consistent information (messaging) with each other and with Citizens across CAFN
- Actions and outcomes are trackable so it is easy to see what support has been provided and what still needs to happen (good data recording)

SPIRIT BUILDER

A key step in creating a one window approach is the creation of a pilot "Spirit Builder" position. Janet VanBibber recently began work as our first Spirit Builder/Citizen Services Officer. During the first few months, she is researching needs and building the systems and connections between departments to ensure this is an effective position. When Janet begins directly serving Citizens in 2020 (please watch for details!), she will also be closely monitoring and tracking her work and how well it is working, so we can decide how best to shape potential future spirit builder positions.

KWADAY KWANDUR (STORIES)

Our work to bring stories back into our consciousness and everyday use continues.

Interactive storytelling sessions will continue this winter, where Citizens and staff will be

invited to reconnect with the stories of our ancestors and to be inspired to find ways of bringing stories back into their everyday lives. Stories have always played an important role in guiding our people, families and community in being Dän Shāwthän (good people).

Please watch for the next storytelling workshop dates coming soon in 2020!

DÄN K'E THEORY OF WELLNESS

Our Citizen Theory of Wellness Sub-Committee continues to build and document a Theory of Wellness specific to CAFN. We look forward to sharing it with Citizens soon.

Work to document our values also continues. Community engagement is planned for the new year.

Please watch for more Dän Tän Gà Dījäl news and our new Instagram page coming soon!

DÚCH'J SHJ

The time is now for us to focus on our efforts to be Dän Shāwthän (Good People).

Dúch'j shj is a new phrase, which means, "I really should/could/will do it". This is like our dän k'e version of "just do it"! CORRECTION: this phrase was developed by Dän Nätthe Äda Kaaxnox (Chief Steve Smith), not a young language expert, as reported in the fall issue of Dàkwäni.

A Message From

Spirit Builder/Citizen Services Officer

Janet Van Bibber úúye. (Janet VanBibber)

Agunda ích'e (I am wolf-clan) Shadhəl ts'an ích'e (I am from Champagne).

Ätsuq shāw umā dak'l'aweidí äch'e na (My Great-Grandmother, who passed away, was dak'l'aweidí).

I'm so excited in my new role with Dän Tän Gà Dījäl (Citizen Services Initiative) to fill the position of Spirit Builder for a one year assignment. I feel honoured to be part of the process of concretely recognizing, identifying and implementing Dän K'e (our ways) and moving towards implementing the vision of self- government.

I look forward to beginning this new position by connecting with departmental front line workers to identify strengths and challenges in daily program service delivery to assist in the 'One Window Approach' review so we can better serve our Dän (people).

I will be connecting with citizens in the new year to identify and advocate for the programs and services that contribute to our peoples' well-being. I'm hoping to use qualitative research methods.

Education I have completed that will assist in this review process includes a Degree in Social Work and a Diploma in Business Administration. Employment relevant to this position includes; YG Mental Wellness Substance Use Services Counsellor, Youth Treatment and Detox Support Worker, CAFN Tenant Relations Officer and DIAND Registration & Estates Officer.

I look forward to connecting with staff and citizens in our communities.

I will be in unit 301 at the Diamond Willow apartments in Dakwäkäda for scheduled hours.

Please stay tuned for more details.

Nänuch'i shi, dāk'änatà jè (I will see you again, take care).

jvanbibber@cafn.ca

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A CAFN Christmas Khyēn (Song)

In 2001, Liz Blair, sister to Dakwākāda resident and CA staff member Darlene Blair, interviewed Elder Chùschwa (Marge Jackson) while undertaking research for a “Traditional Melodies” Project. The resulting recording, which Liz generously shared with CAFN, includes what may be the oldest Christmas song in Dákwanjè.

In the recording, Marge introduces the song by explaining that it was composed by Hutchi Jackson (Ka’nila), who learns about Christmas as he and his son Peter (whom Marge would later marry) arrive at Shadhāla (Champagne) as the holiday is being celebrated. Elsewhere in the recording, Marge mentions that Hutchi Jackson was well known as a creator of songs. Peter was born in 1909, and was not yet an adult at the time he and his father first learn about Christmas; this suggests that the song may have been created in the 1920s.

Marge recounts:

“Hutchi Jackson, he don’t know Christmas, eh?

Nobody don’t know there is going to be Christmas they say, in Champagne I guess, Shorty Chambers and them.

He don’t know. So he come from Hutchi. He don’t know, him and Peter, I guess....

...I don’t know he says, what’s that Christmas?

I don’t know what’s that? He say.

He say that all the time, Peter....”

Marge added that after being told about Christmas, Hutchi Jackson tied up his dogs, and then walked around Shadhāla for a while. Marge understood that is when the song came to him.

Kwanischis to Liz Blair, for sharing this CAFN heritage treasure; and to CAFN Language staff, who with the assistance of Elders Khüt’āla (Audrey Brown) and Chughāla (Lorraine Allen) transcribed and translated the song lyrics.



Marge and Peter Jackson at daughter Florence's wedding in 1971.





