

Dàkwäni

What people are saying

FALL 2015

NŁÄSHĒJEL (We Come Together)



Citizens gathered at Kusawa Lake July 17-19, 2015 for the annual CAFN General Assembly.

Nearly 300 Champagne and Aishihik First Nations (CAFN) Citizens and guests gathered for the *Nłäshējel* (General Assembly or GA) at *Nakhū Mān* (Kusawa Lake) July 17-19, 2015.

The *Nłäshējel* included regular business like review of the CAFN financial audit, 2014 GA minutes and resolutions, a review of CAFN's resolution process, and reports from the Elders and Youth. The 2015 Assembly tabled 25 resolutions and passed 19.

Business also included new, forward-looking activities. Chief and Council shared their 2014-18 Vision and Priorities for CAFN (strategic plan) and asked for input to shape the way Citizen services are delivered at CAFN. A presentation on strengthening our community by focusing on our youngest members helped set the stage for planning.

Organized activities for all ages were a highlight and included moose hide tanning, gopher bag

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Summer students staffing the Dakwakada Capital Investments booth.

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making, hand games, an evening performance by the Dakwākāda Dancers, and a rousing game of Cash Cab around the campground. Youth enjoyed unique opportunities like archaeology, canoeing, art therapy and hiking, as well as crafts, Southern Tutchone practice and lots of time to play with friends.

Once again, the booth tent was full with great information from CAFN departments and other organizations (23 booths in total). And GA participants went home with some very nice CAFN, Dakwakada Capital Investments, and other gifts.

The Assembly was the product of many hours of hard work and preparation by Citizens, delegates, staff and GA workers. *Kwānaschis* - many thanks - to all who contributed to this exceptional GA at Kusawa.

For more information about the *Ntāshējel*, including the 2015 resolutions, agenda and annual report, please visit:

cafn.ca/government/general-assembly.



Photo at left: A young Citizen models his new Dakwakada Capital Investments (DCI) shirt.

Photo at right: 2015 Gopher Buddies and Chief Smith.

2015 Resolutions:

2015-01	Bill S-6 Amendments to YESAA	<i>Passed</i>
2015-02	Traditional Language Strategy	<i>Passed</i>
2015-03	Education Support	<i>Passed</i>
2015-04	Constitution Review Committee	<i>Passed</i>
2015-05	Status Cards	<i>Passed</i>
2015-06	Aishihik Village Infrastructure and Maintenance	<i>Passed</i>
2015-07	Location of General Assembly	<i>Not passed</i>
2015-08	Protection of CAFN Traditional Territory	<i>Passed</i>
2015-09	Takhini Youth	<i>Not passed</i>
2015-10	Water Protection and Preservation	<i>Passed</i>
2015-11	No Alcohol at Da Kų Cultural Centre	<i>Passed</i>
2015-12	Increase CAFN Housing Stock	<i>Passed</i>
2015-13	Support for Diabetes	<i>Passed</i>
2015-14	Educating CAFN Citizens on the Implications of their Vote	<i>Passed</i>
2015-15	Self-Reliance through CAFN Community Development	<i>Passed</i>
2015-16	CAFN Citizen Hire	<i>Removed</i>
2015-17	Whitehorse Office Closure	<i>Withdrawn</i>
2015-18	CAFN to Oppose Fracking	<i>Passed</i>
2015-19	Economic Development	<i>Passed</i>
2015-20	School Bus Transportation	<i>Passed</i>
2015-21	No Smoking at Old Champagne Hall	<i>Withdrawn</i>
2015-22	Management Committee Restructuring	<i>Not passed</i>
2015-23	Health and Medical Care	<i>Passed</i>
2015-24	Trands and Historic Villages in CAFN Traditional Territory	<i>Passed</i>
2015-25	CAFN Youth Van	<i>Passed</i>



DÄN NÄTTHE ÄDA DÄKWÄL

(MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF)



Dànách'é.

Kwänaschis (thank you) to all who gathered at Kusawa Lake this July for our annual General Assembly (GA). Our Council was happy to hear from Citizens on many important issues. The 2015 GA was also a great opportunity to share our Council's vision and priorities. The 2014-18 CAFN Vision and Priorities are: self-reliance, connecting and better government. To read the full Vision and Priorities booklet, please visit cafn.ca/about/guiding-documents/strategic-plan.

As we build self-reliance, CAFN continues to foster economic development on many fronts.

Creating job opportunities for our Citizens is a big focus. We are proud of our 42 CAFN Citizens who were employed in seasonal jobs with CAFN and Dakwakada this summer. These include:

- CAFN summer student positions - 13 post-secondary students hired;*
- Dakwakada student positions - 7 post-secondary students hired;*
- Employment Opportunities Program (EOP) in Takhini, at Da Kų and in Haines Junction – 13 CAFN workers hired through December 2015;*
- Haines Junction greenhouse – 4 CAFN workers hired; and*
- CAFN's new Business Employment Enhancement Fund (BEEF) - 5 Citizens hired.*

The new Business Employment Enhancement Fund (BEEF) was launched this summer to create work and training opportunities for CAFN Citizens with private



The Takhini EOP crew worked hard throughout the General Assembly at Kusawa this July.

local businesses. To learn more about our new BEEF program, see page 17 or visit cafn.ca/doing-business/grants-funds.

There were great economic spin-offs to our community during the Da Kų Nän Ts'éthhèt Festival hosted by CAFN at Da Kų Cultural Centre this June. Due to the high attendance and popularity of the festival, an estimated \$155,000 was invested in our community (economic impact value calculated by the Yukon Convention Bureau).

As we move into the fall and winter, CAFN continues work on a number of big projects.