**Chushwa Yēn, Hutshi Jackson yēn yetsj
Chushwa khyēn äzhän**

'Ädakai yū hooch hi ya

(Breaking-daylight that-place

At that place, daylight is breaking)

Heeey, eheey nĭ hĭ hay ye ni hi heeeeyyy heeeeya

Dän tǎ ya jū dájèla nats'ar nena

(Native-person friend where they-go-out-at-this-time-to-gather animals)

Heeeeyyyy

Jū dā ts'ǎ n k'e kwāzhän Christmas

(Where sitting to way they-sing

Where they are sitting they sing about Christmas)

'Ädakai yū hooch hi yah

(Breaking-daylight that-place

At that place, daylight is breaking)

Heeeeyyyy hey nĭ hĭ heyyy nĭ hĭ heeey eeeey

Dän tǎ ya jū dájèl a nats'ar nena

(Native-person friend where they-go-out-at-this-time-to-gather animals)

Heeeeyyy

Jū dā ts'ǎ n k'e kwāzhän Christmas

(Where sitting to way they-sing

Where they are sitting they sing about Christmas)

'Ädakai yū hooch hi ya

(Breaking-daylight that-place

At that place, daylight is breaking)

Heeey, eheey nĭ hĭ hay ye nĭ hĭ heeeeyyy heeeeya

Dän tǎ ya jū dajela nats'ar nena

Heeeeyyyy





Where can I hear Dän k'è?

If you are interested in hearing Dän k'è there are plenty of websites you can visit, radio, classes, or elders to speak with

- dakwanje.com
- ynlc.com
- <https://www.youtube.com/user/weareourlanguage>

Chon-FM also airs weekly Haá Shagoon television segments that were adapted for radio airwaves. The segment airs every Wednesday at 9 am on Chon-FM. If you miss the weekly segment on the radio it is also available on the Chon-FM website where you can listen to it on your own time and also see subtitles in guch'än.

Kejän FUN reasons to learn Dän k'è

- You can speak to your friends without many people around you knowing what you are saying!
- Learning Dän k'è is another way to connect to your culture and your ancestors
- You can teach other people as you learn
- You can be part of a language movement happening across the world! People worldwide are celebrating the year of the language by learning a new language.

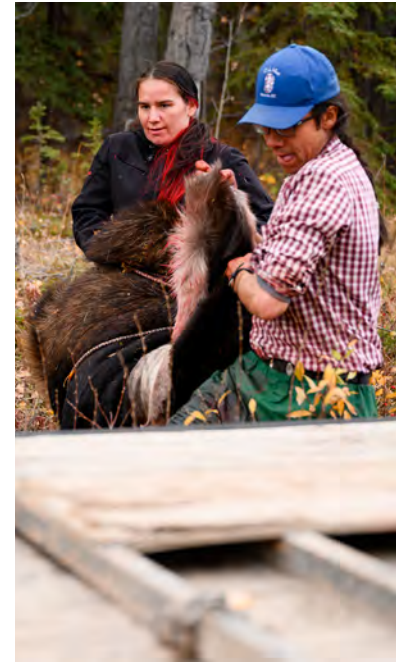


CAFN Language and Culture Department 30 hour (Jenkät weeks) Dän k'è intensive

Participants met 1á ki k'è a week from Män shäw nzhā to Sha Kwädak'wän nzhā and focused on conversational vocabulary. Everyone was extremely successful in their learning and were able to leave guch'än at the door and open their minds to hearing and only speaking dän k'è during class.

If you see äyet dän yè guch'än speak dän k'è to them!

- Lasänmaq Shadow
- Chutsäymq Stick
- Shanleya Joe-Titus
- Nansäna Murphy
- Carmen Wong
- Gakhäla Primozic
- Shannon Walker
- Alistair Maitland
- Chukalmaq Jackson
- Kim Boss
- Amber Berard
- Kari Johnston
- Linaya Workman
- Dusk'a Burns
- Sharda Ayott
- Amanda Buffalo



Dághq shäw níthän Nanashythua Workman yè Shayamdasti Dawson. Äyet 1á ki dän á ts'á n nännji, Dän k'è kenädän do.

All photos were taken during fall time on the land at Kusawa with the Dän Näkwá khèl students starting year two of the Southern Tutchone immersion program. Photo credit: Alistair Maitland Photography



DÄN TS'ÄNÄNÄN PROGRAM UPDATE



The wall tent classroom at the Yukon College Ayamdigut campus in Kwanlin (Whitehorse).

Champagne and Aishihik First Nations (CAFN) and Yukon College are partnering on a new 21-week Interpretive Guiding course called Dän Dákeyi Uyenjì

The Southern Tutchone name means ‘that person knows our country’ and reflects the land-based nature of the program.

Unlike a typical classroom environment, the program is based in a wall tent on Yukon College’s Ayamdigut campus in Whitehorse with regular backcountry excursions on the land in the CAFN Traditional Territory.

Six CAFN Citizens are participating in the five-month program, which began in late September. Graduates of the program will be equipped with skills and certification to work as wilderness guides and interpreters, and maintain land-based, culturally focused employment on their traditional lands

“Our land holds our stories and our identity as a people. Having guides who have roots in our Traditional Territory brings a whole new dimension to interpretive guiding and also provides opportunities for our student experts to showcase their knowledge,” stated Dän nätthe äda Kaaxnox

(CAFN Chief Steve Smith).

The program is broken down into 19 modules, ranging from CAFN Heritage Interpretation to Wilderness Safety and Navigation. During this program, students will get guidance from Elders and support from others like the Yukon Literacy Coalition to gain business and entrepreneurial skills.

“This experiential program takes place on the land and is primarily hands-on,” said Shelagh Rowles, Executive Director of Communities, Innovation and Development at Yukon College.

“The only written components see the students actually writing their own business, financial or marketing plans, which they can then put into practice after completing the program. The students will also leave the program with over a dozen industry certifications in wilderness safety, heritage and interpretation, tourism, and transportation.”

This is a program built in the North, geared towards Indigenous ways of knowing, doing and being, and

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DÄN TS'ÄNÄNÄN

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will directly result in land-based employment and self-employment in rural markets. The design of this program removes the traditional barriers to post-secondary learning and brings passionate and historically under-served Canadians into the economy.

Program participant JT Papequash said he had already considered opening his own guiding business when he heard about the Interpretive Guiding program.

"I want to open a guiding business and take people fishing on Kusawa Lake. My grandfather has many stories from living on the land in the area and I'd like to integrate those stories into the fishing trips. By the end of the program I feel I will be ready to open my business," said Papequash.

The Dän Dákeyi Uyenji course falls under CAFN's Dän Ts'änänän ('A Blessing for Certain Skills') Program. Dän Ts'änänän is a training-to-employment program that supports CAFN Citizens and community members to secure and maintain stable, long-term employment through personalized skills development, training, education and work experience programming.

The Dän Ts'änänän program is a four-year \$7.5 million project and is funded through the Government of Canada's Skills and Partnership Fund, which supports projects to help Indigenous workers get the skills they need for long-term employment.



Contact the following for more information:

Barb Allen, Program Coordinator

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ballen@cafn.ca

Ruth Haynes, Financial Literacy Coach

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Kathleen Jones, Job Coach

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All photos: Students in the Dän Dákeyi Uyenji interpretive guiding course learn to make bone tools and snowshoes.





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MÄT'ÄTÄNA RESORT UPDATE



Members of CAFN's project team toured resorts in the Ahousaht First Nation traditional territory in September 2019 (Ahousaht Hereditary Chief Lewis George at centre).

Familiarization Tour

Co-chairs Melina Hougen and Lawrence Joe of the Mät'ätäna Steering Committee, Mät'ätäna Project Manager, Paula Pawlovich, CAFN Councillor Jessica Mazur and Mickey Beattie (further referred to as the Mät'ätäna Project team), and Yukon Government, as well as Minister of Tourism Jeanie Dendys, completed a Familiarization Tour (FAM Tour) to the Traditional Territory of the Ahousaht First Nation on Vancouver Island B.C., to continue their due diligence research on the Mät'ätäna Resort Project.

The primary purpose of the FAM Tour was to meet with the Legacy Tourism Group (LTG) and see first-hand, properties their team has been responsible for developing, building and operating. The Legacy Tourism Group prepared the Phase I and Phase II Mät'ätäna Resort Plans for CAFN.

The Mät'ätäna Project team stayed at and extensively toured the Tofino Wilderness Resort including learning about, developing and building a Long House, spa facility, staff quarters and building and maintenance yard. The

Legacy Tourism Group senior partners, Rod Taylor, Jim DeHart and John Caton, also invited the Mät'ätäna Project team to tour the Ahousaht First Nation's location for their new Healing Centre, as well as to view the world class Clayoquot Wilderness Resort.

The FAM tour included several presentations on LTG lead projects and extensive introductions to 9 of the Legacy Tourism Group team. This was a valuable exercise as the Mät'ätäna Project Team was able to learn the history, education and career evolution of each of the LTG team members and what their proposed role would be in the Mät'ätäna Resort Project.

The Mät'ätäna Project team also met with Chief Lewis George, hereditary Chief of the Ahousaht First Nation, regarding their experience in working with the Legacy Tourism Group. It was important to learn about others experiences in order to make sound recommendations for our Project. Chief George shared challenges and opportunities within their First Nation's and provided good insights.

As a result of this FAM tour, the Mät'ätäna Steering Committee has recommended to Chief & Council to continue work with the Legacy Tourism Group to plan next steps for the Mät'ätäna Resort Project.

On November 2, 2019, the Mät'ätäna Steering Committee hosted an experience planning day for the project. Thirty-seven (37) people participated in the day including, Chief and Council, Management Committee members, past advisory committee members and Citizens that have a relevant history to the project.

Paula Pawlovich gave an update on the project; reported on the FAM tour to BC; and presented information on other resort projects like Spirit Bear Lodge.

In the afternoon, Line Gagnon facilitated a session to inspire participants to think about what Mät'ätäna Resort could offer its clients in terms of experiences (cultural, physical, on the land, etc.). This fostered a good discussion amongst people and provided insight for the Committee to continue their work.

The Mät'ätäna Resort Project Steering Committee will continue to engage Citizens to get their input.



Alexis Hougen and Shelby Jackson present their team's vision for the resort.