The passage of Bill S-6 by the federal government this June is a major concern and focus. Bill S-6 contained amendments to the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act (YESAA) which breach our Final and Self-Government Agreements. CAFN and all Yukon First Nations actively opposed the Bill throughout the legislative process. Now that Bill S-6 has passed, we are joining with Self-Governing Yukon First Nations to take court action to protect and uphold our Constitutionally protected land claim agreements. CAFN, Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation and Teslin Tlingit Council have agreed to take the lead as co-plaintiffs, but in partnership with most Self-Governing Yukon First Nations on the case. CAFN Citizens at the 2015 General Assembly passed Resolution 2015-01, which states, "this Assembly hereby endorses the continued efforts of the Government to protect the integrity of the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations Final Agreement to ensure the rights established by and the spirit and intent of the Agreements are upheld...". We thank Citizens for your clear direction on this important matter. Please

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see our CAFN website or Facebook page for future updates.

CAFN is actively working on two of our own new laws: the Äghàatān Enrollment Act and CAFN heritage legislation. Both laws are very important to our identity and values as CAFN people, so please be sure to provide your input.

First and second reading of the draft Äghàatān Enrollment Act took place this July and October, and Citizen consultation was well-attended during meetings this September in Takhini, Whitehorse, Champagne, Haines Junction and Haines, Alaska.

The CAFN heritage law currently in development will supersede Yukon Government Heritage legislation to give CAFN the authority to ensure our heritage is managed with respect to our values. Please watch for consultation dates on the draft heritage legislation to be scheduled soon.

Council is also pleased to share that we approved the updated CAFN Finance Policy this September, following a thorough review and revisions. Sound financial policy and procedures are the backbone of our operations and fundamental to good governance, so we are pleased this work is complete.

The outcome of the upcoming federal election is very important for CAFN and aboriginal people across Canada. Recent decisions by the current federal government (Harper Government) have had a direct impact on our government, our people, and our treaties. Please make sure your voice is heard and vote on October 19, 2015! New voter registration and ID requirements make it more difficult to vote, so CAFN is providing support to Citizens to help make sure everyone is registered and able to vote. Please visit elections.ca for more information OR contact Lilly Smith for assistance at lsmith@cafn.ca or (867) 634-4204.

Council has reactivated the Champagne Aishihik Community Corporation (CACC) and is fine-tuning to ensure it meets its intended purpose of creating benefits in our communities for our people. The current CACC board of directors is: Chair Shadelle Chambers and directors Steve Smith, Rose Kushniruk, Ranj Pillai, and Andre Fortin.

Councillor Les Walker and I will attend the International Economic Development Conference in Anchor-

age, Alaska this October. CAFN was also pleased to connect with experts from across Canada who were in Whitehorse for the Economic Developers Association of Canada (EDAC) annual conference this September. We took advantage of the opportunity by hosting our own CAFN "ec dev tour", which included visits to Kwaday Dan Kenji and Da Kų Cultural Centre.

I attended a language nest workshop in Vancouver, BC in September with Language, Culture and Heritage Director Sean Sheardown. Language nests have proven to be simple and effective for getting daycare-age kids learning and using the language. This is an important step in fulfilling our government's commitments in the Dákwänje Nàts'ual Language Act passed in 2014.

In closing, I acknowledge the 20th anniversary of Kwaday Dan Kenji (Long Ago People's Place) this August and commend the Dakwäkäda Dancers on your many performances this summer and fall. And many congratulations to CAFN Elder Margaret Workman on receiving the Council of the Federation Literacy Award for her excellent work on Native language literacy. Our language instructors, like Margaret Workman, and cultural resources, like Kwaday Dan Kenji and the Dakwäkäda Dancers, are all vital ways to help keep **dän k'e** ("our way of life") vibrant and alive. *Shäw nithän.*

Sincerely,

Dän nätthe ada Kaaxnox - Chief Steve Smith

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

Chief and Council Decisions

The following decisions were made during the April 17 through July 1, 2015 regular Chief and Council meetings.

General Assembly

Chief and Council approved the location of the 2015 General Assembly location as Kusawa Lake.

Lands and Resources Legislation

Council directed the Lands and Resources Department to proceed with work to develop laws and regulations

to prepare for forest resource and mineral exploration and development for CAFN Settlement Land. These include Category A Settlement Land mineral exploration and development legislation and forest resource regulations and/or legislation.

YESAA/Bill S-6

CAFN Chief and Council approved support to continue participation in the next steps of the lobby strategy to oppose certain amendments to Bill S-6, including shared costs to support the YESAA Caucus workplan and to work with other Yukon First Nations in a timely and coordinated fashion.

Housing Committee

CAFN Chief and Council appointed Marie McLaren and Debbie Workman as members-at-large and Kathleen Brown as alternate to the CAFN Housing Committee for a term of three years.

Trust Board

CAFN Chief and Council appointed Nathan McCowan and Cheryle Patterson to the Champagne Aishihik Trust Board through December 31, 2015.

Meeting Schedule

Council approved the 2015 Chief and Council meeting dates and ECW meeting dates for September to December 2015 (please see dates below).

Land Application

Chief and Council approved the following land applications:

- 2015-001 by Kiefer Rissanen for a Cabin on S-348B1 on Dezadeash Lake;
- 2015-002 by Greg Eikland for a Cabin on R-36A on Aishihik Lake; and
- 2015-007 by Chief James Allen for a Commercial allocation on CAFN Settlement Land R-44B on Christmas Bay to a maximum of 2.6 hectares.

Da Ky Land Acquisition

Council directed Management Committee to explore options to purchase Lot 52 in Haines Junction, a one hectare commercial lot near Da Ky Cultural Centre, and to provide a recommendation to Council on how acquisitions can occur.