Tofino Wilderness Resort



Dakwakada

CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

Dakwākāda Capital Investments is pleased to announce our new team member Randy Coley, Director of Finance. Randy's extensive background in finance and senior leadership will be a great asset to our team.

The Strategic Planning Session held in October was successful. It provides us further guidance on where to focus our investigation for new opportunities.

Dakwākāda and its group of companies would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!

Business Development

Dakwākāda represented the largest development corporation contributor to the Yukon First Nation Investment Corporation's recent investment into Panache Ventures venture capital fund.

Panache Ventures will develop an entrepreneurial and investor capacity-building program in the territory to support early stage start-ups through coaching, training, education, networking and events such as pitch competitions. The investment will help develop investment infrastructure in Yukon for technology start-ups and open up the technology sector.

Panache Ventures launched in March 2018 and are raising capital for a private equity capital fund of \$58 million, intending to invest in a portfolio of approximately 100 companies across Canada. The sector focus areas are artificial intelligence, fintech, digital healthcare, enterprise software and block chain.



Castle Rock screening operation at the quarry.

On RAB Energy Group, Dakwākāda was the largest purchaser of the recent block of shares which came to market. Chief Isaac decided to sell their 20% stake (300 shares) in RAB Energy. While there was considerable interest, only three existing shareholders were able to execute on the deal at this time. As a result, Dakwākāda increased its position to 67.6%

ownership, an increase of 15.5% from prior holdings.

RAB Energy LP (Northern)

"A good surge into Winter with ample Lots and nice weather!"

Many lucky land owners from the recent land lottery were able to get footings poured and have begun partial construction of new residential housing. Some contractors

have also prepped lots for winter work on single family homes and some multi residential projects.

Our HR Department is exploring all forms of recruitment as it tries to fill the vacancies within our company. Interviews continue as we search for qualified staff for our production and commercial divisions. Commercial Aluminum has already outsourced skilled labor to meet the demands on projects that need to be installed this Fall and Winter.

The Sales department has filled the schedule into December and anticipate we will be pushing orders into the new year very soon.

- The **Overhead Door** division has projects to complete but due to delays we are unable to get on site and begin. We have recruited a Department Manager who is scheduled to start January 6, 2020, if not sooner.
- The **Commercial Aluminum** division is running one crew on projects in Whitehorse and sub contracting some out of town projects. Francophone School is underway as we try to also finish the City operations building. Carmacks Arena will begin sometime this fall and be our first major out of town project.
- The **PVC, Glass and Coating** divisions are delivering products on time for Yukon and Alaska orders. The new 4400 Series window systems is going into the final phase of development and tooling. We expect window samples by January 2020.
- The **Door Division** automation equipment is in town and is planned to be installed in the new year. Advancement in unit production should double by March 2020.

We hope you have a Moose in the freezer and Northerm Windows and Doors in your home...

Have a Happy Holiday Season!

RAB Alaska Inc. (Capitol Glass)

The Alaska economy is fresh out of the recession but still is showing minimal growth. The State of Alaska is currently in a period of uncertainty as we adjust to changes in the oil industry from the recent sale of British Petroleum oil interests in Alaska to Conoco Phillips Alaska. Experts anticipate the change will have positive long-term effects for the state economy and continue to predict slow growth for the state economy for the 2020 year.

With temperatures in the Anchorage area still above

freezing, our summer construction continues. Contractors are making the most of the warmer weather by keeping crews at work later into the season and so we hope for strong sales in our final quarter of the year.

Our operations staff are keeping current with customer orders and have used extra time to clean up floor and yard areas to maintain an efficient and safe working environment as we prepare for winter. We will be looking closely at our safety programs, as well as the cross-training of staff.

Our management team, working closely with Dakwākāda staff, is working on long-term planning by updating our business plan and our 2020 operating and capital budgets.

Castle Rock Enterprises (CRE)

Castle Rock had completed Lambert Street reconstruction and Deep Creek Facility upgrades this Fall and here are the current and on-going Projects for Winter season:

- Whistle bend phase 5 in seasonal shut down - to resume in spring 2020.
- Residential works ongoing to freeze up.
- Northerm window haul ongoing monthly to Anchorage, Alaska.
- ATCO ditch upgrades in seasonal shut down- to resume in spring 2020.
- Nares River bridge site work in seasonal shut down- to resume in spring 2020.
- Stewart Crossing Septic field and Slab construction -completed.
- Whitehorse Compost Facility Upgrades ongoing.
- Aishihik Access road and culvert install ongoing.
- Vegetation Control on the Alaska Highway ongoing.

CRE has contributed an in-kind donation for the Mt. Sima ski-hill parking upgrades to accommodate the upcoming Arctic Winter Games which will take place in Whitehorse, Yukon, March 15–21, 2020.

Castle Rock continually seeks out bid opportunities throughout the year to secure contracts.

We are not accepting applications at present. Employment postings will be available in spring 2020. CAFN citizens are encouraged to apply at that time.



Champagne and Aishihik First Nations PROPERTY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

George van Sickle, acting Capital Projects Manager for the Property Services Department (PSD), completed his term on October 30.

Jeff Hunter is our new Capital Projects Manager - his term started in late November - and **Sandy Wabisca** is hired as the Administrative Assistant for PSD.

The following are updates from the PSD:

- Five of the 10 tiny homes in Haines Junction are near completion and allocations will begin as soon as December 15. The second phase for the remaining five homes are currently underway and should be complete in the spring of 2020. There are landscaping and seasonal deficiencies, but we're excited to get citizens into the new homes.
- Four new two bedroom houses are under construction in Takhini Subdivision through a CAFN contractor. Completion is expected in June 2020
- A CAFN contractor is progressing with the exterior Energy Retrofit project at Nāts'ekhj Ku. Upgrades for the building include installing solar power and an electric vehicle charging station, which should be complete in early spring.
- New entry doors and a wheelchair lift have been installed at Nāts'ekhj Ku (Healing House). PSD would like to thank the Community Wellness department for their patience and understanding while construction continues in and around Nāts'ekhj Ku.
- Loose dogs continue to be problematic in our communities; please ensure dogs are tied up or kept in a fenced area as noted in the Rental Housing Policy. Safety is a concern for everyone. PSD will enforce the rental policy for loose dogs and they may be impounded.
- With winter here and cooler temperatures coming, please monitor your heating fuel to prevent running out. If you are going to be away for an extended period, please notify PSD and arrange someone to do regular check-ins of the unit.
- The Housing Program has a new Tenant Program, which will allow tenants to access their accounts, check rental balances, submit maintenance request and more through an online Tenant Portal. We are planning to launch the Portal January 2020!
- For any Work Order requests, please send them to workorders@cafn.ca, or call us at 634-4200



CHAMPAGNE AND AISHIHIK FIRST NATIONS

EDUCATION UPDATE

Shà w níhän to all citizens who took the time to meet and exchange with us during the Education Department Meet and Greet event.

Join us for our Family Gingerbread House party and the Education Christmas Connect Events in Haines Junction and Takhini.

Florence Kushniruk's Office Has Moved. She is now in the Haines Junction office. Call to set up an appointment or she will travel to residents outside of Haines Junction.

New address and number:

Box 5310
Haines Junction, YT
Y0B 1L0
NEW office #(867) 634-4200 Ext. 254
Work cell # (867) 332-4993
NEW fax # (867) 634 2108
fkushniruk@CAFN.ca

Annual post-secondary funding deadlines are as follows:

- November 27 - Winter Term (January-April)
- March 27 - Spring/Summer Term (May to August)
- May 1 – Early in-take for Fall Term (September to December)
- June 30 – Late in-take for Fall Term (September to December)

Congratulations to our Whitehorse secondary students who received an academic achievement award for the 2018-2019 school year.

Kwanlin

Grade 8:

Darcy Glada
Pheonix Widney
Rayden Kodwat
Shelby Charlie
Taylor-Ann Chambers
Zoralena Martin

Grade 9:

Kyle Maloney
Trina Pauls
Zander Smarch

Grade 10:

Adam Titus
Cassidy Sturko
Nints'ia Murphy
Tiana Oles
Tristin Primozic
Zander Leslie
Zerryn Martin

Grade 11:

Anya Jim
Erin Jim
Graham Macdonald
Kenneth Hubbard
Sean Barnaby

Grade 12:

Eliza Van Bibber



All the people involved in taking the Grades K5, one and two from St. Elias Community School to Klukshu to learn about salmon this fall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



CAFN staff in Dakwākāda observed Orange Shirt Day this fall.

Citizen Wills and Estates

CAFN has resources to assist Citizens with preparing wills and enduring power of attorney. Book your appointments soon!

Please contact:

Austring, Fendrick and Fairman

(867) 668-4405

Toll free 1-800-661-0533

St. Elias Community School took five tours to Da Ku during the tanning workshops. Special thanks to Richard Smith, Mary Jane Leger, Susan Knight and everyone in the Language and Culture Department.

DA Ku Halloween Pumpkin Carving, Nevaeh Joe and Abby Johnson





WALKER HOME CONSTRUCTION



Left to right: Rick Johnson, Tyler Clooten, Dave Germain, Les Walker, Brian Fraser, Bradley Jim, Lester Gladue. Photo Courtesy of Les Walker.

Owner and operator of Walker Home Construction, Les Walker, uses his business to create jobs for CAFN members.

"I believe we have enough qualified people for us to be able to hire a significant amount of CAFN citizens," said Walker. "Plus, if I can employ more CAFN citizens, it just helps everybody in our community."

Walker and his crew are currently working in Haines Junction, and he says it's a good feeling to be working in and helping the community.

As someone who's had problems with alcohol in the past, Walker encourages a work culture that doesn't centre around drinking and partying. Rather, he promotes a safe space for people who are struggling or have struggled with alcohol dependencies.

"I don't drink [alcohol] and I don't judge people who drink," said Walker. "We try to support each-other and I tell the guys, 'you have to support the company and the company will support you.'

"I'll work as hard as I can to make sure that you guys have work, and you need to make sure that we're providing a product that people are going to want to buy again and again."

He does his best to treat his employees well and he wants them to start their apprenticeships with him, so he can train long-lasting employees.

Together, Walker Home Construction designed, built and sold their first house in Whitehorse earlier this year.