Post Secondary Education Policy

Chief and Council approved the amended Post Secondary Education Policy as presented on June 12, 2015, as an interim policy, and directed the Education Department to initiate a complete review of the Post Secondary Education program.

Business Employment Enhancement Fund (BEEF)

Chief and Council approved establishing the Business Employment Enhancement Fund (BEEF) to enhance the employment opportunities of CAFN Citizens by providing a non-repayable employment subsidy.

Financial Audit

Chief and Council accepted the Financial Statements to March 31, 2015, as prepared and presented by Crowe MacKay LLP for:

- Champagne and Aishihik First Nations;
- Da Ku Cultural Centre Statement of Operations and Maintenance Expenditures;
- CMHC post-96;
- CMHC pre-97.

CAFN Äghàafān Enrollment Act

Chief and Council accepted the First Reading of the CAFN Äghàafān Act at the July 10, 2015 Chief and Council meeting.

Finance Standing Committee

Council approved the Terms of Reference for the Standing Committee on Finance on July 10, 2015. Standing Committees for economic development and Citizen services are also in development.

For more information: Full copies of the minutes of regular Chief and Council meetings are available with reception at the CAFN Haines Junction and Whitehorse offices, and upon request to Doreen Williams, Executive Assistant to Council, at drwilliams@cafn.ca or (867) 634-4242.

Chief and Council Meetings

The CAFN Chief and Council holds regular meetings twice a month in Haines Junction, every first and third Friday of the month (unless noted otherwise). All regular Chief and Council meetings are open to CAFN Citizens. Community concerns are scheduled at 3:30 p.m. Please contact Doreen Williams if you wish to request time on the Chief and Council agenda at drwilliams@cafn.ca or (867) 634-4242.

2015 Regular Chief and Council Meetings:

October 30	November 27
November 13	December 11

YOUR VOICE IS IMPORTANT!



Haines Junction land use planning this spring at Da Kų Cultural Centre.

Climate Change Adaptation Plan

Towards Resilient Communities

Your Knowledge - Your Input - Your Future

CAFN Department of Lands and Resources has been successful in obtaining funding to develop Climate Change Adaptation Plans for four CAFN communities (Haines Junction, Takhini, Champagne and Canyon). This project is the next step after the Climate Change in our Backyard conferences in 2006 and 2009.

Over the next few months we will conduct a risk and vulnerability assessment. The purpose of this assessment is to determine how climate change may impact our communities. More specifically, we will be looking at impacts on infrastructure, drinking water quality, wastewater management, and extreme weather events such as flooding and forest fires.

How can you be involved?

Community meetings will be held in October to introduce the project and go through an initial risk and vulnerability assessment. A one-day workshop will be held at Da Kų in November. The last round of community meetings will be held in February to gather input on the draft climate change adaptation plans.

Community Land Use Planning

Over the last few months, the department of Lands and Resources has been working on creating a Community Land Use Plan for Dakwakada (Haines Junction) and Takhini River Subdivision.

The process for Dakwakada has been underway since the winter. On March 11, a community meeting was held in Haines Junction to introduce the project and gather input on the proposed planning process. For Takhini, work began in the spring and a similar meeting was held on June 3.

More community meetings are coming up so you can stay informed and be involved in these important planning processes.

A land planning working group has helped guide the planning process in Haines Junction. A working group will also be established for Takhini. If you are interested in helping plan the future of your community, please let Analie or Graham know ASAP. Land Planning Working Group meetings will begin again in October.

Stay tuned for future project newsletters with more detailed project information.

If you would like more information or would like to be involved, please contact:

Analie Lafrenière-Lemieux
(867) 634-4231
alafreniere-lemieux@cafn.ca

or

Graham Boyd
(867) 456-6886
gboyd@cafn.ca



A planning meeting at Takhini River Subdivision.



Lands and Resources Summer Students

This past summer Lands and Resources had Kyra Chambers and Marlaine Joe join our team as summer students. Some of their activities included data management, fish weir work, forestry block hikes, environmental assessment reviews and a couple trips to the exploration properties within the Traditional Territory. It was a pleasure working with the girls and we wish them all the best.

From the CAFN Lands and Resources staff

HERITAGE LEGISLATION INITIATIVE



Standing remains of njäl (traditional brush house structure) found by Elder Fred Brown near Canyon Lake; this heritage site is not located on CAFN Settlement Lands.

The Department of Language, Culture and Heritage (LCH) has started the process of developing our own Heritage Legislation.

If approved, CAFN heritage legislation will supersede Yukon Government Heritage legislation (the Historic Resources Act), as per CAFN Self-Government Agreement Section 13.5.3.

Why is CAFN legislation necessary?

To ensure that our heritage is managed with respect to our values;

And to strengthen our authority over our heritage.

Current status

Self-Governing Yukon First Nations are working together to create generic heritage legislation.



Remains of ancient footwear, approximately 1400 years old, found by Cody Joe at Gladstone Ice Patch site in the Ruby Range; this heritage site is also not located on CAFN Settlement Lands.

Each First Nation will then customize the legislation to reflect their own situation.

The element of the legislation that will be common to all First Nations concerns how heritage on non-Settlement Lands will be managed.

Eagle Law prepared the initial concept draft of the legislation; Dave Joe has worked on subsequent versions, with all self-governing First Nations, including CAFN, providing input.

Two First Nations (Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and Nacho Nyak Dun) have unofficially approved their versions of the Heritage Legislation. These two nations then gave notice to Yukon Government of their intention to pass their own Heritage Legislation, as required by the self-government agreements.

CAFN's Legislative Process requires that we undertake formal consultation with our Citizens before passing any legislation.

What's ahead?

- First Reading of the draft legislation by Council, which is a requirement prior to consultations.
- Formal consultation with CAFN Citizens on the draft legislation this fall.
- Please watch for meeting dates to be announced soon.