When Walker bought the lot for this build, he imagined what it would be like to live there. He looked to see where the sun would rise, and asked, 'where would I want to sit to have my coffee in the morning if I lived here?' He approaches every build with the homeowner in mind and then designs the house around that philosophy.

"We tried to do something that wasn't cookie cutter, something that was high end, but also something that would serve a person that wanted to not put every penny

continued on page 22

into buying a house,” said Walker. “We created a legal rental property in half of the basement with a separate entrance, private driveway and yard.”

The buyer has the option to live in the upstairs portion of the house and even rent out the other half of the basement – besides the legal rental suite – allowing the buyer to have even more financial freedom.

Along with creating affordable housing, Walker also makes sure to build energy efficient houses with high-end finishings.

“We’re really proud,” he said. “With Walker Home Construction, we’re trying to be proactive and say, ‘let’s come up with some solutions’; we design houses, so people aren’t dying just to pay their mortgage.”

And the builds have to be done on an individual basis, says Walker.

“What works for a single mom is not going to work for a five-person family,” he said, adding that people who want to get into a home should be able to get into something that’s not a financial burden but a financial investment.

Amongst Walker’s success, he attributes CAFN for the help they’ve provided throughout the years.

“Champagne and Aishihik took care of me when I was in a group home – they provided me with food, clothing and shelter,” he said. “They provided me with a social worker to help me through issues.

“And when I was older, they put me through apprenticeship school. They supported me all along the way.”

When he started his company, Walker was eligible for funding. That allowed him to hire a CAFN citizen so that he could offer training and have extra freedom financially to spend a little bit more time with that person to train them to a level that he needed them to be

“It helped the citizen and it helped my company,” he said.

“[Walker Home Construction] is a success for all of our people. I believe that our people are strong. We have so many leaders, businesspeople and artists.

“We’re warriors and it means something to be a Champagne and Aishihik citizen.”

House designed, built and sold by Walker Home Construction. Photo credit: Walker Home Construction.



Elders Land Claim Benefit

CAFN is making changes to our Elders benefits program in keeping with Resolution 2019-23 passed by the General Assembly.

The monthly Elders benefit will:

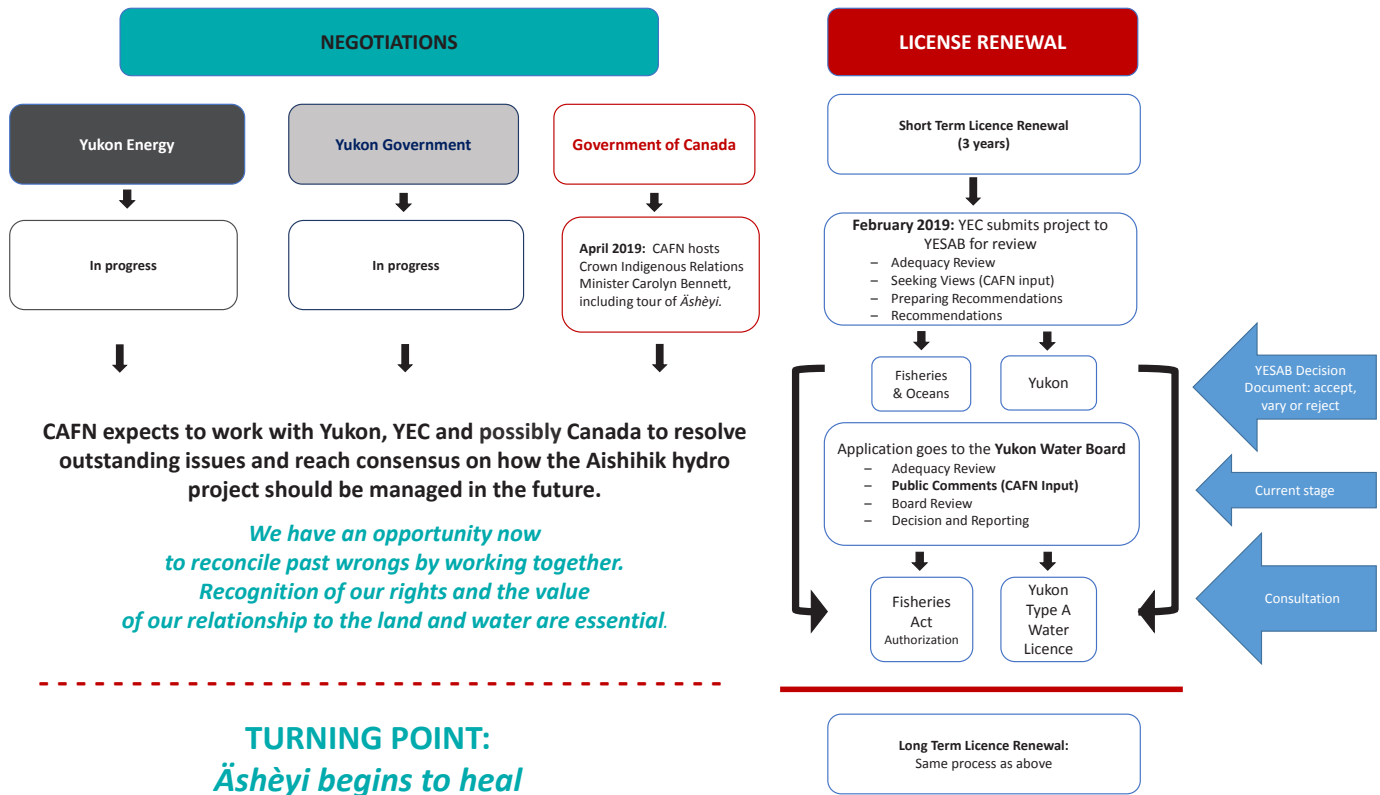
- increase to \$375;
- extend to Canada living outside Canada; and
- will be based on need. Elder Citizens who earn less than \$35,000 CAD per year will be eligible to receive the benefit.

This new approach is about Dän K'e and taking care of those who really need it. It's like sharing the moose with the whole community – it is not distributed equally, but based on need.

The changes will take effect in April 2020 at the soonest, after due diligence, development of a new policy, and staff training to deliver the new program are complete.

CAFN will share full details with Elders when the new Elders benefit program is in place with details on how to apply, who to go to with questions, and much more. We will ensure staff are available to help with the new process.

RESTORE ÄSHÈYI 2019 to 2022



CHRISTMAS CONNECTS 2019



CHAMPAGNE AND AISHIHIK FIRST NATIONS



DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Thursday, Dec. 5 4:30 pm – 7:00 pm	Pizza & Bowling for all CAFN Citizens	Whitehorse Mad Trappers Alley
Monday, Dec. 9 1:00 pm – 7:30 pm	Lift Your Spirits – Whitehorse – Soup, Snacks provided; pedicures, manicures, haircuts, energy clearing, massages, and card readings.	Whitehorse Mount Mac
Monday, Dec. 9 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Gingerbread High Cache Making - Whitehorse	Whitehorse Transportation Museum
Tuesday, Dec. 10 1:00 pm – 7:30 pm	Lift Your Spirits – Takhini – Soup, Snacks provided; pedicures, manicures, haircuts, energy clearing, massages, and card readings.	Takhini Takhini Community Hall
Tuesday, Dec. 10 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Ginger Bread House Making – Haines Junction	Haines Junction Da Kų Cultural Centre
Wednesday, Dec. 11 1:00 pm – 7:30 pm	Lift Your Spirits – Haines Junction – Soup, Snacks provided; pedicures, manicures, haircuts, energy clearing, massages, and card readings.	Haines Junction Da Kų Cultural Centre
Thursday, Dec. 12 12:00 noon – 3:00 pm	OPEN HOUSE – CAFN Haines Junction Appetizers & Refreshments. Door prizes & silent auction.	Haines Junction CAFN Main Admin Office
Thursday, Dec 12 11:00 noon – 3:00 pm	OPEN HOUSE – CAFN Whitehorse Come enjoy homemade food and festive treats.	Whitehorse CAFN Office Jarvis Street
Thursday, Dec. 12 11:45 am – 1:00 pm	Daycare Christmas Luncheon – gathering for the daycare children and their families.	Haines Junction Daycare
Sunday, Dec. 15 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Christmas Movies & Popcorn Come enjoy special holiday movies!	Haines Junction St. Elias Convention Centre
Monday, Dec. 16 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Family Christmas Baking – Family Programming; Let's celebrate with Christmas baking, and hot chocolate. <i>*Parent supervision is required.</i>	Haines Junction Nāts'ekhi Kų Healing House
Tuesday, Dec. 17 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Gingerbread High Cache Making – Haines Junction	Haines Junction Da Kų Cultural Centre
Wednesday, Dec. 18 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Rabbit Trim Santa Hat Making	Haines Junction Da Kų Cultural Centre
Wednesday, Dec. 18 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Post-Secondary Students Luncheon	Whitehorse Yukon Inn
Wednesday, Dec. 18 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Ginger Bread House Making – Takhini	Takhini Takhini Hall
Monday, Dec. 23 8:30 am	STAR WARS – Movie Screening!	Qwanlin Cinemas
Tuesday, Dec. 31 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm	First Night – New Year's Eve Family Celebration! and Fireworks at Da Kų Culture Centre	Haines Junction Da Kų Culture Centre

For more information please call/text Millie Joe, Community Initiatives Coordinator (867) 634-5243

Merry Christmas

NEW FACES

welcome

Joe MacGillivray
Senior Director of Government Services

Joe will be instrumental in leading Government Services, as identified in Chief and Council's strategic priorities, and in close collaboration with the CAFN Council and Executive Committee.

Filling the Senior Director of Government Services role is the next step in implementing our Dän Tán Gà Dījäl vision for how we can improve the way our government functions.

Joe brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to CAFN. He's worked at the executive level in numerous roles within the Yukon Government including as Deputy Minister. He holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration. He also has a strong, positive track record of working with Yukon First Nations and communities.

We are happy Joe has chosen to join our CAFN team. He will be based at our CAFN Whitehorse office, next door to Fran.

Please drop in to say Hi and welcome!