For more information:

Sean Sheardown

Director of Language, Culture and Heritage

(867) 634-3310

ssheardown@cafn.ca



Elder Paddy Jim shows how hunting technology was used during a presentation on traditional tools this August at Āshèyi Shākat Kū.

ing and drying some of the fish. Our cooks made the most delicious fish chowder for camp!

Camp participants kept busy in learning our language through many different activities such as sewing gun scabbards and gopher bags, language games, a 'language only' table, making diamond willow walking sticks, and making traditional pitch medicine. The youth especially loved their traditional bedtime story by the campfire with language teacher Mary Allison. Her unique storytelling style is captivating, as she tells her stories in the old way in which she learned them.

Shāw Níthān to all of our Elders and teachers for another memorable camp.

Southern Tutchone community and staff language classes will start up again in mid-September. Finish-



Young language learners visited Sekelmun during the 2015 Āshèyi language camp.

ing up the first Southern Tutchone Language booklet and heading into the second is exciting! Please watch for language program dates and locations to be posted soon.

If you have any ideas for Southern Tutchone language learning and teaching, stories you would like to share, or if you are interested in the Mini Master Apprentice Language Learning Program, please let me know and I can assist you to a successful start.

Nātthàth'ja - Millie Joe
 Language Coordinator
 (867) 634-3301 or 634-5173 cell
 mjoe@cafn.ca

UKWÄNJĒ

Dännch'é. It is *Nùchų N-zhā* (Leaves starting to fall month - September).

We have enjoyed a busy and eventful summer full of language learning with our Elders and youth. Alongside the Community Wellness Department, our Language Programs hosted a very successful *Āshèyi* Language Family Camp from August 20-25 at *Āshèyi Shākat Kū*. In total we had 67 participants! It was wonderful to have so many youth and families together out on the land with our Elders learning hands on traditional activities immersed in the language with traditional stories told about *Āshèyi* and the surrounding traditional areas.

We were successful in learning and setting traditional spring pole snares for *ga* (rabbits) and *tsāl* (gophers). Participants then learned to skin and stretch the hides for making other necessities like mitts, blankets, or hats. We treated ourselves with *nighu* (soapberries) ice cream and were happy to have a net full of whitefish, trout and some pike, and we all took part in clean-

LANGUAGE INITIATIVES UPDATE

Since the passing of the *Dákwänje Nàts'ùal* Language Act in 2014, the Department of Language, Culture and Heritage (LCH) has been scoping our goals and strategies for restoration and revitalization of our traditional languages. One key document being worked on is the Language Mandate. This will provide direction on where and how all departments of our Government will be involved in language-related initiatives and programming.

In moving forward with our language initiatives, one challenge is identifying speakers of the language who are willing to help others learn.

At our recent General Assembly, Citizens were asked to complete a questionnaire asking about their interest in participating in CAFN language programs, both as teachers and as learners. While lots of Citizens indicated their interest in language learning, we heard from fewer who are willing to provide some of their time to help others learn.

Over the next few months we will continue work to identify community members who can help share their language with others. To help, and make a difference, you don't have to be a trained language teacher; simply someone who believes in the importance of carrying on your language.

Language Nest

While the Language Mandate document is still under



Agnes MacDonald with some of her Southern Tutchone language students from the daycare in 2010.



Three-year old Twyla traps tsäl (gopher) during the 2015 Language immersion camp at Äsheyi.

development, we are moving forward on an initiative that has produced results for other indigenous language communities. It is the "Language Nest" program that focuses on language learning by our youngest community members.

Originated by the Maori of New Zealand, a Language Nest program is an immersion-based approach to language learning that involves older speakers of the language taking part in early-childhood education programming. Typically offered in a daycare type setting, a Language Nest facilitates the transfer of language between generations.

Language Nest programs have been running successfully for several years now in numerous communities in western Canada. The criteria for successful operation of a Language Nest program are well understood, with community engagement recognized as a key factor to success.

A Language Nest program is most successful when combined with programs that supplement the language education offered to school-aged children via the formal education system. The idea is that after a child graduates from daycare, she/he continues to experience language learning opportunities similar to those offered in the preschool years, such as one-on-one dialogue with First Nation speakers.



Our intention is to expand our language programming beyond the Language Nest, in order to offer our children an enriched language learning program as they grow up, from day care through high school graduation.

Staff are presently working on a Language Nest program at the Shawkwunlee Daycare in Haines Junction, potentially expanding to other locations over time. We are looking for individuals who might work with the daycare's Language Nest program, participating just a little (one morning a week) or perhaps with greater involvement (several days a week).

Social Activities in the Language

Want to get together and have some fun and laughs, and learn some *Dákwänje* (Southern Tutchone) or help others with their learning? With the return to school and regular routines this fall, staff are proposing to host regular social activities that would take place entirely in the language.

The idea is to provide opportunities for speakers to use their language in a comfortable setting and for learners to hear the language being spoken. Use of English would be discouraged or penalized (e.g., asked to leave the room by a speaker). Whatever the chosen activity the emphasis would be on the language. For example, if the social activity is playing bingo, you are going to have to learn to recognize the numbers when spoken in *Dákwänje*!

Whether the evening's activity is charades or sewing, if you are a beginning language learner, you will likely end up being quiet and listening most of the time. That's ok, since that is how babies learn – they hear the language before they speak it.

A range of activities are being proposed including: bingo, sewing, charades, baking, playing cards, or simply enjoying tea and conversation together. Activities can be indoors or can take place outdoors (ice fishing anyone?). Or how about learning the *Dákwänje* names of the different parts of a moose?

Your suggestions for activities in the language are welcome.

The intention is to get the Social Activity in the Language initiative underway at Da Kų in the fall, then expand to other places such as Whitehorse and Takhini over the winter. Please watch for updates.

For further information on CAFN Language programs, including the Language Nest and Social Activities in the Language please contact:

Millie Joe, Language Coordinator
(867) 634-3301
mjoe@cafn.ca

Sean Sheardown
Language, Culture and Heritage Director
(867) 634-3310
ssheardown@cafn.ca

2015 EDUCATION SUMMER CAMP

Dannch'e? The 2015 *Shakat* (summer) Youth camp was a great success this year. Education hosted 12+ youth in *Nänäthän n-zhā* (August). The group went to *Shädhāla* and were able to harvest medicine, visit *Kwädäy Dän Kenji*, learn Southern Tutchone, dance with the *Dákwäkada* dancers, learn about climate change, and most of all just have fun! The group was also able to go to Kathleen Lake for one night to swim in the lake and learn about the history of the Kluane National Park. A huge thank you to Chelsea Etienne, Marion Primozic, Amanda Workman, Millie Joe, Venessa Lutz, Amber Berard, Kyra Chambers, Analie Lafreniere-Lemieux and Sandy Wabisca! The camp could not have been possible without all of their hard work.

Luke Campbell, CAFN Education Support Worker





KWÄNISCHIS THANK YOU



Our first ever dance festival June 12 – 15, 2015

Da Kų Nän Ts'éthhèt

(Our House is Waking up the Land)

Thank you to everyone who contributed to making

Da Kų Nän Ts'éthhèt 2015 such a huge success:

- The **dance & performance groups** that were the heart of the festival: Chilkat Dancers of Haines & Klukwan, Dághàalhaan K'e, Dahkhá Kwaán Senior & Junior Dancers, Dakwakada Dancers, Fourteen Nations Hand Games Society, Gwich'in Entertainers, Jilkaat Kwaan Dancers, Kaska Dena Drummers, Northway Dancers, Pavva Inupiaq Dancers, Selkirk Spirit Dancers, and the Tlingit/Haida Dancers of Anchorage.
- The **workshop leaders & speakers** who shared their knowledge and inspired us - Lorraine Allen, Mary Jane Allison, Audrey Brown, Karrie Brown, Ron Chambers, Diyet, Mary Folletti, Marilyn Jensen, Mary Jane Jim, Paddy Jim, Frances Oles, Marion Primozic, Stephen Reid, Sean Smith, Fred Stick Junior, Diane Strand, Ukjese van Kampen, Amanda Workman and Fire-keeper Harold Johnson.
- The **kitchen crew** who kept us well fed over the weekend: Joan Graham, Roxanne Burns, Marlaine Joe, Francine Smith, Georgina Griffith, Earl Darbyshire, Dustin Mazur, Terrance Buyck and Dave Riep.
- An especially huge thank you to the **volunteers** who contributed time to the event; the giving spirit of these individuals shone throughout the weekend: Doris Anderson, Ellen Bielawski, Josephine Boyle, Rita Burns, Carol Buzzell, Luke Campbell, Ed Carlick, Nathan Carlick, Shadelle Chambers, Angie Charlebois, Sam Dawson, Jessica Dyck, Trish George, Bruce Green, Sheila Greer, Mary Jane Jim, Millie Joe, Jocelyn Joe-Strack, Sharmane Jones, Tracy Kane, Nyla Klugie-Migwans, Florence Kushniruk, Rose Kushniruk, Marie Martin, Amy McKinnon, Brian Melanson, Dorothy Moose, Cheri O'Brien, Lisa Pauls, Marion Primozic, Monica Primozic, Michael Prochazka, Sean Sheardown, Lily Smith, Richard Smith, Sharol Smith, Steve Smith, Vivian Smith, Diane Strand, Jennifer Svazas, Michelle Taylor, Teresa Ward, Miranda Williams, Nicole Workman, Sophie from Germany, and others that we may have missed listing here.
- **Financial support** for the event was provided by Champagne & Aishihik Chief and Council, the Southern Tutchone Tribal Council, Kilrich Industries, Dakwadada Development Corporation, Yukon Arts Centre and Yukon Tourism & Culture.

Kwänischis !

See you again in June 2017



Dakwakada

CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

It has been a busy summer here at Dakwakada Capital Investments with the CAFN Summer Student Program and our Dakwakada rebranding strategy.

Dakwakada, in partnership with CAFN, developed a post-secondary summer student program that employed and provided training to seven CAFN members with Dakwakada companies. We found the program to be very successful and thank everyone who participated. We look forward to developing and enhancing the Summer Student Program next year and hope to be able to offer more positions.

Our successful summer student candidates were:

- Alexis Hougen – Northerm, Sales Coordinator
- Aaron Workman – Northerm, Junior Installer
- Terrance O’Brien – Northerm, PVC Labourer
- Kara Vance – Castle Rock, Finance Admin Clerk
- Geena Charlie – Castle Rock, Shop Clerk
- Johnnie-Lynn Kushniruk – Kilrich Industries, Truss Plant Labourer
- Tristan Allen – Kilrich Industries, Materials Handler

Thank you to all our CAFN students on their good work this summer.

Dakwakada is very excited and pleased to announce our new name, Dakwakada Capital Investments, and our new logo. We worked very hard on developing our new brand with Outcrop Yukon, and the new name and logo align more closely with our growing business model.

It was great to see all the community members out at the 2015 Kusawa General Assembly in July and we hope that everyone is enjoying their DCI hoodies and t-shirts that were handed out.

For more up-to-date information on job postings, sales and exciting news from Dakwakada companies please follow Dakwakada Capital Investments on Facebook.

Icefield Tools (IFT)

Current economic conditions in the mining and energy industries have been limiting Icefield Tools opportunities this year. While business has not been as robust as

we would like, we continue to move forward by developing potential business arrangements in South America, the Middle East and Asia.