Sheena Bilton
Utsän nànji (Case Manager)
Whitehorse/Takhini River Subdivision

Dän Ts'än Nännji (Community Wellness)

Phone: 867-456-6890, Cell: 867-332-0803

Fax: 867-667-6202

e-mail: sbilton@cafn.ca

Jeff Hunter
Property Services Department
Capital Projects Manager

Melina Hougen
HLR Department
Whitehorse

Mary Jane Smith
Case Manager
Haines Junction

Sandy Wabisca
Property Services Department,
Administrative Assistant

Brenda Asp
Child & Family Support Worker
Cell: 867-634-5389

GOODBYE AND FAREWELL TO THESE DEPARTING CAFN STAFF

Harold Risby, Whitehorse Education Support Worker

Kara Vance, Summer Student Organizer

Denise Hume, Heritage, Lands and Resources Department; Park Ranger for Tatenshini Alsek Park

Craig Hampton, Property Services Department

George van Sickle, Capital Projects Manager

SPECIAL GREETINGS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday wishes from the Wabisca, Telep, Knight and Bratt families.

Alan MacDonald (Chop Chop) – October 2

Bonnie Chambers – October 19

Thierry Oles – October 19

Mayzie Campbell (Happy 3rd Birthday!) – October 22

Cameron Sidney – October 29

Mia Dupont (Happy 1st Birthday!) – October 29

Maddison Dupont (Happy 4th Birthday!) – November 6th

Angie Wabisca – November 14

Elaine Chambers – November 18

Bev Rissanen – November 20

Odessa Epp – November 22

Marion Telep – December 4

Grace Southwick – December 5

Candace Walker – December 5

Glenna Southwick – December 11

Nicki Telep – December 13

Wyatt Drift – December 17

Joe Knight – December 22

Lena Smith-Tutin – December 30

Fran Oles – December 31

Fred Chambers – January 5

A very special Happy Birthday to **Roy Wabisca** – “91”
December 21

A very special Happy Birthday to **Mike Telep** – “71”
December 25



Happy Birthday to our daughter, sister and aunt **Melissa Imbeau** – January 4th

Happy 5th Birthday to our beautiful granddaughter, niece and cousin **Piper Mae Imbeau** – January 9

Love Dad (Grampa Ron), Angie (Grannie Annie), Kaylea (Auntie) and Wyatt (Uncle) and cousin August Eden Drift.

I would like to wish my Beautiful Daughter **Odessa Epp** a Happy 40th Birthday – November 22. **Love from Mom**

We would like to wish our **Mom** a special Happy Birthday. Love from **Kael, Brielle and Jayla.**

Happy Birthday to **Shelby Jackson** – December 25. **Love Mom, Dad and family.**

Birthday Wishes for **Jennika Jones** (15) – November 13. **Love Aunty and Grandma.**

Trevor Jones (18) – November 26. **Love Aunty and Grandma.**

Big Happy Birthday to **Alfie LaVallee** – November 18. **Love Flo <3**

We would like to wish the best Grandma ever, **Angie Wabisca**, a very Happy Birthday for November 14!

We love you so much!

Love always

Kaylea, Ron, Wyatt and August, Bronx and Gem XO

**Please send your special greetings to:
Stephanie Joe
stephanielee_88@hotmail.com**



CAFN CALENDAR



Lift Your Spirits: December 9 from 1 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. @ Mount Mac., Whitehorse; December 10 from 1 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. @ Community Hall, Takhini; December 11 from 1 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. @ Da Kų Cultural Centre, Haines Junction.

Beaver Hat Workshop: December 10, 11 and 12 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. @ Yukon Transportation Museum, Whitehorse.

Parenting Nights: December 10 and 17 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. @ Old Daycare, Haines Junction.

Elder's Seniors Christmas Lunch: December 11 from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. @ St. Elias Convention Centre, Haines Junction.

Drop In Sewing Night: December 11 from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. @ Da Kų Cultural Centre, Haines Junction.

CAFN Open House: December 12 from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. @ CAFN Administration Building, Haines Junction.

Christmas Movies & Snacks: December 15 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. @ St. Elias Convention Centre, Haines Junction.

Post-Secondary Christmas Luncheon: December 18 from 12 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. @ the Yukon Inn, Whitehorse.

Chief and Council Meeting: December 19 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. @ the Yukin Inn, Whitehorse.

Community Dinner: December 27 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. @ Champagne. All welcome!

Please see our many Christmas Connects activities at CAFN.ca/ events or at Champagne and Aishihik First Nations on Facebook.

Holiday office closure: CAFN offices are closed December 23 through January 3, and reopen for regular business hours on January 6, 2020. Emergency on-call staff will be available.

For more event dates and details, please visit CAFN.ca/events or like Champagne and Aishihik First Nations on Facebook.



Return Address:
Champagne and Aishihik First Nations
PO Box 5310
Haines Junction, YT
Y0B 1L0



Destination Address:



Dàkwānī

Champagne and Aishihik First Nations
cafn.ca

PO Box 5310
Haines Junction, YT Y0B 1L0
(867) 634-4200

304 Jarvis Street
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2H2
(867) 456-6888

Stories, photos, greetings and artwork are welcome.

Please send your submissions to: stephanielee_88@hotmail.com

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Dàkwānī is available in full colour at CAFN.ca/news



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First Nations**

 Follow us on Twitter at
**Champagne Aishihik
@ShadhalaAsheyi**

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