Research and development are our key focus during the economic down turn. IFT staff have been working hard to improve technology in anticipation of a rebound in markets in the medium term.

Castle Rock Enterprises (CRE)

Castle Rock Enterprises is very pleased to report that we have successfully completed the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) project with Yukon Energy and the new FH Collins High School with Clark Builders. We are currently working with PCL Constructors on the Whitehorse General Hospital Expansion Project.

As summer is coming to an end, we would like to thank our CAFN Summer Students, Kara Vance and Geena Charlie, for all their hard work over the summer and we wish them well in future endeavours.

We welcome our new safety officer, Christine Vandenberg, who previously operated packer and rock trucks during the summer. Christine is fitting into her new role well and will be going through all necessary training with the Northern Safety Network.

Castle Rock has maintained our goal over the summer for zero time loss from injury and it will continue to be one of our major priorities going forward. From August 18-24 we underwent our internal safety audit as per our COR construction safety requirements to measure the efficiency of our health and safety program.

RAB Energy (Northerm)

Alaska

We experienced an unusually slow start to the summer season, when we would normally be selling window packages for twenty four housing projects to the Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) housing authority. With the down turn in the economy, AVCP only completed four houses this season. The side ef-

Photo courtesy of Odessa Epp



Kael Epp enjoying his Dakwakada Capital Investments t-shirt.

fects of the slowing economy have hit our commercial division as well as the renovation market. Capitol Glass has eight major window manufacturing competitors in our market. Our key to successful sales will be making branding and diversity a priority.

We are concentrating on diversifying our sales channels by offering a mid-range window with a direct buy program with a window supplier out of Washington. Another way we are diversifying is with our Star Contractor program which we started last year. Our Star Contractor program is a preferred contractor that meets requirements set out by us and will in turn use our windows on contracts we secure. We currently have six contractors and at least two more reviewing the program.

In July we started developing our brand, values and market position through TV and trade magazines such as: Made in Alaska and By Alaskans for Alaskans. Our goal is to reach contractors, homeowners as well as potential dealers and distributors.

Our sales team has been actively working with a potential distributor and the largest new home builder in Anchorage which has Capitol Glass participating in the Parade of Homes this fall. The Parade of Homes is a key event for future homeowners and contractors.

Yukon

Northern experienced a very busy start to the summer which is continuing into fall and has our production line running at full capacity. With the unexpected boom in new housing starts we are hoping to finish off this quarter as strong as we started.

Northern is very appreciative for our three CAFN summer students, Alexis Hougén, Aaron Workman and Terrance O'Brien. We will miss all their hard work and contributions they brought to the Northern team. Best of luck!

We are very pleased to report that our health and safety program has had no time loss since 2012 and would like to congratulate our safety officer, Mitch Meda, and the rest of the staff.

Northern is posting for key positions within our organization and encourages all CAFN members to send your resume and cover letter to Amy Thompson at financemanager@northern.yk.ca.

Kilrich

It has been an exceptional start to the year at Kilrich.



Terrance O'Brien, Aaron Workman and Alexis Hougén were employed at Northern as part of the DCI summer student program.

The stabilizing real estate market has resulted in an increase in housing starts. Kilrich has been providing materials to a number of multi residential housing, commercial and institutional projects throughout Yukon, Northern B.C. and the northern coast of N.W.T.

The strong construction market, combined with Kilrich's reputation of providing quality products at competitive pricing, has resulted in an extremely successful first half. Our revenues and profits are above budgeted targets, and we are optimistic moving into the second half of 2015.

Kilrich began construction of a new 21,000 square foot building centre early this spring. The building is an architectural gem and is constructed with 100% building materials available through Kilrich. The new store is expected to open this Christmas, and will set Kilrich apart from all other contractor material suppliers. Kilrich's business model will remain the same, however, the new store will allow us the space to expand hardware, tool, and finishing lines.

The management and staff would like to thank Johnnie Lyn Kushniruk and Tristan Allen for all their hard work this summer and wish you all the best.

For more information:

Paul Gruner, General Manager

Dakwakada Capital Investments

(867) 668-5831 - paul@dakwakada.com

www.dakwakada.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Respect for Gravesites

CAFN Elders were very concerned to learn that vandalism took place at a gravesite at Champagne this summer. The Elders Senate has asked that CAFN share the following message with all Citizens.

Respectful Treatment of Gravesites

The gravesites of our family members and friends are to be treated with the utmost respect. Intentional vandalism or damage to a deceased CAFN person's gravesite is harmful on many levels, in particular to the living family members.

Our community feels ashamed that this type of behavior occurred during the summer of 2015 at a gravesite in Champagne.

Individuals who behave disrespectfully at gravesites and cause damage should be aware of the harm and undue grief they have caused.

CAFN continues to uphold that the burial sites of our loved ones must be treated with the upmost respect. We ask that the individuals who vandalized the gravesite at Champagne this summer come forward to assist with repairing the damage that was done to ensure that this does 'not come back on them'.

Many thanks to one of the workers from the headstone potlatch who has come forward to help with the repairs.

Kwānaschis - thank you.

*In respect,
Åshāw Dān nātthe äda (Elder Councillor)
Carol Buzzell*

Trappers Workshop

Concerns over low moose populations have been an ongoing issue with Champagne and Aishihik Citizens. The moose population in the Alsek area (Game Zone 7) is extremely low, and current harvest rates are not sustainable. Champagne and Aishihik First Nations, Yukon Government (YG) and the Alsek Renewable Resource Council (ARRC) are working together on a community based moose management plan for the Alsek/B.C. area.

CAFN, YG, and the ARRC are developing a community wolf snare initiative and our intent is to work with local community trappers and increase knowledge and awareness while maintaining traditional values.

We are seeking trappers from the Champagne and Aishihik Traditional Territory to be part of this program. These trappers will be the eyes and ears on the land.

Trapper training workshops and humane wolf snaring courses will be offered, but dates have yet to be decided.

Overall, this program is planned to improve community education and awareness of moose management concerns and sustainability goals, encourage more intensive wolf trapping activity, and attempt to improve moose populations mainly in the Alsek area and to ensure that trappers and the community can be involved and stay informed of the program goals.

There will be a trappers information workshop open for all trappers in Haines Junction at the ARRC office 6:00 PM Wednesday, October 21.

If you are interested or would like more information please call or email:

*Kimberly Chambers
Community Trapping Coordinator
kchambers@cafn.ca
867-634-4248*

Thank you.

ImagineNATIVE Youth Video Winner!



Congratulations to CAFN Youth Dallayce Smith on her award winning video, "Look at Her". Dallayce created and directed the video when ImagineNATIVE visited Whitehorse last year during its FILM + VIDEO tour. Youth from Yukon communities made videos, and Dallayce's video won! She received a trip to Toronto for the world premiere of "Look at Her" this October 15.

Check out Dallayce's video on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ehxfdQTWZAU>.

"Look at Her" tells the story of her parents experiences in school in the 1970's and 80's.

Congratulations - *shāw nithän* - Dallayce!

Canada Over the Edge TV Show features Long Ago Peoples' Place

Congratulations to Long Ago Peoples' Place on its 20th anniversary in August 2015.

To learn more about Long Ago Peoples Place (Kwaday Dan Kenji), watch "Canada Over the Edge" Season 4, the Yukon Western Frontier episode, on YouTube. Or visit them on Facebook at Long Ago Peoples Place.

Margaret Workman Literacy Award

Minister of Education Doug Graham presented Champagne and Aishihik First Nations Elder Margaret Workman with the Council of the Federation Literacy Award during a September 8 ceremony to mark United Nations International Literacy Day.

"Mrs. Workman has spent a lifetime making vital contributions to Native language literacy," Graham said. "Through teaching at all levels, she has helped many Yukoners connect with Aboriginal language, history and traditions."

Workman grew up speaking Southern Tutchone and living a traditional lifestyle until she was placed in the Baptist Mission School in Whitehorse at age seven, where she was allowed to speak only English. Workman later earned a diploma in Native language instruction and an associate degree in applied science. She has taught elementary, secondary and college courses, and developed the first Athapaskan grade 11 and 12 language program at F.H. Collins Secondary School. She also taught in the Native language program at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

"I am proud to recognize Mrs. Workman for her lifelong commitment to the preservation of Aboriginal language in Yukon, and to count her among Canada's leaders in literacy," Graham added.

Every year, Canada's premiers present the Council of the Federation Literacy Awards to celebrate outstanding achievement and innovation in literacy in their jurisdiction. This year the award was presented on behalf of Premier Darrell Pasloski.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAFN Scholarships

Please submit previous academic year's transcripts by: November 1st

Scholarships will be issued by mid-December

Overall Academic Achievement Award Fund

3 Awards (GPA to qualify: 2.75)

- 1 for highest GPA in a degree program
- 1 for highest GPA in a diploma program
- 1 for highest GPA in Vocational/Trades Certificate

Field of Study Achievement Award Fund

GPA to qualify: 2.75

- Administration
- Management/Accounting
- Law/Justice
- Education
- Social Sciences
- Fine Arts
- Sciences
- Health
- Technology

Priority Fields of Study

GPA to qualify: 2.25

- Management/Administration/Accounting
- Social Sciences
- Health
- Education
- Science and Technology
- Justice
- Trades and Vocational Training

Correction (Spring 2015 newsletter): Brandon Long was listed as completing Level 1 Electrical in the last newsletter. He actually completed Level 1 in 2013 and Level 2 and Level 3 in 2014 (last year), achieving over a 95% average. Congrats to Brandon!

Getting Good Grades?

Apply for CAFN Achievement Bursaries!

All CAFN Secondary Students:

Did you get an average of 75% last year?

If so, you can apply for a CAFN Secondary Academic Achievement Bursary Award!

Apply by November 1st with your last year report card and you may be eligible for \$100 - \$350 (depending on Grade Level).

Recipients will receive their bursary before Christmas holidays!

Please send your report card and contact information to:

Attn: Education Department

Re: Secondary Achievement Bursary

Fax: Whitehorse Office (867)667-6202 or

Haines Junction (867)634-2108

Email: vowlchild@cafn.ca or jlchambers@cafn.ca

Rent and Service Charges Reminder

Message from the Property Services Department:

Just a reminder that Rent and Service charges are due on the first of the month.

Property Services will be sending out statements to all those who owe rent and service fees beyond 30 days.

If you receive a statement, please review and remit the amount due promptly.

If there is any problem with your statement or if you wish to arrange a payment plan please contact Lenette Graham at Property Services (867) 634-4217 or lgraham@cafn.ca.

Business Employment Enhancement Fund (BEEF)

Attention: ALL YUKON BUSINESSES

CAFN is introducing the Business Employment Enhancement Fund (BEEF).

What is BEEF?

CAFN has invested \$100,000 in a Business Employment Enhancement Fund to enhance employment opportunities for CAFN Citizens through the provision of a non-repayable employment subsidy to a maximum of \$10,000 for each approved CAFN Citizen employee.

What project is eligible?

Projects will be reviewed for alignment with increasing CAFN Citizen employment opportunities within the Yukon with a primary focus on new employment opportunities within the CAFN Traditional Territory.

Who may propose a project?

- CAFN Citizen entrepreneurs
- Dakwakada Capital Investments
- Champagne Aishihik Community Corporation
- CAFN Joint Ventures
- Any business within the Yukon with a primary focus on opportunities within the Traditional Territory

What do you need to provide?

You will need to describe how your project meets the eligibility criteria above and a job description along with the name of the proposed CAFN Citizen employee.

To apply, please contact:

Fran Asp
Finance and Policy Analyst
(867) 456-6880
fasp@cafn.ca

Free Advertising for CAFN Businesses!

Are you a CAFN entrepreneur or business owner? CAFN wants to promote YOUR business on our website. Check out the "Doing Business" link at CAFN.ca. If you would like your business promoted there, please fill out the form and submit it via the website. Please include your business contact info and website address. *Kwānaschis!*

Slow Pitch Champions



Congratulations to CAFN ball players Florence Kushniruk and Sharmane Jones. Florence and Sharmane competed on the Yukon team in the 2015 national slow pitch championships in Dorchester, Ontario. They will also compete on the 2016 national team, the Yukon Titans.

Do You Have Travel Toiletry Products to Share?

Anyone interested in donating hotel amenities such as shampoo, conditioner, etc? I am collecting these and putting packages together for transient and other people who are in need of these items.

I will be donating to Salvation Army, Sally and Sisters and to the Community Wellness Department. Donations can be dropped off at CAFN Whitehorse or Haines Junction reception or I can arrange to pick up. Thank you.

*Fran Asp
fasp@northwestel.net or message me on Facebook*



YUKON FIRST NATION SELF – GOVERNMENT

mappingtheway.ca

YUKON FIRST NATIONS are at the forefront of Aboriginal land claims and self-government in Canada. 11 First Nations have settled their land claims and are self-governing. This represents approximately half of all such agreements in Canada.

Settling these agreements in Yukon involved decades of hard work, innovation and commitment by leaders and visionaries.



Yukon Archives, Judy Gingell collection, 98/74, 1
Yukon First Nation delegation in front of the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa, Ontario, in 1973.

Visit *mappingtheway.ca* to learn about the journey to Yukon First Nation self-government and land claim agreements, and the benefits they bring to all Yukoners.

SPECIAL GREETINGS

Kwidlj dzenù sòthän nch'j!
Happy Birthday!

Happy Birthday to:

August 2 - Luke Campbell, Jimmy Allen
August 17- Mickey Beattie, Savannah Griffiths
August 19- Michelle Dawson-Beattie – Happy 25th!
August 20 -Glen “Tum Tum” Kane
August 22- Ray “Porky” Hassard
August 23rd – Cheryl Chambers
August 24 - Tina Grant
August 29 - Rachele Campbell – Happy 25th!
September 3rd – Brendon Au
September 6 – Happy 60th Birthday Susan Knight!!
September 7th – Happy 55th Roy “Bucky” Wabisca
September 13th – niece Chelsey McElheron
September 16 – nephew Jayden Pawlowski – Happy 11th Birthday!
September 21 – Kathy Walker
September 25 – Ron and Dave Cook – Freedom “55”

And Happy 4th Anniversary to Glenna Southwick and Jimmy Allen!

From the Wabisca, Telep, Southwick/Allen and Bratt families



Mickey and the old horse truck he rebuilt. Photo courtesy of Donna Chambers.

I would like to wish my very special Dad, Mickey Beattie, a very Happy Birthday on August 17th. With lots of love from Michelle.

Happy Birthday to our grand daughter Kayla Fraser.
Love from your Grandma Anna and Dad and Mom.



Happy birthday to Lance Bratt and Brenda Chambers from the Wabisca, Telep and Cook families.

Happy Birthday to Diane Strand on September 15, love from Mickey and Michelle Beattie.

Happy Birthday to Harold Kane on September 19 and Tracy Kane on September 22. From Lilly.



Wishing big Happy Birthdays to our Rabbit Hunters: Nevada Joe on September 26th and sister Nevaeh Joe for October 1st. Lots of love and hugs from Brother Nevada, mom, dad, grandma and grandpa!

A Happy Birthday to Dallayce Smith on October 12, 2015 from Mom and Derrick & Dayna.

A Happy Birthday to Dayna Smith on November 19, 2015 from Mom, Derrick & Dallayce.

Happy Birthday to Fred Smith, for November 24, 2015 from the Smith & Gleason Families.



CHAMPAGNE AND AISHIHIK FIRST NATIONS

Please send your greetings for the Dàkwäni newsletter to:
Amy McKinnon, Communications
almckinnon@cafn.ca • (867) 634-4237

Return Address:

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

Destination Address:



CAFN CALENDAR

- October 15 - Yukon Municipal Elections.**
- October 19 - CAFN Votes! Federal Election polling day.**
- October 21 - Trapper Information Workshop,** 6-8 p.m. at the Alsek Renewable Resource Council of- fice, Haines Junction.
- October 30 - Regular Chief and Council meeting,** Haines Junction.
- November 3 - Climate Change Infrastructure Adap- tation Workshop,** Haines Junction.
- November 11 - Remembrance Day,** CAFN offices closed.
- November 13 - Regular Chief and Council meeting,** Haines Junction.
- November 27 - Regular Chief and Council meeting,** Haines Junction.

December 11 - Regular Chief and Council meeting, Haines Junction.

*For more dates and details, please visit [CAFN.ca/ events](http://CAFN.ca/events) or like **Champagne and Aishihik First Na- tions** on Facebook!*

Photo below:

A special Elders Lunch at Champagne - summer 2015. Courtesy of Darline Blair & Jacquie Chambers.



Dakwani

Champagne and Aishihik First Nations

www.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: almckinnon@cafn.ca

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Dakwani

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

This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.



Find us on Facebook at **Champagne and Aishihik First Nations**